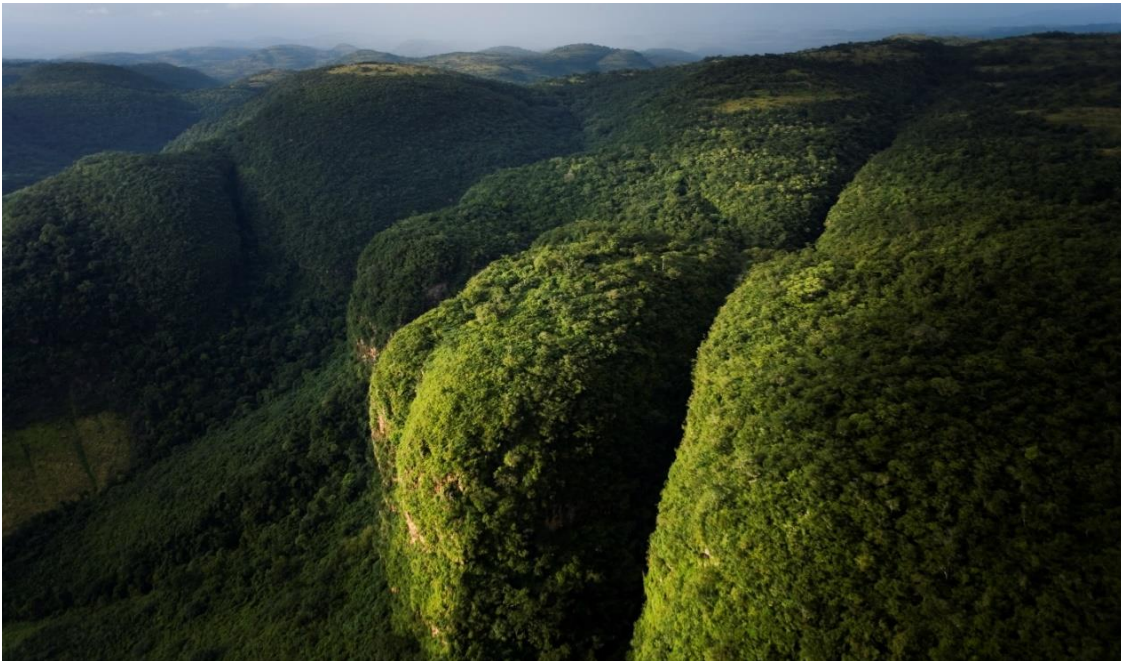


## GEF Technical BBL Series:

# Taking the lessons from Integrated Approach Pilots to the GEF8 Amazon, Congo, and Critical Forest Biome Integrated Program

**Time:** Tuesday, January 30, 2024, 12:30 - 14:00 pm EST (hybrid event, in English)

**Location:** Gustavo Fonseca Meeting room (N 8 – 180) and virtually on Zoom



### Program:

- Opening remarks & Introduction: **Jean-Marc Sinnassamy**, Lead for the CFB IP, GEF Secretariat
- Presentation: **Ana Maria Gonzalez Velosa**, ASL Coordinator, World Bank Group
- Discussants: **George Nebah Akwah**, Congo IP Coordinator, UNEP; **Charity Nalyanya**, Guinean Forests IP, Conservation International; **Jonky Tenou**, former RFS Coordinator & **Rodrigo Cianella**, RFS Regional Hub, ICRAF-CIFOR; **Pascale Bonzom**, former GGP global project manager; **Timothy Brown**, FOLUR IP Coordinator, World Bank Group
- Questions & Answers managed by **Pascal Martinez**, co-Lead for the CFB IP, GEF Secretariat

- Closing remarks: Carlos Manuel Rodriguez, CEO and Chairperson of the Global Environment Facility

### Join the BBL on Zoom:

<https://worldbankgroup.zoom.us/j/96953461461?pwd=U3ZsM2sxcW9lQ2JzTVFITWptbmV5dz09>

Meeting ID: 969 5346 1461      Passcode: vQLjaU7Q%W

The recording of the BBL will be made available on <https://www.thegef.org/events>.

### Background:

This BBL aims to take lessons from past and on-going Integrated Approach Pilots and Impact Programs that have acquired an experience on aspects mobilizable to the Amazon, Congo, and Critical Forest Biome Integrated Program.

The Amazon, Congo, and Critical Forest Biome Integrated Program (CFB IP) aims to maintain the integrity of the globally important critical tropical forests in order to maximize multiple global environment benefits related to carbon and biodiversity. Beyond the conservation and governance of critical forest biomes, the CFB IP is interested in considering other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs), including Payments for Environmental Services, corridors, and coordinated management with neighboring countries to improve connectivity at transboundary or regional level. Each forest biome is covered by a regional coordination project and a number of country-based projects (from three in Asia/Pacific to eight in Amazon, six in Congo and Mesoamerica, and five in West Africa<sup>1</sup>).

All lessons from the GEF portfolio in similar geographies and topics are welcome, especially from programmatic approaches that include a mix of country-based and coordination projects.

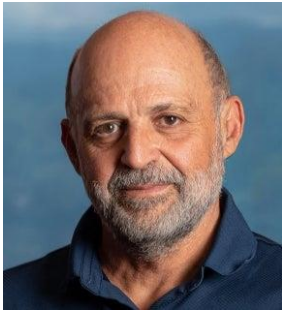
The Amazon Sustainable Landscapes program (ASL) is preparing its third phase and may have a lot to propose in terms of lessons and best practices. At the same time, the Food, Land-Use & Restoration Impact Program (FOLUR), is covering countries from Amazon, West Africa, and Asia-Pacific, three regions also involved in the CFB IP. The Green Growth Partnership (GGP) objective was actually to take out deforestation from three major commodities in the same regions. Last, but not least, ASL and the Resilient Food Systems Program (RFS) have had the longest experience in terms of integration between a coordination project and country-based projects and may share lessons on key-issues from strategic considerations to the day-to-day work of coordinators: added-value of the programmatic approach, governance, sustainability of platforms and community of practices, partnerships with executing partners, country ownership, monitoring and evaluation, etc.

This is the right timing to organize this exchange: before the coordination projects under the CFB IP are endorsed and now that the two remaining GEF6 IAPs (ASL and RFS) are going through their terminal evaluations before closing in end 2023.

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<sup>1</sup> Including Guyana, Guinea Bissau, and Togo, proposed in an add-on submitted to the February 2024 Council.

## Speaker bios:



**Carlos Manuel Rodríguez.** CEO and Chairperson of the Global Environment Facility

Carlos Manuel has been elected CEO and Chairperson of the GEF in June 2020. He is an internationally recognized expert on environmental policy, multilateral environmental negotiations, and financing for nature conservation. Before joining the GEF, Carlos Manuel was Vice-President for Global Policy at Conservation International, for 12 years. During his three terms as Environment and Energy Minister in Costa Rica, Carlos Manuel pioneered the development of Payment for Ecosystem Services initiatives and strategies for forest restoration and decarbonization: Costa Rica doubled the size of its forests, made its electric sector 100 percent clean and renewable, and consolidated a National Park System that has positioned Costa Rica as a prime ecotourism destination. Since the 1992 UN Sustainable Development Summit in Rio, he has participated in all multilateral environmental negotiations, as an expert negotiator in UNFCCC, CBD, and UNCCD, and participated in negotiations for the creation and implementation of the GEF and the Green Climate Fund.



**Ana Maria Gonzalez Velosa,** Senior Environmental Specialist, Coordinator of the Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Program, World Bank Group, Latin America Region,

Ana Maria is a Colombian national who has worked since 2008 at the World Bank in conservation and sustainable development projects in Africa and Latin America. She is currently a senior environmental specialist working in the Latin America region and the coordinator of the Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Program. Before, she worked at The Nature Conservancy, and in her home country in multiple research, public and civil society organizations. Ana Maria is an economist with master's in environmental and Natural Resources Economics from Universidad de los Andes, and in International Development from George Washington University.



**Jean-Marc Sinnassamy**, Senior Environmental Specialist, Lead of the CFB IP, GEF Secretariat

Jean-Marc joined the GEF Secretariat in end 2007. He has been involved in the development of nearly 200 projects and programs for worth of than one billion and half of US\$ related to Sustainable Land and Forest Management mainly in Africa. Jean-Marc has particularly been involved in facilitating several multi-country programmatic approaches as the Resilient Food Systems Program, the Congo, and the recent Critical Forest Biomes IP. Prior to joining the GEF, Jean-Marc was based in Benin, West Africa, and in the Mediterranean before that, working on multi-stakeholder approaches related to land-use planning and conservation issues, especially on coastal wetlands. He is very interested in the role of traditional authorities in local governance and the notion of integration at different scales. He is co-author of many handbooks and articles on site management planning and associated themes. Jean-Marc holds a master's in environment management from the university of Montpellier, France.



**Charity Nalyanya**, Director, Project Management and Technical Oversight, Conservation International (CI).

At CI, Charity Nalyanya Leads the Africa GEF-Funded project portfolio which includes the Guinean Forests Integrated Program. Charity brings more than ten years of experience working in various African countries with diverse multi-sectoral partners ranging from governments, CSOs, private sector organizations, academia, and local communities. Her work experience and professional interest in research and sustainable development regularly place her at the frontline against emerging global environmental problems and their respective drivers. She therefore strives to enhance environmental conservation and sustainable resource use by designing innovative interventions that provide the foundation for green growth, food security, and human well-being while restoring ecological integrity. Before joining CI, Charity worked at CAMCO Advisory (K) Ltd (part of CAMCO Clean Energy UK), The National Environment Authority (NEMA) and was also a freelance consultant. Charity holds a Master of Environmental Studies (Community Development), and a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies (Hons), both from Kenyatta University.



**George Akwah Neba**, Team Leader of UNEP's Congo Basin Team

George Akwah Neba is the Team Leader of the GEF Congo Basin Impact Programme, based in Kinshasa (DRC). George has more than 20 years of experience in natural resources management and forestry, biodiversity conservation, climate change and sustainable development processes in Africa, Latin America, Southeast Asia, and at the global policy level. George's experience has been dominantly with international organizations such as IUCN, WWF, CIFOR, FSC, and IITA. Prior to joining UNEP, George was the Congo Basin Coordinator of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) from 2021 to 2023. Before that, he worked 10 years with UICN successfully as Climate Change Mitigation Officer and as the Regional Programme Coordinator for Central and West Africa. George has participated intensively in the forest governance efforts of the region in the framework of the CBF (Congo Basin Forest Partnership) since 1998 (Congo Basin Forest Partnership). George is an Environmental Anthropologist and Public Policy and Management expert.



**Yawo Jonky Tenou**, UNDP's Program Manager & Head of the Project-Based Field Office in DRC.

Yawo Jonky Tenou currently works at UNDP. He was former IFAD's Task Manager of the Resilient Food Systems Program based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Jonky brought twenty years of hands-on experience in climate change, disaster risks, environment, and natural resources management to advancing human development in complex situations in Africa and the Caribbean regions. He was Chief Technical Specialist and Head of the Disaster and Risk Management Unit in Haiti. In Togo, he notably led the poverty reduction and sustainable development unit. He also served as Head of Division at the Ministry of Environment and Forestry Resources in Togo, overseeing environmental sustainability and climate risk management. Jonky holds a Master's in natural risk management, a master's degree in environment and water quality management, and an engineer's degree in environment and water resources.



**Pascale BONZOM**, Head, Agriculture Team, IUCN Secretariat

Pascale just joined IUCN to lead its new Agriculture team in support of nature. A sustainable development practitioner with 20 years of experience at UNDP across 4 regions, at global, regional, and country level, Pascale focused on sustainable food and agricultural commodities systems development, in the last decade. She has been instrumental in the development of UNDP's Food and Agricultural Commodities Systems (FACS) strategy launched in 2020 and has been supporting its roll-out including through global projects on food and agricultural systems and policy advisory. She was also the Global project manager for the GEF6 funded Commodities Integrated Approach Pilot aka the Good Growth Partnership.

Before UNDP, Pascale worked for 5 years as a business consultant with PricewaterhouseCoopers, in London and New York. She has an engineering degree in Chemistry from Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Chimie de Toulouse, and a PhD in Chemistry from the School of Pharmacy, University College London.

**Pascal Martinez**, Senior Climate Change Specialist, co-Lead of the CFB IP, GEF Secretariat



Pascal Martinez joined the GEF in 2015 to work on agriculture and forests, supporting developing countries to meet their commitments in the framework of international environmental agreements. Pascal Martinez coordinates the GEF works on Sustainable Forest Management and leads the Amazon and the Mesoamerica programs under the CFB IP. Over the past 20 years of his career, Pascal has had the opportunity to develop activities in the following areas: Sustainable Forest Management, agriculture, climate change, and biodiversity. He worked for different kinds of organizations: private companies, French ministries of Environment and Agriculture, French Embassies in Argentina and Chile and international organizations (FAO and ECLAC). His diversified missions provided him with a broad range of experiences in international cooperation for sustainable development. Pascal holds a Master of Forestry with a specialization on Environmental Science.

**Rodrigo Ciannella**, Manager of the [Transformative Partnership Platform on Agroecology](#) at CIFOR-ICRAF

Rodrigo is currently Manager of the [Transformative Partnership Platform on Agroecology](#) at CIFOR-ICRAF. He was the former Coordinator of the



[Resilient Food Systems Programme](#) (GEF-6 Integrated Approach Pilot on Food Security). An economist with an MPhil in Development Studies from the University of Cambridge and 15 years of professional experience in Africa, South Asia and Latin America, Rodrigo has worked with the private financial sector and some of the main international organizations promoting sustainable agriculture and rural development - FAO, IFAD and the CGIAR. His experience and interests span from renewable energy to integrated approaches addressing environmental degradation and resilience for food security, as well as climate change and agroecology.



**Timothy Brown**, Environmental Economist and Natural Resource Management Specialist, Co-lead of the FOLUR IP, World Bank Group

Tim Brown is an environmental economist and natural resource management specialist with thirty years of experience in natural resource management, climate policy and finance, forest economics and policy, institutional strengthening, and donor program coordination. Tim is the co-lead for the Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration Impact Program financed by GEF7, working in 27 countries and at the global level. He is also the Program Manager of the PROGREEN Umbrella Trust fund that supports countries' efforts to improve livelihoods while tackling forest loss, declining biodiversity, deteriorating land fertility, and increased risks exacerbated by climate change. At the World Bank since 2005, he has managed projects and helped clients access loan and grant financing in Indonesia, Ghana, Ethiopia and Rwanda.