

# FUTURE FORUM

2023

Report



## Building capacities for transforma(c)tion NOW

Agriculture & food, resources & circularity,  
energy & mobility

Published by

**giz** Deutsche Gesellschaft  
für Internationale  
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

# Future Forum 2023

## Report

Building capacities for transforma(c)tion NOW

Agriculture & Food,

Resources & Circularity,

Energy & Mobility

## Imprint

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## 1. The Future Forum

### 1.1 What is the Future Forum?

The [Future Forum](#) is the central annual learning and co-creation format and event for GIZ. It brings together GIZ colleagues from around the globe, working on emerging topics and methods of international cooperation with some infusion by thinkers and practitioners beyond GIZ. The Future Forum shall convene, inspire and motivate, create an environment for social learning and co-creation and further weaving networks for action beyond sectoral silos (complementary to more sectoral communities and formats). It is therefore an important building block in making GIZ's work fit for the future.

Please find the two previous ones here:

- [Future Forum 2021](#): States, Societies & People in the Digital Age – Shaping a Global Transformation
- [Future Forum 2022](#): From Growth to Wellbeing: Rethinking Development for a Digital, Green, and Just Transformation (see also follow-up page [From Growth to Wellbeing](#))

### 1.2 This year's conference and topics

This year, the hosting units from GIZ's Sectoral Department were the Division 'Climate Change, Rural Development, Infrastructure' & the Division 'Methods, Digital Transformation, Innovation'.

460 participants working in 67 different countries came together on-site and online to break out from their silos to learn from each other.

**Background:** Humanity and our planet face multiple crises. Climate and environmental, socio-economic, (geo)political crises and conflicts are coming to a head. If we, as humanity, do not act now and create deep transformative change, many citizens on this planet won't have a livable place anymore and most people will live with permanent threats.

GIZ can contribute to keeping a healthy earth for all, enabling good life within planetary possibilities. We can facilitate finding and investing in new desirable healthy ways of production and consumption. For partners and for us it means doing things differently compared to recent patterns that drive the crises. Supporting larger scale and deep transformative societal change towards socially robust future visions is a new quality and ambition level of change. It goes beyond incremental improvements and reforms, facilitated by single projects with sectoral lenses. Partners, commissioning parties, and implementing agencies like GIZ have started to make first experiences with such ambitions that we can build on and take further. We can help extending coalitions of the willing to tackle the multiple crises. Germany as a high-income country with GIZ (amongst others) as an honest broker can use its influence and build capacities for advancing transformative change.

We put a lens on three interdependent dimensions of action:



### 1. Transformation fields:

From our perspective<sup>1</sup>, major transformation fields are the

- energy, transport and mobility transformation,
- the agricultural and food system transformation
- as well as the resource and circularity transformation.

Transforming these systems in integrated ways and beyond silos will support a 'great' social, ecological and economic transformation towards climate neutral societies and resilient life on an 'earth for all'. Along with the obvious action fields like energy, agriculture etc., all perspectives from 'green' workstreams (climate, environment, water, biodiversity, ...), to economic, social and governance arenas were important for this and invited.

### 2. Transformative methods:

We urgently need more ideas and learning for *facilitating* rising ambitions and action in such transformation fields. What kind of methods do we need to enhance governance, participation and democratic co-determination of desirable future visions? How to valorize digital opportunities for transformation processes? How to create enabling environments for transformative social, political and technological innovation?

Methodological competences are the bridge towards action. However, they can hardly be acquired in theory. We need to practice and experiment with methods to learn and further develop them. The Future Forum was an opportunity to bring sectoral knowledge and methodological competences closer together for coevolution.

### 3. Transforming our work:

Yet, such transformative ambitions and methods will hardly lead to lasting impacts, if we do not change the way we approach these very complex and 'wicked problems'. What do these ambitions imply for our operating model regarding processes, modes and structures in which we want to catalyze transformative impacts?

The Future Forum was an opportunity to bring together practitioners and showcase successful real-life approaches to new modes of working. We could jointly explore where we stand with 'transforming our work' and advance ideas for taking it further.

**Crosscutting issues:** There are several crosscutting issues that are vital for more or less all these dimensions of transformative action. A deep economic paradigm shift towards wellbeing economies is crucial for overcoming the production and consumption patterns that are unhealthy for people and planet. Resilience in the face of climate change and environmental degradation, socio-economic and democratic crises, geopolitics and war guides transformative policymaking and action towards more sustainability. Justice (just Transitions) is a driver for societal resilience and transformative innovations, increasing chances for them to become and remain the new mainstream and decrease inequalities. The ways we shape transformation fields, use methods and design interventions (all 3 transforma(c)tion dimensions) have a big influence on justice. Explicitly transformative governance approaches need to contribute to this while offering new perspectives for strengthening democracies and dealing with political economies. Similarly for social change of values, norms and practices as a precondition for societal majorities. The gender transformation shall further boost this and the other way round. The twin transition will contribute to making digitalization work for desirable futures.

We encouraged participants of the Future Forum to appreciate these interdependencies and to be creative with connecting the perspectives. We aimed at creating the best possible environment for **building capacities for transforma(c)tion NOW.**

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<sup>1</sup> The hosting units (see above) together with a larger round across GIZ that provided valuable resonance on the way of organizing the conference. A big thank you to all colleagues serving in the 'resonance group'.



### 1.3 Moderation

This year, the Future Forum's plenary sessions were facilitated by [Katie Gallus](#).

At this point we would like to thank her most warmly for the excellent moderation. She created a very positive and open spirit for the whole conference and enabled great discussions on stage.



### 1.4 Energy & mindfulness

Special thanks also to Reza Solhi for keeping us mindful and energy levels high on day two with his ['real time poetry'](#) and facilitating positive energy.







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& CO-CREATE



NETWORK &  
MATCHMAKING



INSPIRE  
& MOTIVATE

## 1.5 Agenda overview

### TUESDAY

26. SEPTEMBER

8:00 ARRIVAL & REGISTRATION

8:45 Huge challenges ahead; (how) we can contribute to the big transformation(s)

WELCOME | KEYNOTE MS HOVEN

INSPIRATIONAL TALK | PANEL DISCUSSION

10:45 COFFEE BREAK

11:15 Liveable futures are possible, and we can stand for it

TRANSFORMATION VISION(S)

SEVERAL PARALLEL SESSIONS

13:00 LUNCH BREAK

14:30 Putting things together and moving forward

VISION SYNTHESIS SEVERAL PARALLEL SESSIONS

LET'S CALL THE FUTURE

16:00 COFFEE BREAK

16:30 We can contribute to these livable futures

LEVERS FOR TRANSFORMA(C)TION

7 PARALLEL SESSIONS

19:00 DINNER

21:00 EVENING PROGRAM

### WEDNESDAY

27. SEPTEMBER

9:00 We have ideas about how we can facilitate transformations

WELCOME | RECAP OUTLOOK DAY 2

REALTIME POETRY

09:50 COFFEE BREAK

10:15 TRANSFORMATIVE METHODS  
& APPROACHES

7 PARALLEL SESSIONS

12:00 LUNCH BREAK

13:30 Suitable modes of delivery, structures & capacities emerge and work in practice

TRANSFORMATIVE MODES  
OF WORKING & CAPACITIES

7 PARALLEL SESSIONS

15:00 COFFEE BREAK

15:30 We know whom to work with for integrated action and where to continue

MATCHMAKING

16:30 CELEBRATING JOINT RESULTS  
OUTLOOK & SEE YOU AGAIN



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MATCHMAKING

# FUTURE FORUM 2023

BUILDING CAPACITIES FOR TRANSFORMA(C)TION NOW



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Ingrid-Gabriela Hoven  
Member of GIZ Management Board

## 2. Opening Keynote by Ingrid-Gabriela Hoven

Mrs. Hoven is responsible for the hosting GIZ Sectoral Department (FMB) on the Management Board and opened the Future Forum in this role. She set the scene and motivated for more action for the social-ecological transformations in international cooperation.

Her key messages were:

- The Future Forum, happening for the third time, can already be called a new tradition for enabling open debate, exploring new opportunities, and co-creating results. GIZ will evaluate afterwards how to continue bringing colleagues together for these purposes.
- Looking back at the 2023 [SDG Summit](#) that took place on 18-19 September 2023 in **New York**, Mrs. Hoven cited the UN Secretary General António Guterres, saying that “**The world is on a highway to climate hell**”. If we continue our recent production and consumption patterns, we will not be able to deal with the triple ecological crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution.
- We are far away from achieving the SDGs in 2030. Only 15% of all SDGs are more or less on track.
- These numbers do not show what this means in practice for people facing these challenges.
- It is our job to contribute to a future worth living, especially for vulnerable people in partner countries.
- Our answers and contributions to tackle these challenges are not enough. We are not yet there. We have to- and can do better.
- We have the wisdom, knowledge and creativity and we do not shy away from these challenges. We need to seize these as opportunities.
- The GIZ Destination 2028 is exactly about these new opportunities.

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- The Future Forum provides space to **get out of your comfort zones, think about disruptive changes that we have to undergo** for the better of our partners, the people we serve, our clients and ourselves.
- If you leave the Future Forum with more questions than answers but with **the feeling that you want to be part of the journey**, you are at the right place.
- The task is not easy, especially under recent global circumstances and under a tight budgetary framework. The Future Forum offers a **safe space** to raise doubts and ask questions.
- **You will not find a recipe** to deal with uncertainty and transformation, **but you will find support from colleagues** and be able to share possible pathways within this group – this is our family.
- Citing Victor Hugo: **“A dream is essential if you want to shape the future”**. Let’s dream together here. **We are ready to shape the future.**



### 3. Keynote Vivienne Ming

Dr. Vivienne L'Ecuyer Ming is a theoretical neuroscientist and artificial intelligence expert. Over her career, she's founded six startups, has been chief scientist at two others, and launched the "mad science incubator" *Socos Labs*, which consults on artificial intelligence, neuroscience and educational reform. Vivienne Ming was part of the BBC's "Top 100 Women 2017"<sup>2</sup> and featured in the Financial Times's list "LGBT leaders and allies today"<sup>3</sup>.



Her keynote, enriched with anecdotes, celebrated the power, we as individuals have, to learn and adapt from bad experiences or from curiosity with creating solutions to the future.

Her key messages were:

- It's absurd, for a single person, or a small group to think they can change the world. But you have to try.
- **Sometimes you have the pleasure to truly and genuinely being able to help someone.** Vivienne shared the stories of her mother who in the last months of her life couldn't speak anymore, and of her son being diagnosed with diabetes.
- Such **pain can be turned into motivation** to find new ways that could improve the situation and led Vivienne to develop neuroscientific technologies to help her family and millions of people in similar situations.
- **Ambitious change can also come from pure curiosity.** Vivienne described how she and her team wondered how data from epigenetic studies could be used to alleviate postnatal depression in mothers. At first glance, economic considerations stood against it. But when they looked at the impact on children's lives and society, that changed. They developed an algorithm that could predict which 15% of women were likely to develop postnatal depression based on biomarkers. Vivienne concluded that **we don't always have to accept something as uncontrollable and unrealistic if economics and recent perceptions suggest so.**

<sup>2</sup> [VBQ Speakers](#), Speaker Agency, Keynote & Motivational Speakers. (2023, June 30). *Book Vivienne Ming As A Speaker - VBQ Speakers*.

<sup>3</sup> [The OUTstanding lists](#): LGBT leaders and allies today. (2017, October 26). *Financial Times*.

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- However, if artificial intelligence scares you, neurotechnology should scare you even more. Both remain tools and are not an end in itself. We are obliged to find solutions that really serve humanity.
- Respective data and instruments should be owned by everyone. If you want to have an amazing life, you have to share your data, results and achievements.
- When you feel the weakest – it could be about personal things, the environment, about societal change, populism – it is not unreasonable to feel that these are outside of your control.
- And yet you have to try anyways. Every now and then, you just happen to be the person who can change the world. It is an amazing thing that you have the opportunity to occasionally be that person. And you will never be if you never try. Even if you realize you can't change a situation, you may be able to help someone else.





## 4. Panel Discussion

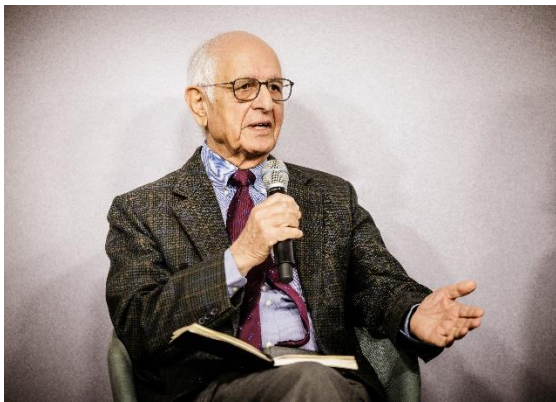
### Working question:

From shared future visions to action: How can international cooperation respond to changing geopolitical constellations and effectively shape transformative change towards good life for all on a healthy planet?

### Goal of the discussion:

To open up possibilities for action and provide orientation along the Future Forum agenda of transformative visions of the future, leverage points, transformative methods and required modes of working.

### Panelists:



**Arun Maira:** Management consultant, author on social and economic transformation, former member of the Planning Commission of India



**Dirk Meyer:** Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Head of Department 4 – Multilateral development policy; transformation; climate



**Promita Sengupta:** GIZ Bangladesh, Programme Manager Access to Justice for Women



**Vivienne Ming:** Neuroscientist and AI expert

**Moderation:** Katie Gallus

### Discussion:

The following text is a shortened transcript of the discussion and close to the spoken contributions.

**Question:** How do you define transformation and what is the **key ingredient** for transformation when it comes to policy implementation and international cooperation?

Dirk Meyer:

- Transformation begins by realising that something has to change, induced by shocks like the pandemic or ideas that the development paths we have pursued do not succeed. Then we often enter a phase of being paralysed.
- But in New York<sup>4</sup> we were 20,000 likeminded, all having the same analysis, but also convinced that it's up to us to change this situation.
- Instead of looking only at the figures of missing the SDGs we think about what we can do to change this path. That's exactly when transformation begins, when it goes beyond an analysis and we start to get into action.

**Question:** What are the **to-dos** and the steps ahead that are also on your list?

Dirk Meyer:

- There's a strong attempt to leave our silos and reshape things, such as global health or agriculture transformation, taking on a holistic perspective. It takes vertical and horizontal co-production between organisations.
- We want to learn from other frontrunners and find new alliances. Where are the stakeholders that are on the way to transformation? That's what we integrate now at BMZ and all the other like-minded development partners worldwide.

**Question:** Is there a tool so that we can keep on going on that high **motivational** level?

Vivienne Ming:

- We should be thinking of these kinds of problems and policy change as an ecological problem itself. There's a whole ecology of stakeholders and policy demands that we tend to think of in very simple terms, when in fact we have to appreciate that these are complex systems which change over time.
- We observed key actors, who often help other people, without a strategic reason but because of the perceived purpose. They just help other people being more productive. The paradox of it is that these people who engage in these small sacrifices have a better life. We all can do this and be motivated by saying "this is bigger than me".

**Question:** Social-ecological transformation is often motivated at a global level. How do we bring this together with a **local perspective**?

Arun Maira:

- It's not about individual ability, it's about the collective ability.
- The SDGs are all interdependent. These problems can't be solved separately and we can't solve them with the same way of thinking that caused these problems.
- We need a new paradigm of knowledge and of action. Science has been based on knowing more and more about less and less. Something became science and something became not science, like the arts. These two worlds can't connect anymore. And we want everyone to think

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<sup>4</sup> [SDG Summit](#) 18-19 September 2023

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as scientists. But I think, 'hard' sciences and technology have created the problems we are facing now. The innumerable specializations are breaking up the world into fragments.

- When we want to come to action we still often think that progress is made by competition. But nature doesn't mainly work through competition, but through corporation. We need a new theory of action that is based on cooperation. We have got global, very complex problems, but these problems come together in every locality. The Local communities must understand it's a system and local communities working together will solve these problems. Until we encourage the ability for communities to work together, we will not solve the climate problem nor any of the problems.

**Question:** From a programme level, to **not leave anyone behind** with transformations, what is important from your perspective?

Promita Sengupta:

- Give voice to the unheard and support small solutions for small problems led by women. Unheard people provide solutions for their communities.
- When we talk about climate change, we have to look at how people are affected differently by it and how people could come up with different solutions if spoken to.
- A lot of the work that we do needs to start not just with language or approaches that are not just about participation and target groups, but about agency and change.



Vivienne Ming:

- (sees a similar problem with hearing **innovative voices** on information level as well). In a meta study we found that the more information is available, the less innovation happens, not just in relative but in absolute terms.
- New ideas are there, but they are largely ignored. The more papers come out, the more existing, well-established theories and scientists become more cited. Newer individuals and ideas have a harder time breaking through and this goes on all around society.
- Looking at all dissertations since 1973, it was found that the more of an outlier an individual was within their field in terms of race and gender the more likely they came up with innovative ideas. But these ideas were less likely to be picked up by the community.

Arun Maira:

- To be able to understand something beyond my knowledge, I have to listen to people who don't think like me.
- This is the biggest failure in the world: to recognize only our own thoughts.
- We have to listen to the humble people – they have the wisdom and the knowledge.

**Question:** When it comes to the **management level**, what does all this mean for **leaders** to put transformation into action?



Dirk Meyer:

- It's a mixture of several things. Focusing on communities is in a way an old wisdom. Social security as a base for innovation, too. Therefore, sometimes we also talk about bringing old wisdoms back to life. With the past radical shocks, we realised that in all the countries that had basic functioning social security nets, the whole society could rebuild better.
- It's not just the vertical institutions that help us, we need both working together. Bringing that together is a management task we have. We in the ministries are all trained for too long time to think in silos. We have the modern management tools on the table and need to practice now.
- We don't have to reinvent the wheel. We also have digital tools helping us. We need people at the top level who live this. We need lots of discussions and listen to- and integrate other sectors into our systems. For a lot of sectors we are already on the way, but we have to speed up.

Vivienne Ming:

- Changing the timescales is crucial. The most impeccable papers in science are interdisciplinary, but they often take years to have that impact.

Promita Sengupta:

- As GIZ, to have that paradigm shift and to do it differently, we have to get away from the project cycle thinking that we have. There is this pressure to plan and implement. It is the very definition of insanity to keep doing the same thing over and over again and expect a different result. To get quicker results, the paradox is that we need a much longer phase of conversation before we actually plan projects.
- The formal bilateral governmental negotiations are not going to do it, we need other voices at the table.

Audience: what do you think about **economic transformation** and degrowth?

Arun Maira:

- It depends on the context.

Dirk Meyer:

- In development policy, to tell from the global north to rural people with no access to electricity and no perspective for jobs that degrowth is a good idea for the future is very stupid<sup>5</sup>.

Audience: Let's please stop treating communities as a homogeneous, harmonious entity. If we just let the communities decide, we will not get to transformation on a macro level. How do we deal with the fact that we as **development cooperation** are quite marginalised? And there is massive **policy incoherence**, how do we deal with this?

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<sup>5</sup> Editor's note: This response referred to degrowth specifically and not explicitly to **economic paradigm shift** in general. Unfortunately, there was no opportunity to deepen this question here. However, there was an overwhelming consensus in the visioning sessions that followed (see chapter 0) that the current dominant economic paradigm should be transformed in favor of the wellbeing of people and planet and for more democratic participation. We would further like to take the opportunity and refer to the on-going debate about economic paradigm shift at GIZ, e.g., reflected alongside and following the Future Forum 2022 (see [GIZ expertise web](#)) and the global '[Economic Transformation for Development](#) (ET4D)' network, supported by GIZ (see [report here](#)).

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Arun Maira:

- You're right to say that communities are broken. This is the reality. The solution is that every community must be more harmonious and be more able to manage itself as a system. The scale of action has to shift. We won't define "community" exactly, but I know that it will have to be related to locality, because the environment exists in the locality and the relationships are easier with people we encounter every day. Is it happening now? No. So policy makers should not be trying to find global solutions for education everywhere. Our role is to learn from those communities who are harmonising themselves better than others.

Promita Sengupta:

- You have different elements in communities and then there are the unheard which might have very practical solutions. If you have that longer listening period instead of going immediately to the decision, then you know better which voices to listen to and how to form alliances.

Dirk Meyer:

- We shouldn't make development policy smaller than it is. We are not a few and we have more voices than ever before. There are very self-conscious groups in the global south that rise their voices and if we align in an intelligent way we are strong and able to manage it.

Audience: How can we use **AI** for the better and to combat **misinformation**?

Dirk Meyer:

- It's a tool, don't make a tool a religion. Use it in a sensible way.

Vivienne Ming:

- During the pandemic, when lots of papers were coming out without anyone reviewing them, at the University of Washington, we built an AI to triage all of these papers and identify the most impactful influential papers to get them quicker reviewed.
- For misinformation it's more a timing issue of building AI systems that can come in immediately, the moment misinformation happens and immediately correct it. Otherwise it's often too late and the flawed perception remains.
- If you want to solve an AI problem, you have to treat it as a human problem first and make that change there. AI fixes nothing, it's just a tool. It cannot solve a problem we do not already know the solution to.





## 5. Transformation Vision(s)

After the plenary sessions, the co-creative phase of the conference started by practicing developing transformative visions of the future.

### Background:

The global acceptance of the need for transformative change for livable futures varies a lot. But transformative ambitions further increase and with it the question of visions of a future that looks very different from our present. To facilitate socially empowered desirable visions of the future is one of the most challenging parts in the beginning and alongside transformation processes.

### Rationale:

Much of the reality today was perceived to be unrealistic 50 years ago. To imagine and shape a future that we want, we are hence **allowed to be unrealistic and wishful** from our recent perspective. Transformations need utopian thinking. It's about ideas that are at best niches right now, to eventually get a new mainstream or not. If these ideas were already fully compatible with recent thinking, it would be mainstream yet and not a transformation. However, with much of the recent mainstream we do not get further. For transformations we need to go even beyond 'out of the box' thinking and ask "is it a box? Or what else?".

This visioning session shall allow us wishful thinking in its best sense. How do we (You!) wish the future to be? Recent realism just leads us to improving, while only reproducing what's already there. The entire Future Forum agenda shall advance our perception that we can contribute to seemingly utopian futures. We do not have to wait for recent niches to eventually or not become mainstream. Our commissioning parties, partners and **we can be proactive and shape desirable futures NOW.**

### Working questions:

- If a livable future is possible with the help of big transformations, what might it look like? **How can we imagine a future in 2050 and beyond?** What kind of world should our grand- and grand-grand-children live in?
- How can we develop ideas of such very different futures and stand for the values they emphasize without prescribing local solutions? How can we thus facilitate such questions in partner contexts (methodological question)?

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### Breakout sessions:

These working questions were broken down to the following three big transformation fields and an overall perspective on a great social, ecological and economic transformation:

1. **Agricultural and food system transformation vision**
2. **Resource and circularity transformation vision**
3. **Energy and mobility transformation vision**
4. **Together towards a great social, ecological and economic transformation vision**

### Methodology:

The visioning sessions were prepared and facilitated with the help of [BRINK](#).

Please find these helpful documents for further use on the [Future Forum 2023 website](#) under this session:

- The preparation process (PPTX)
- Guides for facilitating the sessions (DOCX, in-person, online)
- Introductory film (mp4)
- Workshop slides (PPTX)
- Vision compass (PDF, JPG)
- Postcards from the future (PDF, DOCX with additional links and context)



Many thanks to the [BRINK](#) team for their great effort to develop this session together with us. It inspired many colleagues. Special thanks go to Gita Luz, Abi Freeman and Constanza Robles Fumarola.

Many thanks to all the GIZ colleagues who contributed to preparing these sessions and especially those who were so brave to (co-)facilitate these sessions beyond their training and comfort zones (see details below).



### 5.1 Agricultural and food system transformation vision

**Moderation in-person:** Rakesh Kasturi (consultant facilitator), Martina Kress (GIZ), Gita Luz (BRINK), Franziska Seitlinger (GIZ), Alexander Strunck (GIZ)

**Moderation online:** Lea Calmano (GIZ), Cristoph Mader (GIZ)

The participants worked on future visions in various breakout groups in-person and online. The following is a synthesis of this work.

#### 5.1.1 Values guiding the future

What can guide the development of a vision for the future? Values are our individual and collective expressions of what is important to us. So, beyond purely technocratic visions of the future, values help us design futures *worth living*. Societal transformations are always accompanied by a change in values.

So, in a first step, the participants prioritised values that they believe should guide societies for agriculture and food in the future. Such systems should be...



#### 5.1.2 The future we (the participants) want for agriculture and food systems

In a second step, participants described key elements of a future based on these values. Inspired by 'postcards from the future' (see introduction chapter [0 above](#)), they further described shared and different future ideas.

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To ground our visions in reality, the group did a quick exercise on imagining what food is on our plate in 2050. This prompted one participant to say “There is no more fish to eat because of overfishing.” This reflection made the stakes real and heightened the sense of urgency.

“Food is culture, not just nutrition” was a reflection shared by a participant during a discussion on changing diets and behaviors.

During a discussion on if we think people’s eating behaviors will change to match more climate-friendly diets, one participant shared “I believe so because what my parents eat compared to what I eat has changed so much, and even now there are so many more alternatives available than 10 years ago.”

Participants developed the following future descriptions and approaches:

The future paradigm realizes..	We make this possible by prioritising..	...over...
sufficient, healthy, climate & planet friendly diets that are favored by everyone...	empowerment of consumers and producers	narrow focus on cost-effective tech innovations.
...and markets offer mainly this.	regulations that are tailored to the needs of producer countries and a global collaborative governance system	free trade, pure profit orientation, particular interests, personal (unlimited) choice and tradition, like meat-centric dishes.
the right to securely access such diets (including water & food) for everyone.	behavior and policy change regarding sustainable production and consumption patterns	cheap access to (‘subsidised’) unsustainable, ‘efficient’ products.
	or <sup>6</sup> comparative advantages	romanticism.
agricultural production and innovation (tools, knowledge, inputs, equipment...) as an open source with equal access to (local) information and knowledge for farmers, producers and consumers.	seasonal food and a cultural (and power) shift in the food experience; a diverse and fair transaction system; common good	intellectual property rights, market competitiveness and maximum financial returns and individual profit.
health care that shifts from cure to prevention so that everybody is healthy and resilient.	individual wellbeing and healthy food systems	technological advantages.
	and using science, traditional knowledge and nature’s genius	purely ancestral knowledge.
a world where community and societal wellbeing is prioritised, where nature is treated as family.	holistic wellbeing and climate resilience	economic growth and profits.
a community centered food systems transformation.	a shift of power, local decisions and increasing self-governance, landreform, bringing people together,	fast(er) decision-making, fast(er) implementation and maximum production.

<sup>6</sup> Editor’s note: This seems to be a different perception of a desirable future paradigm and appropriate approaches compared to others here.

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The future paradigm realizes...	We make this possible by prioritising...	...over...
	connecting local and national level, taking time	
that all humans on earth are able to participate in inclusive decision making processes to influence their lives and shape their own living environment.	land governed by local communities	purely economic considerations of land use.

An interesting discussion on community-led food production showed how it can feel like a “romanticised” view. One participant said “this romantic view is going backwards in time and imagining people living in villages and growing their own food.” More time permitting, it felt people were craving a debate on opposing visions and the space to discuss the mental models around concepts like modernity and traditionalism and how it impacts views on the future and what feels possible.

For the event, the group work stopped here, followed by a freely interpreted summary in plenary (see following synthesis section). However, individual steps in real project life should be much more detailed and extensive. In addition, it would be important in such a local process to bring together the various ideas for the future, to further develop social consensus on them and to derive options for action in favor of such futures.



## 5.2 Resource and circularity transformation vision

"Resources having a voice"

**Moderation in-person:** Abby Freeman (BRINK), Marcel vom Bruch (GIZ)

**Moderation online:** Samrat Banerjee (GIZ), Camila Sanchez Nunez (GIZ)

The participants worked on future visions in various breakout groups in-person and online. The following is a synthesis of this work.

### 5.2.1 Values guiding the future

What can guide the development of a vision for the future? Values are our individual and collective expressions of what is important to us. So, beyond purely technocratic visions of the future, values help us design futures *worth living*. Societal transformations are always accompanied by a change in values.

So, in a first step, the participants prioritised values that they believe should guide societies for resource use in the future. It should be...



### 5.2.2 The future we (the participants) want for resource use and circularity

In a second step, participants described key elements of a future based on these values. Inspired by 'postcards from the future' (see introduction chapter [0 above](#)), they further described shared and different future ideas.

Participants prioritised the following future descriptions and approaches:

The future paradigm realizes...	We make this possible by prioritising...	...over...
a world in which people respect <b>planetary boundaries</b> for a <b>good enough life for all</b> .	equal access and use of re-sources	individual obsessions.
<b>transparent</b> resource consumption (like cars, flights...).	societal and structural change of wealth, status symbols and consumption	individual freedom of consumption.

<sup>7</sup> The visioning sessions had different sizes. The fact that they prioritised different numbers of values and formulated different numbers of visions had mainly to do with the different numbers of breakout groups. Other group sizes and/or decision modes would most probably result in more values and visions here as well.



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The future paradigm realizes...	We make this possible by prioritising...	...over...
no resource shortages because they are <b>allocated</b> in a better way.	making things last longer.	
that people will be <b>aware</b> of the outcome of their behavior and way of consumption without necessary being watched.	a better life for everyone and solidarity between human beings	the excessive excesses of capitalism.
a world where we <b>respect</b> each other and the natural environment on every societal scale	listening to each other	making quick decisions.

For the event, the group work stopped here, followed by a freely interpreted summary in plenary (see following synthesis section). However, individual steps in real project life should be much more detailed and extensive. In addition, it would be important in such a local process to bring together the various ideas for the future, to further develop social consensus on them and to derive options for action in favor of such futures.

### More quotes

- "If everyone takes ownership of their waste, they will be aware of the waste they create and will be more responsible for it"
- "If you are more connected to nature, you will have greater respect for it"
- "It's about sufficiency as much as efficiency. What if, along with looking to use fewer resources, we shift our mindsets towards consumption so that we have enough and aren't always looking to have more"



### 5.3 Energy and mobility transformation vision

"Justice is about focusing on people at the bottom of society."

**Moderation in-person:** Constanza Robles Fumarola (BRINK), Asim Adeel (GIZ)

**Moderation online:** Zeineb Mghirbi (GIZ), Abhinav Jain (GIZ)

The participants worked on future visions in various breakout groups in-person and online. The following is a synthesis of this work.

#### 5.3.1 Values guiding the future

What can guide the development of a vision for the future? Values are our individual and collective expressions of what is important to us. So, beyond purely technocratic visions of the future, values help us design futures *worth living*. Societal transformations are always accompanied by a change in values.

So, in a first step, the participants prioritised values that they believe should guide societies for energy and mobility in the future. Such systems should be...



#### 5.3.2 The future we (the participants) want for energy and mobility

In a second step, participants described key elements of a future based on these values. Inspired by 'postcards from the future' (see introduction chapter [0 above](#)), they further described shared and different future ideas.

Participants prioritised the following future descriptions and approaches:

The future paradigm realizes...	We make this possible by prioritising...	...over...
universal access to clean energy and modes of mobility for all, i.e. ownership for common goods.	people & people-centered regulations	profits
the achievement of all our set goals.	action	declarations

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The future paradigm realizes...	We make this possible by prioritising...	...over...
slowing life down	energy efficiency, decentralization, decarbonization, resilience	economic growth
green vibrant urban spaces and less pressure on infrastructure. Cities which are <b>designed for people</b> instead of vehicles; where citizens play a decisive role.	active mobility, a slower way of life, a bottom-up and inclusive approach to the design of cities.	
a world where energy is saved.	sharing and borrowing.	
a <b>secure</b> public space and <b>reliable</b> public transport.		
<b>clean</b> production (fossil is out).		
energy is <b>produced</b> by <b>local</b> communities	active involvement of community members	smart contracts / digitalization of the energy sector

### A summary of one of the group's discussion supported by ChatGPT:

In 2050, our group's vision for a common good is a transformed landscape where once-polluted cities have become cleaner havens for everyone, streets and urban spaces have become safe and enjoyable places for everyone and both market and community-driven mobility and energy solutions ensure equitable access to basic resources, services and opportunities of all kinds. Children have the freedom to explore and develop their personalities by enjoying accessible mobility that enriches their lives while preserving our environment. Equitable access to and the responsible use of scarce resources have been ultimately achieved. For example, access to water, once a scarce commodity, is distributed in an equitable manner thanks to smart and value-oriented policymaking, eliminating fear and insecurity. A deep commitment to intergenerational awareness and justice is being practiced in policymaking and planning for energy and mobility, ensuring a legacy of responsibility and sustainability.

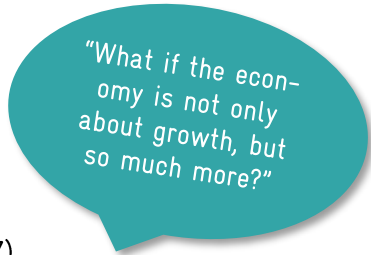
For the event, the group work stopped here, followed by a freely interpreted summary in plenary (see following synthesis section). However, individual steps in real project life should be much more detailed and extensive. In addition, it would be important in such a local process to bring together the various ideas for the future, to further develop social consensus on them and to derive options for action in favor of such futures.

### More quotes

- "Common goods must aim to avoid common evils"



### 5.4 Together towards a great social, ecological and economic transformation vision



**Moderation in-person:** Lilian Leifert (GIZ), Pierre Golbach (minds & makers), Moritz Hunger (GIZ), Nancy Kades (GIZ)

**Moderation online:** Katharina Hartmann (GIZ), Daniel Agustin Soto Intriago (GIZ)

The participants worked on future visions in various breakout groups in-person and online. The following is a synthesis of this work.

#### 5.4.1 Values guiding the future

What can guide the development of a vision for the future? Values are our individual and collective expressions of what is important to us. So, beyond purely technocratic visions of the future, values help us design futures *worth living*. Societal transformations are always accompanied by a change in values.

So, in a first step, the participants prioritised values that they believe should guide societies for a sustainable life in the future. It should be...



#### 5.4.2 The future we (the participants) want for good life on a healthy planet for all

In a second step, participants described key elements of a future based on these values. Inspired by 'postcards from the future' (see introduction chapter [0 above](#)), they further described shared and different future ideas.

Participants prioritised the following future descriptions and approaches:

The future paradigm realizes...	We make this possible by prioritising...	...over...
a world where nature is considered an immediate family member, that has defendable rights, so that we don't pollute and destroy our environment; where wellbeing of people and planet (ecosystem integrity) are in balance.	nature (biodiversity, water resources, landscapes..) and a slow, healthy and "good-enough" life	profits and personal benefits.

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The future paradigm realizes...	We make this possible by prioritising...	...over...
an <b>economy</b> that is in <b>service to life</b> and not just growth.	equal opportunities, equal access and peace	maximising personal wealth.
universal <b>basic income and services</b> (like security, food, health, education, ...) that cover everyone's basic needs in high quality.	equality, justice, freedom, wellbeing and education for sustainable development; a fair distribution of the available resources	profit and what is currently perceived to be a desirable lifestyle.
a world where people are seen as citizens, not consumers. Where everybody has the <b>power</b> and actively engages to shape their lives, food, wellbeing, environment, politics, markets, etc.	the decentralization of power, the inclusion of all voices in public decisions, belonging, listening to others and sharing of resources	efficiency, hierarchy, unlimited economic and material growth and individual privilege.
sharing chances and opportunities in harmony, actively collaborating with nature and being humble.		

For the event, the group work stopped here, followed by a freely interpreted summary in plenary (see following synthesis section). However, individual steps in real project life should be much more detailed and extensive. In addition, it would be important in such a local process to bring together the various ideas for the future, to further develop social consensus on them and to derive options for action in favor of such futures.

### More Quotes:

- "Family is a difficult concept"
- "Sustain inclusive collaboration"
- "Respect is a crucial value for wellbeing"
- "People must be involved in deciding and acting for the common good."
- "When designing the future, take into account micro and macro levels."
- "Just love"



### 5.5 Synthesis: Calling the Future

After working on the visions of the future in groups, our moderator Katie Gallus called a person “living in the year 2050” to find out what it's like there. This person was our wonderful colleague **Vanessa Hochwald**, who thinks a lot about the future<sup>8</sup> and was inspired by the work in the groups.

Summarising all visions,

- there was an overwhelming consensus amongst the participants that the current dominant **economic paradigm**, focusing on financial growth, **should be transformed** in favor of the wellbeing of people and planet and for more democratic participation<sup>9</sup>. Economies and subsectors should be people and planet centric and enable a happy life with ‘good enough’ production and consumption rates.
- Many visions focused on **fair and sustainable access** to resources and services globally and locally. There was much agreement that meeting the basic needs of all people within planetary *possibilities* should take precedence over individual consumption habits and the accumulation of wealth.
- There were many voices in favor of **governments taking a strong role** in guaranteeing sustainable lifestyles for all.
- while enabling spaces where **citizens can play a major role** in shaping and governing this in decentral ways.
- Last but not least, there was great sympathy for regarding nature and other groups of people as **family members**.



Vanessa Hochwald (l.) & Katie Gallus (r.)

<sup>8</sup> See for example her work on the [techDetector](#), an “analytical platform that offers strategic insights into the impact of emerging technologies on sustainable development”.

<sup>9</sup> See also [GIZ expertise web](#) and the global ‘[Economic Transformation for Development](#) (ET4D)’ network, supported by GIZ ([report here](#)).



At the end of the breakout sessions, the following overall core values cloud was formed by all participants:



Like the participants, please find more inspiration for possible futures on the postcards from the future and more about this sequence of methods on the [Future Forum 2023 website](#) under this visioning session.





## 6. Levers for Transforma(c)tion

After the visioning part (the 'why' and 'for whom' and 'for what'), the co-creative phase of the conference continued with sessions being organised in a decentral way by GIZ colleagues, exploring promising levers for action (the 'what to do' for it).

### Background:

Looking back from the future, it's important to further create confidence that we *can* contribute to such livable futures. This part of the conference hence was about assessing various promising levers for advancing social, ecological and economic transformations, be it political, economic or social instruments.

### Working questions:

- What are levers and entry points for such transformations (like policy, economic instruments & finance, technology, social change...)?
- What can we learn from examples for design and practice of our work?

### Methodology:

The session teams were encouraged to design co-creative sessions and provided with collections of facilitation methods<sup>10</sup>, in-person facilitation material (pinboards, cards, pens...), conceptboard (white-board) templates<sup>11</sup> and instructions for their online parts. The teams were free to tailor session designs to their needs. A general orientation was:

"Please define a method, question and sequence for every step you take:

- Duration of this step: X Minutes
- Method: e.g. World Cafe, 15% solutions...
- Question:
  - Why do we need...?
  - What do you think about...?

<sup>10</sup> [Capacity Works](#) (GIZ internal link), [KuF Toolkit](#) (GIZ internal link), [KuF Examples](#) (GIZ internal link), [New Work Academy Practices](#) (GIZ internal link), [Liberating Structures](#), [The #workhacks - #workhacks](#), [Design Thinking Methods](#).

<sup>11</sup> See [template here](#). If you need a copy of it for your own use, please contact [futureforum@giz.de](mailto:futureforum@giz.de).



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- How should we...?
- Who...?
- ...
- **Sequence:**
  - e.g.:
  - 2' explaining the method
  - 2' silent writing of cards
  - 20' reflecting, clustering & adding in subgroups
  - 10' reflection in plenum: What did you hear in your group that inspired you? (please always try to add new issues)
  - ..."

Several teams also made use of other GIZ colleagues who kindly offered to facilitate, due to their affinity to do so. Except for one session, this demand could be met.

**Many thanks to all the session teams and facilitators** (see details below) who prepared and implemented these great sessions alongside their high workloads. The large majority of the Future Forum participants appreciated these sessions very much and they will continue to inspire the discourse and action through the participants, with this document and beyond.

## 6.1 Who pays the price? Transforming public finance for climate and nature

### Contributors:

- Gregor Sahler, GIZ (Organisation, Moderation)
- Leonie Kirchhoff, GIZ (Organisation, Moderation)
- David Weihrauch, GIZ (Organisation, Moderation)
- Sabrina Geppert, GIZ (Speaker)
- Tessa Schiefer, MCC (Speaker)
- Simon Conze, GIZ (Online Moderation)
- Maike Potthast, GIZ (Online Moderation)



### 6.1.1 Working question:

The economic and financial world relies on intact ecosystems and a stable climate. Yet, the costs of climate change and environmental destruction are not sufficiently reflected in prices of products and services. Therefore, these costs are inadequately taken into account in policy, investment, and purchasing decisions. In this session, we looked at carbon pricing and payments for ecosystem services as approaches to internalize these costs and discuss their potential for harnessing transformative change.

To provide for an in-depth discussion, we dived into two case studies:

In cooperation with the Mercator Research Institute for Global Commons and Climate Change (MCC) GIZ is developing a "Carbon Pricing Incidence Calculator" to simulate the effects of carbon prices on different population groups in 80+ countries. We worked with a beta-version of the calculator in a breakout during the session.

As a second case, we learned from a highly successful Costa Rican policy that was supported by GIZ: With technical support to the national authority for public services, Costa Rica introduced a water resource protection tariff that is used to finance ecosystem-based watershed protection. With this tariff, a permanent finance structure was established that simultaneously supports watershed and biodiversity protection as well as climate adaptation.

### 6.1.2 Learnings and results

- Carbon pricing is a cost-effective instrument.
  - Providing an economic incentive to invest in cleaner technologies by adjusting relative prices.
  - Establishing the "polluter-pays-principle".
  - Raising revenues, which can be used for compensation.
- Water resource protection practice: Costa Rica has pioneered the implementation of an innovative instrument that mobilizes resources for watershed and biodiversity protection as well as climate adaptation in an innovative manner.
  - "Change in perspective": This session has given us new insights on the value of an intact climate and environment, which is not yet reflected in economic and policy decisions – a decisive lever to achieve sustainable development, green public finance and our global climate and biodiversity goals.

### 6.1.3 Future prospects and exciting possibilities

- Public finances and incentives are often not aligned with climate and environmental objectives. To change this is a powerful lever for more sustainability.
- More insights need to be gained on how best to communicate and implement such policies, given that stakeholders may often oppose pricing initiatives and governance structures are often complex.
- Question who actually does pay the price for products and services that are harmful to climate and nature.

Either we achieve the socio-ecological transformation of public finance, or we won't achieve the transformation at all!

#### Best quotes

- "Process matters"
- "Financial instruments do not have to be complicated, they can start as something simple, and then we can build from that"

#### Further links

[¿Qué es la Tarifa para la Protección del Recurso Hídrico? - YouTube](#)

#### Presentations

Please find presentations on the [Future Forum 2023 website](#).



## 6.2 Transforming supply chains towards positive impact on biodiversity, forests and people

### Contributors:

- Meike Andersson, GIZ (Organisation, Moderation)
- Tobias Dierks, GIZ (Organisation)
- Nina Kuppetz, GIZ (Moderation, Speaker)
- Franziska Rau, GIZ (Online Moderation, Speaker)
- Elke Suemnick-Matthaei, GIZ (Organisation)
- Paula Heckenberger, GIZ (Online Moderation)
- Maike Voß, GIZ (Online Moderation)
- Damien Krichewsky (Uni Bonn) (Speaker)
- Louise Simon (Climate & Company) (Speaker)
- Marike de Pena (CLAC) (Speaker)
- Inge Adelfang-Hodgson (GIZ-ZA) (Speaker)
- Malina Bischoff (GIZ-BR) (Speaker)
- Björn Willms (GIZ-EC)(Speaker)

### 6.2.1 Working question:

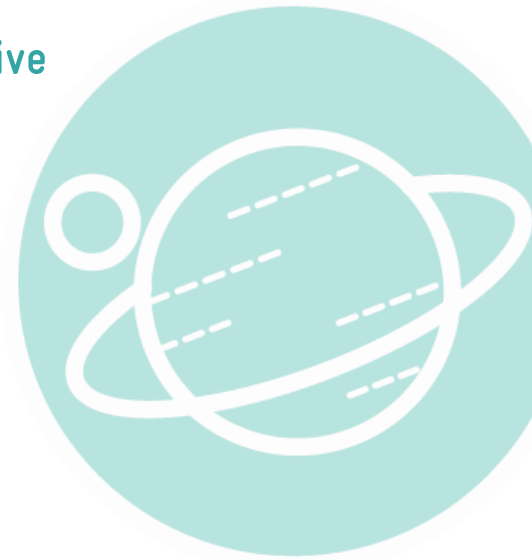
Supply chains are being condemned as a major factor in destroying nature, reinforcing social injustice and amplifying man-made climate change. Supply chains are praised for their potential to protect biodiversity, human rights, climate and forests, and thus food systems and agriculture. Which perception is correct?

In this session, we looked at supply chains from two interrelated perspectives: their transformational potential and the practical imperatives to realize it. Do regulatory interventions, such as the new EU Deforestation Regulation, have transformative potential and what can we do to support the transformation of supply chains? What does it take for a supply chain to actually have transformative impact, and what does this mean in concrete terms, on the ground? What does this mean for our role in advising partner governments and working with the private sector? Most importantly, how do we “leave no one behind”?

We brought together different implementation experiences to learn about success factors and shortcomings of existing supply chain approaches, especially in light of the new EU regulatory requirements. Together, we envisioned what supply chains of tomorrow have to look like to fulfill the promise to “leave no one behind” and minimize trade-offs and leakages. We placed a special focus on “people”, especially smallholders, as all supply chains always start with people.

### 6.2.2 Learnings and results

- More focus on living income approaches (fair wages for sustainable agriculture)
- Data ownership for smallholder farmers, which plays a role in due diligence and traceability systems (giving ownership to smallholders when reporting on their sustainable production)
- Inclusive business partnerships (win-win for stakeholders in sustainable/deforestation-free value chains)
- Technical and financial (sustainable finance) support for all actors along the supply chain, especially smallholders, local communities & SMEs
- Support formal and informal (land) rights of IPLCs (e.g. through EUDR mechanisms, substantiated concerns)



- Facilitation of space(s) for transdisciplinary Communities of Practice to find shared perspectives whilst appreciating long standing socio-cultural realities, to catalyze emergent processes of transformative change

This session has given us a new perspective or new insights on transformation of agricultural supply chains specifically related to the EU Green Deal (e.g. the new EU Deforestation Regulation or the upcoming CSDDD).

### 6.2.3 Future prospects and exciting possibilities

Future potentials:

- Better incomes, more just supply chains, greater accountability of traders as well as consumers, more forests and biodiversity

Knowledge Gaps:

- On global regulatory processes (e.g. on deforestation-free value chains) which has an impact on our activities
- Principles of deforestation-free production and living wages
- Establishing inclusive business partnerships

Inspiration for actions:

- Not being afraid to rethink whether the supply chains we are supporting through our projects are really transformative, and what we as GIZ need to do to make them more inclusive (leave no one behind) and minimize trade-offs and leakages

Agricultural supply chains are being forced to change due to changing regulatory requirements, so let's use this as an opportunity to re-think how people and planet can benefit from these changes!

**Further links**

[SAFE Factsheet](#)

**Presentations**

Please find presentations on the [Future Forum 2023 website](#).



### 6.3 Policies for healthy, sustainable and resilient agricultural and food systems

#### Contributors:

- Josephine Figiel, GIZ (Organisation)
- Andreas Lange, GIZ (Moderation)
- Jonas Wittern, GIZ (Input, Setting the Scene and Facilitator)
- Max Baumann, GIZ (Input, Setting the Scene and Facilitator)
- Alexander Schöning, GIZ (Facilitator)
- Sarah Schmidt, GIZ (Facilitator)
- Anja van -Mueeting, GIZ (Facilitator)
- Anika Reinbott, GIZ (Online Facilitator)
- Nicole Claasen, GIZ (Online Facilitator)
- Martina Fleckenstein, WWF (External Guest, Input)



#### 6.3.1 Working question:

Since the inaugural UN Food Systems Summit in 2021, the global spotlight has shifted to agricultural and food systems as the driving force for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2030. International and national agendas now firmly embrace the food systems approach, placing it at the heart of sustainable development. With the core thematic strategy "**Transformation of agricultural and food systems**", BMZ also published an overarching strategic framework for GIZ on this topic in 2021. In doing so, the BMZ expanded existing approaches and gave the agricultural and food systems approach a new guiding paradigm.

During this Future Forum session, we brought together experts and implementers of different sectors to establish a common understanding of ideas and initiatives, established in GIZ around **transformation of agricultural and food systems** and explored how **policy instruments can be used as levers** to transform them towards **healthy, sustainable and resilient systems**. Martina Fleckenstein from WWF unveiled the findings of their report, "Solving the Great Food Puzzle: 20 Levers to Scale National Action" and together we discovered the potential of different transformation levers.

#### 6.3.2 Learnings and results

GIZ is already implementing several levers that can contribute to the agricultural and food systems transformation.

There is no 'one fits all' approach to transforming agricultural and food systems across all countries. We need a wide range of different actions and levers in different food system types (for example: Restore Biodiversity, Support smallholder farmers, Promote traditional food, Adopt high-tech methods, Support healthy food imports, Redirect subsidies to improve production)

#### 6.3.3 Future prospects and exciting possibilities

Transforming food systems presents us with the biggest opportunity to restore nature, limit global warming to 1.5 degrees and nourish all people within planetary boundaries. We have looked at 20 levers, identified by WWF, that can promote national actions aimed at addressing the complexities of our global food systems. These levers grouped in 6 categories (Natural Resource Management, Governance and Institutions, Education and Knowledge, Technology, Trade, Finance) are important across all food system types but their potential for transformational change varies across food system types.

To make GIZ policy advice more transformative, approaches need to be stronger interlinked between sectors, actively include all relevant stakeholders, find compromise in trade-off discussions while working towards multiple outcomes of agricultural and food systems, such as health and nutrition, incomes and economic growth as well as protection and restoration of ecological boundaries.

### Best quotes

“Integrated approaches are necessary”

“We have to embrace more complexity, away from linear approaches”

“We need to go beyond our traditional answers”

“How can we bring AI into the picture?”

### Further literature, links, etc.

- [WWF, Solving the great Food Puzzle](#)
- [Sonderinitiative Transformation der Agrar- und Ernährungssysteme | BMZ](#)
- [European Commission, \(2020\). A Farm to Fork Strategy for a fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food system.](#)
- [FOOD SYSTEMS AND DIETS: A HANDBOOK OF ESSENTIAL POLICIES](#)

### Presentations

Please find presentations on the [Future Forum 2023 website](#).



### 6.4 Circular economy for plastics? Between deepening old path dependencies and creating a new plastic free mainstream

#### Contributors:

- Tobias Mohn, GIZ (Moderation)
- Coralie Marszewski, GIZ (Organisation)
- Steffen Blume, GIZ (Input on Global Plastics Treaty)
- Jonas Barkhau, GIZ (Input on Global Plastics Treaty)
- Dorothee Bürkle, GIZ (Input on EPR)
- Kyosuke Inada, JICA (Input on JICAs actions in the field of Circular Economy)

#### 6.4.1 Working question:

In the face of escalating environmental challenges posed by plastic waste, this session sought to explore and promote the transformative potential of circular economy principles for plastics management.

The concept of a circular economy for plastics presents an inspiring vision to break free from the linear "take, make, dispose" model and move towards a regenerative system where plastic materials are consistently reused, recycled, or regenerated. Today, more than ever, the need to find sustainable solutions for plastic waste is urgent, as plastic pollution continues to threaten ecosystems and human health worldwide.

One of the essential topics of discussion in this session was the Global Plastic Treaty and its significance for countries worldwide. We delved into the treaty's goals, commitments, and the impact it can have on shaping national policies and initiatives to tackle plastic pollution comprehensively.

Sharing best practices and success stories from working at the regional level, we examined examples of circular economy initiatives, demonstrating the power of collective action in addressing plastic waste and fostering sustainable plastic management practices.

We hope to offer valuable insights into the approaches and action plans adopted by individual nations in their efforts to combat plastic pollution, highlighting the challenges faced and the achievements made in transitioning towards a circular economy for plastics.

#### 6.4.2 Learnings and results

##### Financing:

- Existing or new multilateral fund and principles (cbdr)
- Important role of the private sector

##### Capacity building, technical assistance & technology transfer:

- Country driven capacity building programmes, global strategy or mechanism, networks
- Areas: infrastructure, alternative materials, support of developing countries
- Develop a clear definition of technology transfer on mutually agreed terms
- Promote and support the implementation of EPR in partner countries

This session has given us new insights on the importance of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), the importance of legally binding treaties and the challenges and prospects of moving the topic of circular economy forwards.





### 6.4.3 Future prospects and exciting possibilities

Despite the challenges in implementation, EPR and a binding treaty on plastic waste has huge transformative potential for our partner countries.

There are multiple knowledge gaps including digital solutions, technical implementation as well as regulatory, managerial and political challenges on implementation of EPR and the different interests of different actors, since we are dealing with a wide range of actors, from global companies to countries to local communities.

Knowledge generation and standardization on designing circular plastics (e.g. in the project in Thailand) to address technical and regulatory aspects such as material choices for environmental-friendly packaging design, design for recycling and recycled content in plastic production, as well as economic measures for packaging waste prevention.

#### Further links

- [Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on Plastic Pollution | UNEP - UN Environment Programme](#)
- [Towards Clean Oceans. Reducing plastic pollution through circular economy - Learning experiences of GIZ and its partners](#)
- [Homepage | Knowledge Hub for Green Technologies \(greentechknowledgehub.de\)](#)
- [Home - Prevent Waste Alliance \(prevent-waste.net\)](#)
- [Circular economy - conserving resources, protecting the climate and oceans - giz.de](#)

#### Presentations

Please find presentations on the [Future Forum 2023 website](#).



## 6.5 Resource requirements of the energy and mobility transition



### Contributors:

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- Corinna Feldmann, GIZ (Organisation)

### 6.5.1 Working question:

Global energy and mobility transformation will create huge demand for natural resources – minerals, ores, (rare) elements and others. However, the availability of resources might soon become a structural bottleneck. Such potential bottlenecks are not considered in transition strategies yet, nor do they play a role in GIZ's transition advisory to partner countries and the current Energy and Mobility portfolio.

The session gave insights into the complexity of the topic, highlighting the relevant dimensions for the assessment of whether scarcities of non-energetic resources can slow down system transformation.

The relevant questions of the session were:

- Is the known resource base sufficient to avoid future scarcities? Are mining capacities sufficient?
- What role can secondary resources play?
- What new technologies and other solutions (efficiency gains, substitution) can mitigate possible resource scarcities?
- What are the impacts of increased mining activities on environments and communities? Is "responsible mining" possible?

### 6.5.2 Learnings and results

Very high expectations: Over-hyped as a "new oil boom" or "new gold rush" and that remains to be seen, especially with trends like home-shoring or near-shoring.

For the people it brings work and welfare, because if the state has a lot of money to spend and is well-governed it can use the money to pay for social services and realize human rights.

How do you try to foster the positive and minimize the negative? In the end we should come to the term "smart mix of responses". ASI is one of various approaches to foster responsible mining and to cope with mining-related risks.

China is clearly dominant in processing. Out of the 34 raw materials that the EU considers critical, China itself mines more than half of it within its borders. If you look at the permanent magnet market, it's almost a monopoly in China with more than 90% of permanent magnets produced there. Chinese companies have very high carbon footprints in mining countries such as the DRC or Peru. When it comes to cobalt, Chinese companies control 15 out of 17 cobalt industrial projects. China is also home to two leading battery producers.

We can see more and more integration – both vertical and horizontal – along the supply chain where Chinese companies come together with companies of other countries.

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The major thing that concerns us is that while the Chinese companies are private, they come most of the time with the backing of the government, with a very big checkbook. This confluence of business and governance sphere can have negative consequences for us and our partner countries.

We need much easier access to the materials for recycling. That's where we need to look into a different kind of setting up the whole reverse logistic and recycling chain and rethink if the industrial recycling that we're applying in the European context is the right way to do it.

What our partner countries need for circular economy: a really effective eco-design directive with two main components: one, to support the reusability and the repurposing of components at the end of life of the entire equipment to make it available for these components to be used in other products (eg. battery packages) and the other one is to make these components accessible (against the current trend).

Often, when renewable energy projects are set up, the end-of-life management is not considered. Timeframes of 20-30 years makes it difficult. We should start as GIZ to take it as an integrative part in these projects to think about how the reverse logistic and the takeback system, how the inclusion into sustainable recycling chains can be provided for these products.

We often underestimate what these projects can have as an impact if reusable, properly designed products are put in as criteria in the purchasing and procurement process.

Lithium is very difficult to ship. Going from Ghana to Europe is almost impossible on the legal way. It is important that in countries like Ghana certain processes are established so that they can safely be shipped.

### Presentations

Please find presentations on the [Future Forum 2023 website](#).



## 6.6 Sufficiency: Succeeding with the resource transformation



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- Inga Buchholz, GIZ, GIZ (Online Moderation)
- Stefan Landauer, GIZ (Input)
- Svenja Weyrauch, GIZ (Input)
- Hans Bruyninckx, European Environment Agency/University of Antwerp (Speaker)
- André Rodenburg, Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management (Speaker)
- Lorren De Kock, WWF South Africa (Speaker)
- Santiago Borgna, Secretariat for Industry & Productive Development (Speaker)

### 6.6.1 Working question:

How can the (absolute) consumption of resources be reduced?

The extraction and processing of resources is responsible for 90% of biodiversity loss, 50% of global greenhouse gas emissions and 1/3 of the health effects of air pollution: Climate change is not the only reason why we urgently need to reduce resource consumption!

The event showcased the current state of discussion on resource consumption with a focus on innovative policies. A new methodology for assessing the effectiveness of policies and information about instruments were presented. The panelists then discussed how these policies and instruments might be applied in our partner countries and debated on challenges and requirements of emerging economies.

Participants were invited to share their knowledge and questions and to discuss how GIZ can contribute to reducing resource consumption in our partner countries.

### 6.6.2 Learnings and results

CE and resource transition are getting more attention especially in countries in transition as for example South Africa, Colombia and Argentina. Policies are developed and implemented not only at the national but also at the local level. Municipalities and civil society groups can be strong drivers to push for stronger resources protection and increased circularity. Experiences in some industrialised countries (as e.g. of the Netherlands, Austria, Finland and last but not least Germany) are valuable, particularly in relation to target setting and policy development. However, there is still a long way to go and huge gaps concerning implementation and really achieving a turnaround related not only to decoupling but to realize a very necessary absolute reduction of resources consumption.

This session gave us a very clear and up-to-date insight into the state of resource use and its negative impacts on climate, pollution and biodiversity (please check out the excellent keynote presentation!) and highlighted that resource use is not only a blind spot in the climate negotiations but also in other relevant international processes! The session also revealed the global interrelation in the sense that low-income countries suffer from high water consumption and biodiversity losses also due to production for the "Global North". They find themselves at an unequal starting point compared to the (so-

called) Global South due to deficits in infrastructure and resource efficiency. It also became clear that there is an urgent need for an exchange of experiences on know-how not only to formulate policies but also to successfully implement strategies to reduce resource consumption and that all parties, including industrialised countries, could benefit from such an exchange. The speakers emphasised the need for a global vision. It is not about identifying, what is best for individual countries, but what is best for the Globe. Coordinating and aligning national CE strategies is key, as resources demand in industrialised countries is a major driver for resources extraction in emerging and developing countries. The very obvious, but still often neglected need to include social aspects demanding a just resource transformation was also emphasised. The contribution of Argentina highlighted that technical cooperation is insufficient as also technologies and financial resources are required besides diagnostics and policy proposals.

### 6.6.3 Future prospects and exciting possibilities

This is a hot topic gaining momentum but not yet receiving the attention required, internationally but also within GIZ.

**Message of the hour: Shifting is still possible, but shift needs to be steep!**

- Circularity is about redesigning entire value chains.
- Reduce resource intensive consumption & production.
- Increase sustainable consumption & production.
- Institutionalize resource governance.
- Redirect finance to serve the transition.
- Mainstream sustainable consumption choices, focusing on most consuming sectors (energy and transport) and trends (i.e. urbanization).

“Communication”: In the public discourse, societies are often reduced as consumers. It is about “citizenship”, beyond the consumption-focus, with its different approach of responsibility. Simplifying complexity in public discourses risks to create a “trap for populism”, it is hence not about reducing complexity but about explaining the complexity. It is also not about explaining to people what we think, but about listening and finding consensus.

“Future potentials”: What is the transformative potential of these levers / practices in future? Several countries and organisations as GGKP and IRP are pushing the topic in the climate negotiations (COP 28) and there is a good chance that the topic will receive increasing international attention and funding.

“Knowledge Gaps”: We are at the forefront of a topic that is still evolving, and that still lacks both the political attention and the tools to be truly transformative. Translation of knowledge into policy is a huge challenge. The instruments available today contribute to increasing efficiency but are far from sufficient to keep pace with increasing resource consumption. There are initial signs of transformation, but they need to be further developed. Examples of this include linking measures to reduce resource consumption with climate funds, modeling political effects, analyzing transboundary impacts of national CE strategies and formulating absolute resource consumption targets.

**One actionable step or (bold) initiative that the session may inspire us to take:**

Networking, communicating and pushing for a collaborative action within GIZ to develop transformative levers for CE and saving of resources.

#### **Best quotes**

“The world does not need to choose between stronger economic growth or stronger environmental protection. Well designed and well implemented policies can deliver both at the same time, lifting

economic growth and wellbeing while also moderating pressures and reducing environmental impacts” (Hans Bruyninckx)

### Further links

#### Relevant Topics:

- [TOPIC / Waste and Circular Economy, Resource Efficiency \(auto translated\) \(sharepoint.com\)](#)
- [TOPIC / Umweltpolitik, Umweltökonomie, Umweltmanagement \(sharepoint.com\)](#)
- [TOPIC / Green Economy \(sharepoint.com\)](#)
- [SIA-Toolbox | Sustainable Industrial Areas - GIZ Expertise and Services](#)

#### MS Teams Channels:

- [Waste management, Circular economy, Resource efficiency with guests](#)
- [Umweltpolitik, Umweltökonomie, Umweltmanagement with guests](#)
- [European Green Deal](#)

#### Regular meetings:

- Global CoP: Waste Management, Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency. AP: Theo (Thorsten) Lingner
- Themenforum Umweltpolitik. AP Ellen Gunsilius
- SIA Working Group. AP Nadine Stoecker

#### Important Documents:

##### The German CE Strategy:

- Presentation of Siddarth Prakash (Öko Institut): [Vorstellung „Modell Deutschland Circular Economy“ \(19.07.2023\) \(IDA\)](#)
- WWF Broschüre zum Modell Deutschland: [Eine umfassende Circular Economy für Deutschland 2045](#)

Netherlands: [Circular Dutch economy by 2050 | Circular economy | Government.nl; NETHERLANDS INTEGRAL CIRCULAR ECONOMY REPORT 2021 \(pbl.nl\)](#)

Austria: [Kreislaufwirtschafts-Strategie \(bmk.gv.at\)](#)

[Finland Strategic programme to promote a circular economy - Ministry of the Environment \(ym.fi\)](#)

[Circularity Gap Report 2023](#)

[Green PSD Navigator](#)

[Resource efficiency and climate change](#)

### Presentations

Please find presentations on the [Future Forum 2023 website](#).

## 6.7 Deep Systems Change or “Just” Employment Promotion: Can Green Jobs be a Driver of Economic Transformation for Development?



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- Lilian Leifert, GIZ (Moderation)
- Ramiro Albrieu, Red Sur (Speaker)
- Elisenda Estruch Puertas, ILO (Speaker)
- Stuart Worsley, Green Economy Coalition (Speaker)

### 6.7.1 Working question:

With the concept of "green jobs", employment promotion in development cooperation has been given a qualitative and normative claim. It involves converting existing professions into environmentally friendly ones, as well as introducing and supporting new types of "green" occupations to pave the way for sustainable futures. We want to learn from these experiences and draw conclusions for international development cooperation. We want to understand how the development and promotion of "green jobs" contribute to the socio-ecological transformation of economies which has become a necessity world-wide.

With the socio-ecological transformation towards an economy focused on the well-being of society within planetary boundaries, a need for an expanded qualitative and normative framework for economic development cooperation targeting employment promotion is announced.

Recently, experts and development practitioners – such as the Economic Transformation for Development (ET4D) Community of Practice<sup>12</sup> and even the OECD<sup>13</sup> – have embarked on a broader reflection on fundamentally transforming production and consumption patterns going beyond the economic growth paradigm. They advocate for a new way of conceptualising economic and social progress with particular attention to well-being, inequality, and environmental sustainability, as well as new theoretical frameworks for economic analysis and policy approaches. These frameworks and approaches go well beyond “greening” the economy – they call for a profound systemic shift towards sustainable economic paradigms defined through participatory approaches.

Against this background, the guiding question for this session boils down to how employment promotion and professional development can invest in future qualifications that not only align economic activities

<sup>12</sup> GSI (2022). Economic transformation in international development cooperation – A Call to Action. Global Solutions Journal Issue 8. Access [online](#).

<sup>13</sup> OECD (2020). Beyond Growth. Towards a New Economic Approach; Michael Jacobs.

with environmental sustainability, but also empower employees and transform entire professions into agents of socio-ecological change.

In this session, we first turned to the concept and practice of "green jobs" in development cooperation. Subsequently, we explored the areas of transformation required for a new economic paradigm that transcends growth. Finally, we identified the requirements and characteristics of professions that contribute to the socio-ecological transformation towards a new paradigm. In essence, the session aimed to answer the question of whether employment promotion towards "green jobs" in partner countries of German development cooperation is sufficient to induce profound systemic shifts towards economies in line with basic social requirements, broader societal well-being, and long-ignored planetary boundaries.

### 6.7.2 Learnings and results

- The international community (with the International Labour Organisation in the lead) is making great progress towards a common definition of "green jobs". However, it still appears that there are major gaps in definitions and further clarification/ standardization is needed for tracking progress globally.
- (Micro, Small, and Medium) Enterprises and economic sectors exhibit great potential for fostering transformation on a larger scale, however missing legislation and incentive structures on policy level are barriers in unleashing such potential. Experts expressed doubts about a successful transformation when solely focusing on "green jobs" in strategies/interventions.
- The transformation of economic systems will take a long time and require the will and collaboration of many generations. Thus, it appears most urgent to have a clear focus on youth in projects which focus on the promotion of green jobs or economic transformation more broadly.
- The informal sector often represents a significant part of the economy in many countries, employing large numbers of people. By including them in green transition initiatives, we can maximize the impact of these efforts, improve working conditions in this sector, and reduce its environmental impact.
- The role of the political partner is crucial in mobilising the requisite resources, encouraging the adoption of environmentally friendly practices, and promoting policy reforms conducive to the green transition. In addition, they have a central role in raising public awareness and building a national consensus on the importance of environmental sustainability working in close collaboration with civil society and the private sector as well.
- In order to build capacities and concepts for green entrepreneurship and employment there is a need for climate mainstreaming of curricula in general education as well as in TVET and academia (i.e., skills development).
- It is crucial to emphasize that the definition of a "green job" is a fundamental aspect that deserves in-depth exploration. A clear understanding of the concept is needed, taking into account different local contexts and perspectives, to ensure effective and relevant implementation of green jobs in diverse regions and industries.

### 6.7.3 Future prospects and exciting possibilities

- There appear to be knowledge gaps in understanding the specific skills and training needs for green jobs, as well as the local barriers to their implementation. GIZ could further explore these gaps by conducting a comprehensive skills gap analysis and engaging with local communities and businesses to identify specific hurdles to green job creation.
- An actionable step could be to place a stronger emphasis on engaging local communities throughout the process. This would involve fostering continuous exchange, involving them in decision-making processes, and avoiding the "beneficiary" label, instead recognising them as partners and active change agents. By making locals true partners in the initiative, we can ensure their ownership, leading to more sustainable and effective outcomes through our programmes.



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- Another actionable step could be to clarify the “green jobs” definition within GIZ. Ambitions are already on their way within the Sectoral Department to move into this direction.
- Actions need to be taken towards a clear measurement approach for evaluating the reduction of emissions on the enterprise-level, as well as the contribution of certain job categories towards this outcome (thus introducing a clearly communicable contribution of certain jobs).
- Youth has been stressed (once again) as a critical target group. An actionable step could be to introduce a “Focus on Youth”-Marker in GIZ programmes (Y0, Y1 or Y2?).

The essence of this session can be summed up as an urgent call to take immediate action for socio-ecological and economic transformation with a focus on the pivotal role of enterprises and green jobs in driving equitable transitions across all transformation fields and economic sectors.

### Best quotes

- “Boosting skills for a greener future of work in rural areas is a key aspect of a just transition.” (Elisenda Estruch-Puertas)
- “A lack of legislation and legal definitions create space for greenwashing.” (Stuart Worsley)
- “We need to understand firms, not workers, as they are the true agents of change.” (Ramiro Albrieu)

### Further links

- ILO Green Enterprises Report (2022): [wcms\\_861384.pdf \(ilo.org\)](#)
- ILO Guidelines for a statistical definition of employment in the environmental sector (2013): [wcms\\_817835.pdf \(ilo.org\)](#)
- ILO Green Skills (2023): [Skills for a Greener Future \(ilo.org\)](#)
- ILO Resolution on Just Transition (2023): [ILC.111/Resolution V: Resolution concerning a just transition towards environmentally sustainable economies and societies for all \(ilo.org\)](#)
- INTERSECTING Resources for the Future (2023): [INTERSECTING - Resources for the Future Volume 11 - Global Solutions Initiative | Global Solutions Summit \(global-solutions-initiative.org\)](#)
- [BMZ-UNEVOC Dialogue Forum: Green skills for a just transition \(unesco.org\)](#)

### Presentations

Please find presentations on the [Future Forum 2023 website](#).





## 7. Transformative Methods & Approaches

After exploring promising levers for action (the 'what to do') the conference continued with sessions being organised in a decentral way by GIZ colleagues, exploring transformative methods and approaches (the 'how to facilitate it').

### Background:

We urgently need more ideas and learning for *facilitating* rising ambitions and action in such transformation fields. What kind of methods do we need to enhance governance, participation and democratic co-determination of desirable future visions? How to valorize digital opportunities for transformation processes? How to create enabling environments for transformative social, political and technological innovation?

Methodological competences are the bridge towards action. However, they can hardly be acquired in theory. We need to practice and experiment with methods to learn and further develop them. The Future Forum was an opportunity to bring 'sectoral' knowledge and methodological competences closer together.

### Working questions:

- Which methods help us to facilitate such fundamental societal changes?
- How to advance them?

### Methodology:

See chapter 0.

Many thanks to all the session teams and facilitators (see details below) who prepared and implemented these great sessions alongside their high workloads. The large majority of Future Forum participants appreciated these sessions very much and they will continue to inspire the discourse and action through the participants, with this document and beyond.

## 7.1 Leveraging diverse and innovative cross-sectoral partnerships for integrated solutions

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### 7.1.1 Working question:

Leveraging diverse and innovative cross-sectoral partnerships for integrated solutions:  
Where do we stand and how do we go forward?

Partnerships are at the heart of GIZ's transformation from a project-driven organisation to an implementer of integrated solutions for global challenges. Large scale transformative change requires meaningful, diverse and cross-sectoral cooperation. In light of multiple crises (e.g. climate change & biodiversity loss, conflicts such as the war in Ukraine etc.) that threaten our water, energy and food security, diverse, cross-sectoral partnerships are needed more than ever to address challenges that no single sector can solve alone. Partnerships can take on various forms – from intermittent collaboration to the implementation of joint activities to joint missions – and already form an integral part of our offer and service delivery. Transcending a silo mentality can also translate into different aspects – from bridging sector boundaries to bringing together stakeholders from different spheres (public, private, civil society, academia) and connecting different levels of intervention (local, regional, global). To build tomorrow's GIZ and start the next chapter of development and international cooperation, we will need to go further in the way we build, maintain and act across all of these spheres.

But what does that mean exactly? How will the way we think and operate in diverse partnerships have to change in order to address some of the most pressing issues of our time together?

In this session, we brought together diverse experiences from the field and created a new outlook together on

- what do the cross-sectoral and otherwise diverse partnerships of tomorrow need to look like to enable new solutions?
- What do we need to do – and how do we need to change – to bring them to fruition?
- What does that mean for the way we approach and work with others?

### 7.1.2 Learnings and results

This session has given us a new perspective and new insights into how power imbalances and hierarchies in multi-level partnerships can be overcome by a mindset change, reinventing partnerships, including all parties from policy to local level, strengthening especially the local, already existing systems, and building trust among partners.

GIZ has proved that it is open to listening and to learning within its partnerships. By decentralising its partnerships, becoming one partner of many within more multi-stakeholder partnerships, it will be able to further flatten the hierarchies from policy level to local level and to overcome policy pressure and shrinking funds.



### 7.1.3 Future prospects and exciting possibilities

Breaking the power imbalance and hierarchies within multi-level partnerships by integrating all parties in processes already before the cooperation starts. Work with already existing systems, e.g. farmers organisations.

Strengthening the local level which is the weakest to enable local partners and finally make yourself (GIZ) redundant. GIZ should capacitate certain networks to work together, be one partner of many within a more multi-stakeholder sort of approach of partnerships. This would help GIZ to overcome power imbalances within its partnerships as well as the pressure of policies (BMZ) and shrinking funds.

With the increasing importance and complexity of partnerships (e.g., inter-sectoral, multi-stakeholder, multi-level) for integrated solutions, there is a need for more coordination and guidance in GIZ. Over-arching partnership management structures are needed to support the establishment of such partnerships methodologically as well as operationally.

#### Best quotes

“We need to reinvent partnerships.” (Ralf Sanftenberg)

“GIZ instead of other donors has always had a very humble attitude towards its partners. Instead of presenting already a solution, they first listened to the needs and thoughts of their partners. We need more partners like GIZ.” Arun Maira, HelpAge International, India

#### Presentations

Please find presentations on the [Future Forum 2023 website](#).



## 7.2 Private sector engagement for transformation

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- Zanele Hakamela, GIZ (Moderation, speaker)
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- Viktoria Schwarze, GIZ (Moderator)
- Gabriela Pico, GIZ (Moderator)
- Philippa Smith, Symrise AG (Speaker)
- Lesego Ndhambi, Plentify Ltd (Speaker)



### 7.2.1 Working question:

Private Sector Engagement (PSE) is a method that can be used in all sectors and greatly contributes to impacts in all transformation fields! Here the private sector actors are not the target group, they are cooperation partners.

- We briefly introduced the method Private Sector Engagement (formats & instruments)
- We presented good practice examples for Private Sector Engagement from the perspective of GIZ and with inputs of guests from the private sector, e.g. from the sectors agriculture and energy.
- We discussed what role Private Sector Engagement already plays in projects that contribute to topics like Just Transition, Gender Transformation, Digitalization.
- We invited to exchange in working groups what further ideas for Private Sector Engagement in respect to new BMZ focus topics are imaginable.

### 7.2.2 Learnings and results

In the plenary and in the working groups the participants discussed further potential for Private Sector Engagement in respect to selected crosscutting issues like Just Transition, Gender Transformation and Digitalization. The main learnings and reflections can be summarised as follows:

Private Sector Partners are key players on the way to sustainable development goals and should, therefore, be systematically integrated into GIZ's projects worldwide, wherever feasible and meaningful.

At an overarching level:

Different types of private sector resources and contributions can be mobilised and invested in transformational, impactful measures that are in line with both: business and development cooperation goals. The basis for a sustainable social ecological transformation is created from win-win situations for both parties: GIZ and private sector partners.

When tackling global, complex, multidimensional challenges like a Just Transition or Gender Equal Transformation, GIZ can add value and increase the quality and innovation of its range of services by integrating the know-how, network and drive of private sector stakeholders.

Private sector partners can be involved in different meaningful ways in GIZ projects and programmes. For this purpose, there is already a range of proven cooperation formats at GIZ, e.g. multi-stakeholder partnerships (MAP), development partnerships, co-financing, commissions (InS).

On Just Transition:

Concrete project topics to contribute to a social ecological transformation in cooperation with the private sector could be, for instance: green jobs promotion, decarbonization of supply chains or sectors,

Just Transition pilot approaches in specific communities/cities. Interesting companies that could be involved in such approaches could come from different sectors like mining, manufacturing, oil and gas, energy, AI, aviation, agriculture, among others.

**On Gender Transformation:**

Driving a gender transformational approach is not yet always on the agenda of local governments and business. Therefore, it is crucial to implement sensitization campaigns – not only in capitals and big cities, but also in rural areas – and make companies aware of the derived benefits. Female representation and bringing women into decision-making positions (e.g. on middle-management level) will be especially relevant in traditional sectors, such as mining, agroprocessing and energy.

**On Digitalization:**

As for digitalization aspects, the potential for private sector engagement seems substantial, for instance in the energy sector regarding digital solutions for sustainable heating energy management, in the agriculture sector in order to support smallholder farmers with AI based approaches in production/farming or in other sectors by involving a wide range of tech-companies (big, medium and startups).

### 7.2.3 Future prospects and exciting possibilities

In the plenary, the recently launched new BMZ strategy for Private Sector Engagement “Partners in Transformation” aroused great interest of the participants. This topic will therefore be picked up and further discussed with GIZ colleagues in the Private Sector Engagement community in the framework of a suitable format (e.g. Private Sector Talk and/or in dedicated workshops).

**Knowledge Gaps:**

**At an aggregated level:**

Private Sector Engagement is a transformative, cross-cutting method which can be implemented in the GIZ context in such a way that increases impact and adds value to development cooperation measures. For this, it is crucial that GIZ colleagues build gradually a certain skillset, knowledge and intuition. We all must be aware of the potential/possibilities but also challenges when cooperating with private sector partners and balance them in an optimal way. The comprehensive training on Private Sector Engagement, which was developed in a joint effort by AIZ, AGE and FMB, is a fantastic opportunity to learn and reflect on that.

**On Gender Transformation:**

With respect to gender transformative approaches, there is still a lack of knowledge in terms of what methods and tools for gender transformation bring the aspired impacts and how to measure these impacts. For instance, if women are to be role models, difficulties arise when identifying and measuring the impact on the selected target group. Thus, the development and implementation of new measures and “proof of concepts” are needed to better understand impacts and become more effective in the future.

**On Digitalization:**

As for digitalization, the potential within the scope of Private Sector Engagement seems significant. At the same time, the modes of cooperation (e.g. with startups) and ways of designing projects meeting both public benefit and private sector partners’ interests seem to be, in some cases, still challenging. This is due to legal framework constraints and fast- developing technologies. Further discussion and reflection on these topics is needed.

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### Best quotes

- “The accents and focuses might change in time, also depending on the political framework, but Private Sector Engagement will remain relevant for GIZ no matter what”
- „Addressing current and future global challenges requires a multidisciplinary perspective, entrepreneurial commitment and intensive dialogue between public and private stakeholders. “

### Further links

- Topic page Private Sector Engagement: [TOPIC / Private Sector Engagement \(sharepoint.com\)](#)
- Trainings on Private Sector Engagement: [Training/Events \(sharepoint.com\)](#)
- Private Sector Engagement Community: [PSE Community \(MS Teams\)](#)

### Presentations

Please find presentations on the [Future Forum 2023 website](#).

### 7.3 Bridging innovation and systems change – the do's and don'ts of scaling



#### Contributors:

- Mara Holzenthal, GIZ (Moderation)
- Lennart Woltering, GIZ, CGIAR (Speaker)
- Eva Marina Valencia Leñero, CGIAR (Speaker)
- Naveen Garg, GIZ (Speaker)
- Pierre Golbach, endeva (Speaker)
- Jan Schröder, minds&makers (Speaker)

#### 7.3.1 Working question:

Reaching the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is highly dependent on our ability to transform our food systems to be more sustainable and socially inclusive. Scaling useful innovations such as better performing seeds, labor saving machines or tools that help collaboration processes are a key strategy to improve food systems. However, the scaling of innovations mostly bypasses the deeper roots responsible for our unsustainable food system such as the powers, relationships and mental models that hold it in place. This allows the same problem to pop up again and successes achieved during projects to fade out quickly.

In this session we discussed how, and how not, scaling of innovation can contribute to big changes so that our planet and societies can thrive in the long run. We explored how systems thinking, and especially the important role of people's willingness and ability to change, contributes to a scaling of innovations that is sustainable and contributing to change.

We first looked at what scaling is, then on how to do it and then we drew lessons from an example from India where community gardens are being scaled. We also drew from the audience to relate local experiences to international lessons learned.

#### 7.3.2 Learnings and results

Ensuring the transition from scale to sustainable impact is the real challenge.

"Scaling should be a means to an end. The innovation or the project should lead to change in the system, should lead to good change. Many projects do their thing, but they don't affect the system at all because they work in their own bubble. Scaling should help systems to change." (Lennart Woltering)

"The scaling up journey has been gradual, starting with 20 pilot gardens in two districts, and now the target is set for around 5,600 plus gardens in 51 or 52 districts. It's not an overnight success, but a result of seeing the potential and progress on the ground." (Naveen Garg)

"Scaling is not a linear process; it's not the same as having a bigger bicycle. Having a bigger bicycle is kind of like very difficult, right? To carry more people, you have to switch vehicles. Scaling happens in different phases, different roles, people have to take up, have to do different things. You need to learn different things as well and rely on different innovations or changes in the environment for your innovation to work." (Lennart Woltering)

"Challenges include the need for ownership at both the department and individual levels. Sensitising officials about the long-term perspective of the Community Nutrition Gardens and ensuring motivation for Self-Help Group women beyond the initial years are crucial for sustainability and success." (Naveen Garg)



"Matching solution and demand is the starting point. We want to deeply understand local needs, making sure there is an overlap, and then co-create the scaling strategy. It's about creating a dynamic vision of scaling, aligning different interests, and making them transparent and visible." (Pierre Golbach)

### 7.3.3 Future prospects and exciting possibilities

Potential in adopting a demand-driven approach, understanding local needs, building collaborative scaling strategies, fostering stakeholder engagement, and ensuring continuous adaptation to context-specific challenges and finally leading to sustainable approaches/projects and sustainable impact.

Further exploration into how scaling is built into different projects, how projects are measuring sustainable impact in scaling, how scaling experience is documented and shared and how adaptive learning is ensured etc.

Another field of exploration is the role of scaling for standardised product and portfolio management and integrated approaches within GIZ

#### Inspiration for action:

- Try out the scaling scan :)
- Initiate a (local stakeholder) workshop to define a scaling vision for your project, considering the specific needs and demands of the local context. This workshop would serve as the starting point for creating a shared vision that evolves over time.

#### Further links

- [Scaling Scan Webpage – A practical tool to determine the strengths and weaknesses of your scaling ambition](#)
- [Scaling-up: How to get a good idea up and running \(GIZ publication\)](#)
- [Guidelines on scaling-up for programme managers and planning officers \(GIZ publication\)](#)
- [FuFo 2023 Virtual Breakout Session Block 3, Session 3: Scaling – Conceptboard](#)
- [Scaling Community of Practice](#)
- [TOPIC / Scaling Up \(sharepoint.com\)](#) (GIZ internal link)

#### Presentations

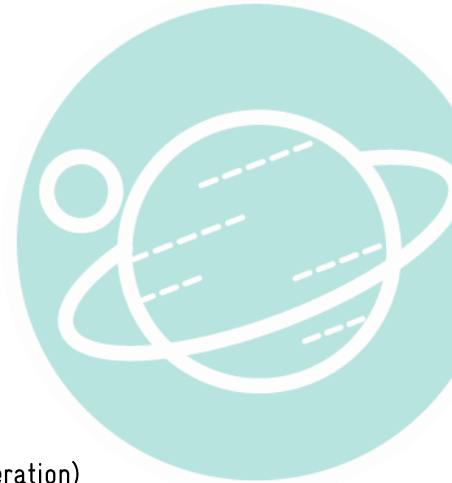
Please find presentations on the [Future Forum 2023 website](#).



### 7.4 AI for transforma(c)tion: Deep Dive into the Mobility Sector and Beyond

#### Contributors:

- Karina Kosmukhambetova, GIZ Data Lab (Organisation)
- Catherine Vogel, GIZ Data Lab (Moderation)
- Armin Wagner, GIZ (Speaker)
- Dr. Sebastian Ebert, GIZ (Speaker)
- Sebastian Ibold, GIZ (Speaker)
- Tuan Duc Do, GIZ (Online Moderation)
- Andreas Pawelke, external consultant to the GIZ Data Lab (Online Moderation)
- Sandra Richter, Deutsche Bahn (Speaker)



#### 7.4.1 Working question:

AI is no longer a concept of the future – it's already reshaping our world.



As AI continues to disrupt traditional systems and processes, it's paving the way for a wave of change. It offers a huge potential across all sectors and at the same time comes with unique challenges, ranging from ethical risks to stakeholder involvement and sustainability concerns.

With this session we aimed to build a bridge between the visionary landscape of AI and the realities of practical and sustainable implementation. Based on examples of the mobility sector, we liked to approach a realistic point of view of AI within the broader conference framework around transformative change, contributing to a critical understanding of the technology's potential, and its practical implications, for GIZ and our partners. We also aimed to jointly discuss specific recommendations for the colleagues in the

mobility sector based on the community feedback and expert knowledge.

#### 7.4.2 Learnings and results

In essence, the transformative potential lies in AI's ability to revolutionize how we conceptualize, plan, and experience transport, offering opportunities for enhanced efficiency, sustainability, and user satisfaction.

Emerging promising practices in the context of social-ecological transformations, particularly within the intersection of AI and mobility, encompass a variety of methodologies and approaches. These practices contribute to reshaping societal and environmental systems. Here are some noteworthy methods and their contributions:

- Predictive Analytics for Traffic Management
- AI-Driven Public Transport Optimization
- Smart Infrastructure Planning with AI

- User-Centric Mobility Services
- AI-Enabled Energy Management in mobility
- Community Engagement Platforms with AI

These emerging promising practices collectively contribute to social-ecological transformations by optimising resource usage, reducing environmental impact, and fostering inclusive and sustainable mobility solutions. They exemplify the potential of AI to positively influence the way we interact with and shape our urban and transport environments.

The session has shifted our perspective by emphasising the practical implications of AI implementation in the mobility sector. It has moved the discourse beyond theoretical considerations, offering tangible examples and use cases within the mobility landscape. This shift in focus encourages us to view AI not as an abstract concept but as a concrete and evolving reality with the power to optimize, innovate, and revolutionize the way we approach transport.



### 7.4.3 Future prospects and exciting possibilities

The transformative potential of AI in the mobility sector is immense, paving the way for a paradigm shift in how we envision transport. As AI technologies continue to evolve, they offer opportunities for future exploration and innovation. One key aspect is the potential enhancement of autonomous vehicles, which can redefine the way people and goods move. AI can optimize traffic flow in particular for public transport and active mobility, reduce congestion, and enhance overall transport efficiency.

Moreover, predictive analytics powered by AI can revolutionize maintenance processes, anticipating issues before they occur and optimising vehicle lifespan. This not only ensures safer journeys but also contributes to sustainability by minimising resource wastage.

The integration of AI in mobility also opens doors to personalised and on-demand services. AI algorithms can analyze user behavior, preferences, and real-time data to provide customised travel experiences, making transport more convenient and user-centric.

In the broader context, AI's potential extends to urban planning, with the ability to create smart cities that prioritize sustainable and efficient transport systems. By harnessing the power of AI, we can create interconnected ecosystems that seamlessly integrate various modes of transport, promoting a holistic and sustainable approach to mobility.

#### Knowledge Gaps:

Identifying and addressing knowledge gaps is crucial for advancing the practical implementation of AI in the mobility sector. Here are some key areas where further exploration could be beneficial:

- **Ethical Considerations:** As AI applications in mobility grow, there is a need to delve deeper into ethical considerations. Understanding the ethical implications of AI-driven decisions, especially in scenarios involving safety and privacy, is essential for responsible deployment.
- **Regulatory Frameworks:** The regulatory landscape for AI in the mobility sector is still evolving. Exploring and bridging the gaps in regulatory frameworks will be vital to ensure a balance between innovation and compliance, fostering an environment conducive to AI integration.

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- **Interdisciplinary Collaboration:** AI implementation in mobility requires collaboration across diverse disciplines, including technology, urban planning, policy-making, and environmental science. Identifying and addressing knowledge gaps in interdisciplinary cooperation can facilitate a more comprehensive and effective approach to AI integration.
- **User Acceptance and Education:** Understanding how users perceive and interact with AI-driven mobility solutions is pivotal. There is a need to explore knowledge gaps related to user acceptance, concerns, and preferences. Additionally, educational initiatives can bridge gaps in public understanding of AI, fostering trust and informed decision-making.
- **Data Security and Privacy:** With the increasing reliance on data for AI algorithms, knowledge gaps in data security and privacy need attention. Research into robust mechanisms for securing sensitive information and ensuring user privacy in AI-powered mobility systems is essential.
- **Long-Term Sustainability Impact:** Assessing the long-term environmental and social impact of AI in mobility is a knowledge gap worth exploring. This involves understanding the lifecycle effects of AI technologies and ensuring that their deployment aligns with broader sustainability goals.

## Inspiration for actions:

One bold initiative that this session could inspire is the establishment of a cross-sectoral AI Mobility Innovation Lab at GIZ. This initiative would bring together experts from AI development, transport, urban planning, and environmental science to collaboratively address challenges and drive innovation in the intersection of AI and mobility in the context of GIZ's work and with our partners.

## Best quotes

"With the presence of AI, ChatGPT we need to reconsider our roles in FMB: For instance, the relation of a Transport Advisor to ChatGPT will be more like Jean-Luc Picard to Commander Data, where the former asks and prompts the latter to support effective decision making, innovation and knowledge management (while flying the FMB starship)" Sebastian Ebert

## Further links

- Position Paper: Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Sustainable Mobility  
[2023\\_PositionPaper\\_AI\\_SustainableMobility.pdf \(changing-transport.org\)](#)
- AI, ML, IoT, big&open data & co.: [The evolving eco-system of machine-assisted transport planning, management and operations](#)
- Awesome [resources for Open-Source Software for Transport](#)

## Presentations

Please find presentations on the [Future Forum 2023 website](#).

AI, ML, IoT, big&open data & co.: The evolving eco-system of machine-assisted transport planning, management and operations



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## 7.5 Behavior change and the climate crisis – How do we get from knowing to doing?



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- Damien Krichewsky, Univ. of Bonn (Speaker)
- Daniel Kehrer, GIZ (Speaker)
- Andrea Kramer, GIZ (Moderation)
- Vanessa Vaessen, GIZ (Moderation)

### 7.5.1 Working question:

The discussions around the need for behavior change to tackle the multiple environmental crises is not new and has been tried in the past by GIZ and other organisations – but what is new is the urgency for change. Even though there is plenty of knowledge and knowhow already there and available, too often business as usual still seems to dominate the agenda.

The session aimed to bring together diverse experiences from inside and outside GIZ and create a new outlook together of how we – as individuals as well as an organisation – can change current behavior towards climate and environmentally friendly behavior. Yes – targeting and changing the way the private sector goes about doing its business is of key importance, as is setting a policy agenda with incentives and regulations. We also should “throw” all possible and available concepts, campaigns, ideas, ... out in the open to reach a critical mass of people within the next 5–10 years to meaningfully change their behavior and avoid everything that further threatens the survival of humans and non-humans on planet earth.

### Main questions for this session:

- What are the main challenges that stall progress towards behavior change in the face of the climate and environmental crises?
- What interventions could be applied to support intrinsic social change as a crucial condition to contribute towards transformative change?
- How can we shift to more sustainable behaviors in a proactive way that protects the needs of the poorest members of society?
- What are opportunities for GIZ to empower people to act and think differently (intrinsic motivation)?
- How can GIZ convey knowledge, support development of regulations, economic advantages and (infra)structure to overcome the identified main challenges?

### 7.5.2 Learnings and results

The belief that humans are outside and above of nature is a very fundamental and wide-spread feature of our conception of the world and this is problematic because it leads individual human beings to act as if nature was something that can be known objectively and can be controlled, mastered and manipulated for human progress. What we experience with climate change is that human beings are very much part of nature and vulnerable to external forces that to some extent are outside of our control. This causes a shift in perceptions.

### Key Learnings:

- Behavior change is not a soft nice approach to have in projects, but something that is absolutely necessary and also has decisive effects that can be achieved.
- Current particular conception of reality (and the core institutions that go with it) has proved to be materially unsustainable: “scientific knowledge is troubling and upsetting, because it contradicts our conception of the world, our dominant belief system, and the rationality of our behaviors.”
- Behavior change can have a meaningful impact to convert the current (ecological, social, political, economic, scientific, or technological) system or all systems together into a fundamentally new one that is based on just and climate friendly societies.

### Emerging promising practices:

- Addressing and involving individuals while understanding their context and motivation can support the shift to taking climate action.
- Start at the individual level – but don't stop there with the solution. Intervention strategies need to consider collective action to empower individuals to adopt new behaviors.
- Deeper and more fundamental societal change (transformation) will need strong incentives as well to ensure societal acceptance over time.

This session has given us new perspectives/ new insights into the fact that even though the individual carbon footprint is just one in billions, often leading to a feeling of powerlessness, many people are already aware that their daily actions are contributing to the ongoing climate crisis – and that changes in individual life decisions can reduce the carbon footprint.

### 7.5.3 Future prospects and exciting possibilities

To make climate-positive actions a common and expected social norm, different levers / strategies need to be considered: emotional appeals, social influences and information campaigns, rules and regulations, price and incentives. For GIZ, future exploration should focus on strategies that can be included into programme- and project-design while at the same time strengthening cooperation with partners and other organizations with more experience as well as credibility on the ground – s. knowledge gaps.

### Knowledge Gaps:

- While behavioral change might be simple in some specific cases, e.g., energy saving in apartments, when it comes to deeper changes we enter sufficiency topics, and our partner countries do not really want to hear about sufficiency, in particular not coming from an advisory service from Germany – a high-consumption country.
- Sufficiency and (individual) behavior change are almost not included in GIZ concepts and scenarios. This leads to over-emphasizing technologies – simply more convenient, for policy makers.

To initiate, support and sustain behavior change at the social level, narratives norms and therefore the lifestyle of individuals or (small) communities must be given greater focus when planning and implementing projects. Transforming behavior is difficult as it requires the courage to loosen the grip of project planning and take risks, so that new, unexpected but helpful results can emerge.

### Best quotes

- “Stay with the trouble – don't look away!”
- “Pride messaging leads to green actions. Guilt-fueled messaging leads to less action.”

### Further literature, links, etc.

- GIZ global [Social and Behavior Change \(SBC\) IDA page](#) and community (GIZ internal link), linking to people and more resources.
- GIZ Guide to Facilitating Social Change (online on [IDA page](#) or [download](#))

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- [RARE Center For Behavior & The Environment](#)
- GIZ Guide '[Transforming our work: Getting ready for transformational projects](#)'

### Presentations

Please find presentations on the [Future Forum 2023 website](#).



## 7.6 What is the potential of mission-oriented innovation and what can be GIZ's role to advance transformational change?



### Contributors:

- Arlett Stojanovic, GIZ (On-site moderation)
- Asim Adeel, GIZ (Online moderation)
- Stella Deppe, GIZ (Concept and session planning)
- Ben Kumpf, OECD (Expert speaker)

### 7.6.1 Working question:

The session aimed at familiarizing GIZ colleagues with the concept of mission-oriented innovation (MOI). We explored questions around how and why it emerged and the current state-of-play across high, middle, and low-income countries. Together with the lead of the Innovation for Development Facility at OECD [Benjamin Kumpf](#) the GIZ colleagues learned about methods that are inherent to MOI such as systemic innovation portfolio management, open innovation methods and design tools such as the Mission Canvas.

This session was meant for all colleagues that have been wondering what MOI is and what there is behind this ever-growing buzzword and how it is of relevance for GIZ and development cooperation. On the one hand, it served participants who are interested in further pursuing activities to test MOI approaches in their daily work. They learned about potential benefits while acknowledging risks and pitfalls. On the other hand, participants helped to evolve thinking how GIZ can support MOI initiatives in our partner countries.

### 7.6.2 Learnings and results

Mission-Oriented Innovation (policies) is an emerging field (policy) field that enjoys high attention in both the public and private sector and that we need to explore further to make better evidence-based decisions on how it can be of use to spur the impact of international cooperation and our work at GIZ.

MOI is a transformational policy tool to design and govern missions that go beyond project logic and therefore are interesting to further explore at GIZ.

Mission-oriented innovation policy refers to coordinated packages of policy and regulatory measures that achieve clearly defined, measurable goals related to a societal challenge within a specified timeframe (OECD, 2021). A mission is successful when it has brought about holistic changes. This includes knowledge generation, behavioral as well as structural changes. The basis for this is successful policy coordination.

This session has given us a new perspective and new insights into how participants see the potential of such an approach for us at GIZ and where they see challenges to think, plan and work in missions both as partners of other governments as well as for ourselves in GIZ in our working structures.

### 7.6.3 Future prospects and exciting possibilities

There is a possibility to explore MOI in a specific country context. Right now, two countries have shown high interest in the initiative described below: Chile & Morocco.

There is an initiative planned that will work on MOI in the thematic area of the gender digital divide. BMZ via GIZ's Sector programme international digital policy and FMB, together with OECD Innovation



Facility for Development and their Mission Action Lab, is therefore expected to launch a joint programme in September 2023 to work with partner governments to better understand their efforts to close the digital gender gap and to advance appropriate implementation measures using an MOI approach. The initiative aims to expand the scope of action of partner governments as well as strengthen the evidence base of MOI in LMICs for future DC interventions to promote gender equality. In total, two partner governments will be accompanied over a period of about one year.

The session participants were very interested in the presented methods that can be utilized in the context of MOI (the different tools presented by Benjamin). There was interest in a deep dive into these methods. The methods that are further explored in the context of the above-mentioned initiative will be shared and promoted within GIZ in the future (2024).

The group (the participants) could serve as a 'resonance group' for further exploration of the topic and the discussion of learnings from the pilot.

#### Best quote:

"There is a real potential to adapt mission-oriented innovation for low and middle-income contexts with partners. GIZ can play a pioneering role in testing and sharing what works, especially to design packages of programmes and innovations that reinforce each other to trigger faster, large-scale changes, rather than supporting innovations one-by-one."

#### Further links

- <https://oecd-opsi.org/blog/proto-missions/>
- [Missions for governance: Unleashing missions beyond policy - Demos Helsinki](#)
- <https://www.vorwaerts.de/blog/mond-erde-idee-spd-zukunftsmissionen>
- <https://stip.oecd.org/covid/moip/the-definition-of-moips>
- [Missionsorientierte Innovationspolitik: Chance und Auftrag - Tagesspiegel Background](#)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K7lgW175Yxo> This is a speech given by Mazzucato last year at the Berlin Energy Transition Dialogue (BETD).
- <https://marianamazucato.com/books/mission-economy>

#### Presentations

Please find presentations on the [Future Forum 2023 website](#).



## 7.7 Pathways to the Future – Introducing Foresight Methods and Examples

### Contributors:

- Vanessa Hochwald, GIZ (Organisation, Moderation)
- Lilian Leifert, GIZ (Organisation, Moderation, Speaker)
- Katharina Lobeck, GIZ (Organisation, Moderation)
- Esther Dörendahl, GIZ (Organisation, Speaker)
- Lena Borisch, GIZ (Organisation, Speaker)
- Tanja Cronenberg, GIZ (Online Moderation, Organisation)
- Marsha Daniel, GIZ (Online Moderation)
- Barbara Gerhager, GIZ (Speaker, Panelist)
- Sven Schimpf, Fraunhofer (Speaker, Panelist)



### 7.7.1 Working question:

How can foresight methods and futures literacy enhance GIZ's service delivery?

### 7.7.2 Learnings and results

Strategic foresight plays a crucial role in addressing multiple crises by promoting anticipatory planning, breaking down conventional thinking patterns and sector-specific silos, and fostering cross-sectoral collaboration to create innovative solutions for a more resilient future.

The transformative nature of working with Futures goes beyond mere foresight – it also stimulates imaginative thinking about the future, enables strategy development and participative decision-making in the now.

In the first part of the session, we shared a brand-new mapping of Participatory Futures Methods developed by the Competence Centre "Innovation, Learning, Knowledge". By delving into the three exemplary methods Backcasting, Reversing the Negative and Horizon Scanning, participants gained a better understanding of the possibilities and limitations of their application. We learned that often times, methods are combined and adapted according to the specific context or objective. We also discussed that adding Use Cases to the Methods would be a helpful next step.

In the second part of the session, a recent application case was presented in-depth, showcasing the "Water Pathways 2035" strategic foresight process of the Sector Programme "Water Policy – Innovation for Resilience" and the Competence Center "Water, Wastewater, Waste Management." The presentation highlighted the specific methods used and introduced the overall process and outlined three key components essential for water security until 2035. These elements encompassed influential megatrends like climate change, urbanization, and digitalization. Furthermore, it introduced five pivotal "water worlds" crucial to water security, such as urban areas, rural regions, and coastal zones. Subsequently, the presentation delved into solution-focused approaches for each water world, incorporating numerous measures and action pathways, including illustrative examples. Participants had the opportunity to independently navigate and explore the results, including 14 papers, displayed on an interactive website.

Finally, Sven Schimpf (Managing Director of the Fraunhofer Group for Innovation Research) and Barbara Gerhager (Head of the Competence Centre "Water, Wastewater, Waste Management") discussed the theory and practice of foresight methods as well as their use in international development with the participants. It was stated that in GIZ and outside, silos need to be overcome to start creating shared

visions and to foster foresight as a capacity development tool for integrated thinking. It was also mentioned that in a best case scenario of how to best apply foresight, first of all meta-scenarios at organisational level were created, followed by more detailed scenarios at unit level. It was commented that, while GIZ already has a unit that deals with designing meta scenarios, the translation into action on a working level is still challenging.

### Online Polls & surveys:

#### Have you worked with Future Methods before?

7 Antworten      00:20 Durchschnittliche Zeit für das Ausfüllen      Aktiv Status

[Ergebnisse anzeigen](#)      [In Excel öffnen](#) ...

1. Have you worked with Future Methods before?

[Weitere Details](#)

- No experience. 4
- Some experience. 3
- A lot of experience. 0



#### How would you evaluate the potential of Future Methods?

6 Antworten      00:08 Durchschnittliche Zeit für das Ausfüllen      Aktiv Status

[Ergebnisse anzeigen](#)      [In Excel öffnen](#) ...

1. How would you evaluate the potential of Future Methods?

[Weitere Details](#)

- I love it, huge potential. 3
- Not sure yet, convince me. 3
- Waste of money. 0



What global trends or developments are relevant to water security?



Whole phrases

### 7.7.3 Future prospects and exciting possibilities

In times of multiple crises, foresight and anticipation of possible developments are essential components of strategies. GIZ can significantly benefit from this, making it important to create more space and time for such processes.

For *Water Pathways 2035 (WP2035)*, the breadth of methods, ranging from policy workshops to classical literature research, resulted in a wide range of outcomes, with numerous pathways customised for each specific Water World. These outcomes cater to a wide range of target audiences, from policymakers to civil society, and from the water sector itself to agriculture, climate, and urban planning. The wealth of concrete action possibilities provided by the pathways, with over 160 specific entry points and numerous examples, offers immense potential for discussions, dialogues, and further consideration on how to implement these actions effectively.

WP2035 serves as the foundation for cross-sector collaboration, deliberately targeting other sectors to promote cooperation and break down silos, encouraging the incorporation of water security in all areas, emphasising capacity development. The opportunities for integrated solutions also align with the GIZ 2028 corporate strategy.

GIZ has the opportunity to mainstream the extensive methods and approaches of strategic foresight to enhance its role in addressing and mitigating multiple crises. By incorporating these forward-thinking strategies, GIZ can proactively anticipate potential challenges and opportunities across various sectors. This shift towards a more foresight-driven approach empowers the organisation to respond

more effectively to a rapidly changing and complex global landscape. Strategic foresight equips GIZ with the tools to think beyond short-term solutions and take a proactive stance in shaping the future.

The session offers a starting point to break down silos and address solutions collectively. Regarding WP2035, the results are not final or closed but are intentionally designed to encourage dialogue and further reflection. This can, for instance, contribute to new portfolio development within the organisation and foster the development of partnerships and national/international agenda setting. WP2035 initiates this exchange and can pave the way for cross-sectoral collaboration, in line with the company's overall objectives (GIZ 2028). This includes building networks, breaking down conventional thinking patterns, and sector-specific silos to create shared innovative visions and development pathways. Additionally, it fosters cooperation inhouse, particularly through close collaboration between the business units GloBe and FMB.

### Best quotes

"Foresight as a capacity development tool for integrated thinking"

### Further links

- [GIZ techDetector](#)
- [Link to Futures Literacy and Foresight in FMB](#) (including the Methods Mapping, GIZ-internal only):
- [Link to the Ida Page of the Business Environment and Trend Monitoring](#): Strategic Foresight Team at GIZ (former UTB):
- [MS Teams Room for Foresight by the UTB](#) (Corporate Strategic Foresight Unit) (GIZ-internal only):
- [Link to the Water Pathways 2035 Website](#), for internal use only:
  - user: giz\_water
  - password: stag1ng\_!
- Links shared by Sven Schimpf, Fraunhofer Group for Innovation Research:  
Foresight Fraunhofer:
  - [Foresight Fraunhofer](#). Future topics with relevance to application-oriented research (2019)

### Foresight: Zukunft der Innovation

- [Understanding change, shaping the future](#). Impulses for the future of innovation (2018)
- [Innovation and Covid-19](#). Food for thought on the future of innovation (2021)
- [Back to the future](#). Scoping dynamics in industrial innovation (2020)
- [Understanding the history of industrial innovation](#) (2018)

### Roadmapping:

- [Roadmapping Field Study](#) (2023)

### Scenarios – the world of raw materials 2050:

- [The world of raw materials 2050](#) (2017)
- [The world of raw materials 2050](#). Scoping future dynamics in raw materials through scenarios (2017)

### Science Fiction related methodologies

- [Foresight, Innovation und Science-Fiction](#) (2021), S.577

### Presentations

Please find presentations on the [Future Forum 2023 website](#).



## 8. Transformative Modes of Working & Capacities

After exploring transformative methods and approaches (the 'how to facilitate it') the conference continued with sessions being organised in a decentral way by GIZ colleagues, exploring **transformative modes of working and capacities**.

### Background:

Such transformative ambitions and methods will hardly lead to lasting impacts, if we do not change the way we approach these very complex and 'wicked problems'. What do these ambitions imply for the way we prepare our work and cooperate, our modes of delivery and organisational structures in which we want to catalyze transformative impacts? The Future Forum was an opportunity to bring together practitioners and showcase successful real-life approaches of new modes of working. We could jointly explore where we stand with 'transforming our work' and advance ideas for taking it further.

### Working questions:

- Which modes of working (e.g. integrated, flexible, beyond projects...) enable us to support such large transformations?
- What are existing examples to learn from?
- What do we still need to develop (transform?) for the way we work?

### Methodology:

See chapter 0.

**Many thanks to all the session teams and facilitators** (see details below) who prepared and implemented these great sessions alongside their high workloads. The large majority of the Future Forum participants appreciated these sessions very much and they will continue to inspire the discourse and action through the participants, with this document and beyond.

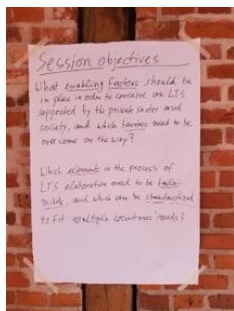
## 8.1 The integrating power of Long-term Strategies to achieve transformation pathways towards decarbonization and resilience



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### 8.1.1 Working question:



Long-term Strategies (LTS) are meant to reflect the long-term vision of an economy towards decarbonization and enhanced resilience. In our session, we aimed to boost the understanding and discussion of the following:

- What enabling factors should be in place to conceive an LTS supported by society and private sector, and which barriers need to be overcome on the way?
- Which elements in the process governance of LTS elaboration need to be tailor-made and which can be standardised to fit multiple countries' needs?

**Background:** Being a requirement under the Paris Agreement, LTS will only be of value, if they are ambitious, realistic, credible, inclusive and just. Instead of being drafted purely on a desk, an LTS needs to be elaborated in a co-creative and collaborative manner ensuring the buy-in of all important stakeholder groups of a jurisdiction for future implementation. In our session, we were focusing on the *process governance for LTS elaboration*. We aimed to shed light on what *enabling factors* should be in place in order to conceive an LTS supported by society and private sector, and which barriers need to be overcome on the way. We invited practitioners to report on the three main enabling factors according to their LTS elaboration experience. With participants' support, we tried to identify important elements in the process governance of LTS elaboration. Which of these elements need to be tailor-made and which can be *standardised to fit multiple countries' needs* (FMB product)?

### 8.1.2 Learnings and results

Contributions from speakers and participants all weaved around three major factors, which are key for LTS elaboration: *political will, stakeholder engagement and (institutional/ legal) frameworks*. To turn from challenges into enabling factors, these aspects need to be comprehensively considered and carefully planned when setting off to develop an LTS in a specific jurisdiction. LTS' aim to provide a vision on how to decarbonize and transform whole economies. In order to succeed, they need to integrate all sectors of the respective economy in this vision, consider the interaction between sectors and account for the impact of the envisaged transformation on business and society. This ambition should be reflected in the LTS elaboration process – which has to be established in a way that allows *cross-sectoral collaboration and multi-level consultation*.

Our session proved, that lots of experience exists about enabling factors and challenges in LTS elaboration. Thus, future efforts can benefit from peer-to-peer learning – within GIZ, between countries who elaborate LTS, and between different stakeholder groups in a country. Respective platforms and fora need to be promoted and strengthened e.g. LTSxChange Forum.

**Change in perspective:** Considering the noteworthy experience with LTS development and the need for knowledge sharing, we wanted to test the potential for leaving the beaten track and going beyond the approach of peer-to-peer learning.

***What if we managed to extract specific lessons from former efforts in LTS development and to cast these into new GIZ standards or products?*** Our session aimed to identify those elements in LTS elaboration, which could be standardised to bundle GIZ existing knowledge and to help new projects to fast start support. While this idea sparked a lot of interest, ***more time and efforts are needed to identify elements to be standardised*** and to develop respective standards and products for LTS elaboration.

### Highlights

Marie Hertel/ GIZ Germany introduced the context, framework and experiences with Long-term strategies. She emphasised that ***climate commitments*** can be made in various forms including legislation (e.g., Climate Bill), policy documents (e.g., LTS, NDC), as head of state commitment (e.g., at COPs) or as aspirations/visions. To date, GIZ supported 37 countries in the development of their LTS, mostly in an indirect way in the adaptation and mitigation component [see presentation on the [Future Forum 2023 website](#)].

Paola Vasconi/ GIZ Chile summarised the three main enabling factors from Chile's LTS elaboration process experience that will ensure that Chile's LTS will be truly transformative [see video on the [Future Forum 2023 website](#)]:

- 1) Leadership and ***political will*** of the government – Chile decided to confront climate change like a State Policy,
- 2) Legal and institutional ***frameworks***,
- 3) Involvement of all sectors and ***stakeholders*** of society.

Dana Yermolyonok/ GIZ Kazakhstan reflected on the three main challenges that GIZ experienced when supporting the economic modelling for LTS in the country for a duration of three years:

- 1) ***commitment of the ministries*** - readiness to involve in technical aspects e.g. checking assumptions,
- 2) ***stakeholder engagement*** – challenging to bring the discussions to the necessary level to engage with society, different sectors and governance levels,
- 3) ***industries and private sector support*** – actors were lobbying quite successfully against the LTS causing delayed action.

Andrew Hollander, Ritah Rukundo, David Kisakye/ GIZ Uganda shared their three key lessons-learnt in the process of aligning NDC with LTS in the country with support from GIZ:

- 1) key benefits of alignment: coherent climate ***frameworks***, efficiency gains since outputs could feed into both LTS and NDC, changing the time horizon,
- 2) Coordination and collaboration with different government ministries, ***stakeholders*** and other development agencies such as UNDP,
- 3) need for country ownership and ***political will***.

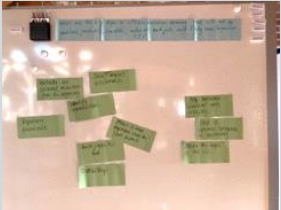
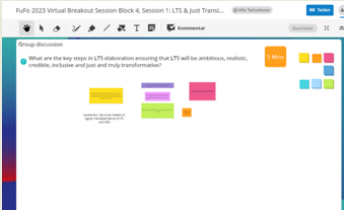
Anja Rosenberg/ GIZ Austria presented the legal ***framework*** as an enabling factor for LTS elaboration in the European Union (EU) and its neighbourhood. In the EU's 27 Member States and the Energy Community's 9 Contracting Parties, REGULATION (EU) 2018/1999 governs the preparation, ambition,



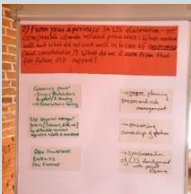

content and *consultations* of LTS. By providing further clarity on expected format and content of an LTS, this regulation indirectly determines steps and elements of the LTS elaboration process in these 36 jurisdictions [see presentation on the [Future Forum 2023 website](#)].

Majority of listed learnings were sparked by the input of the speakers. Group discussions built-upon these inputs. Some groups managed to detail out further, some groups continued to discuss the fundamental principles. The groups set off to discuss three questions:

**Question 1:** What are the key steps in LTS elaboration ensuring that LTS will be ambitious, realistic, credible, inclusive and just and truly transformative?

In-room participants	Virtual participants
 <p>In addition to bringing the attention again to the importance of <i>stakeholders</i> (identify stakeholders, including all ministries from the beginning, build local capacities to create ownership) and <i>frameworks</i> (reporting, data and impact assessments), the in-room group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- identified a gap between being “ambitious” and being “realistic”;</li> <li>- derived the need to find a common language of definitions and to define the scope of the LTS in the country.</li> </ul> <p>The group concluded that: <i><u>The process is therefore more important than the product</u></i> If the process is well-designed, the final product [LTS] will achieve the aim of being an ambitious, realistic, credible and inclusive LTS.</p>	 <p>The virtual group discussed the importance of a clear <i>vision</i> and common goals – from the onset. Moving forward, countries should try as much as possible to <i>align LTS</i> to other climate-related processes and/or <i>frameworks</i> to raise the importance of long-term planning. The group pointed to the need for awareness on the logical interdependence of LTS and NDCs and to the involvement of “fitting” <i>stakeholders</i>.</p>

**Question 2:** From your experience in elaborating LTS or comparable climate related processes: What worked and what did not work well in terms of governance (and consolidation)? What do we learn from that for future GIZ support?

In-room participants	Virtual participants
 <p>The in-room group shared three types of experiences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Concerning power: Bring <i>stakeholders</i> together/ various</li> </ul>	 <p>The virtual group’s discussion found that intense collaboration and coordination of diverse sets of <i>stakeholders</i> can ensure the (resource) efficiency of LTS processes, while it</p>

ministries - conversation & learning. This needs *proper planning* process and risk management.

- Use *regional intergovernmental forums* (e.g. Energy Community) to activate common agendas and enable calls for investment. This needs to ensure *ownership* of partners.
- Ensure *full government involvement* beyond the Ministry of Environment and Departments of Climate Change – so Ministries of Finance and Planning and other decision-making bodies are fully engaged. In addition, synchronize LTS development with project lifetime.

may then result in long and extensive consultations. Stakeholders would include government bodies, civil society organisations, academia, and the private sector. “We have to have a strategy that engages civil society plus the sectors and should collaborate in a long-term vision going for efficiency, stakeholder coordination and aligned with country purposes.”

With regards to capacity development, the virtual group wondered: How transformative can we be in a setting where there are the given UNFCCC and Paris rules agreements? We are working on a basis of governments where there are many turnovers. How can we ensure local capacity development without only creating a lot of work for international consultancies?

On this, colleagues shared experiences from Uganda and a specific capacity development approach: The Ministry in charge as well as other Ministries each assigned a focal point – who brought it all together. These assignments helped to enable a discussion about LTS engaging different stakeholders and government representatives. During the course of LTS development, colleagues then realised that this approach (having a specific person focused on specific sector targets) actually helped to develop capacities. This example sparked the group’s recommendation for future GIZ support projects: Assign a focal point that would *coordinate* with other Ministries and agencies and ensure full Government involvement.

The group concluded, that GIZ should *intensify capacity development within partner systems at strategic and operational level*. The facilitation of *knowledge sharing between countries* will help to leverage successful experiences and best practices, promoting peer-to-peer learning.

**Question 3:** What elements in the LTS elaboration process should be tailored to a country’s circumstances? Which elements – if any – could be standardised to bundle GIZ existing knowledge and help new projects to fast start support? Why?

### Virtual participants



Elements to tailor: The virtual group emphasised the importance of country vision and LTS scope



Elements to standardize: The group suggested that approaches to *specific sectors and modelling software* might be used across countries. One

(net-zero mitigation vs. adaptation). LTS governance setup and *institutional arrangements* need to be tailored to a country's needs. In addition, the *legal basis* and legislative background will be specific to a certain jurisdiction.

would need to further break-down into core steps of the LTS development process to see which may be tailored and which to standardize. The ground concluded that distilled lessons learnt and case studies on country experiences and approaches would help to understand what works well and what not. *GIZ could facilitate peer-to-peer experience sharing* between countries and regions.

### 8.1.3 Future prospects and exciting possibilities

LTS preparation processes are intrinsically based on transformative working modes, because participants are obliged to leave their established reasoning for thinking and acting. A 2050 vision demands curiosity, positive thinking, ambition, mutual listening, co-creation and political will.

GIZ itself will also benefit from advising on LTS since it requires broad interdisciplinary approaches which include different organisational entities.

Unlike former "Fachtagungen", the Future Forum 2023 aimed for cross-sectoral discussions. This resulted in people joining thematic sessions, who have not yet worked in the respective fields and were rather there to learn. In addition to providing knowledge to those participants, session owners also had to account for online participants. So, we had to serve in a complex setting delivering towards three different groups of colleagues: experts in the room, non-experts in the room and virtual participants. The challenge for us as session owners was to find the balance between providing information (non-expert group), actually incentivising ideas about creative working modes (experts) and proper engagement (online participants).

While the idea of developing LTS-related GIZ products/standards sparked a lot of interest during the session (and beyond), more time and efforts are needed to elaborate tangible recommendations on how to standardize elements of the LTS elaboration process.

We had some brave colleagues among our participants who did not bring extensive knowledge about climate change in the international or GIZ context nor about LTS, and yet decided to join our session. As the field of climate change and food security and ... and ... are such integral parts of GIZ work, we formulated the hypothesis after the session that every GIZ employee should bring a basic understanding about these topics and respective GIZ engagement (bird view). But how to achieve this: as part of the GIZ onboarding process or as part of an annual one-hour training session (similar to "Data protection" training) by AIZ?

There is lots of experience that colleagues can share about LTS, therefore platforms for exchange (e.g. [LTSxChange Forum](#)) need to be strengthened, so we as GIZ can better support countries to make LTS fully integrative and transformative.

#### Best quotes

"The process [for developing an LTS] is [...] more important than the product."

#### Further links

- GIZ sphere: [LTSxChange: A platform for sharing and learning on Long-Term Strategies \(share-point.com\)](#)
- UNFCCC Long-term strategies portal: [Long-term strategies portal | UNFCCC](#)
- European Union Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 governing LTS preparation in EU Member States and Energy Community Contracting Parties: [L\\_2018328EN.01000101.xml \(europa.eu\)](#)

#### Presentations

Please find presentations on the [Future Forum 2023 website](#).

## 8.2 Working beyond projects: Integrating protection and sustainable use of marine and terrestrial conservation to strengthen livelihoods and global conservation goals



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- Gunnar Finke, GIZ (Moderation)
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- Annika Mackensen, GIZ Moderation)
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### 8.2.1 Working question:

A massive expansion of protected areas and OECMs is needed to achieve 30% effectively protected Land and Ocean area by 2030. At the same time, the human population and its need to achieve decent and sustainable livelihoods will increase. The trade-off between conservation and sustainable use will be an important topic for agricultural, food system and resource transformation in the coming decades.

Our Session discussed transformative modes of delivery to mitigate this trade-off and discuss good practice approaches how GIZ could tackle the trade-off/challenge and contribute to the transformations mentioned above applying a combined livelihood/conservation lens.

The session contributed to economic paradigm shift by focusing on local livelihoods and conservation in the frame of the 30 by 30 goal, it also contributes to Just Transition in aiming to mitigate trade-offs between conservation and the livelihood needs of (often poor and underrepresented) indigenous people and local communities. By doing this it enhances the resilience of Protected areas and the communities that live in or adjacent to them.

Our session acted as a starting point for a group of interested colleagues to transform conservation projects into more holistic and integrated solutions that explicitly incorporate the societal and economic needs of our target groups.

The ultimate goal is to achieve solid conservation and socio-economic benefits with long-term impacts.

### 8.2.2 Learnings and results

The 30x30 conservation target provides the stage and topic for exploring improved and new approaches and working modes, which recognize that biodiversity conservation can only be achieved through sustainable use and lasting socio-economic benefits generated by nature's contributions of conservation areas.

- We need to establish community of practice across sectors
- There is a need to relate discussions to experiences from integrated rural land use planning to inform marine planning perspectives and advisory services

- We need to get IP&LCs on the table & listen to indigenous youth
- Engage not-convicted actors and groups which are not sensitised. Communication is important, including youth in our projects. Bring sensitivity and respect for the environment to broader populations. Partners need to be strengthened to do so.
- Much resistance against protected areas (and their expansion) stems from widespread belief that PAs exclude IP&LC uses and that human rights abuses in PA context continue to be widespread globally (they sure do in certain cases and countries but far from all).

### 8.2.3 Future prospects and exciting possibilities

- We need to use action target 3 of the new Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) (the 30 by 30 goal) to deliver on other SDG (and other GBF targets) as well to create a window of opportunity for more inclusive, just and equitable conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity
- We do not only have to think and argue "ecologically" but "socio-economically" to achieve implementation of the GBF and specifically action target 3
- There is a need to think action target 3 beyond conservation and engage with other topics like food security, supply chains, disaster risk management, etc.

#### Further links

- [BioMar Programme](#)
- [MeerWissen Initiative](#)
- [TerraMar Projekt](#)
- [Marine Spatial Planning in the Benguela Current](#)
- [Small-scale fisheries](#)

#### Presentations

Please find presentations on the [Future Forum 2023 website](#).



### 8.3 Data4Agri-food Transformation

#### Contributors:

- Alexander Strunck, GIZ (Organisation, Moderation)
- Noelie Svava, GIZ (Speaker)
- Sina Becker, GIZ (Speaker)
- Christina Walaan, GIZ (Online Facilitation)
- Verona Mach, GIZ (Online Facilitation)
- Andreas Lange, GIZ (Facilitator Group Work)
- Michael Ziegler, GIZ (Facilitator Group Work)
- Moritz Heldmann, GIZ (Wrap-up)



#### 8.3.1 Working question:

This session delved into the crucial integration of (spatial) data usage within agri-food systems to drive efficient and effective transformations. Through interactive discussions and group activities, participants explored the vast **potential of (spatial) data technologies** as well as their barriers. We gathered diverse use cases to enhance our technical concepts and development projects.

Our specific example for the session was traceability by examining the **digital gender divide**, including data feminism principles, normative & evidence basis. We aimed to shed light on existing gaps and advancements in **Agri-Food Transformation**. Ultimately, attendees gained valuable insights into how (spatial) data can shape their future work and prepare for upcoming developments in the field.

#### Guiding Questions:

- What is important for GIZ, when we further integrate data solutions into our advisory work with partners, when we discuss data solutions with BMZ and what does this mean for our internal structures?
- What is the role of data for transformative processes?

#### 8.3.2 Learnings and results

Most participants of the session stated medium knowledge and experience on transformation as well as data.

#### DATA TECHNOLOGIES & DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

##### Exploration Questions 1:

Where do you see potentials to include data technologies in development projects to increase efficiency and effectiveness in agri-food systems?

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Frage 3: Where do you see potentials to include data technologies in development projects to increase efficiency and effectiveness in agri-food systems?

FrageTyp: Freitext

Antworten:

- > Developing digital public infrastructure (DPI)
- > in tracing systems
- > Monitoring and reporting in relation to international commitments
- > M&E Impact analysis Applications for smallholders / other supply chain stakeholders
- > Examples: More direct trading from farm to consumer via digital marketplaces. Development of local specific consulting/information services (Apps) Enabling traceability and transparency throughout agricultural supply chains.

The participants see potentials to include data technologies in development projects to increase efficiency and effectiveness in agri-food systems in:

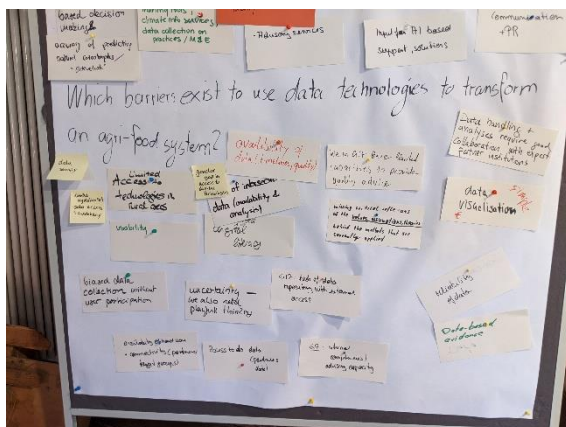
(1) Monitoring, evaluation and reporting, impact analyses, disease monitoring, economic assessment of activities and solutions, critically sounds monitoring and learning, and proof of evidence. (2) Data infrastructure and traceability, which includes developing a digital public infrastructure (DPI), tracing systems, enabling traceability and transparency in agricultural supply chains. (3) Decision support and knowledge management, including enabling evidence-based decision making, designing user/client-oriented solutions, analysing actor networks to understand barrier-free transformation, training tools, advisory services, input for AI-based support and solutions, and decision support tools. (4) Market access and trading which includes applications for smallholders and other supply chain stakeholders, more direct trading from farm to consumer via digital marketplaces, access to markets and storage, increase participation, and communication and PR. (5) Climate and weather-related services which includes accuracy of predicting natural catastrophes, climate information services, and weather data climate projections. (6) Disease and pest identification and management. (7) Informative and consulting services including development of local-specific consulting and informative services. (8) Insurance and risk management, especially insurance schemes.

### Exploration Questions 2:

Which barriers exist to use data technologies to transform an agri-food system?

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Frage 4: Which barriers exist to use data technologies to transform an agri-food system??

FrageTyp: Freitext

Antworten:

- > hardware, know-how, internet connectivity, standards
- > costs, Knowledge,
- > Limitations in sharing of data between institutions
- > lack of knowledge lack of resources (money)
- > Missing digital literacy Missing accessible digital public infrastructure Digital divides (rural-urban, gender,...)

The participants identified the following barriers regarding using data technologies to transform an agri-food system.

(1) Infrastructure and connectivity, including hardware, internet connectivity, connectivity of partners and target groups, and availability of data. (2) Knowledge and digital literacy, like lack of know-how and knowledge, missing digital literacy, and limited access to technologies in rural areas. (3) Costs and a lack of resources. (4) Data sharing and access which includes limitations in sharing of data between institutions, limited regulations of data access and availability, access to and lack of data, and data-based evidence. (6) Standards and usability including biased data collection without user participation, and the lack of simple data visualisations. (7) Data security and privacy. (8) Organisational and capacity changes regarding knowledge, uncertainty, limited capacities, missing critical reflections of values, assumptions and theories behind applied methods, competencies and good collaboration with expert partner institutions.

### GENDER DATA & DATA FEMINISM FOR (AGRI-FOOD) TRANSFORMATION

DATA FEMINISM is a growing matter in GIZ. Reasons and considerations are:

Empower along the data value chain and reconsider power relations:

- Question dominance and (global) power in data processing
- Empower national statistical offices, civil society and individuals in data literacy
- Safeguard data ownership

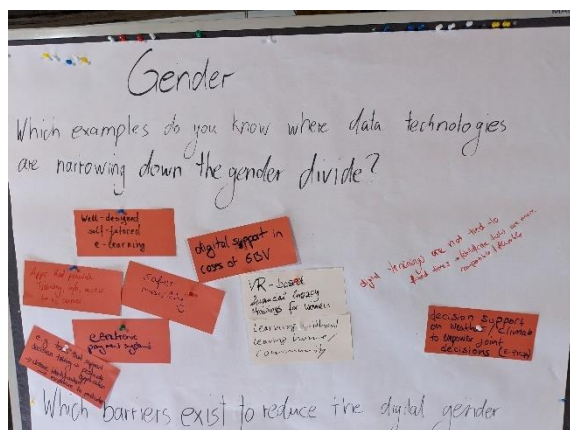
Make data diverse and inclusive:

- (Train to) identify gender data gaps and biases towards the male norm

#### Gender Exploration Questions 1

Which examples do you know where data technologies are narrowing down the gender divide?

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Frage 5: Which examples do you know where data technologies are narrowing down the gender divide?

Frageotyp: Freitext

Antworten:

> na

The participants know of the following data technologies that are narrowing down the gender divide:

(1) Digital learning and training, which includes self-tutored e-learning, training- information- and service-apps, VR-based financial literacy trainings for women, learning opportunities without leaving the house or community, and flexible digital training hours that are more compatible with (child) care tasks. (2) Financial inclusion and empowerment, which includes electronic payment systems, and tools that support decision-making, i.e., in pesticide application, disease identification, or exposure to pesticide. (3) Safety and security, which includes safer mobility, and digital support in cases of gender-based violence (GBV). (4) Empowering decision-making, which includes decision support on weather and climate to empower joint decisions.



- Identify underreported areas and develop additional indicators; move beyond the binary
- Improve data disaggregation on the invisible, ensure do-no-harm
- Acknowledge and strengthen diverse forms of knowledge (qualitative, anecdotal etc.)

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS to close gender data gaps in agri-food transformation:

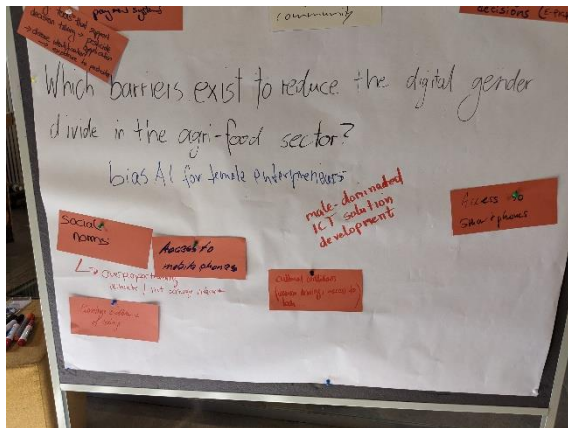
1. Understand and improve traditional data sets (household surveys, census data – i.e. Women’s Empowerment in Agriculture Index)
2. Tap on data potential from digitalized services and non-traditional data sources – (i.e. geospatial data, crowdsourcing)
3. Strengthen data ownership in data cooperatives

### Gender Exploration Questions 2:

Which barriers exist to reduce the digital gender divide in the agri-food sector?

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Frage 6: Which barriers exist to reduce the digital gender divide in the agri-food sector?

FrageTyp: Freitext

Antworten:

>	Men are more likely to have access to hardware than women
>	data usage and availability
>	Access to mobile end-devices

The barriers to reducing the digital gender divide in the agri-food sector, identified by the participants, are (1) access and infrastructure, like access to hardware, mobile end-devices, mobile phones, data usage and availability, and bias in AI for female entrepreneurs; (2) education and literacy; and (3) culture and social factors, which includes social norms, timings and distance of trainings, male dominated ICT solution development, and cultural conditions like women’s access to technologies, and women driving.

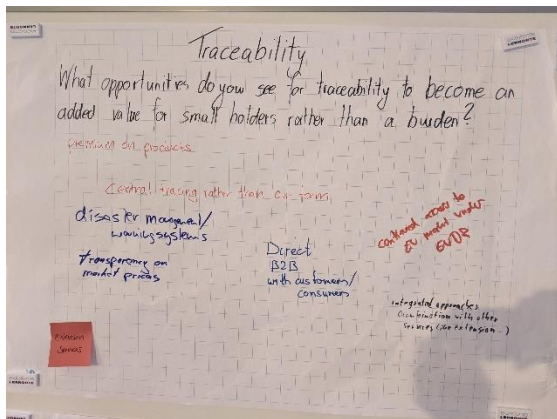
### TRACEABILITY OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

#### Traceability Exploration Questions 1:

What opportunities do you see for traceability to become an added value for small holders rather than a burden?

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Frage 7: What opportunities do you see for traceability to become an added value for small holders rather than a burden?

FrageTyp: Freitext

Antworten:

- > smallholders should be compensated for the data collection and entry.
- > Fair prices
- > easier market access increased incomes better working conditions/standards
- > - If the data is paid for, small holders can have an additional income

The participants see the following opportunities for traceability to become an added value for small holders rather than a burden:

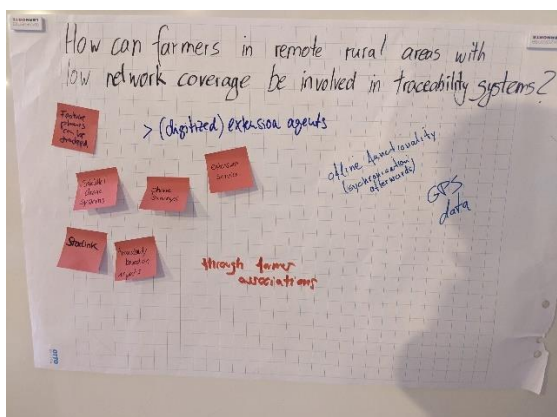
(1) Compensation and income generation meaning that smallholders should be compensated for data collection and entry since that would be an additional income. (2) Market access and fair prices, including easier market access, increased incomes, direct B2B with customers/consumers, and transparency on market prices. (3) Efficiency and disaster management, which includes better working conditions and standards, central tracing rather than on-farm tracing, and disaster management- and warning-systems. (4) Extension services and integration regarding a continued access to the EU market under EUDR, and integrated approaches.

#### Traceability Exploration Questions 2:

How can farmers in remote rural areas and with low network coverage be involved in traceability systems?

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Frage 8: How can farmers in remote rural areas and with low network coverage be involved in traceability systems?

FrageTyp: Freitext

Antworten:

- > They could be involved via a cooperative they belong to
- > via cooperatives maybe
- > organisation of farmer groups + trainings middlemen structure
- > - Indirectly, via their participation in farmer-driven cooperatives

Following, the participants analysed how farmers in remote rural areas and with low network coverage can be involved in traceability systems.

(1) Cooperation and farmer groups in which farmers can be involved via a cooperation, Organisations that host trainings, and through farmer associations. (2) Technology and data collection methods, including trackable feature phones, satellite drone systems, traceability based on inputs, offline functionality, digitized extension agents, and GPS data. (3) Market and middlemen structure and (4) Extensions services.

KEY ASPECTS of traceability:

Interoperability, Individual Approach, Accessibility and Appropriateness of the solution, Cost effectiveness, and Transparency and Accountability

An example for a digital traceability tool is INATRACE.

INATrace is an open-source traceability tool for traceability in agricultural supply chains. Being open source is a unique feature in traceability tools. It opens up the possibility for many different users to use and extend the code and allows for customization. The system is also programmed to be scalable. It has been developed with the users, especially with women. It records processing steps and transactions from the cooperative to find the final product. Furthermore, it is customizable, transferable and scalable. Additionally, it stores data unalterably on a blockchain which makes the storage forgery-proof. The tool facilitates complete traceability of the entire supply chain. End consumers can call up information on the product/prices/quality via a QR code and send feedback directly to the producers.

GENDER & TRACEABILITY

*Traceability systems are not gender neutral.*

Following are important aspects in need of consideration regarding gender neutrality of traceability systems. Each aspect has consideration questions that can operate as exemplary guiding questions to identify gender biases in traceability systems.

- Data collection: Which data is collected? Who collects the data and for what purpose?
- Trainings: Who is the trainer? Who is trained? When and where do trainings take place? Which topics are being trained?
- Design of tools: Are users involved in design?
- Steering: Who decides on the use? Who has access to the system?
- Participation: Who benefits from the use of the system? Who is involved in decision making?
- Field data: To whom is the field attributed

ROLE PLAY TRACEABILITY

Our session ended with a practical role play where participant had the chance to put themselves in the position of a women coffee cooperative, an international coffee roastery or a group of observed the role play.

Each group received information of their group and had to prepare for a negotiation talk with the other group. The objectives of the 2 groups were contradicting each other and included many of the challenges working with data. The role play was used to raise awareness and sensitize participants on the known challenges. Many participants appreciated this practical part of the session.

### 8.3.3 Future prospects and exciting possibilities

Data and therefore information is one important basis for informed decision-making. The potentials for data to support transformation is huge, especially if the data support evidence finding for impacts. This is relevant for a variety of sectors (please compare with Exploration Questions 1 of Data Technology & Development Cooperation).

We can identify a huge collection of potentials with different challenges. One main challenge is the knowledge of GIZ as an organisation and GIZ colleagues how to deal with different data technologies.

# FUTURE FORUM

## 2023

We requested the participants to share their knowledge on gaps (please compare with Exploration Questions 2 of Data Technology & Development Cooperation).

GIZ is developing several internal support structures which can be used by our projects. We are ready and motivated to overcome the challenges in development cooperation and data.

### Further links

- [BMZ Feminist Development Policy](#)
- [UN Statistics Division on Gender statistics](#)
- [Data Feminism, MIT Press, 2020](#)
- Gender Data Baseline Study, FMB/Syspons 2023
- [Doss, Cheryl. 2013. Data needs for gender analysis in agriculture. IFPRI Discussion Paper 1261. Washington, D.C.: International Food Policy Research Institute](#)
- GSMA Farmer Profiles [Project example](#)
- Women Empowerment in Agriculture Index ([WEAI](#))
- [Women Mobilize Women Initiative](#)
- Data Feminism Series of [GIZ Data Lab](#)
- [Nachhaltige Agrarlieferketten](#)

### Presentations

Please find presentations on the [Future Forum 2023 website](#).



### 8.4 Water as a driver for transforming cities into climate resilient urban areas – From “silo-thinking” to integrated approaches



#### Contributors:

- Frauke Neumann-Silkow, GIZ (Moderation)
- Susanne Bodach, GIZ (Organisation)
- Annette Lutz, GIZ (Organisation)
- Salam Al-Momany, GIZ (Online Moderation)
- Maike Potthast, GIZ (Online Moderation)
- Mr. Khalid, AboAishehAqaba Special Economic Zone Authority (ASEZA) (Speaker)
- Carlos Cordero Vega, Ministry of Environment and Energy of Costa Rica (MINAE) (Speaker)
- Hans-Werner Theisen, GIZ (Online Moderation)

#### 8.4.1 Working question:

Water is a critical resource for cities. But climate change is causing significant challenges related to water availability, flooding, and urban climate (heat islands). Transformation towards climate resilience is a complex endeavour which needs the buy-in of several sectors and stakeholders with different interests and responsibilities but also different hierarchical structures and levels of knowledge.

The overall question for the session was: "What are the potentials and limits of integrated multi-stakeholder planning processes for transforming cities into climate-resilient urban areas? What is the particular role of water when it comes to urban transformation?"

We invited two speakers who presented their practical experiences:

Carlos Cordero Vega, Director of the Secretariat of Sectoral Planning in the Ministry of Environment and Energy in Costa Rica, talked about how city planners have turned the local river in San José from a dark risky resource in a green vein which attracts people and business.

Khaled AboAisheh, urban planner at the City of Aqaba (Jordan), informed us how stakeholders have jointly shaped the new master plan for Aqaba. A plan which makes Aqaba an attractive water-secure city surrounded by a desert at the coast of the Red Sea.

The overall objective was that participants will take away a deeper understanding of the challenges related to water and climate resilience in cities, as well as effective approaches and best practices for addressing these challenges through effective and efficient multi-stakeholder planning processes. The session contributes to cross-cutting issues related to water, climate change, urbanization, and sustainable development.

#### 8.4.2 Learnings and results

Climate resilient cities need a multi-perspective approach and a true willingness of all to cooperate for better future.

It was interesting to see to what extent integrated planning has been acknowledged as the way forward in very different cultural settings. Jordan has a very authoritarian political culture with traditionally less focus on public participation. However, the example presented by the representative of Aqaba Special Economic Zone (ASEZA) underlined the positive experiences in terms of public support and engagement. Key was the engagement of the private sector, the fact that ASEZA has a certain independence for decision making and the innovative ideas provided by the external partner, the Japanese Development Cooperation.

On the other hand, city planners in San José can build on a long tradition of public participation and joint decision making. Due to the long tradition country wide regulation provided a clear framework for the process which had a catalyzing effect.

This session has given us a new perspective or new insights on how interlinked water is with other topics: health, gender, solid waste, infrastructure, heat islands, biodiversity etc.

### 8.4.3 Future prospects and exciting possibilities

Intersector cooperation needs to be strengthened even more if we want to achieve visible impacts with regard to climate resilient cities.

Nature based solutions not only provide potential for increasing climate resilience of cities, but also contribute to stop land degradation while preserving urban biodiversity. And water plays an important role. Green areas or even open water bodies like artificial lakes allow water to evaporate and cool down the environment. Trees, urban and greening of facades also contribute to better air and a cooler environment. Permeable pavements, rain gardens and retention ponds protect from floods and soil erosion and contribute to water security. Urban agriculture and agroforestry improve nutrition, create sources of income and support mental health.

Integrated planning has a long tradition in Germany. A lot can be learned regarding processes, roles and responsibilities. Mutual learning between practitioners should be further promoted – North-South or South-South.

One actionable step the session inspires us to take is the establishment of a temporary working group on water & integrated planning & nature-based solutions.

#### Best quotes

“Involving the people is a key success factor”

#### Further literature, links, etc.

- IWA: The IWA Principles for water wise cities: [The IWA Principles for Water Wise Cities – International Water Association \(iwa-network.org\)](https://www.iwa-network.org/)
- DWA Positionen: Wasserbewusste Entwicklung unserer Städte; [Positionspapier\\_Wasserbewusste\\_Entwicklung\\_unserer\\_Staetze\\_2021\\_Netz.pdf \(dwa.de\)](https://www.dwa.de/Positionspapier-Wasserbewusste-Entwicklung-unserer-Staetze-2021-Netz.pdf)
- [| Biodiver\\_ City San José \(biocorredores.org\)](https://www.biocorredores.org/)

#### Presentations

Please find presentations on the [Future Forum 2023 website](https://www.futureforum2023.org/).



## 8.5 Just Energy Transition Partnerships - a success model?

### Contributors:

- Steffen Behrle, GIZ (Moderation, Speaker)
- Moritz Hunger, GIZ (Co-facilitator)
- Sander Maebe, GIZ (Co-facilitator)
- Fiona Wollensack-Boult, GIZ (Speaker)
- Markus Bissel, GIZ (Speaker)
- Tom Schwesig, GIZ (Speaker)
- Dirk Arne Heyen, Öko Institut Berlin (Speaker)



### 8.5.1 Working question:

The just energy transition formulates the ambition to focus political attention and public and private investment not exclusively on the decarbonization of the energy system but to address social and economic impacts of the energy transition in particular on vulnerable groups in society. This has been the driver in many transformations at the national level mostly in the context of phasing out coal mining and coal-fired power generation in coal-dependent regions. The international response in recent years came in the form of Just Energy Transition Partnerships (JETP) and are partnerships between a group of donors and a particular partner country. Some also include private actors. Most participating countries so far are characterized by high per capita emissions, a large share of coal-fired power generation and an enormous potential for transitioning their energy systems to renewable energy. But they each also are confronted with vested interests in a fossil-based economy, large numbers of coal mine workers and those working in the value chain businesses around mines, power plants etc.

This session explored answers to the guiding questions on how JETPs will shape our technical cooperation portfolio in the future and whether the existing JETPs already provide lessons for new ways of international cooperation.

The session took stock of where we stand today and look at elements of a just energy transition as they are shaping up in different countries.

We heard from the machine room of JETP implementation in South Africa and Asia and attempted to establish success factors for such partnerships and the room for improvement. The dimension of international climate finance was given due consideration with a view to the upcoming COP in the United Arab Emirates and the question on who is financing additional JETPs.

All considerations during these 90 minutes had to keep potential implications for our GIZ modes of delivery in mind and should reflect on the cross-sectoral nature of JET (energy, climate, economic development, education, natural resources, and environment etc.), the potential for integrating also across commissioning parties and how standardization of project designs and products could help in managing these complex partnership landscapes.

### 8.5.2 Learnings and results

Just Energy Transition Partnerships (JETPs) are embedded in multilateral processes: the climate negotiations at COPs, at G7 and G20 meetings or in inter-regional contexts such as EU-ASEAN. At the level of financing such partnerships, the process is government-led and top-down based on a programmatic approach, with a strong position for the partnership country and improved donor coordination. Mobilisation of resources is relatively swift and cross-sectoral technical expertise required for implementation. Questions remain regarding the novelty of the approach and the role of technical assistance in a setting that is dominated by large financing needs.

From an external perspective, GIZ is attributed with a significant potential for implementing a just (energy) transition since the discourse on just transition resonates well with GIZ's mission and work. Overall, in the discussion it was pointed out by several participants that the integration of energy and social issues could be improved. Also the need to consider different understandings of and priorities for just transition among financiers and partner countries.

Just energy transition can be a field for better standardized and integrated approaches e.g. with regard to climate and energy, socio-economic, financial and environmental issues. GIZ's roles in support of a just transition were discussed as making the case for action, as honest broker and as provider of intersectoral and nexus thinking. Initial drafts of GIZ service offers on our approach to a just socio-economic transformation, a just energy transition and on financing the just transition were introduced.

The emerging picture of the just transition project landscape showed a strong anchoring in just energy transition related to the phasing out of fossil fuels. But the picture is diversifying with more integrated projects on socio-economic transformation, TVET, mobility being prepared in the context of a broader just transition.

Country experiences with JETP from South Africa and Vietnam clearly showed the strong initial political will to form these multi-donor partnerships. However, the JETPs are not yet examples of integrated solutions and lack major commitments to social protection and compensation. They rather focus on issues around the energy transition.

This session has given us a new perspective or new insights on real progress achieved on JETPs as a new form of international cooperation. We have only seen the very beginning of implementation and the difficulties of doing justice to the ambition of supporting transitions that are truly just.

### 8.5.3 Future prospects and exciting possibilities

JETPs are beginning implementation in only four countries, and we might not see many more emerging. Where this is the case, they present the opportunity for a more integrated GIZ portfolio development clustering e.g. energy, climate, mobility with skills and economic development. More systematically developing GIZ service offers on just transition is required.

A first step is the overview of the GIZ just transition portfolio and emerging components such as an orientation framework, knowledge management and partnerships/networks management.

A second step is the close collaboration between different departments in GIZ, in particular regional departments (with currently APLAK taking action), sectoral department and global department.

Work is still in progress to answer a number of questions raised such as

- What are limits of intersectoral approaches?
- How to best anchor broad, integrated approaches in our partner country systems? Is there sufficient ownership and demand on the partner side?
- Systematic assessment and evaluation of experiences with portfolio management across sectors.
- Do we have to change our modes of delivery to be able to respond adequately to broad missions instead of individual projects?

One actionable step the session inspires us to take is to keep the knowledge flow open on JT, JET, and JETPs between departments in GIZ, in particular between the countries we implement in, FMB as knowledge hub and GloBe.



# FUTURE FORUM

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### Best quotes

"Let us stay focused."

### Further links

- [Just Transition ENG \(sharepoint.com\)](#)
- [Just Energy Transitions in Coal Regions | Empowering Sustainable Change \(jetknowledge.org\)](#)
- [Home | Just Transition Toolbox for Coal Regions \(coaltransitions-toolbox.org\)](#)
- [Highlighting Skills Development and TVET for South Africa's Just Transition - giz.de](#)
- [South Africa's Just Energy Transition Investment Plan \(JET IP\) 2023-2027 | The Presidency](#)
- [Political declaration on establishing the Just Energy Transition Partnership with Viet Nam - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

### Presentations

Please find presentations on the [Future Forum 2023 website](#).



## 8.6 Bio-Centric Restoration. Revitalising indigenous people's approaches to land conservation and food systems.



### Contributors:

- Katharina Lobeck, GIZ (Moderator)
- Yon Fernández-de-Larrinoa, Head of the Indigenous Peoples Unit at FAO (Speaker)
- Tania Eulalia Martinez Cruz, Co-Lead Biocentric Restoration at FAO (Speaker)
- Pablo Innecken, Co-Lead Biocentric Restoration at FAO (Speaker)

### 8.6.1 Working question:

For the past decade, human centered design approaches have been at the heart of what's considered "good practice" in developing products, services or development projects that take the needs of customers, clients and communities at heart. But what if human centeredness doesn't take us far enough in building the kinds of development projects that consider both people and planet?

The Indigenous Peoples' Unit at FAO has over the last few years piloted an approach of biocentric restoration in Thailand, Columbia and Peru that is rooted in the cosmogony of many Indigenous Peoples' societies. From a biocentric perspective, humans are simply one component of the ecosystem, deserving respect alongside other (non-human) living entities. Biocentrism underpins Indigenous Peoples' food systems, informing practices of food generation, production and natural resource management strategies. Anthropocentrism is more commonly associated with food-producing societies.

The Indigenous Peoples Biocentric Restoration initiative aims to conserve and restore the ecosystems and biodiversity that sustain Indigenous Peoples' food systems through a more inclusive approach based on Indigenous Peoples' knowledge and territorial management systems and respect for Indigenous Peoples' collective rights.

In this session, Yon Fernandez de Larrinoa and his colleagues from the Indigenous People's Unit at FAO shared insights into the piloted approach. We discussed how this might be applied in conservation, restoration, food security or biodiversity projects we implement.

### 8.6.2 Learnings and results

Indigenous Peoples' Biocentric Restoration is a groundbreaking and integrated approach to ecosystem restoration that places the rights, knowledge, cosmogonies and leadership of Indigenous communities at the centre. It sits at the conjunction of maintaining food and knowledge systems and preserving the environment, integrating approaches of biodiversity protection, food security, education, human rights and knowledge sharing. With collaboration from more development partners, such as GIZ and multi-lateral efforts, it could and should be scaled more widely. Key insights include:

- **Indigenous Leadership and Rights:** The approach has been developed and is led by Indigenous Peoples, supported by FAO. It goes beyond being a form of assistance to Indigenous communities; it actively seeks their input and expertise in environmental preservation and food production. Indigenous communities are not viewed as beneficiaries but as rights holders of their lands. Where other approaches to conservation regularly displace Indigenous communities, this approach places them at the centre.
- **People-Centred, Culture and Knowledge-Based:** The approach is deeply entrenched in the cultural and knowledge systems of Indigenous Peoples. It appreciates the diversity of these systems and cosmogonies, recognising that they are unique to each community and region. At the same time,

certain elements have shown up in pilots across the globe, such as the recognition of the interconnectedness of people and nature, the acknowledgement of nature's rights, a deep connection to land.

- **Global Implementation:** This approach has been tested in various countries, including Thailand, Ecuador, India, Peru and the Amazon Basin. It is being expanded through knowledge exchange and governmental collaborations in Latin America, e.g. in Costa Rica and Paraguay. FAO works to spread the approach further, also via global biodiversity frameworks and multilateral agendas. Recognising the importance of Indigenous knowledge is essential in addressing environmental and food security challenges on a global scale.
- **Distinct from Conventional Approaches:** Indigenous Peoples' Biocentric Restoration distinguishes itself from more conventional methods of Ecosystem Restoration. The latter often focus on tree planting and an anthropocentric, or utilitarian view of the environment. Many Indigenous cultures hold more holistic beliefs about nature, valuing it for its intrinsic worth beyond its utility to humans. "The forest is under the soil" summarizes the approach well: restoration doesn't start with planting trees, but with revitalization of plants, weeds, insects and mushrooms, recognising the interconnectedness of ecosystems and human's humble place within them.
- **Intersectoral Approach:** It is profoundly intersectoral. Findings have shown that education systems are often detrimental to Indigenous cultures, food systems and hence their biodiversity protective ways of life. The biocentric restoration efforts therefore address knowledge transmission from Indigenous elders and women through "schools of life" alongside food security, biodiversity protection, human rights and restoration. Like a healthy forest, the approach takes an ecosystemic view of development.
- **Call for Collaboration and Funding:** To spread this approach further, FAO is interested in opportunities for collaboration. They stress the urgency of the situation, especially given the rapid deterioration of Indigenous peoples' food systems and the environment due to climate change, biodiversity loss, and land exploitation.

### 8.6.3 Future prospects and exciting possibilities

Indigenous Peoples' Biocentric Restoration is a perfect example of an integrated solution – addressing food security, biodiversity protection and regeneration, ecosystem restoration, education and human rights, particularly indigenous peoples' rights, at the same time. It would transform development efforts in many of these areas, that are currently not always aligned. It corrects harmful approaches to conservation and restoration, that have often led to the displacement of people. Importantly, it acknowledges a different and more regenerative path to development, one that recognizes the intrinsic connectedness between people and natural systems and provides a new sustainability narrative that could guide our work.

#### Knowledge Gaps:

- working more extensively with Indigenous Communities
- understand this peoples' led approach more deeply
- understanding the approach to knowledge sharing and transmission better
- being able to work across sectors in such a significant way

The session received a great response – but interestingly, "only" by colleagues working in biodiversity and ecosystem restoration, not by colleagues working in food systems or food security, even though the partner who presented was FAO.

We need to find a way to promote the approach to these sectors and develop it with colleagues from different sectors at GIZ to nurture an interesting, meaningful and impactful example of an integrated solution.

An actionable next step could be to set up an own-funded projects explore ways of developing this approach for biodiversity protection and food systems portfolios.

**Indigenous Peoples are the most important and most threatened protectors of our global biodiversity. Let's place them and their knowledge systems at the core of our work.**

### Best quotes

"We stand today with the issues of Indigenous Peoples where we were with gender policies 20 years ago. We are very far behind. It's important to work together and learn from each other for the survival of humankind. The time is now."

"Indigenous peoples' food systems are deteriorating and disappearing at an alarming rate, fueled by the climate collapse and crisis, fueled by biodiversity extinction, fueled by the extractive industries and land grabbing. If we don't put Indigenous peoples at the center of our work, in 20 years it might be too late."

"This is not just an approach to help Indigenous peoples. It is a way of requesting their contribution and help on how to maintain the environment and food generation."

"Indigenous Peoples' Biocentric Restoration is knowledge based. It's not a one-size-fits-all approach. Culture and the specific cosmogonies of the peoples involved are central. It is developed according to the realities of different Indigenous peoples because the systems are not the same. It's people-centric: people and their practices matter."

"In most of the Indigenous peoples' cultures we work with, there are rights that are associated with the systems. They exist, indifferent from us, independently from the use the community might have for them. This is very different from our anthropocentric views."

"The forest is not what the eye sees, the forest is under the soil."

"There's no such thing as a weed. There's only human indifference. The weed of today is the medicinal plant of tomorrow."

"When we talk about knowledge, we must recognize that people are the carriers of knowledge. Knowledge does not exist itself, isolated, in a bubble. For this knowledge to be preserved, you need people to enact it. And for people to enact it, you need a whole diversity of different environments. It's not the same to manage knowledge in the arctic or in a mobile pastoralist community in Africa. Approaches must be people centered."

"Today, there is overwhelming understanding and agreement that Indigenous Peoples are the best defenders of biodiversity on the planet. It's important to work together and learn from each other for the survival of humankind."

"If we don't fix education, no matter how much we do in restoration, it is like using a small glass to take out the water when you have a huge hole in the boat."

"I wouldn't be surprised if most of you don't have Indigenous Peoples in the steering committees of projects you manage in Indigenous territories. Most development projects consider them beneficiaries"

or stakeholders. If you were to recognize them as rights holders, you would need to place them there, in the steering committees, because it's their land, their territories, their lives.”

“The Indigenous Peoples’ Coalition holds many solutions for the environmental problems and the food security issues of humankind. The solutions are there, but we need our voice to be heard.”

“Please stop using in the same sentence and at the same level the terms “local communities” and “Indigenous Peoples”. The main reason being that the local communities are a stakeholder category, and the Indigenous Peoples are rights holders. Mixing these terminologies has moved the agenda backwards for Indigenous peoples and their struggles.”

#### Further literature, links, etc.

- [Indigenous Peoples biocentric restoration | Indigenous Peoples | Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations \(fao.org\)](#)
- [FAO - News Article: The Coalition on Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems gains momentum at its launch and calls upon more members to join](#)
- [FAO - News Article: The United Nations Global Indigenous Youth Forum \(UNGIYF\) is back from the 16 – 20 October 2023](#)

#### Presentations

Please find presentations on the [Future Forum 2023 website](#).



## 8.7 Advancing transformation in fragile contexts - a paradox? Challenges and innovative modes of driving change in fragile contexts



### Contributors:

- Anna Schelling, GIZ (Organisation)
- Siobhan Kaltenbacher, GIZ (Organisation)
- Kevin Lehne, GIZ (Speaker, Organisation)
- Johannes Rumohr, GIZ (Speaker, Session Team)
- Manuel Fürstos, GIZ (Session Team)
- Shinta Sander, GIZ (Session Team)
- Caroline Delgado, SIPRI (Speaker)
- Daisy Nyaga, WFP (Speaker)
- Maria Nguyen, GIZ (Moderation)
- Nathanael Ott, GIZ (Session Team)
- Selen Gökdemir, GIZ (Session Team)
- Jan Reineremann, GIZ (Session Team)

### 8.7.1 Working question:

Fragility has for long ceased to be an exception in the implementation of our projects, but rather is the norm with around 2/3 of GIZ partner countries classified as fragile. 35% of GIZ's current projects are being implemented in acutely fragile contexts. At the same time, expectations are high to work towards transformation and change even in fragile contexts. Advancing socio-economic and ecological transformation in fragile contexts- is this a paradox?

In this session, we discussed challenges and potential ways forward and innovative modes how we as development cooperation actor can work in fragile contexts with experiences from projects being implemented in Yemen and South Sudan. A thematic focus was put on the transformations at the nexus of climate change mitigation, peacebuilding, and food security ("climate-food-peace nexus").

How should we and how are we already implementing our projects in order to ensure we are effective in fragile contexts even under challenging conditions? Which innovative modes can we use succeed and meet the high ambitions of the clients and partners? The need for innovative and adapted modes of implementation in fragile contexts is obvious. But what are innovative modes we can implement?

### 8.7.2 Learnings and results

- Systems approach: emphasize entire system, interconnections and identify emerging changes;
- Integrated responses through cooperation, collaboration and coordination rather than treating each crisis (food insecurity, violent conflict, environmental degradation) as a separate crisis;
- Partnerships to operationalize the Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) nexus (especially local partnerships) to enhance understanding and identify workable solutions;
- Complementary programming between GIZ and UN organisations to ensure well-coordinated joint planning and implementation;
- Localised, area-based approaches in fragile, highly politicised contexts with unstable/unreliable political partners to increase sustainability;
- (Longer) inception phases and project cycles to allow for thorough project planning and increase understanding of needs, challenges and develop workable solutions

This session has given us a new perspective or new insights on

- The challenges of transformation in fragile contexts (often it is about preventing to walk backwards rather than enabling change);
- The need to integrate nexuses (on the local level) to ignite bigger effects
- The need to dedicate sufficient time and funding to planning and generating evidence before acting
- The potentials of complementary programming, partnerships, integrated approaches and portfolio-guided implementation

### 8.7.3 Future prospects and exciting possibilities

- Listen to civil society, pay attention to local perspectives and adapt approaches/measures accordingly to respond to actual needs.
- Allow for more flexible design, funding and adaptive management of projects to pave way for complementary programming, donor harmonization and thorough project planning.
- Create strong but safe allies to ensure sustainability
- Improve complementary programming between GIZ and UN Organisations by synchronising the project duration and moving away from project-based to long-term approaches (or at least longer project cycles) to ensure sustainability.
- Invest more into multi-stakeholder partnerships to build the basis for more technical interventions.

Knowledge Gaps:

- We currently have no evidence that complementary programming is really successful, and lack means of measuring cooperation success.
- General lack of evidence, funding and capacities in the planning phase of projects
- More honesty about own failures and weaknesses needed within GIZ, with implementing partners and with commissioning parties ("courage to fail").

One actionable step that the session inspires us to take is to dedicate more time and funding for planning, evidence generation and knowledge management.

At its heart, this session is a call to action, urging us to embrace the challenges of working in fragile contexts with innovative methods such as systems thinking, integrated responses, and partnerships, and reminding us that extended planning, complementarity, and a focus on local perspectives can be the keys to unlocking transformative change and social ecological progress.

Best quotes

- "I'm struggling to bring together the visions presented yesterday with the situation in many countries we work in."
- "To date, policy responses unfortunately treat each crisis as a separate crisis."
- "Intervention in one area can generate positive effects in another area."

Further literature, links, etc.

- [GIZ conceptual orientation paper](#) "Fragility Matters" – also available as [two-pager](#)
- [Factsheet](#) of the "Food and nutrition security and natural resource management" (FONA) project in South Sudan
- [Factsheet](#) of the "Strengthening Resilience and Participation at Local Level in Yemen" (SRPL) project
- [SIPRI Study](#) on financing food security through HDP-Nexus approaches in South Sudan
- [Dutch Evaluation Study](#) on contributions to stability, security, and rule of law "Inconvenient Realities"

Presentations: Please find presentations on the [Future Forum 2023 website](#).



## 9. Matchmaking

This session at the end of the Future Forum served participants to further weaving networks for integrated action.

### Working questions:

- Who works on these transformation visions?
- How to further connect and integrate work for impact beyond single projects?
- Which upcoming opportunities do we see for action?

### Method: Station Walk

Participants were asked to walk and meet around stations, each with a different question and role:

1. **Harvester:** What insights and learnings do you gain from the conference?
2. **Bridge Builder:** Which opportunities do you envision for future collaboration beyond your own project / sector?
3. **Inspiration Seeker:** What inspiring experiences or stories from other participants/speakers particularly impressed you?
4. **Pragmatic Realists:** Let's brainstorm practical strategies for transforma(c)tion. What are next steps to implement visions for the future?
5. **Boundary Pushers:** What audacious experiments and unconventional thinking should we pursue for the big socio-ecological transforma(c)ion?
6. **Integrators:** We already work together and integrate solutions to global challenges: Who wants to share experiences, resources, ideas?

About every 10 minutes, the moderator invited participants to move forward to another station if they like.

We purposefully decided not to ask participants to record their ideas and to allow open space for joyful direct interaction and connecting with new colleagues. This open space was extensively used and much appreciated – hence a success.

NETWORK &  
MATCHMAKING

*„Not everything that  
can be counted  
counts and not every-  
thing that counts  
can be counted“  
Albert Einstein*



## 10. Looking Ahead

The topics of this year's Future Forum will remain highly relevant for an indefinite period of time. We will do our best to incorporate the results into further discussions and innovation processes and call on all colleagues to do the same.

We are laying the foundations for this with this report and all the attached documents and links.

Be part of  
the change  
and spread  
the word!



The core organizing team (left to right):  
Daniel Kehrer, Daniela Rügheimer, Fiona Hammann-  
Wiese, Mara Holzenthal

On our [IDA Page](#) (GIZ internal) you can watch all recordings of the sessions again and you'll find highlights and presentations on our [webpage](#) as well.

With the [Learning Circles](#), a group of committed colleagues who came together after the Future Forum for a peer learning process, we are exploring some of the topics in greater depth in the context of our work. Many thanks for making this possible to the GIZ Academy for International Cooperation (AIZ) and [Unity Effect](#) for facilitating the Learning Circles.

With the [webinar on 'Future Trails'](#), we continued the journey in search of approaches and methods that help us to shape transformation processes. Please find more information and contacts for your future trails on the [Future Forum 2023 website](#).

[TransformAbilities](#)<sup>14</sup> are an emerging set of transformative design principles, approaches and empowering methods for jointly developing transformative ambitions, visions and action. Please contact Daniel Kehrer ([daniel.kehrer@giz.de](mailto:daniel.kehrer@giz.de)) for more information, support or collaboration and let our transformAbilities evolve!

We sincerely thank every participant for filling the Future Forum with life, transformative spirit and action.



The Future Forum 2023 hosts: Petra Zimmermann-  
Steinhart & Jochen Renger

<sup>14</sup> Please find more information here:

- [Transforming Our Work: Getting Ready for Transformational Projects](#). GIZ, February 2020 (EN)
- [Transformative Project Design](#). GIZ, November 2020 (EN, ES, DE)
- [How to unleash Transformation in Economic Development Cooperation?](#) GIZ, 2021 (EN)
- [Recover Forward toolkit – Chapter: Transformative Project Design](#). GIZ, April 2023 (EN)
- [Workshop templates 1: Facilitating transformative visions and action](#)
- [Workshop templates 2: Facilitating transformative visions and action](#)

# FUTURE FORUM

2023

## 11. More Visual Impressions



# FUTURE FORUM

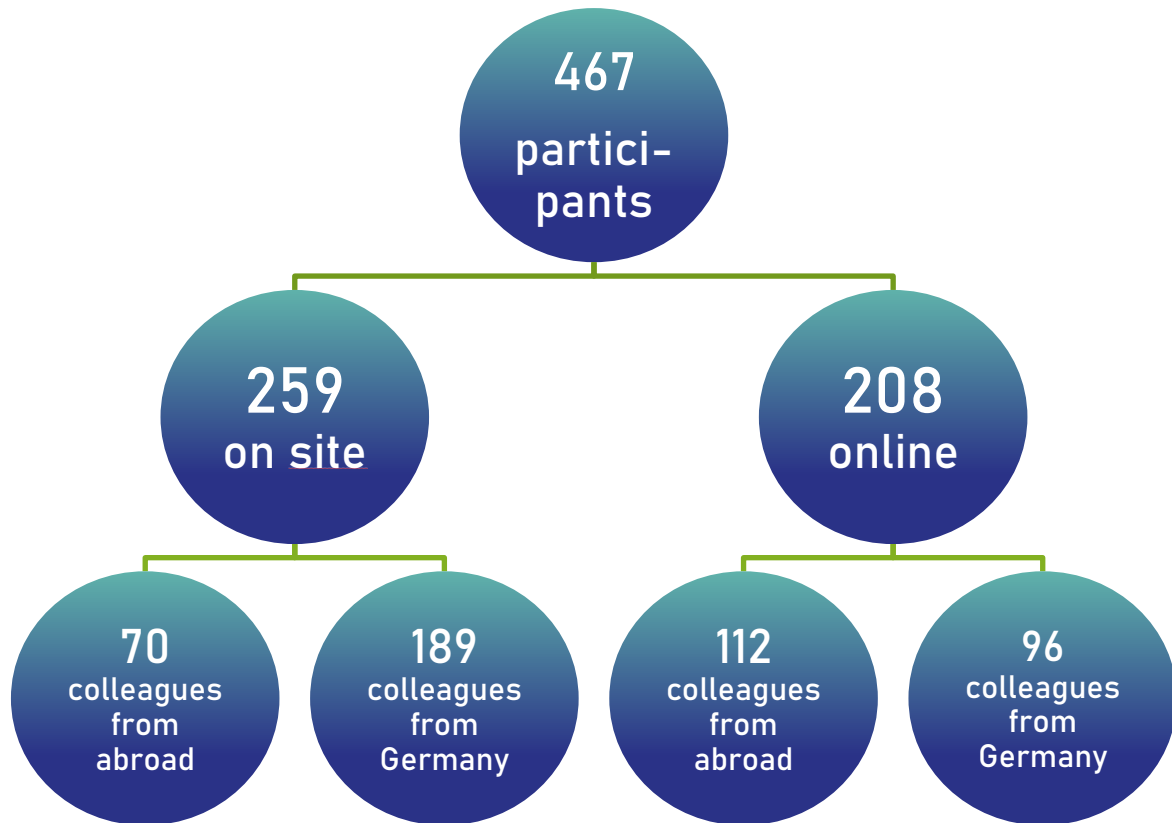
2023



## 12. Facts and Figures

This year, 460 participants working in 67 different countries came together.

### 12.1 Participants



### 12.2 Reactions

„Plenary discussion this year was excellent!”

„Visioning was great and a real game changer”

„Fantastic location”

„The art of listening was highly developed!”

“The biggest benefit was to meet colleagues, network and define next steps. Otherwise, the topics and discussions and panels in the workshops were partly very eurocentric and not very linked to my work.”

“Unfortunately, we did not reach the pain points; although the key note speech of Vivienne Ming – which I really enjoyed – gave us quite some hints how much effort is needed to overcome prevailing systems”

„Visioning is paramount for embedding the project in a wider context of a future sectoral destination and objective.”

„More time for discussions and working groups”

„Focus less on methods, more on content”

„More innovative-methods”

“The panel-discussion was so inspiring that we continued discussing on the concept of communities until very late at night – great”

„Good diversity in methods and formats”

“The topic of the session was relatively far out of my realm of expertise and therefore I was excited to learn with an open mind – biocentric restoration is truly a fascinating and extremely underrated mode of working”

„A conference demonstrating that a cooperative style of leadership is very helpful for a better understanding and learning.”

„Exceptionally organised!”

„Amazing days in the middle of nowhere with lots of food for thought!”