



Solutions from the Land: Dialogue for Integrated Land Management Solutions

Farmers, ranchers and foresters are managing an increasingly complex and interrelated set of challenges: a growing population to feed, a changing climate, and the loss of ecosystem integrity. Addressing these issues requires collaboration among the agriculture, forestry, and conservation sectors. The Solutions from the Land (SFL) initiative brings together a broad range of stakeholders to explore ***the development of sustainable solutions*** to the challenges of climate change, food security, economic development, and biodiversity conservation. SFL is unique in that its participants are examining how land, water and other natural resources can be managed in an ***integrated*** manner at the ***scale*** necessary to meet these challenges, both domestically and globally. SFL includes leaders from the agriculture and forest sectors, businesses and nongovernmental organizations, universities, land users' associations and bilateral and multilateral institutions. Sponsors of the project include the United Nations Foundation, Conservation International, The Nature Conservancy, and the Farm Foundation NFP.

Phase One: Initiate dialogue and articulate the SFL vision. (2009-2010)

During SFL's two-year initial phase, the founding partners convened stakeholders and initiated a dialogue. This process brought together leaders from a cross-section of agriculture, forestry, and conservation, and forged consensus around a collective Vision Statement:

By 2050, agricultural systems, forests and other land uses are managed to simultaneously satisfy domestic and global demand for safe, abundant and affordable food, feed, and fiber; support economic security and sustainable development; reduce hunger and malnutrition; improve soil, water, and air quality; enhance biodiversity and ensure ecosystem health; and deliver mitigation and adaptation solutions to a changing climate.

Phase Two: Build a roadmap for achieving the SFL vision. (2011)

This year, SFL will develop a roadmap detailing how the agriculture, forestry, and other land use and conservation sectors can achieve the SFL vision. Four expert working groups will contribute policy and program recommendations to address the following questions:

- What are influential, concrete policy and program mechanisms that can incentivize delivery of food, energy, and environmental services from the land?
- How can agriculture, forestry product, and ecosystem services markets be strengthened and harmonized?
- What research is needed on production systems and conservation practices that can better meet the multiple needs of society? How can knowledge and experiences be better shared among producers, partners and service providers?
- What monitoring/measuring systems and initiatives currently exist, and which are needed to track progress toward achieving the SFL vision?

This phase will include the design and execution of a communications strategy and campaign, as well as the creation of an interactive web dialogue.

Phase Three: Engage the global community to implement the SFL vision. (2012)

Once the roadmap is established and vetted domestically, the SFL coalition will engage in global forums where sustainable land management strategies are being explored. Further, the coalition will seek to build a global alliance of stakeholders in support of the SFL vision and sustainable agriculture, forestry and conservation solutions.