



LDN Fund & TA Facility Strategic Board

Minutes of the 5th meeting – Summary
Video-conference

July 12, 2021



Executive Summary

The LDN Fund and TAF's 5th Strategic Board meeting took place by video conference on July 12, 2021.

After an initial roundtable, Mirova and IDH presented an update on the LDN Fund and TAF activities respectively, in terms of new projects invested into / contracted for TA, fundraising, operations, pipeline and lessons learned so far.

Constructive discussions took place around the LDN Fund and TAF strategy, outlining the challenges of meeting all eligibility criteria (alignment with LDN target, generation of other positive impacts, scale and balanced risk return profile). The combination of restoration and rehabilitation is needed to meet the LDN objective. The LDN Fund targets a diversified spread of the portfolio translating into an allocation of 30% in agroforestry systems, 30% in the conversion to agro-ecological practices and development of new markets, 30% in planted forest and 10% in other sectors. The target diversification was welcomed by Board members

The objective of the Fund and TAF is also to test new ideas and facilitate a demonstration effect, while attracting private investors and generating positive environmental and social impacts at scale.

Topics of discussions included

- Scientific definitions of ecosystem restoration, land restoration and land rehabilitation, where it was highlighted that ecosystem restoration on degraded lands requires a mix of restoration and rehabilitation. As a reminder, land rehabilitation, the focus includes the provision of goods and services.
- Reflections on the fact that the LDN Fund is not the only funding or private sector solution at hand for achieving LDN. It will also remain important to communicate this message to grow the understanding of the Fund within the UNCCD constituency, especially with public sector stakeholders.
- Continue to learn and innovate with additional financial instruments to enable and grow private sector contributions to LDN, beyond LDN Fund and TAF.
- The priorities of the Global Mechanism for 2021 together with the outlook and expectations for the UNCCD COP15 in May 2022.
- A highlight of the specific actions undertaken by the LDN Fund and TAF on the Great Green Wall region.
- Feedback on the report for the workshop organized by the CSO Panel of the UNCCD with the LDN Fund and TAF to share experiences, lessons learned and recommendations on land restoration and sustainable land management. The report includes further recommendations.

