

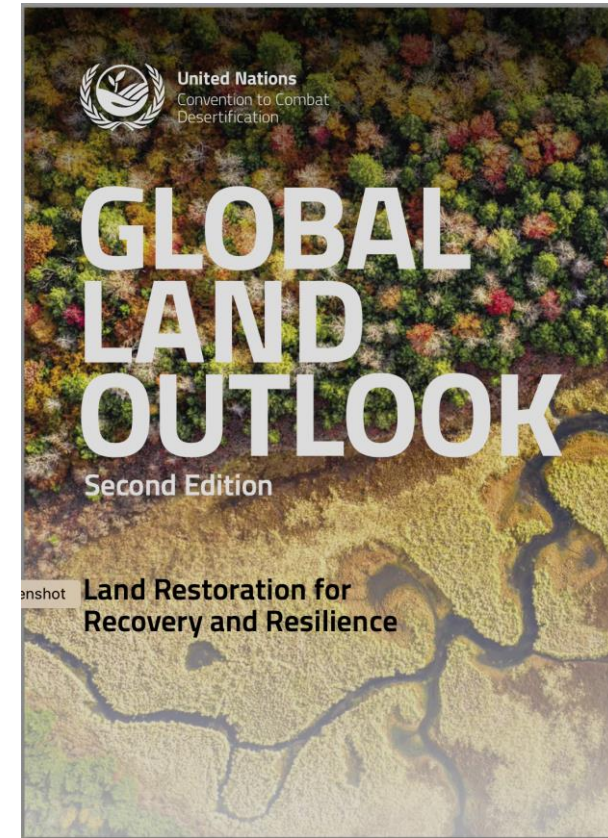
# THE LAND & CLIMATE NEXUS

by  
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**GLOBAL LAND TOOL NETWORK 9<sup>TH</sup>  
PARTNERS MEETING, 1-4<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2023,  
NAIROBI, KENYA.**

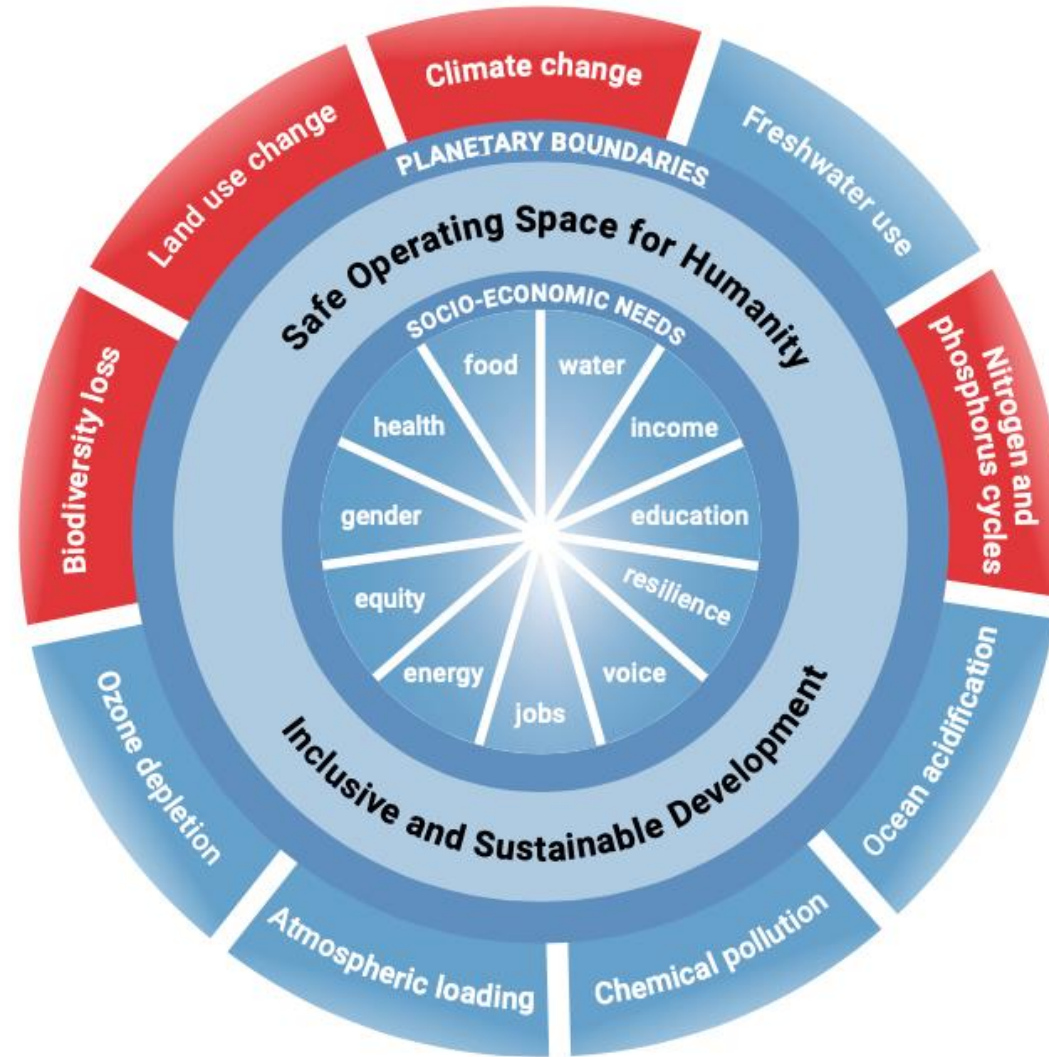
# BACKGROUND

- UNCCD Global Land Outlook
- Key global numbers
- Scenarios to 2050
- Definitions
- What does it all mean for pro poor gender responsive land tenure people?



<https://www.unccd.int/resources/global-land-outlook/glo2>

# NINE PLANETARY BOUNDARIES (UNCCD)



Land Use Change accounts for 13-21% of global emissions annually (IPCC)

# TENURE SECURITY UNDERPINS RESTORATION

**KEY CLIMATE MESSAGE FOR GLTN:** Tenure security provides confidence to land users so that they are incentivised to incorporate a sustainable land management regime for the long-term protection of that land.

# LAND DEGRADATION

**WHAT IS IT?** Land degradation is the result of human-induced actions which exploit land, causing its utility, biodiversity, soil fertility, & overall health to decline.



**WHY IS IT A PROBLEM?** Ensuring food security for a growing global population requires healthy land & ecosystems. Amount of land affected is growing rapidly.

# LAND DEGRADATION NUMBERS

- 20-40% degraded – size of Arica
- All ecosystems declining
- Cropland, desertification & urbanization impacts
- Agriculture covers 40% of land & largest contributor

Poverty, hunger,  
inequality, pollution

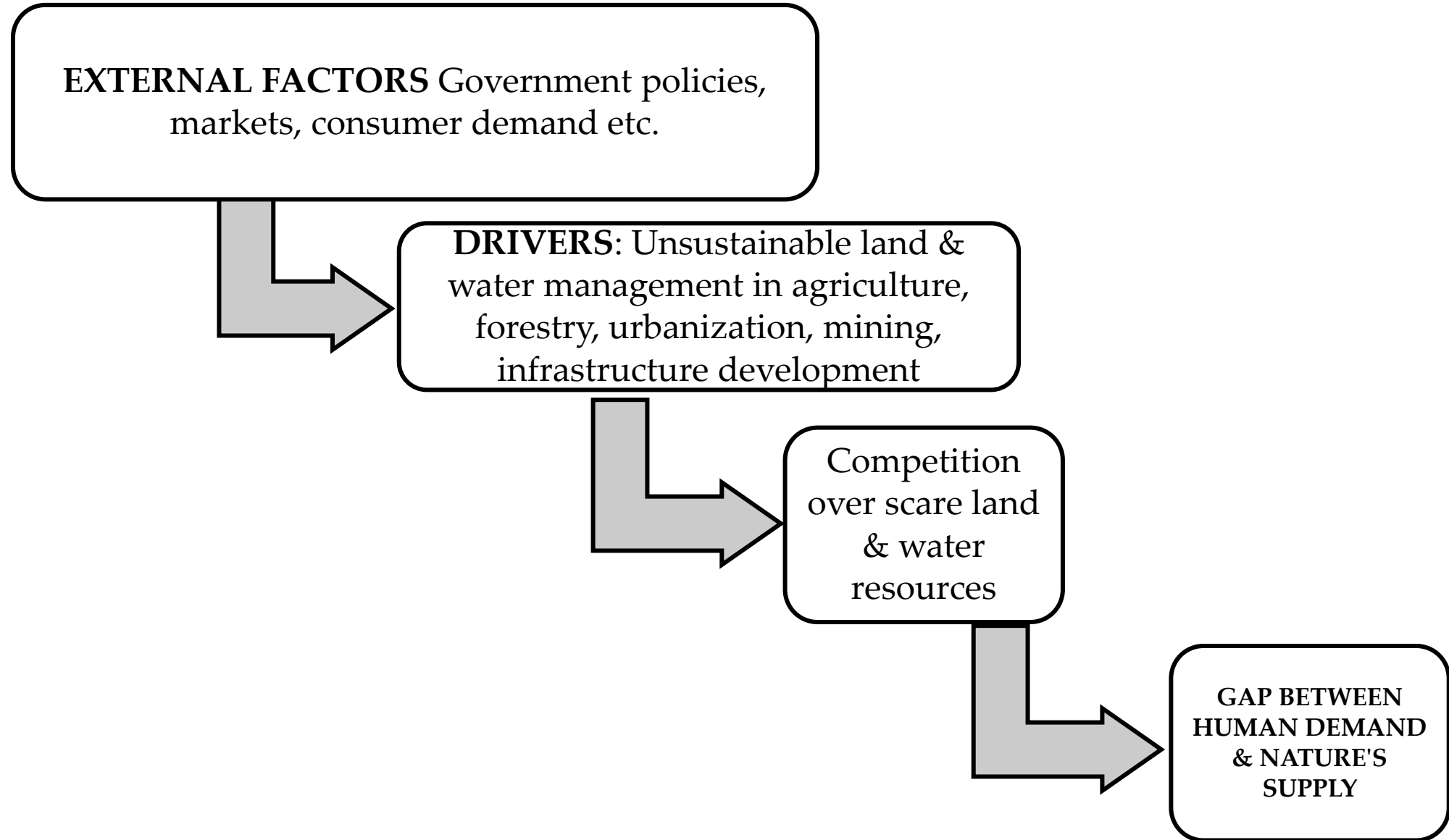


Communities  
vulnerable to disease,  
disaster, droughts,  
floods, wildfires



Already affects 3  
billion people

# DRIVERS



# LAND DEGRADATION & TENURE

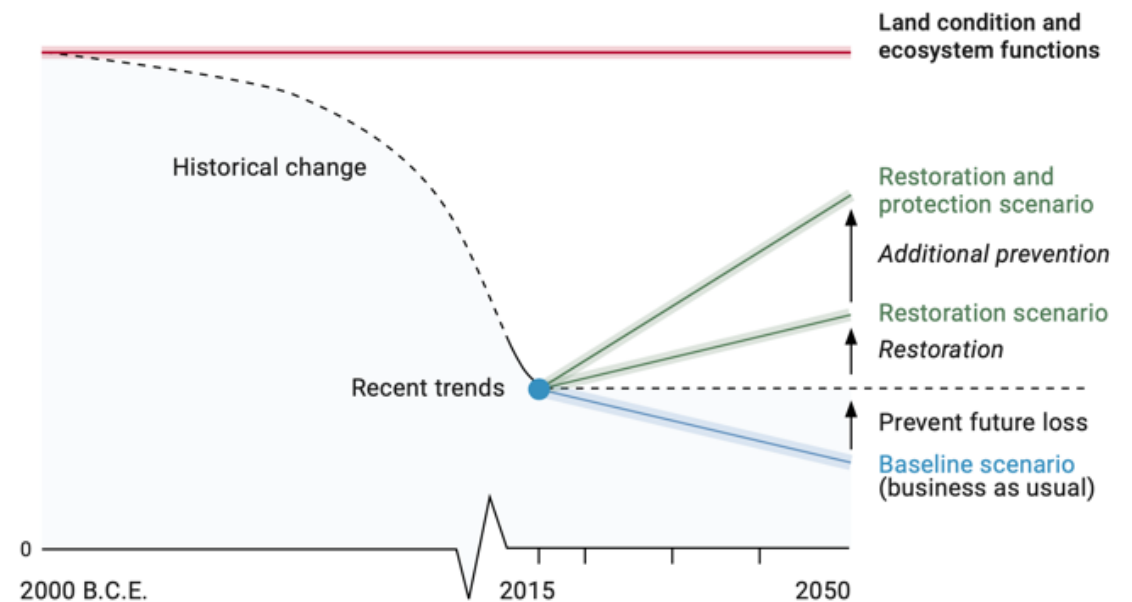
- Tenure security is needed to avoid, reduce land degradation & restore the land over years
- World Bank – “the Quality of Land Administration.. curbs the rate of land degradation.. functional land administration play(s) a role in preserving natural resources.”
- Gap – most people do not have security of tenure



# SCENARIO 1. BASELINE: BUSINESS AS USUAL

- Current trends in land & natural resource degradation continue
- To 2050
- No efforts to protect or restore
- Continued global decline in ecosystems
- Demand for food, feed, fiber, bioenergy continues to rise
- Continued degradation
- Food production/yield slows
- Nature & biodiversity continue decline

FIGURE 3.2 Three scenarios for future land health



Source: PBL, 2021.

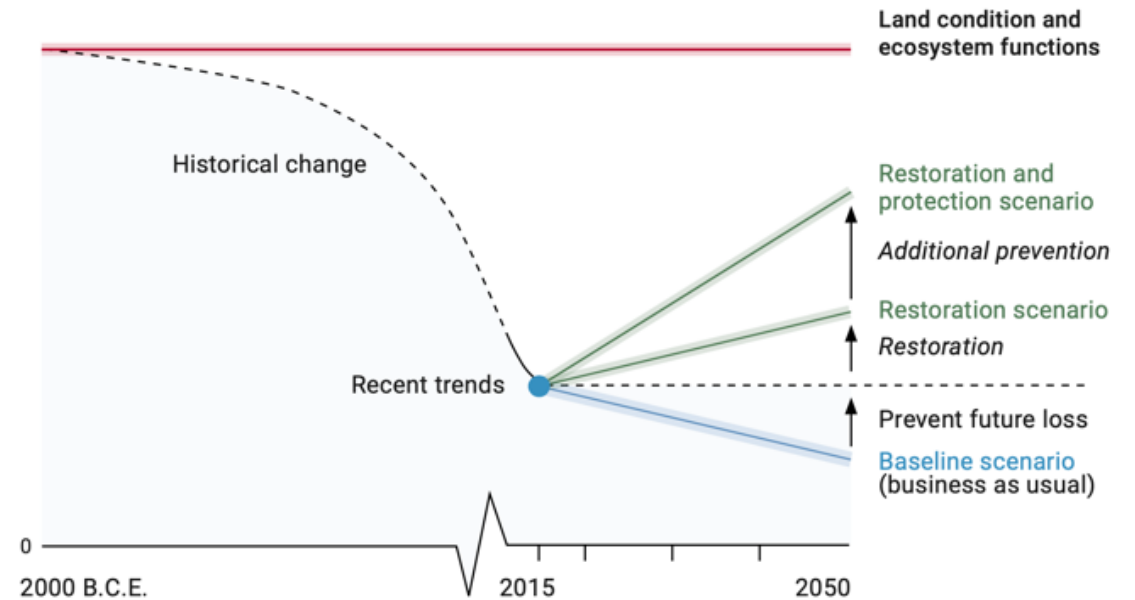
# DEFINITION: RESTORATION

Land restoration is defined as a continuum of activities that avoid, reduce, and reverse land degradation with the explicit objective of meeting human needs and improving biosphere stewardship

# SCENARIO 2. RESTORATION

- 35% of global land restored
- Sub-Saharan Africa & S. America largest restoration potential
- Not enough

FIGURE 3.2 Three scenarios for future land health

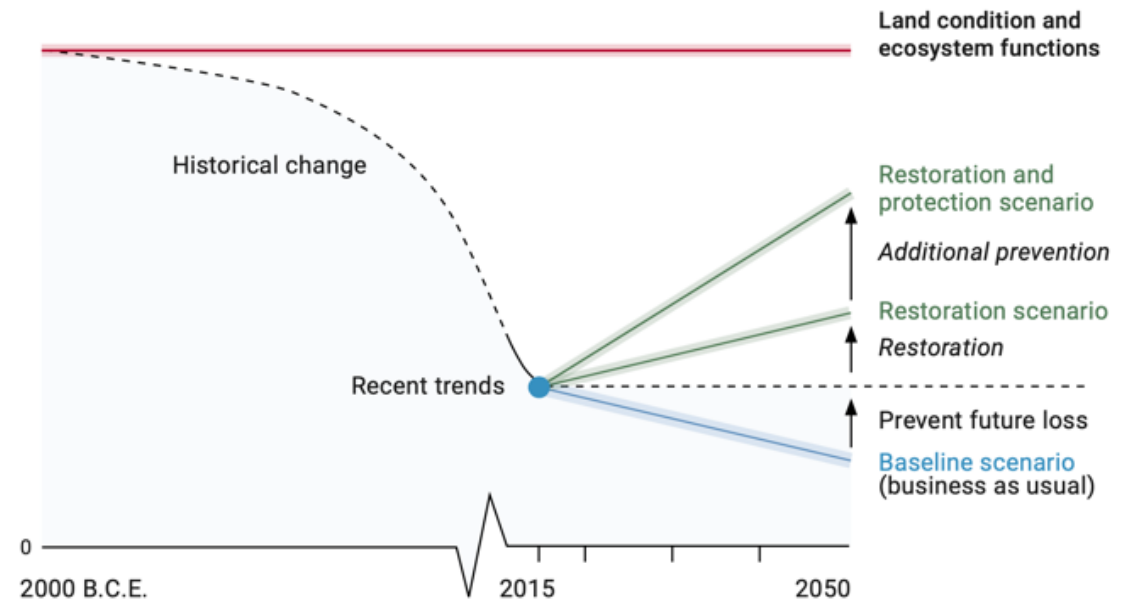


Source: PBL, 2021.

# SCENARIO 3. RESTORATION & PROTECTION

- Based on restoration scenario
- Plus protection measures
- Limit the expansion of agriculture
- Most new protected areas
  - Sub-Saharan Africa
  - South America
- Global Biodiversity Framework
  - 30% of earth's surface
- Sub-Saharan Africa & S. America in critical path of planetary sustainability
- Impact on hundreds of millions of vulnerable people
- Population movements
  - Urban areas safety valves for the planet

FIGURE 3.2 Three scenarios for future land health



Source: PBL, 2021.

# ACHIEVING LAND RESTORATION

- UNCCD work & COP14
- Global Land Outlook
  - Eugene Chigbu Working Paper\*

**FIGURE 7**

**Land governance, tenure security, and land restoration**



\* Chigbu, U.E., Mabakeng, M.R., and Chilombe, A. 2021 Strengthening tenure and resource rights for land restoration, UNCCD Global Land Outlook Working Paper, Bonn.

<https://www.unccd.int/sites/default/files/2022-03/UNCCD%20GLO%20WP%20tenure.pdf>

# NEW THINKING NEEDED

## IMPACT OF WESTERN SCIENTIFIC THINKING

- 1.4 billion poor people live in areas prioritised for restoration
- Global to local power imbalances impact restoration
- Restoration practitioners & scientists unclear on pathways for local communities
- Western science & policy restoration thinking increasing justice risks
- Move to equity-centred restoration\*

\*Sara Löfqvist, Fritz Kleinschroth, Adia Bey, Ariane de Bremond, Ruth DeFries, Jinwei Dong, Forrest Fleischman, Sharachchandra Lele, Dominic A Martin, Peter Messerli, Patrick Meyfroidt, Marion Pfeifer, Sarobidy O Rakotonarivo, Navin Ramankutty, Vijay Ramprasad, Pushpendra Rana, Jeanine M Rhemtulla, Casey M Ryan, Ima Célia Guimarães Vieira, Geoff J Wells, Rachael D Garrett, 2023, How social considerations improve the equity and effectiveness of ecosystem restoration.' American Institute of Biological Sciences, Vol 73(2).

# POTENTIAL FOR GLTN PHASE 4

- GLTN Phase 4 key strategic area
- Engage with climate scientists & practitioners
- Address justice AND humanities climate goals
- Build on GLTN lessons learned AND develop new approaches
- Options
  - Pro- poor & gender responsive – often missing in climate
  - Global to local social change approach that works
  - Build new strong coalitions with new strategies, new narrative, new climate partners
  - Build new knowledge, capacity & champions
  - Adapt GLTN tools & develop new ones

# KEY MESSAGES

- GLTN partners work is in the critical path of planet's sustainability
- Build on GLTN's previous phases
- Strengthen GLTN as a coalition to engage with climate practitioners & scientists
- Equity centered restoration
- The dream continues & need to change our narrative and theirs.