



**United Nations**  
Framework Convention on  
Climate Change



**COP29 FOREST PAVILION**  
**11-22 November 2024**  
**2024 UN Climate Change Conference, Blue Zone**  
**Baku, Azerbaijan**

**IICA, UNFCCC, and INBAR Event:**  
**Promoting transformative innovation for climate**  
**action in agroforestry**

**Concept Note**

**Session details:**

**Venue:** Forest Pavilion COP29 (Blue zone)

**Location:** Baku, Azerbaijan

**Date:** Tuesday, 19<sup>st</sup> November 2024

**Time:** 15:30-17:00

**Length:** 90 minutes

**Language:** English

**Modality:** Panel, Lightning Talks.

**Room set-up:** The room will be set up with 5 chairs on stage for the panel discussion, a lectern for the moderator, and classroom-style seating for 30 participants.

**Introduction:**

Sustainable, regenerative, and innovative agroforestry is essential for achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement, as it strengthens both mitigation and adaptation efforts while promoting sustainable and resilient livelihoods and ensuring food security. By integrating trees into agricultural landscapes, agroforestry sequesters carbon, improves soil health, conserves biodiversity, and increases resilience to climate impacts such as droughts and floods. Despite its



potential, the sector is underutilized due to challenges such as limited policy support, financing gaps, and insufficient knowledge sharing.

Transformative innovation in agroforestry, aligned with the goals of the Paris Agreement, encompasses groundbreaking practices and technologies that improve agroforestry management. This includes agroecological techniques, digital tools for precision agriculture, climate-resilient plant varieties, as well as new financing and business models, supportive policies, and multi-stakeholder partnerships. These innovations play a crucial role in advancing climate mitigation and adaptation, enhancing food security, and supporting sustainable livelihoods, thereby facilitating the transition to a low-carbon, climate-resilient strategies.

Recent trends indicate growing recognition of agroforestry's importance in climate strategies, with more countries integrating it into their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs). Technological advancements and private sector interest are also emerging, providing opportunities to scale agroforestry practices. However, overcoming barriers to widespread adoption remains essential for agroforestry to fully contribute to global climate goals.

This event, co-organized by IICA, INBAR, and UNFCCC, aims to explore how transformative innovation can unlock agroforestry's potential. By showcasing successful innovations and addressing challenges such as policy integration and financing, the session will foster collaboration between global and regional actors. It will also provide insights to inform climate policies and drive ambition for agroforestry aligned with the Paris Agreement.

### **Background:**

The climate crisis is intensifying, with the latest findings from the IPCC AR6 and the outcomes of COP28 underscoring the urgent need for transformational adaptation. COP28 created critical momentum for advancing the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA), emphasizing the necessity of innovative approaches to tackling climate impacts. Simultaneously, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are veering off course, highlighting the inseparability of addressing climate change and achieving sustainable development. If we fail to act on both fronts, we risk missing both sets of targets. Forests, agriculture and agroforestry systems are pivotal in this fight, as they contribute significantly to sequestering carbon, enhancing biodiversity, and increasing resilience against climate shocks.

Organizations such as IICA, INBAR, and the UNFCCC are leading the charge in promoting agroforestry as a transformative solution to pressing environmental challenges. IICA assists



member countries in integrating agroforestry into national climate action plans through targeted capacity-building programs and innovative policy frameworks that align agricultural practices with climate objectives. INBAR advocates for bamboo as a sustainable agroforestry option, providing technical training and fostering partnerships to unlock financing for bamboo-based projects. Meanwhile, the UNFCCC supports countries in establishing and achieving their global climate goals in accordance with the Convention and the Paris Agreement, while inspiring and mobilizing all stakeholders toward a net-zero, climate-resilient future.

**Objectives:**

- Identify and discuss opportunities for transformative innovation in agroforestry to enhance climate action at global, regional, and national levels.
- Explore challenges organizations like INBAR and IICA face while supporting member countries in increasing their ambition towards the climate goals of the Paris Agreement.
- Share successful innovations in agroforestry that have demonstrated transformative potential in mitigating and adapting to climate change.
- Explore how these discussions align with and inform global climate policies, including the targets outlined in the UNFCCC's work on the GGA and transformative adaptation.

**Expected outcomes:**

- Participants will gain a deeper understanding of the role transformative innovation can play in achieving the global climate goals through agroforestry.
- The session will facilitate the sharing of innovative practices, strategies, and technologies implemented by member countries of INBAR and IICA.
- The session will provide key insights into how transformative agroforestry innovations can support global frameworks such as the Paris Agreement and the UAF framework.
- A stronger network of collaboration between international organizations, countries, and stakeholders, fostering future partnerships to drive climate action.

**Run of Show:**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Proposed Speaker</b>	<b>Guiding Questions</b>
15:30-15:40	Welcome and Opening Remarks	UNFCCC Representative  [Director]	Why is innovation critical to agroforestry for climate action? What is the UNFCCC's role?



15:40-15:55	Scene-setting Presentation: Innovation in Agroforestry for Climate Action	INBAR Representative [Director]	How does agroforestry contribute to global mitigation and adaptation goals?
15:55-16:05	Regional Perspectives on Agroforestry Innovation	IICA Representative [Director]	What innovative solutions has IICA promoted to advance agroforestry in its member countries?
16:05-16:20	Country Case Study: Transformative Agroforestry in Practice	INBAR Member Country/region	What are the key successes and challenges in implementing agroforestry innovations?
16:20-16:35	Country Case Study: Regional Innovation for Agroforestry	IICA Member Country/region	How are regional innovations in agroforestry scaling climate actions?
16:35-16:55	Panel Discussion: Opportunities and Challenges in Transformative Agroforestry	All 4 Panelists (Moderator: UNFCCC)	How can organizations support transformative innovation in agroforestry?
16:55-17:00	Closing Remarks	Moderator	What are the key takeaways and next steps?

**Relevant Links:**

Please insert links relevant to your organization or session.

- Overview of the New elements and dimensions of adaptation under the Paris Agreement (Article 7):  
<https://unfccc.int/topics/adaptation-and-resilience/the-big-picture/introduction>
- Information on the Adaptation Committee and its initiatives:  
<https://unfccc.int/Adaptation-Committee>



- UN Climate Change Global Innovation Hub:  
<https://unfccc.int/topics/un-climate-change-global-innovation-hub>
- Resilience Frontiers: <https://resiliencefrontiers.org/>
- The International Network for Bamboo and Rattan's (INBAR) and initiatives:  
<https://www.inbar.int/>
- Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) and initiatives:  
<https://iica.int/en>

**Logistics needs :**

Hybrid / special needs / video projection / lectern / microphones for Q&A, etc. (TBC)

**Targeted Audience:**

The targeted audience for this event includes policymakers, practitioners, researchers, and stakeholders from the agroforestry sector, as well as representatives from international organizations, member countries, and civil society engaged in climate action and sustainable development initiatives.

**Contact Persons:**

- IICA: Kattia Fajardo [kattia.fajardo@iica.int](mailto:kattia.fajardo@iica.int), Manager, Agricultural Climate Action and Sustainability Program, IICA Headquarter.
- INBAR: Borja De La Peña Escardó [bescardo@inbar.int](mailto:bescardo@inbar.int), Global Policy Officer International Bamboo and Rattan Organization (INBAR).
- UNFCCC: Carlos Ruiz-Garvia [CRuizGarvia@unfccc.int](mailto:CRuizGarvia@unfccc.int), Team Lead, Adaptation Division, UNFCCC.