

Increased investment in locally controlled land and natural resource use

Over the next five years we will work towards achieving increased investment in locally controlled and sustainable land and natural resource use, across 15 countries. We will work with local, national and international partners to generate evidence, strengthen capability and influence policy and practice.

Legal tools

Our aim is to improve the use of legal tools to support fairer and more sustainable natural resource investments in low and middle-income countries, focusing on sub-Saharan Africa and Southeast Asia.

- **Secure rural land rights.** Understand changing pressures on land (including from 'land grabbing') and secure rural land rights through action at local, national, regional and global levels
- **Quality natural resource investments.** Help negotiate quality natural resource investments, by increasing local control over investment process, models and outcomes and by promoting accountability throughout the investment process
- **Sustainable development in investment treaties.** Democratise investment treaty making and place sustainable development centre stage in treaty negotiation, formulation and implementation.

Agroecology

We want to strengthen local control and resilience in agricultural and food systems — improving livelihoods, food security and sustainability, and to withstand shocks and stresses.

- **Resilient smallholder farming.** Strengthened collaborative innovation and policy influence for smallholders, pastoralist and other small-scale agricultural producers to control resilient agricultural systems.
- **Locally beneficial food systems.** Strong evidence for the benefits and feasibility of sustainable and equitable production systems co-generated with and recognised by mainstream actors, thereby contributing to better policy and practice.

Forest governance

Our aim is to secure the sustainable contribution of forests to livelihoods, economies and landscapes.

- **Responsible forest-related development, trade and investment.** Improving the impacts of public and private investment and trade
- **Locally controlled forest enterprise.** Enhancing the capacity and organisation of locally controlled forest enterprises.
- **Integrated forest-climate strategies.** Ensuring that REDD+ processes and projects are fair and inclusive, and deliver more (emissions reductions and co-benefits) from less.

Biodiversity and conservation

To promote socially just and equitable solutions to the challenge of the loss of biodiversity and deterioration of ecosystem services.

- **Mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem services.** Biodiversity and ecosystem service values integrated into development and climate change response decision making
- **Social justice and equity** central to conservation policy and practice

Water infrastructure

To ensure that the benefits of large water infrastructure investments are more equitably allocated and better governed under conditions of competing demands and climate change.

- **Water investments for livelihoods.** Evidence is generated and capacity enhanced, leading to improved livelihood and economy-wide impacts, and fewer local conflicts, from large government-led investment approaches to irrigation and hydropower.
- **Dams in climate resilient green economies.** River-basin organisations, project proponents and donors adopt improved practices and tools to deliver more equitable benefit sharing around large dams while securing rights.

China in development

To support better decisions on policy, investment and organisational practice for sustainable development, in China and by Chinese actors in Africa, Latin America and Southeast Asia

- **Supporting better Chinese policymaking on international aid, trade and investment**
- **Critical lessons (positive and negative) from China's experience** with sustainable development understood and shared.

Links with change initiatives. Our work on legal tools will make substantial contributions to 'Rights plus action', whilst our work on biodiversity and conservation, water infrastructure and China in development will all contribute specific initiatives within 'Inclusive transitions to climate resilience and green economy'. We also have commitments and plans in our agroecology work that are well connected with 'Rights plus action' and 'Inclusive transitions to climate resilience and green economy' as well as 'Fair consumption from sustainable food systems' and change initiative, while our forest governance work connects with all the change initiatives.

Partners and geographies. Our strength and comparative advantage lies in a diverse and experienced network of partners made up of nongovernmental organisations, community-based organisations, government departments, universities, independent research organisations and international agencies in Asia, Africa, the Caribbean and Latin America, as well as collaborators in Australia, Europe and North America. We plan to focus our effort with partnerships in a maximum of 15 countries.

Gender. Real integration of effective approaches to gender equality in all our work is within reach. There are creative leaps and untapped potential in adopting a gender lens, e.g. the potential of 450 million new women internet users coming soon. We intend to play our part in structurally embedding effective approaches in institutions we work with and we hope to partner more with gender-championing institutions. A key paper on methods and approaches will be produced and we will aim to make baseline surveys and tracking of gender engagement in our projects routine. We are pursuing specific initiatives on women's empowerment in efforts to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) and in agri-business investments.