Restoration for whom and by whom? Contrasting narratives across COP30 arenas highlight the challenges of integrated implementation

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Abstract

Introduction

Ecological restoration is central to global climate and biodiversity agendas, yet translating international commitments into inclusive and effective implementation remains challenging. UN climate conferences provide important arenas where these priorities are negotiated.

Objectives

With this policy article, we examine how forest restoration is framed across different Conference of the Parties (COP30) arenas, focusing on the narratives promoted and the roles attributed to different stakeholders.

Methods

We analyze dominant restoration narratives and stakeholder roles across five COP30 arenas. Drawing on observations by a team of 17 researchers who attended 50 of the 125 identified restoration-related events, we systematically document and classify how restoration was framed and how different stakeholders were represented across these arenas.

Results

Restoration narratives differed markedly across arenas. The Blue Zone emphasized finance, investment risk reduction, and large-scale restoration, primarily portraying Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities as beneficiaries or implementation partners. The Green Zone focused on legal commitments, technical feasibility, innovation, and monitoring, while recognizing broader stakeholder participation. The People's COP emphasized territorial rights, food systems, and community-led restoration, positioning local actors as protagonists. The AgriZone combined technological and financial approaches with socially grounded

perspectives. Interactions among actors advocating different restoration approaches were limited.

Conclusions

Restoration narratives at COP30 reflected distinct priorities and conceptions of stakeholder roles, with limited opportunities for interaction across arenas. These differences highlight the need for restoration governance processes that connect financial and technical priorities with community-defined goals, territorial rights, and locally grounded restoration practices.

Implications for practice

Bridging diverse restoration perspectives requires greater dialogue across formal and open policy arenas to align restoration targets, financing mechanisms, and community priorities. Meaningful participation and influence of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in decision-making are essential for more inclusive and equitable restoration governance. Financing criteria and monitoring indicators should recognize diverse restoration pathways, including natural regeneration and territorially grounded governance arrangements. The narrative typology developed in this study offers a practical framework for identifying underrepresented perspectives, actors, and knowledge systems, helping policymakers and practitioners foster dialogue, address governance gaps, and support more inclusive and effective restoration planning and implementation.

Key words: COP30, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, restoration governance, restoration narratives, public policies, scaling, Brazilian Amazon

Introduction

Ecosystem restoration is increasingly framed as a solution to a range of interconnected socioenvironmental crises, including climate change, biodiversity loss, water insecurity, and

unsustainable development (Gann et al. 2026). Over the past decade, it has gained unprecedented prominence in global environmental agendas led by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The 1992 Rio Earth Summit already recognized a range of restoration-related approaches to address ecosystem degradation through Agenda 21 (United Nations 1992), while the Convention on Biological Diversity explicitly committed Parties to rehabilitate and restore degraded ecosystems (CBD 1992). The UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021–2030) created a major window of opportunity for scaling up restoration efforts, building on international commitments such as the Bonn Challenge, which aims to bring 350 million hectares of degraded and deforested land into restoration by 2030 (UNEP & FAO 2021). Subsequently, the 2021 Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forests and Land Use, launched at COP26, reinforced global commitments to halt and reverse forest loss and land degradation and to accelerate restoration by 2030, while the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, adopted at CBD COP15 in 2022, established a target to ensure that at least 30% of degraded terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems are under effective restoration by 2030 (UK Government 2021; CBD 2022). These global targets are reflected in national-level commitments through Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs). For example, Brazil has committed to restoring 12 million hectares of native vegetation by 2030 (MMA 2026), with a substantial share of this target expected to be achieved in the Amazon.

While these COPs and their associated high-level commitments have made substantial progress in embedding restoration in international agendas, translating them into action has proven far more challenging, as their success ultimately depends on concrete national and subnational plans and implementation (e.g. Reed et al. 2025). Implementation gaps are

persistent: for example, none of the 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets were fully achieved by 2020 (CBD 2020). Moreover, transparency regarding progress toward restoration commitments also remains limited.

One of the key challenges for restoration is ensuring that targets, agendas and policies are developed in a socially inclusive way, as the question of "restoration for whom and by whom?" is fundamental for successful and equitable scaling (IPBES 2018; Elias et al. 2021). This is challenging because there are strong power asymmetries embedded in the relationships among the multiple actors involved in restoration (Mansourian et al. 2025), and examples of restoration efforts that successfully reconcile these diverse perspectives and achieve shared outcomes remain relatively rare (Jellinek et al. 2019). Beyond their role as formal decision-making bodies, COPs have become global policy mega-events that bring together key stakeholders, such as governments, civil society, businesses, scientists, and other society actors, providing important arenas for signalling priorities, shaping narratives and exchanging knowledge to influence national and international policy agendas (Obergassel et al. 2022).

How restoration goals and targets are defined and implemented has important implications for beneficiaries, ecological outcomes, and governance arrangements (Egan et al. 2011). This is particularly challenging for restoration, for three reasons. First, restoration encompasses a diversity of terminologies, desired end points, and intervention approaches. Second, restoration goals are inherently value-laden, context-dependent, and often subject to disagreement and negotiation because they reflect the diverse perceptions, knowledge systems, and priorities of multiple stakeholders (Elias et al. 2021; Mansourian et al. 2021). Third, restoration is motivated by a wide spectrum of rationales, ranging from pragmatic and technocratic objectives, such as those commonly advanced by government agencies, to

relational and value-based motivations rooted in cultural identity, stewardship, reconnection with nature, and spiritual fulfilment, particularly among Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) (Clewell & Aronson 2006).

Although restoration's governance and the narratives that shape restoration agendas have received increasing scholarly attention (Mansourian & Sgard 2021; Djenontin et al. 2025; Mansourian et al. 2025,), much less attention has been paid to how different actors construct and promote contrasting visions of restoration across the diverse political and societal arenas that converge around major international environmental conferences. Moreover, restoration agendas, targets and financing mechanisms shaped without engaging diverse actors and knowledge systems risk excluding the perspectives of those responsible for implementation. We explore this framing diversity using the 30th Conference of the Parties (COP30) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) as a case study. The meeting was held in November 2025 in Belém, in the Brazilian Amazon, a region that is often at the heart of the restoration debate, but where assisted restoration on the ground has so far remained limited in scale (Gastauer et al. 2020; Nascimento et al. 2026). Like all Conferences of the Parties, COP30 encompassed multiple arenas, ranging from formal diplomatic negotiations at its core, through official side events and exhibitions in the Blue Zone, to less formal spaces in the Green Zone and off-site events beyond the UN conference perimeter (Obergassel et al. 2022).

We used this diversity of institutional and political spaces to critically examine how forest restoration was framed across COP30 venues, building on our previous experience in the Brazilian restoration context. It is possible that the gap between high-level targets and inclusive governance is partly being driven by a failure to negotiate and co-create agendas within the global COP process and other relevant mechanisms. Our aim is to identify

disconnects among arenas that influence how restoration targets, finance and participation are negotiated, while highlighting opportunities to improve the effectiveness, inclusiveness and legitimacy of future international restoration debates. By examining how restoration is framed across COP30 venues, we seek to identify practical pathways for bridging these disconnects across actors, knowledge systems and policy agendas, ultimately supporting more feasible commitments and implementable restoration solutions.

Drawing on our long-standing experience working in the Brazilian Amazon, we had already identified the disconnect among actors involved in restoration as a critical barrier to effective restoration efforts. Our observations at COP30 further illustrated this challenge. Below, we summarize the key lessons learned, with detailed methods and supporting tables from our empirical study provided in Supplement S1.

Restoration narratives are distinct across COP30 venues

We have identified six restoration narratives that revealed diverse understandings of restoration that extended beyond ecological recovery to encompass governance, livelihoods, territorial rights, and relationships between people and nature (Table 1). Legal–institutional and governance narratives were the most frequent, followed by socio-environmental perspectives. Their distribution varied considerably across COP30 venues (Figure 1). The Blue Zone emphasized climate and nature-based solutions, governance, and restoration financing, while the Green Zone reflected more diverse perspectives, bridging institutional commitments and implementation. The AgriZone focused on productive landscapes and territorial issues, whereas the People's COP emphasized cultural, relational, and community-based perspectives. Other venues primarily highlighted scientific evidence and technical approaches. These contrasts also reflected different understandings of scale, economic viability, knowledge, territory, and agency, underscoring the diversity of restoration agendas across COP30 arenas.

COP30 venues demonstrates different understandings of how to scale up restoration

The Blue Zone emphasized large-scale investments, carbon markets, and public–private partnerships, while the Green Zone and other venues focused on scientific knowledge, technological innovation, and institutional mechanisms to achieve restoration targets. In contrast, the People's COP framed scaling through territorially grounded approaches, emphasizing community practices, agroecology, and broader socioecological transformations. The AgriZone reflected both perspectives, with four events emphasizing private investment and carbon finance, and three focusing on expanding community networks, seed banks, agroforestry, and family farming practices. These contrasts reveal fundamentally different visions of how restoration can be expanded and implemented.

COP30 venues differed in their recognition of community agency and participation

Despite the unprecedented visibility and mobilization of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) at COP30, their roles in restoration were framed differently across venues. In the Blue Zone, IPLCs and family farmers were primarily portrayed as beneficiaries, stakeholders, or implementation partners, while the Green Zone showed greater recognition of their knowledge and participation, although largely within institutional frameworks. In contrast, the AgriZone increasingly recognized communities as economic actors, knowledge holders, and restoration practitioners. This perspective was most pronounced at the People's COP, where IPLCs were positioned as protagonists of restoration, emphasizing territorial rights, local knowledge, and community-led solutions. These contrasting perspectives reveal fundamental differences in who is recognized as having the knowledge, agency, and authority to define and implement restoration, highlighting the importance of addressing power asymmetries in restoration governance. The idea that

"without territorial justice there can be no climate justice" was a powerful message from the People's COP events and, in our reading, shifted restoration from an essentially biophysical issue to one of land, rights, livelihoods, and power.

COP30 venues reflected different understandings of innovation

Understandings of innovation in restoration varied considerably across COP30 venues. In the Blue Zone, innovation was primarily associated with technological advances, including geotechnologies, artificial intelligence, and monitoring systems, alongside financial mechanisms aimed at improving efficiency, economic viability, and scalability. The Green Zone combined these approaches with institutional and socioeconomic innovations, emphasizing restoration as an emerging economic sector generating jobs, businesses, and value chains. The AgriZone reflected both market-oriented innovations and territorially grounded practices, including agroecology, traditional seed varieties, and *muvuca*, a direct-seeding approach involving local knowledge and seed-collector networks. In contrast, the People's COP emphasized community-led innovations, including collective work (*mutirões*), traditional knowledge, agroforestry, and participatory governance. These differences reveal contrasting assumptions about what constitutes innovation, whose knowledge drives it, and how it contributes to restoration, highlighting the importance of recognizing technological, institutional, and community-based innovations as complementary pathways.

Bridging restoration perspectives: recommendations for restoration governance and future COPs

1. Create opportunities for dialogue across restoration arenas

Future COPs should create structured mechanisms that facilitate interaction among actors, knowledge systems and perspectives that currently operate in parallel arenas, enabling more

integrated discussions on restoration targets, implementation pathways and financing priorities. Our analysis of events across multiple venues at COP30 illustrates how contrasting restoration visions manifest in practice. Most importantly, the COP30 discourses we observed revealed not simply different restoration narratives, but contrasting understandings of how restoration is produced, who has agency in producing it, and what scaling restoration should mean. However, rather than representing discrete or opposing models, these narratives reflect different emphases, tensions, and coexisting logics of restoration.

The distinct perspectives identified in our study largely reflected the thematic focus of the institutions organizing the events, which brought together different combinations of stakeholders. Importantly, COP venues themselves may shape the participation of different actors, the themes discussed, and the forms of knowledge represented, potentially reinforcing the limited integration among restoration perspectives. For example, the strong presence of socio-environmental NGOs, and possibly a limited representation of large-scale farmers, in these restoration events may help explain why socio-environmental and territorial perspectives predominated over the productive and land-use typology.

At the same time, COP30 saw the highest participation of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) in the history of the UN Climate Conferences, with approximately 5,000 Indigenous participants, alongside emblematic mobilizations such as the Global People's March and the People's Summit Boat Parade (APIB 2025; People's Summit 2025). This unprecedented presence may have further contributed to the prominence of socio-environmental and territorial restoration perspectives in the open venues and, particularly at the People's COP, to cultural, symbolic, and relational perspectives on restoration. However, this increased presence did not translate into greater participation in those arenas where restoration finance and large-scale implementation strategies were primarily discussed, a pattern consistent with barriers previously identified in international

climate governance processes (Reed et al. 2024). Overcoming these barriers is essential to ensuring meaningful and inclusive participation in decisions shaping key climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies.

2. Bridge parallel conversations to strengthen restoration governance

Organizers of COPs and other restoration-related policy processes should prioritize spaces specifically designed to connect actors who define targets and financing mechanisms with those responsible for implementation on the ground. The marked differences across COP30 venues, values and priorities mirror our experiences in other restoration arenas, where some perspectives and stakeholder groups rarely intersect. This lack of interaction represents a missed opportunity to identify common interests, build agreement around legal and policy targets, align financing mechanisms with community needs and priorities, and foster more durable and equitable restoration processes.

Bridging these perspectives is challenging, given the profound ontological and epistemological differences among actors and the historical marginalization of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (Reed et al. 2024). It requires recognizing that, for many of these communities, restoration may mean more than recovering ecosystem functions, encompassing, for example, the renewal of relationships and responsibilities among peoples, territories, and more-than-human beings (Blaser 2009).

Nevertheless, new pathways are needed to enable meaningful interaction across these differences. Recognizing the diversity of restoration perspectives, the stakeholders associated with them, and their underlying values can inform the design of policy forums that bring diverse actors into dialogue, help reconcile competing priorities, and ultimately contribute to more effective and inclusive restoration governance and implementation (Mansourian et al. 2025). The urgency of implementing large-scale restoration in international and national

policy agendas was reflected in the discourses of the Blue and Green Zones. Yet, governance failures have been identified as a major cause of the disconnect between global targets and local implementation (Mansourian et al. 2025). Our observations highlight the need to move beyond parallel conversations by creating opportunities for meaningful dialogue and joint decision-making across restoration arenas, ensuring that Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities can influence how restoration priorities, financing mechanisms, and implementation strategies are defined.

3. Redefine what scaling restoration means

Restoration policies and funding mechanisms should adopt broader definitions of scale that recognize institutional strengthening, territorial networks, social innovation and community-led initiatives as legitimate pathways for achieving restoration outcomes at scale. Our observations and experiences suggest that scaling and participation require urgent attention. In particular, what does scaling restoration mean in practice? Does it simply involve expanding investments and projects, or also strengthening and connecting locally grounded initiatives? Ngwenya et al. (2026) defined "large-scale" ecological restoration as restoration interventions aimed at transforming systems, such as institutions, culture, politics, and power dynamics, to impact more people and places through restoration activities. We argue that adopting this broader understanding of scale, rather than defining it solely in terms of spatial extent, is critical for achieving lasting socio-environmental impacts from restoration. From the People's COP perspective, often grounded in distinct ontologies and understandings of human–nature relationships, scaling appears to emerge primarily through the mobilization and adaptation of territorially grounded solutions, rather than through the expansion of large-scale projects or markets. Such an approach can be challenging because socio-ecological systems are complex and multifaceted, requiring coordination across diverse

institutions, networks, actors, and knowledge systems (Brondizio et al. 2009). However, partnerships among local actors and organizations operating across multiple scales can enable more successful initiatives by strengthening local capacities while helping to overcome barriers such as limited institutional capacity, internal conflicts, power imbalances, financial constraints, and insecure land tenure (Londres et al. 2023).

4. Align participation and finance with territorially grounded restoration efforts

Restoration finance should move beyond conventional area-based metrics and explicitly support community-led approaches, territorial governance arrangements, natural regeneration pathways and locally developed innovations, ensuring that financial resources reach the actors and territories responsible for implementation.

It is well recognised that achieving global restoration benefits ultimately depends on ensuring that locally relevant benefits are understood, valued, and realized (Mansourian et al. 2025), and a growing body of literature calls for greater community participation and the incorporation of traditional and local knowledge into restoration (Brondizio et al. 2021), an approach that was evident even in the Blue Zone discourses. However, our findings suggest that the meaning of participation itself warrants closer scrutiny. Participation should extend beyond building the capacity of local organizations to engage in governmental negotiations or creating spaces where community interests can be heard (Mansourian et al. 2025). It fundamentally requires recognizing the solutions, practices, and knowledge systems already developed within territories and allowing them to shape restoration policies and strategies. From this perspective, communities are not simply stakeholders to be included in externally designed restoration initiatives, but knowledge holders and agents who actively define restoration goals, practices, and desired futures (Melo et al. 2026). Scaling restoration would therefore involve not only transferring technical solutions across places (e.g. Werden et al.

2024), but mainly creating institutional conditions that enable diverse, territorially grounded solutions to persist, adapt, and inform restoration policy at broader scales (Pereira et al. 2023).

Recent actions by the Brazilian government provide concrete examples of how territorial arrangements and locally grounded solutions could be incorporated into restoration policy and bottom-up approaches. The national restoration plan includes differentiated strategies for Indigenous and traditionally occupied territories (MMA 2024). In parallel, an initiative has been launched to formally recognize territories with their own governance arrangements for ecosystem restoration and their potential contributions to national and regional targets (CONAVEG 2026).

The effectiveness of these approaches, however, will ultimately depend on whether adequate and sustained financial flows reach these territories. Scaling restoration requires international finance to move beyond conventional metrics such as hectares planted and to recognize and support the diversity of pathways and social processes through which restoration occurs on the ground. These include assisted and unassisted natural regeneration of primary degraded and secondary forests, locally developed innovations, community-led approaches, and territorial governance arrangements (e.g. Pereira et al. 2023). Aligning global restoration finance with this diversity of locally grounded strategies will be essential for translating ambitious restoration commitments into durable and socially meaningful outcomes at scale.

Conclusion

A key lesson from the COP30 events we observed is that restoration policies must create enabling conditions for diverse restoration pathways, recognising the different perspectives and interests identified in this study and elsewhere. Our analysis suggests that a central challenge lies not in the lack of restoration solutions, but in the limited interaction among the

actors, institutions, and knowledge systems that promote them. Fostering dialogue across these perspectives, navigating potential trade-offs, and addressing underlying power imbalances are essential to achieving more effective and equitable restoration outcomes. Ultimately, this requires confronting fundamental questions about who has the power to define what constitutes restoration, which outcomes matter, whose knowledge is recognised as legitimate, and which interventions receive financial support. These concerns resonate strongly with the Declaration of the People's Summit at COP30, which called for the participation and leadership of peoples in shaping climate solutions: "We demand the participation and leadership of peoples in the construction of climate solutions" (People's Summit 2025).

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Table 1. Typologies of ecosystem restoration narratives identified through our observations and analysis of COP30 events. As some events were assigned two co-dominant narratives, the total number of narrative classifications (n = 56) exceeds the number of events analyzed (n = 50).

1. Climate and Nature-based Solutions (NbS)	7	Restoration as a response to climate change and other global environmental challenges, emphasizing carbon, ecosystem services, adaptation, mitigation, and resilience.
2. Legal–institutional and regulatory	15	Restoration as a governance challenge, emphasizing policies, legislation, institutional arrangements, agreements, compliance, and territorial planning.
3. Technical–ecological	5	Restoration as an ecological and technical intervention, emphasizing ecosystem recovery, biodiversity, natural regeneration, restoration techniques, ecological processes and monitoring through scientific and technical approaches.
4. Socio-environmental and territorial	12	Restoration as a socially and territorially embedded process, emphasizing participation, equity, territorial rights, environmental justice, and collective governance.
5. Productive and land-use	9	Restoration as a productive and economic land-use strategy, emphasizing livelihoods, value chains, markets, agroforestry, silviculture, and other productive systems.
6. Cultural, symbolic and relational	8	Restoration as the rebuilding of relationships between people and nature, emphasizing worldviews, identity, spirituality, cultural heritage, traditional knowledge, and reciprocal care.

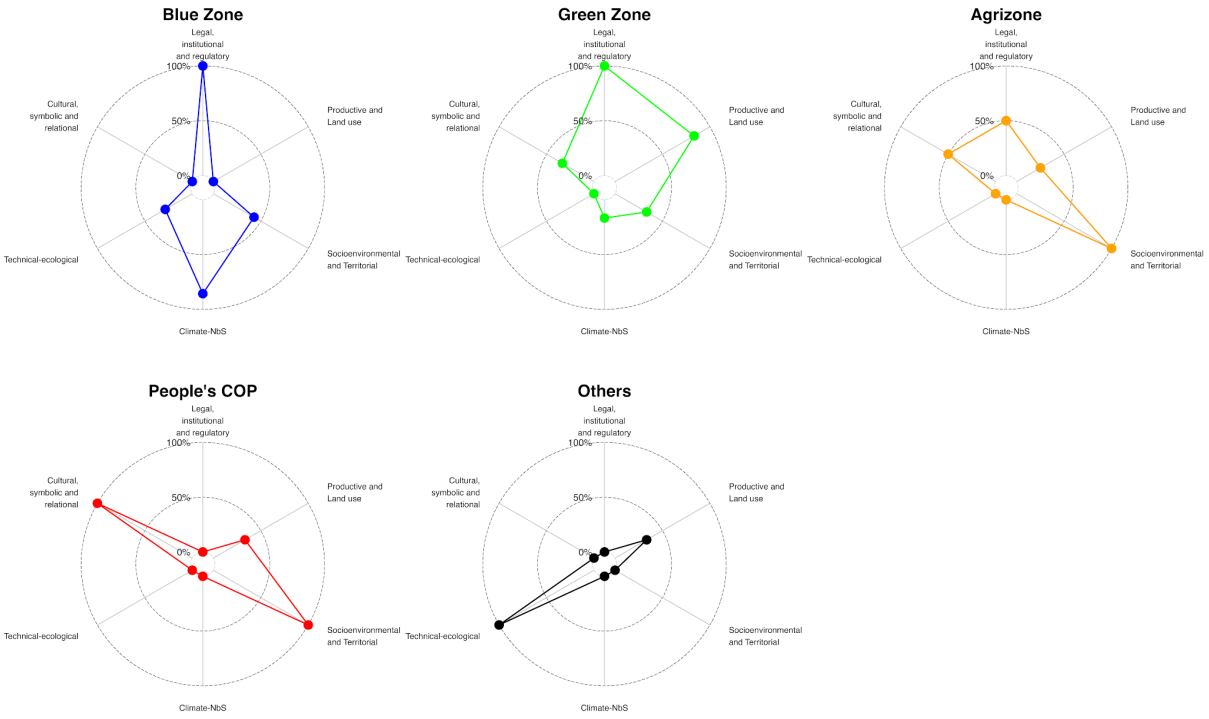


Figure 1. Distribution of the predominant forest restoration narrative typologies observed across COP30 venues. Blue Zone (n=18), Green Zone (n=16), Agrizone (n=7), People's COP (n=5), Others (n=4).

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Introduction

Ecological restoration is central to global climate and biodiversity agendas, yet translating international commitments into inclusive and effective implementation remains challenging. UN climate conferences provide important arenas where these priorities are negotiated.

Objectives

With this policy article, we examine how forest restoration is framed across different Conference of the Parties (COP30) arenas, focusing on the narratives promoted and the roles attributed to different stakeholders.

Methods

We analyze dominant restoration narratives and stakeholder roles across five COP30 arenas. Drawing on observations by a team of 17 researchers who attended 50 of the 125 identified restoration-related events, we systematically document and classify how restoration was framed and how different stakeholders were represented across these arenas.

Results

Restoration narratives differed markedly across arenas. The Blue Zone emphasized finance, investment risk reduction, and large-scale restoration, primarily portraying Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities as beneficiaries or implementation partners. The Green Zone focused on legal commitments, technical feasibility, innovation, and monitoring, while recognizing broader stakeholder participation. The People's COP emphasized territorial rights, food systems, and community-led restoration, positioning local actors as protagonists. The AgriZone combined technological and financial approaches with socially grounded perspectives. Interactions among actors advocating different restoration approaches were limited.

Conclusions

Restoration narratives at COP30 reflected distinct priorities and conceptions of stakeholder roles, with limited opportunities for interaction across arenas. These differences highlight the need for restoration governance processes that connect financial and technical priorities with community-defined goals, territorial rights, and locally grounded restoration practices.

Implications for practice

Bridging diverse restoration perspectives requires greater dialogue across formal and open policy arenas to align restoration targets, financing mechanisms, and community priorities. Meaningful participation and influence of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in decision-making are essential for more inclusive and equitable restoration governance. Financing criteria and monitoring indicators should recognize diverse restoration pathways, including natural regeneration and territorially grounded governance arrangements. The narrative typology developed in this study offers a practical framework for identifying underrepresented perspectives, actors, and knowledge systems, helping policymakers and

practitioners foster dialogue, address governance gaps, and support more inclusive and effective restoration planning and implementation.

Key words: COP30, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, restoration governance, restoration narratives, public policies, scaling, Brazilian Amazon

Introduction

Ecosystem restoration is increasingly framed as a solution to a range of interconnected socioenvironmental crises, including climate change, biodiversity loss, water insecurity, and unsustainable development (Gann et al. 2026). Over the past decade, it has gained unprecedented prominence in global environmental agendas led by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The 1992 Rio Earth Summit already recognized a range of restoration-related approaches to address ecosystem degradation through Agenda 21 (United Nations 1992), while the Convention on Biological Diversity explicitly committed Parties to rehabilitate and restore degraded ecosystems (CBD 1992). The UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021–2030) created a major window of opportunity for scaling up restoration efforts, building on international commitments such as the Bonn Challenge, which aims to bring 350 million hectares of degraded and deforested land into restoration by 2030 (UNEP & FAO 2021). Subsequently, the 2021 Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forests and Land Use, launched at COP26, reinforced global commitments to halt and reverse forest loss and land degradation and to accelerate restoration by 2030, while the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, adopted at CBD COP15 in 2022, established a target to ensure that at least 30% of degraded terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems are under effective restoration by 2030 (UK Government 2021; CBD 2022). These global targets are reflected in national-level commitments through Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs). For example, Brazil has committed to

restoring 12 million hectares of native vegetation by 2030 (MMA 2026), with a substantial share of this target expected to be achieved in the Amazon.

While these COPs and their associated high-level commitments have made substantial progress in embedding restoration in international agendas, translating them into action has proven far more challenging, as their success ultimately depends on concrete national and subnational plans and implementation (e.g. Reed et al. 2025). Implementation gaps are persistent: for example, none of the 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets were fully achieved by 2020 (CBD 2020). Moreover, transparency regarding progress toward restoration commitments also remains limited.

One of the key challenges for restoration is ensuring that targets, agendas and policies are developed in a socially inclusive way, as the question of "restoration for whom and by whom?" is fundamental for successful and equitable scaling (IPBES 2018; Elias et al. 2021). This is challenging because there are strong power asymmetries embedded in the relationships among the multiple actors involved in restoration (Mansourian et al. 2025), and examples of restoration efforts that successfully reconcile these diverse perspectives and achieve shared outcomes remain relatively rare (Jellinek et al. 2019). Beyond their role as formal decision-making bodies, COPs have become global policy mega-events that bring together key stakeholders, such as governments, civil society, businesses, scientists, and other society actors, providing important arenas for signalling priorities, shaping narratives and exchanging knowledge to influence national and international policy agendas (Obergassel et al. 2022).

How restoration goals and targets are defined and implemented has important implications for beneficiaries, ecological outcomes, and governance arrangements (Egan et al. 2011). This

is particularly challenging for restoration, for three reasons. First, restoration encompasses a diversity of terminologies, desired end points, and intervention approaches. Second, restoration goals are inherently value-laden, context-dependent, and often subject to disagreement and negotiation because they reflect the diverse perceptions, knowledge systems, and priorities of multiple stakeholders (Elias et al. 2021; Mansourian et al. 2021). Third, restoration is motivated by a wide spectrum of rationales, ranging from pragmatic and technocratic objectives, such as those commonly advanced by government agencies, to relational and value-based motivations rooted in cultural identity, stewardship, reconnection with nature, and spiritual fulfilment, particularly among Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) (Clewell & Aronson 2006).

Although restoration's governance and the narratives that shape restoration agendas have received increasing scholarly attention (Mansourian & Sgard 2021; Djenontin et al. 2025; Mansourian et al. 2025,), much less attention has been paid to how different actors construct and promote contrasting visions of restoration across the diverse political and societal arenas that converge around major international environmental conferences. Moreover, restoration agendas, targets and financing mechanisms shaped without engaging diverse actors and knowledge systems risk excluding the perspectives of those responsible for implementation. We explore this framing diversity using the 30th Conference of the Parties (COP30) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) as a case study. The meeting was held in November 2025 in Belém, in the Brazilian Amazon, a region that is often at the heart of the restoration debate, but where assisted restoration on the ground has so far remained limited in scale (Gastauer et al. 2020; Nascimento et al. 2026). Like all Conferences of the Parties, COP30 encompassed multiple arenas, ranging from formal diplomatic negotiations at its core, through official side events and exhibitions in the Blue

Zone, to less formal spaces in the Green Zone and off-site events beyond the UN conference perimeter (Obergassel et al. 2022).

We used this diversity of institutional and political spaces to critically examine how forest restoration was framed across COP30 venues, building on our previous experience in the Brazilian restoration context. It is possible that the gap between high-level targets and inclusive governance is partly being driven by a failure to negotiate and co-create agendas within the global COP process and other relevant mechanisms. Our aim is to identify disconnects among arenas that influence how restoration targets, finance and participation are negotiated, while highlighting opportunities to improve the effectiveness, inclusiveness and legitimacy of future international restoration debates. By examining how restoration is framed across COP30 venues, we seek to identify practical pathways for bridging these disconnects across actors, knowledge systems and policy agendas, ultimately supporting more feasible commitments and implementable restoration solutions.

Drawing on our long-standing experience working in the Brazilian Amazon, we had already identified the disconnect among actors involved in restoration as a critical barrier to effective restoration efforts. Our observations at COP30 further illustrated this challenge. Below, we summarize the key lessons learned, with detailed methods and supporting tables from our empirical study provided in Supplement S1.

Restoration narratives are distinct across COP30 venues

We have identified six restoration narratives that revealed diverse understandings of restoration that extended beyond ecological recovery to encompass governance, livelihoods, territorial rights, and relationships between people and nature (Table 1). Legal–institutional and governance narratives were the most frequent, followed by socio-environmental perspectives. Their distribution varied considerably across COP30 venues (Figure 1). The Blue Zone emphasized climate and nature-based solutions, governance, and restoration

financing, while the Green Zone reflected more diverse perspectives, bridging institutional commitments and implementation. The AgriZone focused on productive landscapes and territorial issues, whereas the People's COP emphasized cultural, relational, and community-based perspectives. Other venues primarily highlighted scientific evidence and technical approaches. These contrasts also reflected different understandings of scale, economic viability, knowledge, territory, and agency, underscoring the diversity of restoration agendas across COP30 arenas.

COP30 venues demonstrates different understandings of how to scale up restoration

The Blue Zone emphasized large-scale investments, carbon markets, and public–private partnerships, while the Green Zone and other venues focused on scientific knowledge, technological innovation, and institutional mechanisms to achieve restoration targets. In contrast, the People's COP framed scaling through territorially grounded approaches, emphasizing community practices, agroecology, and broader socioecological transformations. The AgriZone reflected both perspectives, with four events emphasizing private investment and carbon finance, and three focusing on expanding community networks, seed banks, agroforestry, and family farming practices. These contrasts reveal fundamentally different visions of how restoration can be expanded and implemented.

COP30 venues differed in their recognition of community agency and participation

Despite the unprecedented visibility and mobilization of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) at COP30, their roles in restoration were framed differently across venues. In the Blue Zone, IPLCs and family farmers were primarily portrayed as beneficiaries, stakeholders, or implementation partners, while the Green Zone showed greater recognition of their knowledge and participation, although largely within institutional

frameworks. In contrast, the AgriZone increasingly recognized communities as economic actors, knowledge holders, and restoration practitioners. This perspective was most pronounced at the People's COP, where IPLCs were positioned as protagonists of restoration, emphasizing territorial rights, local knowledge, and community-led solutions. These contrasting perspectives reveal fundamental differences in who is recognized as having the knowledge, agency, and authority to define and implement restoration, highlighting the importance of addressing power asymmetries in restoration governance. The idea that "without territorial justice there can be no climate justice" was a powerful message from the People's COP events and, in our reading, shifted restoration from an essentially biophysical issue to one of land, rights, livelihoods, and power.

COP30 venues reflected different understandings of innovation

Understandings of innovation in restoration varied considerably across COP30 venues. In the Blue Zone, innovation was primarily associated with technological advances, including geotechnologies, artificial intelligence, and monitoring systems, alongside financial mechanisms aimed at improving efficiency, economic viability, and scalability. The Green Zone combined these approaches with institutional and socioeconomic innovations, emphasizing restoration as an emerging economic sector generating jobs, businesses, and value chains. The AgriZone reflected both market-oriented innovations and territorially grounded practices, including agroecology, traditional seed varieties, and *muvuca*, a direct-seeding approach involving local knowledge and seed-collector networks. In contrast, the People's COP emphasized community-led innovations, including collective work (*mutirões*), traditional knowledge, agroforestry, and participatory governance. These differences reveal contrasting assumptions about what constitutes innovation, whose knowledge drives it, and how it contributes to restoration, highlighting the importance of

recognizing technological, institutional, and community-based innovations as complementary pathways.

Bridging restoration perspectives: recommendations for restoration governance and future COPs

1. Create opportunities for dialogue across restoration arenas

Future COPs should create structured mechanisms that facilitate interaction among actors, knowledge systems and perspectives that currently operate in parallel arenas, enabling more integrated discussions on restoration targets, implementation pathways and financing priorities. Our analysis of events across multiple venues at COP30 illustrates how contrasting restoration visions manifest in practice. Most importantly, the COP30 discourses we observed revealed not simply different restoration narratives, but contrasting understandings of how restoration is produced, who has agency in producing it, and what scaling restoration should mean. However, rather than representing discrete or opposing models, these narratives reflect different emphases, tensions, and coexisting logics of restoration.

The distinct perspectives identified in our study largely reflected the thematic focus of the institutions organizing the events, which brought together different combinations of stakeholders. Importantly, COP venues themselves may shape the participation of different actors, the themes discussed, and the forms of knowledge represented, potentially reinforcing the limited integration among restoration perspectives. For example, the strong presence of socio-environmental NGOs, and possibly a limited representation of large-scale farmers, in these restoration events may help explain why socio-environmental and territorial perspectives predominated over the productive and land-use typology.

At the same time, COP30 saw the highest participation of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) in the history of the UN Climate Conferences, with approximately 5,000 Indigenous participants, alongside emblematic mobilizations such as the Global

People's March and the People's Summit Boat Parade (APIB 2025; People's Summit 2025). This unprecedented presence may have further contributed to the prominence of socio-environmental and territorial restoration perspectives in the open venues and, particularly at the People's COP, to cultural, symbolic, and relational perspectives on restoration. However, this increased presence did not translate into greater participation in those arenas where restoration finance and large-scale implementation strategies were primarily discussed, a pattern consistent with barriers previously identified in international climate governance processes (Reed et al. 2024). Overcoming these barriers is essential to ensuring meaningful and inclusive participation in decisions shaping key climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies.

2. Bridge parallel conversations to strengthen restoration governance

Organizers of COPs and other restoration-related policy processes should prioritize spaces specifically designed to connect actors who define targets and financing mechanisms with those responsible for implementation on the ground. The marked differences across COP30 venues, values and priorities mirror our experiences in other restoration arenas, where some perspectives and stakeholder groups rarely intersect. This lack of interaction represents a missed opportunity to identify common interests, build agreement around legal and policy targets, align financing mechanisms with community needs and priorities, and foster more durable and equitable restoration processes.

Bridging these perspectives is challenging, given the profound ontological and epistemological differences among actors and the historical marginalization of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (Reed et al. 2024). It requires recognizing that, for many of these communities, restoration may mean more than recovering ecosystem functions,

encompassing, for example, the renewal of relationships and responsibilities among peoples, territories, and more-than-human beings (Blaser 2009).

Nevertheless, new pathways are needed to enable meaningful interaction across these differences. Recognizing the diversity of restoration perspectives, the stakeholders associated with them, and their underlying values can inform the design of policy forums that bring diverse actors into dialogue, help reconcile competing priorities, and ultimately contribute to more effective and inclusive restoration governance and implementation (Mansourian et al. 2025). The urgency of implementing large-scale restoration in international and national policy agendas was reflected in the discourses of the Blue and Green Zones. Yet, governance failures have been identified as a major cause of the disconnect between global targets and local implementation (Mansourian et al. 2025). Our observations highlight the need to move beyond parallel conversations by creating opportunities for meaningful dialogue and joint decision-making across restoration arenas, ensuring that Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities can influence how restoration priorities, financing mechanisms, and implementation strategies are defined.

3. Redefine what scaling restoration means

Restoration policies and funding mechanisms should adopt broader definitions of scale that recognize institutional strengthening, territorial networks, social innovation and community-led initiatives as legitimate pathways for achieving restoration outcomes at scale. Our observations and experiences suggest that scaling and participation require urgent attention. In particular, what does scaling restoration mean in practice? Does it simply involve expanding investments and projects, or also strengthening and connecting locally grounded initiatives? Ngwenya et al. (2026) defined “large-scale” ecological restoration as restoration interventions aimed at transforming systems, such as institutions, culture, politics,

and power dynamics, to impact more people and places through restoration activities. We argue that adopting this broader understanding of scale, rather than defining it solely in terms of spatial extent, is critical for achieving lasting socio-environmental impacts from restoration. From the People's COP perspective, often grounded in distinct ontologies and understandings of human–nature relationships, scaling appears to emerge primarily through the mobilization and adaptation of territorially grounded solutions, rather than through the expansion of large-scale projects or markets. Such an approach can be challenging because socio-ecological systems are complex and multifaceted, requiring coordination across diverse institutions, networks, actors, and knowledge systems (Brondizio et al. 2009). However, partnerships among local actors and organizations operating across multiple scales can enable more successful initiatives by strengthening local capacities while helping to overcome barriers such as limited institutional capacity, internal conflicts, power imbalances, financial constraints, and insecure land tenure (Londres et al. 2023).

4. Align participation and finance with territorially grounded restoration efforts

Restoration finance should move beyond conventional area-based metrics and explicitly support community-led approaches, territorial governance arrangements, natural regeneration pathways and locally developed innovations, ensuring that financial resources reach the actors and territories responsible for implementation.

It is well recognised that achieving global restoration benefits ultimately depends on ensuring that locally relevant benefits are understood, valued, and realized (Mansourian et al. 2025), and a growing body of literature calls for greater community participation and the incorporation of traditional and local knowledge into restoration (Brondizio et al. 2021), an approach that was evident even in the Blue Zone discourses. However, our findings suggest that the meaning of participation itself warrants closer scrutiny. Participation should extend

beyond building the capacity of local organizations to engage in governmental negotiations or creating spaces where community interests can be heard (Mansourian et al. 2025). It fundamentally requires recognizing the solutions, practices, and knowledge systems already developed within territories and allowing them to shape restoration policies and strategies. From this perspective, communities are not simply stakeholders to be included in externally designed restoration initiatives, but knowledge holders and agents who actively define restoration goals, practices, and desired futures (Melo et al. 2026). Scaling restoration would therefore involve not only transferring technical solutions across places (e.g. Werden et al. 2024), but mainly creating institutional conditions that enable diverse, territorially grounded solutions to persist, adapt, and inform restoration policy at broader scales (Pereira et al. 2023).

Recent actions by the Brazilian government provide concrete examples of how territorial arrangements and locally grounded solutions could be incorporated into restoration policy and bottom-up approaches. The national restoration plan includes differentiated strategies for Indigenous and traditionally occupied territories (MMA 2024). In parallel, an initiative has been launched to formally recognize territories with their own governance arrangements for ecosystem restoration and their potential contributions to national and regional targets (CONAVEG 2026).

The effectiveness of these approaches, however, will ultimately depend on whether adequate and sustained financial flows reach these territories. Scaling restoration requires international finance to move beyond conventional metrics such as hectares planted and to recognize and support the diversity of pathways and social processes through which restoration occurs on the ground. These include assisted and unassisted natural regeneration of primary degraded and secondary forests, locally developed innovations, community-led approaches, and territorial governance arrangements (e.g. Pereira et al. 2023). Aligning global restoration

finance with this diversity of locally grounded strategies will be essential for translating ambitious restoration commitments into durable and socially meaningful outcomes at scale.

Conclusion

A key lesson from the COP30 events we observed is that restoration policies must create enabling conditions for diverse restoration pathways, recognising the different perspectives and interests identified in this study and elsewhere. Our analysis suggests that a central challenge lies not in the lack of restoration solutions, but in the limited interaction among the actors, institutions, and knowledge systems that promote them. Fostering dialogue across these perspectives, navigating potential trade-offs, and addressing underlying power imbalances are essential to achieving more effective and equitable restoration outcomes. Ultimately, this requires confronting fundamental questions about who has the power to define what constitutes restoration, which outcomes matter, whose knowledge is recognised as legitimate, and which interventions receive financial support. These concerns resonate strongly with the Declaration of the People's Summit at COP30, which called for the participation and leadership of peoples in shaping climate solutions: "We demand the participation and leadership of peoples in the construction of climate solutions" (People's Summit 2025).

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Table 1. Typologies of ecosystem restoration narratives identified through our observations and analysis of COP30 events. As some events were assigned two co-dominant narratives, the total number of narrative classifications (n = 56) exceeds the number of events analyzed (n = 50).

1. Climate and Nature-based Solutions (NbS)	7	Restoration as a response to climate change and other global environmental challenges, emphasizing carbon, ecosystem services, adaptation, mitigation, and resilience.
2. Legal–institutional and regulatory	15	Restoration as a governance challenge, emphasizing policies, legislation, institutional arrangements, agreements, compliance, and territorial planning.
3. Technical–ecological	5	Restoration as an ecological and technical intervention, emphasizing ecosystem recovery, biodiversity, natural regeneration, restoration techniques, ecological processes and monitoring through scientific and technical approaches.
4. Socio-environmental and territorial	12	Restoration as a socially and territorially embedded process, emphasizing participation, equity, territorial rights, environmental justice, and collective governance.
5. Productive and land-use	9	Restoration as a productive and economic land-use strategy, emphasizing livelihoods, value chains, markets, agroforestry, silviculture, and other productive systems.
6. Cultural, symbolic and relational	8	Restoration as the rebuilding of relationships between people and nature, emphasizing worldviews, identity, spirituality, cultural heritage, traditional knowledge, and reciprocal care.

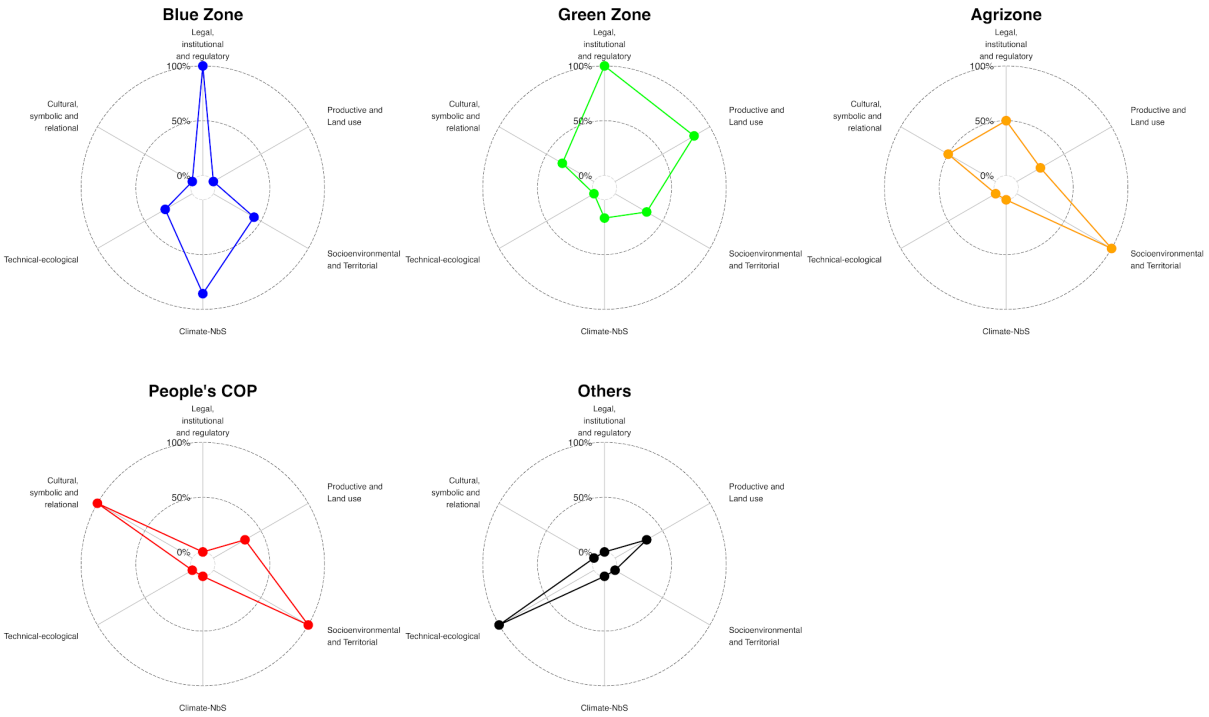


Figure 1. Distribution of the predominant forest restoration narrative typologies observed across COP30 venues. Blue Zone (n=18), Green Zone (n=16), Agrizone (n=7), People's COP (n=5), Others (n=4).

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Restoration for whom and by whom? Contrasting narratives across COP30 arenas highlight the challenges of integrated implementation

Running head: Contrasting Restoration Narratives at COP30

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Supplement S1. Supplementary methods and supporting tables

Methods

Our team of 17 researchers participated in 50 events across seven venues, which we subsequently grouped into five categories: The Blue Zone comprised the official UNFCCC space, bringing together accredited governmental and non-governmental actors. The Green Zone, adjacent to the Blue Zone but open to the broader public, provided a more accessible space for dialogue and engagement. The AgriZone, hosted by Embrapa, a public research institution linked to the Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, focused primarily on agriculture and land-use issues. The People's COP, encompassing COP do Povo and Cúpula dos Povos, represented civil society-led spaces with strong participation of social movements,

Indigenous Peoples, traditional communities, family farmers, and grassroots organizations. Finally, we grouped Casa da Ciência and Forest Zone as 'other venues'; these were organized by brazilian science and environmental institutions, respectively, as spaces for science–society dialogue.

Initially, events were selected based on their titles using keywords related to restoration, including "forest restoration," "restoration," "forest recovery," "regeneration," and "reforestation." Additional events were identified through a snowball sampling approach, based on their titles and/or prior knowledge of their content. In total, we identified 125 (4,9%) restoration-related events among the 2,560 events considered across COP30 arenas, from which we attended 50 events (Table i). The 50 events were organized by civil society organizations (22), governments (17), coalitions involving actors from multiple sectors (5), academic institutions (3), private-sector organizations (2), and multilateral organizations (1). The People's COP was organized exclusively by civil society organizations and NGOs (Table ii).

We summarized titles, keywords, proponents, and other key features across all 50 events, using a Google Form to standardize data collection across the authorship team. All authors met frequently during COP30 to discuss progress and standardize our approaches, and shared queries in real time in a messaging app. At the end of the COP30, we combined this collated information, our experiences, and our existing knowledge of restoration to develop an overarching syntheses. We used our within-COP classification and post-COP discussions to identify restoration narratives that enabled us to classify all COP30 events assessed. The restoration typologies identified by the authors were subsequently assessed using an artificial intelligence (AI) tool (ChatGPT) for cross-validation. Although individual events frequently combined multiple topics, we assigned a dominant narrative (in some cases, two) based on the primary focus of each event. Because six events were assigned two co-dominant narratives, then the total number of narrative classifications (n = 56) exceeds the number of events analyzed (n = 50). The results were graphically represented using the ggplot2 package (Wickham 2016) in R software (version 4.5.2; R Core Team 2025).

Although most of the events attended focused on restoration in Brazil, some also addressed restoration initiatives in other regions, including elsewhere in South America, Africa and Southeast Asia, featuring speakers and participants from a wide range of countries. However, we acknowledge that our selection of events was not entirely systematic and may reflect both geographic and institutional biases. The sample was geographically skewed towards Brazil, particularly Pará state, partly because the host country and state organized a substantial proportion of the events, but also because restoration has become a national priority, with Pará emerging as a leading actor in this agenda. Our sample was also influenced by differences in the structure and accessibility of COP30 arenas, including the smaller number of restoration-related events identified at the People's COP, where restoration was often embedded within broader discussions. Accordingly, we do not claim that our sample is comprehensive or representative of all COP30 events. Rather, we use it as an empirical basis for exploring and understanding the multiple coexisting discourses surrounding restoration.

Table i. Distribution of COP30 events across arenas, including restoration-related events identified and events analyzed in this study. Complete event-level data were unavailable for the Green Zone as a whole; most events sampled from this arena were held at the Pará Pavilion, for which complete programme data were available.

COP30 arena	Total events (n)	Restoration-related events (n)	Restoration-related events (% of all events)	Events included in the study (n)	Events included (% of restoration-related events)
Blue Zone	1,529	67	4.4%	18	26.9%
Green Zone – Pará Pavilion	362	33	9.1%	11	33.3%
Green Zone – other pavilions	NA	NA	NA	5	NA
AgriZone	420	15	3.6%	7	46.7%
People's COP	179	6	3.4%	5	83.3%
Others (Forest Zone + Casa da Ciência)	70	4	5.7%	4	100.0%
Total	**2,560**	**125**	**NA**	**50**	**NA**

Table ii. Complete list of restoration-related events attended and analyzed across COP30 arenas in Belém, Brazil, 2025.

COP space	Proponent sector	Proponent name	Original event title	English event title	Primary restoration typology
AgriZone	Coalition (Government, Private Sextor, Civil Society, Academia))	Aliança pela Restauração na Amazônia	Restauração Ecológica: Ação Coletiva. A Força das Redes para Regenerar Biomas Brasileiros	Ecological Restoration: Collective Action. The Power of Networks to Regenerate Brazilian Biomes	Socio-environmental and territorial
AgriZone	Coalition (Private Sector, Civil Society, Academia)	Coalizão Brasil, Instituto Arapyaú e re.green	A nova economia da floresta: casos reais de restauração tropical em escala	The new forest economy: real-life cases of large-scale tropical restoration	Productive and land use
AgriZone	Civil society	ISA	Seeds of Change: Embracing the "muvuca" method for biodiversity and social restoration	Seeds of Change: Embracing the "muvuca" method for biodiversity and social restoration	Socio-environmental and territorial; Cultural, symbolic and relational

COP space	Proponent sector	Proponent name	Original event title	English event title	Primary restoration typology
AgriZone	Academia	Rede Territórios Amazônicos (Embrapa, UFPA, UFRA, Cirad – França)	Caminhos para uma restauração socioambiental justa: protagonismo dos povos e comunidades tradicionais	Pathways to just socio-environmental restoration: the leading role of traditional peoples and communities	Socio-environmental and territorial; Cultural, symbolic and relational
AgriZone	Coalition (Government, Private Sextor, Civil Society, Academia))	Aliança pela Restauração na Amazônia	Silvicultura de espécies nativas e Políticas Públicas para restauração de ecossistemas e paisagens na Amazônia	Forestry of native species and public policies for ecosystem and landscape restoration in the Amazon	Legal-institutional-normative
AgriZone	Government	Ministério do Desenvolvimento Agrário – MDA	Mãos guardiãs: povos tradicionais, agrobiodiversidade e clima	Guardian hands: traditional peoples, agrobiodiversity and climate	Socio-environmental and territorial
AgriZone	Civil society	Aliança pela Restauração na Amazônia	Conectando clima, pessoas e biodiversidade: HUB de inteligência territorial pela Restauração na Amazônia	Connecting climate, people, and biodiversity: Territorial Intelligence Hub for Restoration in the Amazon	Legal-institutional-normative
Blue Zone	Government	Indonesia Pavilion COP30	Scaling Landscape Restoration Through Carbon Finance and Partnerships	Scaling Landscape Restoration Through Carbon Finance and Partnerships	Legal-institutional-normative
Blue Zone	Government	BNDES	The restoration arc and the challenge of mobilising resources for the forest restoration agenda	The restoration arc and the challenge of mobilising resources for the forest restoration agenda	Legal-institutional-normative
Blue Zone	Government	Brazil/SBIO/MMA	Investment to impact: The role of the private sector in restoring priority territories	Investment to impact: The role of the private sector in restoring priority territories	Legal-institutional-normative
Blue Zone	Civil society	House of Restoration - Instituto Internacional para Sustentabilidade	Scaling Climate Adaptation through Nature-Based Restoration: From Subnational and Territorial Leadership to the World	Scaling Climate Adaptation through Nature-Based Restoration: From Subnational and Territorial Leadership to the World	Nature- and climate-based
Blue Zone	Coalition (Civil Society, Academia, Multilateral, Government)	Global Landscape Forum	15 years of forest landscape restoration for climate, nature and people	15 years of forest landscape restoration for climate, nature and people	Nature- and climate-based
Blue Zone	Private Sector	SBCOP, WBCSD, Heineken	Circular Transformation: From Efficiency to Regeneration	Circular Transformation: From Efficiency to Regeneration	Nature- and climate-based
Blue Zone	Civil society	WWF	Das promessas à prática: desvendando a implementação da restauração em múltiplos níveis.	From promises to practice: unravelling the implementation of restoration at multiple levels.	Legal-institutional-normative
Blue Zone	Civil society	WWF	Financiando restauração em escala	Financing restoration at scale	Legal-institutional-normative
Blue Zone	Multilateral	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification e Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)	From Rio to Belém: Synergistic action for ecosystem restoration and climate resilience	From Rio to Belém: Synergistic action for ecosystem restoration and climate resilience	Nature- and climate-based
Blue Zone	Civil society	WWF Climate and Energy	Scaling restoration through high integrity carbon finance	Scaling restoration through high integrity carbon finance	Legal-institutional-normative
Blue Zone	Civil society	Instituto Internacional para Sustentabilidade e Conservação Internacional – CI-Brasil	Águas que Conectam: Cooperação Multissetorial, Tecnologia e Geoinformação para Restauração e Conservação de Paisagens	Waters that Connect: Multisectoral Cooperation, Technology and Geoinformation for Landscape Restoration and Conservation	Legal-institutional-normative

COP space	Proponent sector	Proponent name	Original event title	English event title	Primary restoration typology
Blue Zone	Academia	CIFOR-ICRAF	Climate-resilient landscapes for the GGA: Indicator-aligned innovations for land, water and biodiversity restoration	Climate-resilient landscapes for the GGA: Indicator-aligned innovations for land, water and biodiversity restoration	Nature- and climate-based
Blue Zone	Civil society	UNISSONS-NOUS POUR LA PROMOTION DES BATWA (UNIPROBA)	Contribution de l'UNIPROBA dans la protection de l'environnement et la restauration des paysages à travers l'agroforesterie et la reforestation communautaires.	UNIPROBA's contribution to environmental protection and landscape restoration through community agroforestry and reforestation.	Socio-environmental and territorial
Blue Zone	Civil Society	House of Restoration - Instituto Internacional para Sustentabilidade	Restauração e Comunidades: um caminho para resiliência climática	Restoration and Communities: A Pathway to Climate Resilience	Socio-environmental and territorial
Blue Zone	Government	Ministério da Integração e do Desenvolvimento Regional	Adaptação em foco: preparação, resposta e recuperação resiliente	Adaptation in focus: resilient preparedness, response and recovery	Nature- and climate-based
Blue Zone	Civil society	WWF	Liderança Social em Ação: Restauração Comunitária e Territorial em Grande Escala	Social Leadership in Action: Large-Scale Community and Territorial Restoration	Socio-environmental and territorial
Cop do Povo	Civil society	AMJO – Associação dos Ambientalistas e Moradores do Jardim Oceania	Do lixo ao verde: experiência de ocupação e preservação em João Pessoa/PB	From rubbish to green: experience of occupation and preservation in João Pessoa/PB	Socio-environmental and territorial; Cultural, symbolic and relational
Cúpula dos Povos	Civil society	Múltiplos movimentos sociais nacionais e internacionais	Plenária do eixo temático III: Transição Justa, Popular e Inclusiva	Plenary session on thematic area III: Just, Popular and Inclusive Transition	Socio-environmental and territorial; Cultural, symbolic and relational
Cúpula dos Povos	Civil society	Articulação Semiárido Brasileiro	Água e agroecologia: Diálogos com os territórios nas perspectivas de ações das mitigações as emergências climáticas.	Water and agroecology: Dialogues with territories on perspectives for climate emergency mitigation actions.	Socio-environmental and territorial; Cultural, symbolic and relational
Cúpula dos Povos	Civil society	Seed the Commons / Millahcayotl Association	Regeneration, Reforestation, and Lessons from Mesoamerican Indigenous Traditions for a Just Transition.	Regeneration, Reforestation, and Lessons from Mesoamerican Indigenous Traditions for a Just Transition.	Productive and land use
Forest Zone	Government	Ideflor-bio	Fomento à recuperação de áreas degradadas no Estado do Pará - Projeto Prosaf	Promoting the recovery of degraded areas in the state of Pará - Prosaf Project	Productive and land use
Green Zone	Civil society	Instituto do Homem e Meio Ambiente da Amazônia – Imazon	Financiamento inovador para escalar a restauração florestal e alcançar as metas do acordo de Paris	Innovative financing to scale up forest restoration and achieve the Paris Agreement goals	Legal-institutional-normative
Green Zone	Civil society	Instituto Internacional para Sustentabilidade – IIS	Destravando a restauração em larga escala através da ciência e tecnologia	Unlocking large-scale restoration through science and technology	Nature- and climate-based
Green Zone	Civil society	SOBRE/REBRE	Programa Dispersar e Vitrine da restauração: a plataforma da cadeia da restauração	Dispersar Programme and Restaurant Showcase: the restaurant chain platform	Productive and land use
Green Zone	Government	Ideflor-bio	Rede de sementes e mudas do Pará: inclusão produtiva e restauração para uma economia da floresta em pé	Pará seed and seedling network: productive inclusion and restoration for a standing forest economy	Productive and land use
Green Zone	Civil society	União Brasileira de Advocacia Ambiental	Mercado de Carbono, REED+ e Restauração Florestal no Brasil	Carbon Market, REED+ and Forest Restoration in Brazil	Legal-institutional-normative
Green Zone	Civil society	Redário de Sementes	Sementes que unem povos: vozes e saberes comunitários pela restauração e justiça climática	Seeds that unite people: community voices and knowledge for restoration and climate justice	Cultural, symbolic and relational; Socio-environmental and territorial

COP space	Proponent sector	Proponent name	Original event title	English event title	Primary restoration typology
Green Zone	Government	SEMAS/Pará	Oportunidades da Recuperação Produtiva de Reservas Legais: integrar conservação, produção e inclusão	Opportunities for Productive Recovery of Legal Reserves: integrating conservation, production and inclusion	Productive and land use
Green Zone	Government	SEMAS/Pará	Amazônia que Acelera: Negócios da Restauração e Bioeconomia para o Futuro do Pará	Accelerating Amazonia: Restoration and Bioeconomy Businesses for the Future of Pará	Productive and land use
Green Zone	Coalition (Civil Society)	Coalizão U4R (Conservação Internacional Brasil, The Nature Conservancy Brasil, WRI Brasil e WWF-Brasil)	Brasil pela Restauração: impulsionando soluções para pessoas, natureza e clima	Brazil for Restoration: driving solutions for people, nature and climate	Legal-institutional-normative
Green Zone	Government	MMA	Restauração em ação: caminhos para escalar ambições globais	Restoration in action: pathways to scaling global ambitions	Legal-institutional-normative
Green Zone	Private sector	Indústria Brasileira de Árvores – IBÁ	Restauração Florestal e Silvicultura de Nativas: a próxima fronteira para o Clima e Biodiversidade	Forest Restoration and Native Forestry: the next frontier for Climate and Biodiversity	Productive and land use
Green Zone	Government	MMA	Territórios da Restauração em Diálogo com Investidores	Restoration Territories in Dialogue with Investors	Socio-environmental and territorial
Green Zone	Government	Governo do Pará	Uma agenda para a restauração florestal em escala: Projeto de carbono via restauração florestal.	An agenda for large-scale forest restoration: Carbon project via forest restoration. 	Legal-institutional-normative
Green Zone	Government	SEMAS/Pará	Lançamento do DETER-VS: inovação no monitoramento na vegetação secundária da Amazônia Paraense	Launch of DETER-VS: innovation in monitoring secondary vegetation in the Amazon region of Pará	Legal-institutional-normative
Green Zone	Civil society	Conservação Internacional - Brasil	Rumo aos 5.6 milhões de hectares: arranjos territoriais e parcerias para fortalecer a economia da restauração no Pará	Towards 5.6 million hectares: territorial arrangements and partnerships to strengthen the restoration economy in Pará	Productive and land use
Blue Zone	Civil society	House of Restoration - Instituto Internacional para Sustentabilidade	Forest Restoration as an engine for sustainable growth	Forest Restoration as an engine for sustainable growth	Technical-ecological
Blue Zone	Civil society	House of Restoration - Instituto Internacional para Sustentabilidade	Restoration as a Living Laboratory: Blending Science and Action	Restoration as a Living Laboratory: Blending Science and Action	Technical-ecological
Forest Zone	Government	Ideflor-bio	Estratégias metodológicas de baixo custo para recuperação de vegetação nativa no Estado do Pará	Low-cost methodological strategies for native vegetation recovery in the State of Pará	Technical-ecological
Cúpula dos Povos	Academia	Refloramaz	MUTIRÃO AGROFLORESTAL PARA TROCAR EXPERIÊNCIAS DE RECUPERAÇÃO NOS TERRITÓRIOS AMAZÔNICOS	AGROFORESTRY 'MUTIRAO' TO EXCHANGE EXPERIENCES OF RECOVERY IN THE AMAZON TERRITORIES	Cultural, symbolic and relational
Museu Goeldi	Government	Ministério da Ciência, Tecnologia e Inovação	Biodiversidade e Restauração Ecológica	Biodiversity and Ecological Restoration	Technical-ecological
Green Zone	Government	Ideflor-bio	Restauração Biocultural e Cadeias de Sementes Florestais: saberes, arte e governança comunitária da floresta viva	Biocultural Restoration and Forest Seed Chains: knowledge, art and community governance of the living forest	Cultural, symbolic and relational
Casa da Ciência MPEG	Government	MCTI	Instituições Amazônicas II - Mesa Redonda Biodiversidade e Restauração Ecológica	Amazonian Institutions II - Roundtable on Biodiversity and Ecological Restoration	Technical-ecological