

**Hafdís Hanna Ægisdóttir** is the Director of the UN University Land Restoration Training Programme (UNU-LRT). She and her team at UNU-LRT work with specialists from developing countries and provide training for them in the broad field of restoration of degraded land and sustainable land management. Hafdís Hanna travels regularly to Africa and Central Asia on behalf of UNU-LRT. She has also organized and participated in ecological field expeditions in diverse ecosystems, from the Arctic to the Equator. She is a member of the UNCCD National committee for Iceland and has been a keynote speaker at UN level on environmental education, land restoration, sustainable land management and international development cooperation. Hafdís Hanna has published on plant ecology and other environmental issues in peer-reviewed journals and books as well as in popular science publications. She is also a radio columnist on environmental issues at the Icelandic National Broadcasting Service.

Hafdís Hanna will give a keynote lecture on the commonalities of restoring ecological function and biodiversity to degraded landscapes across different biomes for improved livelihoods and climate change mitigation.