



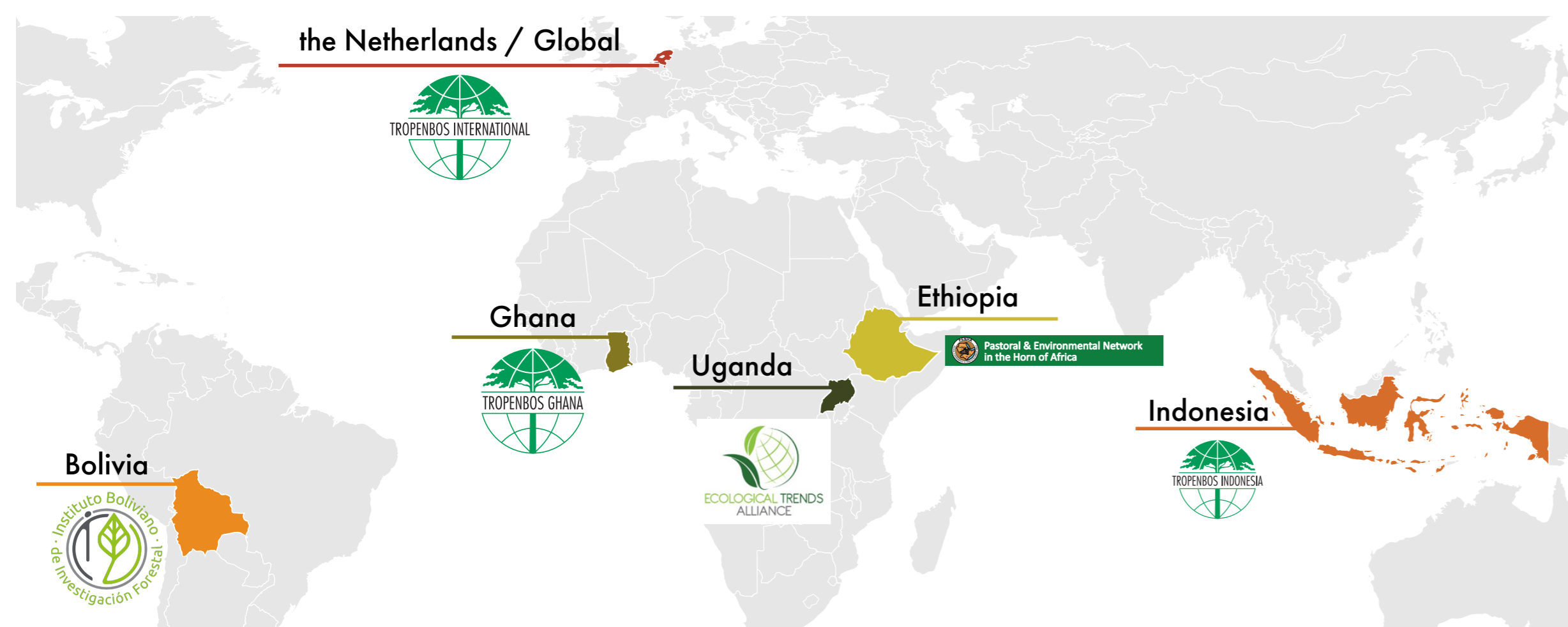
# Inclusive fire-smart landscapes as a promising approach for effective wildfire prevention and management

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## Reducing wildfire risks and impacts through inclusive landscape governance

Effective fire management requires long term planning, and must involve all landscape stakeholders: smallholders, indigenous and local communities, local government and private enterprises. They need to work together to reduce wildfire risk, taking the needs and interests of women, men, youth and marginalized groups into account. At landscape level, multistakeholder dialogue and awareness-raising, alongside evidence-based knowledge, is leading to agreement on developing and applying participatory fire prevention and management plans with integrated, context specific practices.

The Tropenbos Fire-smart Landscape Governance Programme is co-creating and demonstrating locally owned solutions in five countries to reduce wildfire risk for more sustainable use of forests and trees in climate smart landscapes.



## A landscape approach leads to agreement and adoption of effective fire management

In **BOLIVIA**, two municipal governments now include fire risk prevention in their development plans, and the government adopted forest fire reduction targets in its revised Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). In **INDONESIA**, local 'smart patrols' are established, trained champion farmers showcase fire-smart peatland agricultural practices, and formal collaboration is established between the national peatland restoration agency and district government. In **ETHIOPIA**, a thorough review of wildfire management in the country will inform the development of an integrated national fire management system. In **GHANA**, community fire volunteer groups have been mobilized and strengthened and trainings for local communities and smallholders on fire practices have been conducted. These lessons and experiences on a landscape approach for fire management will also inform national policy making for an effective fire management strategy. In **UGANDA**, a landscape multistakeholder platform was revived and studies conducted to inform a landscape level fire management strategy, while work is progressing towards a national wildfire strategies that will improve effective use of fire-smart practices on the ground. Interestingly, fire management globally will benefit by learning from experiences such as these in the tropical countries.



## The Tropenbos approach for effective fire management

Effective fire management requires a collaborative effort among stakeholders to jointly manage the land and fire risks. This can be achieved through fire-smart landscape governance for reducing wildfire risk where different approaches are understood, recognized, and applied and addressing multiple needs of different stakeholders. It is crucial to consider the interrelationships and multiplicity involved in the use of fires, including the direct and underlying factors and actors, as well as the complex relationship between fire and society. To reach fire-smart landscape governance for reducing wildfire risk, approaches should therefore acknowledge: (i) Collective learning; (ii) Empowering communities; (iii) Improving policies and practices; and (iv) Shared governance.

## Upscaling successes

The number of wildfires may rise 50% by 2100. Urgent action requires that fire management policies and plans must be coherent with broader national climate change frameworks. National development strategies must acknowledge integrated fire management in sustainable use of land and forests, building on (components of) a landscape approach. Due to significant impacts on emissions and the potential relationship with NDCs commitments it is crucial that climate funding is mobilized to support these actions on different levels.



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