

00;00;00;11 - 00;00;03;11

Vanessa Goas

Welcome to data for what? The Development Gateway podcast.

00;00;03;11 - 00;00;08;09

Vanessa Goas

I'm your host, Vanessa Goas. And in this series, we're exploring the intersection of climate change with data.

00;00;08;09 - 00;00;17;08

Vanessa Goas

In each episode will delve into the pressing issues shaping our world by examining the critical role of data and technology in understanding and addressing the urgent challenge of climate change.

00;00;18;12 - 00;00;28;20

Vanessa Goas

In this episode, we're speaking about how DG is supporting the Great Green Wall initiative. And our guests are Gilles Amadou. We'll go from the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

00;00;28;20 - 00;00;30;11

Vanessa Goas

and DGA. Joshua. And by.

00;00;30;11 - 00;00;33;26

Vanessa Goas

And now I'm going to turn it over to our guests and let them introduce themselves.

00;00;33;26 - 00;00;36;10

Joshua Mbai

Thank you very much. My name is Joshua Mbai,

00;00;36;10 - 00;00;38;03

Joshua Mbai

the Development Gateway

00;00;38;03 - 00;00;39;10

Joshua Mbai

based in Nairobi, Kenya.

00;00;39;10 - 00;00;42;17

Joshua Mbai

I am also the project manager for the Great Green Wall.

00;00;42;28 - 00;00;43;24

Vanessa Goas

Thanks, Joshua.

00;00;43;24 - 00;00;46;01

Vanessa Goas

Joel Amadou, can you please introduce yourself

00;00;46;01 - 00;00;53;18

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

my name is Amadou with Hugo, and I'm a program management officer at the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.

00;00;53;18 - 00;00;58;10

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

I manage the Great Green Wall Accelerator, which is a unit designed to support,

00;00;58;10 - 00;01;00;27

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

the implementation of the Great Green Wall initiative.

00;01;00;27 - 00;01;03;18

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

The Great Green Wall initiative is a

00;01;03;18 - 00;01;06;09

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

flagship initiative for Africa,

00;01;06;09 - 00;01;07;29

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

created by the African Union

00;01;07;29 - 00;01;09;08

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

to essentially

00;01;09;08 - 00;01;10;01

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

halt

00;01;10;01 - 00;01;11;25

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

the progression of the Sahara Desert

00;01;11;25 - 00;01;12;14

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

southward.

00;01;12;14 - 00;01;15;17

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

today, it's evolved into an initiative that is,

00;01;15;17 - 00;01;17;18

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

multi-sectoral in nature

00;01;17;18 - 00;01;19;04

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

and touches on

00;01;19;13 - 00;01;20;02

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

agroforestry,

00;01;20;02 - 00;01;21;04

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

agroecology,

00;01;21;04 - 00;01;22;05

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

rangelands,

00;01;22;05 - 00;01;23;08

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

pastoralism,

00;01;23;08 - 00;01;24;20

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

value chains,

00;01;24;20 - 00;01;25;16

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

agribusiness,

00;01;25;16 - 00;01;28;18

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

eco partnership and many, many other aspects of

00;01;28;18 - 00;01;29;16

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

sustainable development.

00;01;29;16 - 00;01;39;21

Vanessa Goas

Thank you. And thanks for the introduction also to the initiative itself. And maybe you could also tell us what are some of the main challenges that the initiative is facing these days.

00;01;39;21 - 00;01;41;05

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

The Great Green All initiative is,

00;01;41;05 - 00;01;45;24

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

definitely facing challenges. It's been in implementation for over,

00;01;45;24 - 00;01;46;15

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

a decade.

00;01;46;15 - 00;01;47;06

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

however,

00;01;47;06 - 00;01;48;29

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

the first thing you'll notice is that

00;01;48;29 - 00;01;54;10

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

there's not currently a coordinated approach into the implementation of projects. So,

00;01;54;10 - 00;01;56;14

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

when you look at the the list or the,

00;01;56;14 - 00;01;57;26

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

databases,

00;01;57;26 - 00;02;00;11

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

projects that we were able to compile,

00;02;00;11 - 00;02;03;27

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

based on declarations from, implementing partners or from,

00;02;03;27 - 00;02;05;02

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

funding entities.

00;02;05;02 - 00;02;10;09

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

Great. Green. All initiatives don't talk to each other. Great rural projects. exists in silos.

00;02;10;09 - 00;02;11;23

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

And so having them,

00;02;11;23 - 00;02;13;05

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

coordinate and having them,

00;02;13;05 - 00;02;14;08

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

essentially

00;02;14;08 - 00;02;16;29

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

respond to needs where they exist the most

00;02;16;29 - 00;02;17;21

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

is,

00;02;17;21 - 00;02;19;14

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

of crucial, crucial nature.

00;02;19;14 - 00;02;22;11

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

The other thing is that the success of the initiative relies on,

00;02;22;11 - 00;02;23;03

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

collaboration,

00;02;23;03 - 00;02;25;13

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

robust collaboration and innovative partnerships

00;02;25;13 - 00;02;27;28

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

that unite the efforts of all stakeholders.

00;02;27;28 - 00;02;29;09

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

So that's central to,

00;02;29;09 - 00;02;31;22

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

the Pan-African agency for the Great Green Wall,

00;02;31;22 - 00;02;35;00

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

which has the onus or the implementation of the initiative

00;02;35;00 - 00;02;36;29

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

and coordinates and oversees

00;02;36;29 - 00;02;39;16

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

all national agencies for the great Green Wall.

00;02;39;16 - 00;02;40;13

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

this agency,

00;02;40;13 - 00;02;41;06

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

currently

00;02;41;06 - 00;02;41;26

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

is

00;02;41;26 - 00;02;43;08

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

not formed to its

00;02;43;08 - 00;02;44;10

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

highest potential.

00;02;44;10 - 00;02;45;20

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

it is currently understaffed

00;02;45;20 - 00;02;47;28

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

and it's not able to

00;02;47;28 - 00;02;49;20

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

play its role like it's needed,

00;02;49;20 - 00;02;51;09

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

due to limited funding,

00;02;51;09 - 00;02;52;14

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

limited capacity.

00;02;52;14 - 00;02;52;25

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

And,

00;02;52;25 - 00;02;53;26

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

sometimes,

00;02;53;26 - 00;02;57;25

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

government backing isn't always where it needs to be

00;02;57;25 - 00;03;00;17

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

due to the crises in the Sahel currently.

00;03;00;17 - 00;03;12;25

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

they are very involved in decision making processes as well. They are permanent secretariat that is managed by the, the countries. And but at the presidential level and managed at the ministerial level.

00;03;12;25 - 00;03;17;19

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

So enhanced ministerial representation and inclusion of key ministries such as finance,

00;03;17;19 - 00;03;23;19

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

planning, environment, water, agriculture and sustainable development is also essential to make sure that,

00;03;23;19 - 00;03;25;04

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

the agency is able to,

00;03;25;04 - 00;03;25;20

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

implement

00;03;25;20 - 00;03;26;13

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

everything

00;03;26;13 - 00;03;27;17

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

that it needs to,

00;03;27;17 - 00;03;30;24

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

the creation of the great green all accelerator was a response to,

00;03;30;24 - 00;03;31;10

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

this gap

00;03;31;10 - 00;03;32;12

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

implementation.

00;03;32;12 - 00;03;34;09

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

we could respond to some of

00;03;34;09 - 00;03;38;02

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

the gaps that have been identified in the report that was published in 2020,

00;03;38;02 - 00;03;38;26

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

being mostly,

00;03;38;26 - 00;03;39;15

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

monitoring.

00;03;39;15 - 00;03;40;01

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

So

00;03;40;01 - 00;03;41;08

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

how is progress measured

00;03;41;08 - 00;03;42;13

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

for the great Green All initiative

00;03;42;13 - 00;03;44;13

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

and as well, governance.

00;03;44;13 - 00;03;46;10

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

how how are we managing

00;03;46;10 - 00;03;47;02

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

great Green Wall

00;03;47;02 - 00;03;47;21

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

initiatives

00;03;47;21 - 00;03;48;23

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

and coordination,

00;03;48;23 - 00;03;51;19

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

how our partners who are implementing Great green, all projects

00;03;51;19 - 00;03;53;24

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

working together towards the same objectives.

00;03;53;24 - 00;03;54;24

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

And how are we,

00;03;54;24 - 00;03;56;06

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

making sure that we're able to

00;03;56;06 - 00;03;57;11

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

tally these results

00;03;57;11 - 00;03;58;19

Vanessa Goas

me a little bit about

00:03:58;19 - 00:04:00;26

Vanessa Goas

how the Great Green Wall has been using

00:04:00;26 - 00:04:02;13

Vanessa Goas

data until now,

00:04:02;13 - 00:04:03;09

Vanessa Goas

and how that

00:04:03;09 - 00:04:04;08

Vanessa Goas

ties into

00:04:04;08 - 00:04:07;19

Vanessa Goas

combating climate change and focusing on climate action.

00;04;07;19 - 00;04;09;19

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

Pan-African agency has been

00;04;09;19 - 00;04;10;25

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

attempting to use,

00;04;10;25 - 00;04;14;28

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

a slew of different systems from a slew of different partners before

00;04;14;28 - 00;04;17;16

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

the Pan-African agency was fully formed. So,

00;04;17;16 - 00;04;18;09

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

you had

00;04;18;09 - 00;04;20;24

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

projects, great Greenwell projects like the sell off

00;04;20;24 - 00;04;21;05

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

and,

00;04;21;05 - 00;04;22;10

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

the Sagawa

00;04;22;10 - 00;04;22;27

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

that were

00;04;22;27 - 00;04;26;04

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

basically created for knowledge management for the Great Green Wall

00;04;26;04 - 00;04;27;16

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

and really encouraged,

00;04;27;16 - 00;04;28;15

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

new approach

00;04;28;15 - 00;04;32;03

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

towards measuring results and success for the great Green Wall having to do with,

00;04;32;03 - 00;04;34;03

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

tonnes of carbon that are sequestered and,

00;04;34;03 - 00;04;36;18

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

measuring hectares, right, rather than number of trees.

00;04;36;18 - 00;04;37;00

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

And,

00;04;37;00 - 00;04;38;11

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

this essentially has shaped

00;04;38;11 - 00;04;40;24

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

the way that the Great Green Wall is implemented today.

00;04;40;27 - 00;04;41;08

Vanessa Goas

Right.

00;04;41;08 - 00;04;47;03

Vanessa Goas

So changing gears a little bit, to the work that we've been doing together. Joshua, could you please

00;04;47;03 - 00;04;51;20

Vanessa Goas

us a little bit about what the Great Green Wall Observatory is and

00;04;51;20 - 00;04;55;05

Vanessa Goas

why the observatory is important for the initiative overall.

00;04;55;12 - 00;05;02;18

Joshua Mbai

Thank you very much. So the Gregorian Observatory is an integrated open access system

00;05;02;18 - 00;05;05;02

Joshua Mbai

that has been developed to bring together,

00;05;05;02 - 00;05;07;22

Joshua Mbai

water immigration data from

00;05;07;22 - 00;05;08;09

Joshua Mbai

donors,

00;05;08;09 - 00;05;11;04

Joshua Mbai

localities and from the combined communities

00;05;11;04 - 00;05;13;20

Joshua Mbai

aggregate both financial data and,

00;05;13;20 - 00;05;14;18

Joshua Mbai

resource data

00;05;14;18 - 00;05;15;03

Joshua Mbai

and

00;05;15;03 - 00;05;16;08

Joshua Mbai

implementation level

00;05;16;08 - 00;05;20;28

Joshua Mbai

and put them together is the first system that is both open source

00;05;20;28 - 00;05;26;17

Joshua Mbai

and puts together, data from the finance side and also from the project implementation side.

00;05;26;17 - 00;05;27;24

Joshua Mbai

The available online

00;05;27;24 - 00;05;29;04

Joshua Mbai

quintessential

00;05;29;04 - 00;05;31;01

Joshua Mbai

digital observatory technology.

00;05;31;01 - 00;05;34;02

Joshua Mbai

And it's available in both English and French.

00;05;34;02 - 00;05;35;19

Joshua Mbai

The data that we have there is,

00;05;35;19 - 00;05;37;18

Joshua Mbai

based on the data that has been,

00;05;37;18 - 00;05;39;23

Joshua Mbai

entered into the equipment, water,

00;05;39;23 - 00;05;43;25

Joshua Mbai

project management platform, which is accessible to both

00;05;43;25 - 00;05;44;19

Joshua Mbai

entities

00;05;44;19 - 00;05;46;26

Joshua Mbai

and the implementing partners.

00;05;47;08 - 00;05;48;23

Joshua Mbai

The goal of the observatory

00;05;48;23 - 00;05;50;05

Joshua Mbai

was to give access

00;05;50;05 - 00;05;50;21

Joshua Mbai

to

00;05;50;21 - 00;05;51;11

Joshua Mbai

researchers,

00;05;51;11 - 00;05;52;07

Joshua Mbai

the academia,

00;05;52;07 - 00;05;53;19

Joshua Mbai

private businesses and private,

00;05;53;19 - 00;05;54;11

Joshua Mbai

investors

00;05;54;13 - 00;06;01;12

Joshua Mbai

The initial data that is available on the observatory is based on the commitments that were made by donors during the On Planet Summit,

00;06;01;24 - 00;06;03;21

Joshua Mbai

This is the first tool that brings together

00;06;03;21 - 00;06;04;20

Joshua Mbai

its own

00;06;04;20 - 00;06;05;08

Joshua Mbai

finances

00;06;05;08 - 00;06;06;07

Joshua Mbai

alongside results

00;06;06;07 - 00;06;08;14

Joshua Mbai

based on standardized indicators,

00;06;08;14 - 00;06;11;06

Joshua Mbai

and therefore basically be saying this is the first tool

00;06;11;06 - 00;06;12;21

Joshua Mbai

where we can match the dollar

00;06;12;21 - 00;06;13;06

Joshua Mbai

to

00;06;13;06 - 00;06;14;28

Joshua Mbai

hectare, one that has been restored,

00;06;14;28 - 00;06;15;14

Joshua Mbai

or,

00;06;15;14 - 00;06;18;06

Joshua Mbai

ton of carbon dioxide equivalent that has been,

00;06;18;06 - 00;06;18;27

Joshua Mbai

sequestered,

00;06;18;27 - 00;06;23;00

Joshua Mbai

or a job that has been created for the frontline communities that are working in this project.

00;06;23;17 - 00;06;26;04

Vanessa Goas

That's really amazing. I mean, I think especially

00;06;26;04 - 00;06;27;15

Vanessa Goas

to be able to make

00;06;27;15 - 00;06;28;12

Vanessa Goas

those

00;06;28;12 - 00;06;32;25

Vanessa Goas

connections that you mentioned, Joshua, between a dollar and a hectare of land.

00;06;32;25 - 00;06;34;03

Vanessa Goas

I mean, this is probably,

00;06;34;03 - 00;06;38;19

Vanessa Goas

one of the first times we've been able to visualize data in that kind of way.

00;06;38;19 - 00;06;42;18

Vanessa Goas

And I'm really curious. Gilles's I know that we recently

00;06;42;18 - 00;06;45;27

Vanessa Goas

held a training in Burkina Faso together,

00;06;45;27 - 00;06;46;29

Vanessa Goas

for the users of this.

00;06;47;05 - 00;06;47;20

Vanessa Goas

So

00;06;47;20 - 00;06;49;09

Vanessa Goas

what are you hearing that are going to be

00;06;49;09 - 00;06;53;23

Vanessa Goas

some of the challenges that the observatory is going to help address,

00;06;53;23 - 00;06;57;21

Vanessa Goas

bring us to real life a little bit here. what are our potential users saying,

00;06;57;21 - 00;06;58;29

Vanessa Goas

that this tool is going to help with?

00;06;58;29 - 00;07;02;05

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

I cannot stress this enough.

00;07;02;05 - 00;07;06;04

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

The Great Green Wall Observatory is a game changer

00;07;06;04 - 00;07;07;27

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

in access to data,

00;07;07;27 - 00;07;11;11

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

and how the Great Green Wall is going to work from now on.

00;07;11;11 - 00;07;12;09

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

Here's why

00;07;12;09 - 00;07;18;16

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

we are operating in a space where you have national agencies for the great Green Wall

00;07;18;16 - 00;07;22;11

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

that are not involved, consulted, informed

00;07;22;11 - 00;07;24;07

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

or looped in

00;07;24;07 - 00;07;27;29

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

when great Greenwald projects are being signed at the government level.

00;07;27;29 - 00;07;29;12

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

this platform

00;07;29;12 - 00;07;31;14

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

is solving the issue

00;07;31;14 - 00;07;33;17

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

of every green, all projects

00;07;33;17 - 00;07;35;21

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

not getting to their desks

00;07;35;21 - 00;07;36;23

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

when they are,

00;07;36;23 - 00;07;38;10

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

put into implementation

00;07;38;10 - 00;07;39;04

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

today.

00;07;39;04 - 00;07;40;17

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

They're able to

00;07;40;17 - 00;07;42;27

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

go on this website, log in

00;07;42;27 - 00;07;44;19

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

and access every single

00;07;44;19 - 00;07;46;00

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

great green old project,

00;07;46;00 - 00;07;47;17

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

in existence

00;07;47;17 - 00;07;48;28

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

in their country

00;07;48;28 - 00;07;50;19

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

that has ever existed,

00;07;50;19 - 00;07;54;01

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

that exists currently or that is in planning phases.

00;07;54;01 - 00;07;56;13

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

when they do get this information, they're able to

00;07;56;13 - 00;07;57;09

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

fill it up

00;07;57;09 - 00;07;58;12

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

in the system

00;07;58;12 - 00;08;00;09

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

and keep track of these projects.

00;08;00;09 - 00;08;01;00

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

Now,

00;08;01;00 - 00;08;03;20

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

Ouagadougou workshop was really important. Why?

00;08;03;20 - 00;08;06;09

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

it also served as a space where

00;08;06;09 - 00;08;09;07

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

they agreed upon a governance mechanism

00;08;09;07 - 00;08;10;18

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

to carry this platform.

00;08;10;18 - 00;08;11;06

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

So,

00;08;11;06 - 00;08;13;18

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

in my opinion, the platform is really important. Yeah,

00;08;13;18 - 00;08;14;23

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

but at the end of the day,

00;08;14;23 - 00;08;16;27

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

is what it is. It remains a tool.

00;08;16;27 - 00;08;19;04

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

And unless the tool is carried by

00;08;19;04 - 00;08;21;13

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

accountability system and a governance system

00;08;21;13 - 00;08;23;14

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

that is using it to

00;08;23;14 - 00;08;25;06

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

amplify effectiveness,

00;08;25;06 - 00;08;27;25

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

we're just going to stay in the same place.

00;08;27;25 - 00;08;28;12

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

So

00;08;28;12 - 00;08;30;06

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

tool needs to be used and it needs

00;08;30;06 - 00;08;33;07

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

to include all partners involved in the great Green Wall

00;08;33;07 - 00;08;35;02

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

so information can flow through it

00;08;35;02 - 00;08;36;00

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

and inform us

00;08;36;00 - 00;08;36;29

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

on how

00;08;36;29 - 00;08;38;11

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

the initiative is advancing.

00;08;38;11 - 00;08;38;25

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

So

00;08;38;25 - 00;08;40;13

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

this is something that

00;08;40;13 - 00;08;42;12

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

was absolutely needed that

00;08;42;12 - 00;08;45;20

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

identified as a gap, as early as 2020,

00;08;45;20 - 00;08;46;25

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

terms of what,

00;08;46;25 - 00;08;48;24

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

not only the national agencies needed, but

00;08;48;24 - 00;08;49;16

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

just even

00;08;49;16 - 00;08;52;03

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

the great green while ecosystems in each country

00;08;52;03 - 00;08;52;22

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

needed.

00;08;52;22 - 00;08;53;04

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

So

00;08;53;04 - 00;08;54;12

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

this really will help,

00;08;54;12 - 00;08;55;21

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

this work move forward,

00;08;55;21 - 00;08;58;25

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

long as we're able to coordinate, as long as we're able to talk to each other

00;08;58;25 - 00;09;01;29

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

at the local level, at the national level, and at the regional level.

00;09;01;29 - 00;09;05;06

Vanessa Goas

That's fantastic. And I think anybody that works in

00;09;05;06 - 00;09;08;11

Vanessa Goas

this data space knows that

00;09;08;11 - 00;09;12;17

Vanessa Goas

getting agreement across different countries, such as 11 different countries,

00;09;12;17 - 00;09;14;12

Vanessa Goas

on how data is going to be

00;09;14;12 - 00;09;16;00

Vanessa Goas

collected, shared,

00;09;16;00 - 00;09;17;03

Vanessa Goas

use, etc.

00;09;17;03 - 00;09;18;23

Vanessa Goas

it's not an easy feat.

00;09;18;29 - 00;09;19;19

Vanessa Goas

so I'm curious,

00;09;19;19 - 00;09;20;01

Vanessa Goas

how much

00;09;20;01 - 00;09;21;22

Vanessa Goas

this value proposition

00;09;21;22 - 00;09;27;25

Vanessa Goas

went into the development of this process of, of how to collect and share data, GEOs in particular,

00;09;27;25 - 00;09;28;24

Vanessa Goas

when you're talking to

00;09;28;24 - 00;09;31;02

Vanessa Goas

the member organizations of Great Green Wall.

00;09;31;02 - 00;09;32;10

Vanessa Goas

is this something that

00;09;32;10 - 00;09;34;12

Vanessa Goas

went into this kind of conversation with them?

00;09;34;12 - 00;09;36;00

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

the impression that I got

00;09;36;00 - 00;09;41;06

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

was that this was needed a really, really long time ago. They had more questions about,

00;09;41;06 - 00;09;46;20

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

how do I make sure I get this information to the platform then. Oh, I don't want to share this.

00;09;46;20 - 00;09;50;05

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

They're on the end of not receiving information because,

00;09;50;05 - 00;09;58;28

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

data is being protected at another ministry. So maybe they have information at the Ministry of Agriculture or the Water Ministry, but they're not sharing with

00;09;58;28 - 00;10;03;08

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

Environment Ministry, which is where most of the original focal points are sitting.

00;10;03;08 - 00;10;04;00

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

So

00;10;04;00 - 00;10;08;07

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

this is a way for them to get access to information that wasn't shared with them in the past.

00;10;08;07 - 00;10;09;16

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

and it gives them,

00;10;09;16 - 00;10;20;08

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

a basis to say, hey, we have this information and we'd like to be looped in. Can you please tell us about Y Z project and how far along you are, and let us know if we can do anything?

00;10;20;08 - 00;10;23;13

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

We are the great Green Wall national coordination, after all.

00;10;23;13 - 00;10;26;06

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

we should also be playing a role in this process.

00;10;26;06 - 00;10;28;10

Vanessa Goas

bringing this back, I think a little bit to

00;10;28;10 - 00;10;32;07

Vanessa Goas

development gateway in our strategy. And, and what we've been seeing in our work for

00;10;32;07 - 00;10;33;11

Vanessa Goas

the last several years,

00;10;33;11 - 00;10;38;19

Vanessa Goas

DG has its roots in supporting good resource and financial governance

00;10;38;19 - 00;10;40;06

Vanessa Goas

and aid effectiveness.

00;10;40;06 - 00;10;47;13

Vanessa Goas

almost 20 years now, this is something that we have been working on, building tools that institutions can use to track financial flows

00;10;47;13 - 00;10;50;00

Vanessa Goas

and monitor progress towards development goals.

00;10;50;00 - 00;10;54;26

Vanessa Goas

So this work with Great Green Wall, it really feels like a natural extension of

00;10;54;26 - 00;10;57;23

Vanessa Goas

work that is very deeply in our DNA.

00;10;57;23 - 00;10;58;27

Vanessa Goas

by providing

00;10;58;27 - 00;11;01;09

Vanessa Goas

this tool, this for project management

00;11;01;09 - 00;11;02;01

Vanessa Goas

data

00;11;02;01 - 00;11;02;17

Vanessa Goas

the,

00;11;02;17 - 00;11;03;29

Vanessa Goas

GW states,

00;11;03;29 - 00;11;08;26

Vanessa Goas

we think that the observatory can help promote accountability and transparency and is really

00;11;08;26 - 00;11;09;29

Vanessa Goas

helping to close the loop

00;11;09;29 - 00;11;11;27

Vanessa Goas

between all of the different stakeholders

00;11;11;27 - 00;11;12;13

Vanessa Goas

that

00;11;12;13 - 00;11;13;22

Vanessa Goas

you both have been describing.

00;11;14;01 - 00;11;15;27

Vanessa Goas

in your description of this project, I mean, there's

00;11;15;27 - 00;11;17;06

Vanessa Goas

everybody from the

00;11;17;06 - 00;11;17;19

Vanessa Goas

of

00;11;17;19 - 00;11;21;14

Vanessa Goas

regional level, the national level, different ministries,

00;11;21;14 - 00;11;25;08

Vanessa Goas

funders, and really people at the frontline who are facing

00;11;25;08 - 00;11;27;17

Vanessa Goas

the challenges of climate change every day.

00;11;27;17 - 00;11;31;08

Vanessa Goas

you know, funding for climate action is very buzzy right now.

00;11;31;08 - 00;11;35;15

Vanessa Goas

everybody's funding different things for climate action in different ways, like climate Dash,

00;11;35;15 - 00;11;36;05

Vanessa Goas

whatever.

00;11;36;08 - 00;11;39;07

Vanessa Goas

we think this kind of work can help bring some of that buzz

00;11;39;07 - 00;11;42;10

Vanessa Goas

down to earth. And really where the where the rubber meets the road,

00;11;42;10 - 00;11;47;25

Vanessa Goas

really ground things in reality, and especially when the resources are scarce

00;11;47;25 - 00;11;49;12

Vanessa Goas

and the need is so great.

00;11;49;12 - 00;11;52;19

Vanessa Goas

So another question for you Gilles. Of course

00;11;52;19 - 00;11;56;25

Vanessa Goas

all in the development world. We are looking at the question of localization,

00;11;56;25 - 00;12;01;03

Vanessa Goas

bringing our our partners and the stakeholders that are

00;12;01;03 - 00;12;02;07

Vanessa Goas

deep in the work,

00;12;02;07 - 00;12;08;02

Vanessa Goas

to the table and making sure that they have the voice and they are enabled to do that, the work they need to do.

00;12;08;02 - 00;12;22;04

Vanessa Goas

So how is the Great Green Wall ensuring that member countries have the capacity to provide up to date data going forward, because getting their data in the system and keeping it constantly updated, this is going to be a critical measure of success. I suppose.

00;12;22;04 - 00;12;23;19

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

you're absolutely right. It's

00;12;23;19 - 00;12;26;01

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

definitely a challenge. It has been a challenge,

00;12;26;01 - 00;12;27;01

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

but one that,

00;12;27;01 - 00;12;27;24

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

surprisingly,

00;12;27;24 - 00;12;29;00

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

despite all the,

00;12;29;00 - 00;12;29;24

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

the roadblocks,

00;12;29;24 - 00;12;32;13

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

the Pan-African agency has been very responsive,

00;12;32;13 - 00;12;34;16

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

with and, I'll be very honest,

00;12;34;16 - 00;12;35;01

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

this

00;12;35;01 - 00;12;40;12

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

observatory wouldn't have seen the light of day without the contributions from the Pan-African agency, from the great green model.

00;12;40;12 - 00;12;42;18

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

they're monitoring and evaluation service

00;12;42;18 - 00;12;45;14

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

is actually doing the best that it can,

00;12;45;14 - 00;12;48;15

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

with the information at hand to compile information

00;12;48;15 - 00;12;49;25

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

data and knowledge,

00;12;49;25 - 00;12;51;27

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

inform the great green processes.

00;12;51;27 - 00;12;53;11

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

we're really lucky to have had

00;12;53;11 - 00;12;54;04

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

such,

00;12;54;04 - 00;12;55;21

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

a collaborative partner that

00;12;55;21 - 00;12;57;05

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

understands the needs

00;12;57;05 - 00;13;00;26

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

and attempts to work with the countries to cater to them as well.

00;13;00;26 - 00;13;01;10

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

So

00;13;01;10 - 00;13;03;12

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

there have been very helpful in providing,

00;13;03;12 - 00;13;05;03

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

insightful data,

00;13;05;03 - 00;13;06;17

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

where possible, because

00;13;06;17 - 00;13;07;27

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

are still some gaps

00;13;07;27 - 00;13;08;24

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

existing.

00;13;08;24 - 00;13;11;28

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

but they keep working on that. And whenever it's possible,

00;13;11;28 - 00;13;13;21

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

they communicate what they can. And

00;13;13;21 - 00;13;15;25

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

with whatever they communicate, were able to,

00;13;15;25 - 00;13;17;09

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

to fill that into the platform.

00;13;17;09 - 00;13;18;15

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

And now they're taking,

00;13;18;15 - 00;13;21;03

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

more of a leadership role in its administration.

00;13;21;03 - 00;13;21;15

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

And,

00;13;21;15 - 00;13;25;16

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

way that it's managed. So we're really, really happy to see that. And that's extremely positive.

00;13;25;26 - 00;13;28;12

Vanessa Goas

Joshua, how is the Great Green Wall Observatory

00;13;28;12 - 00;13;30;27

Vanessa Goas

designed to benefit the communities at the local level?

00;13;31;09 - 00;13;33;03

Joshua Mbai

So in the design of

00;13;33;03 - 00;13;35;07

Joshua Mbai

the Great Wall Observatory,

00;13;35;07 - 00;13;35;27

Joshua Mbai

we

00;13;35;27 - 00;13;37;25

Joshua Mbai

designed in such a way that we can

00;13;37;25 - 00;13;38;19

Joshua Mbai

enable

00;13;38;19 - 00;13;41;20

Joshua Mbai

the communities at the front line to be able to make use of data.

00;13;41;20 - 00;13;43;01

Joshua Mbai

that is an observatory.

00;13;43;13 - 00;13;47;05

Joshua Mbai

the work of restoring is not just for government, it's not just for the donors.

00;13;47;05 - 00;13;49;10

Joshua Mbai

It is for everyone within this community.

00;13;49;10 - 00;13;49;23

Joshua Mbai

And

00;13;49;23 - 00;13;50;23

Joshua Mbai

is the reason that

00;13;50;23 - 00;13;55;05

Joshua Mbai

the observatory is an open access system where we believe every

00;13;55;05 - 00;13;56;13

Joshua Mbai

person has access

00;13;56;13 - 00;13;56;16

Joshua Mbai

to.

00;13;56;16 - 00;13;58;03

Joshua Mbai

The answer to this is

00;13;58;03 - 00;14;03;03

Joshua Mbai

we want everyone to be involved, to be able to chat, to be able to

00;14;03;03 - 00;14;05;16

Joshua Mbai

be involved in advocacy, accountability

00;14;05;16 - 00;14;07;23

Joshua Mbai

and even innovation around it.

00;14;07;23 - 00;14;09;26

Joshua Mbai

So for this, we went a step further.

00;14;09;26 - 00;14;10;26

Joshua Mbai

We

00;14;10;26 - 00;14;12;09

Joshua Mbai

are allowing academia,

00;14;12;09 - 00;14;13;14

Joshua Mbai

allowing researchers,

00;14;13;14 - 00;14;16;06

Joshua Mbai

collaborators, civil society, businesspeople and innovators

00;14;16;06 - 00;14;19;15

Joshua Mbai

make use of the available data that is there to one mobilize resources

00;14;19;15 - 00;14;21;11

Joshua Mbai

to inform advocacy efforts,

00;14;21;11 - 00;14;22;04

Joshua Mbai

for the initiative,

00;14;22;04 - 00;14;28;06

Joshua Mbai

and also to be able to use that data to pull donors and states accountable to the commitments that they made to the people themselves.

00;14;28;25 - 00;14;29;15

Vanessa Goas

Gilles,

00;14;29;15 - 00;14;31;10

Vanessa Goas

can you tell me why the Great Green Wall

00;14;31;10 - 00;14;34;13

Vanessa Goas

is prioritizing interoperability so much in this project?

00;14;34;13 - 00;14;35;03

Vanessa Goas

And another work.

00;14;35;09 - 00;14;36;00

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

This

00;14;36;00 - 00;14;38;18

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

was a mutual

00;14;38;18 - 00;14;40;00

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

point of agreement,

00;14;40;00 - 00;14;41;00

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

between

00;14;41;00 - 00;14;44;04

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

Pan-African Agency and Great Green all accelerator.

00;14;44;04 - 00;14;48;10

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

we came into this process three years ago, and three years ago

00;14;48;10 - 00;14;52;21

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

the initiative had been in existence for a decade already.

00;14;52;21 - 00;14;56;15

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

there was a need to recognize that we weren't operating in a void.

00;14;56;15 - 00;14;57;05

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

Then there were a

00;14;57;05 - 00;14;58;00

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

A slew of different

00;14;58;00 - 00;14;59;13

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

solutions that had been

00;14;59;13 - 00;15;01;19

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

proposed before we came along.

00;15;01;19 - 00;15;04;28

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

And this begged the recognition

00;15;04;28 - 00;15;06;07

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

that these

00;15;06;07 - 00;15;08;20

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

systems, these platforms,

00;15;08;20 - 00;15;10;10

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

these digital solutions

00;15;10;10 - 00;15;12;05

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

also had their weight.

00;15;12;05 - 00;15;14;09

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

And one thing that.

00;15;14;09 - 00;15;15;12

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

That says

00;15;15;12 - 00;15;16;28

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

every single time we meet

00;15;16;28 - 00;15;19;07

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

at any possible occasion

00;15;19;07 - 00;15;20;06

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

is that

00;15;20;06 - 00;15;21;05

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

alone

00;15;21;05 - 00;15;22;08

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

you can go fast,

00;15;22;08 - 00;15;23;07

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

but together

00;15;23;07 - 00;15;24;11

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

we will go far.

00;15;24;28 - 00;15;26;09

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

that has been

00;15;26;09 - 00;15;27;03

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

the mantra

00;15;27;03 - 00;15;28;03

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

and the approach

00;15;28;03 - 00;15;29;20

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

of the Great Green All initiative.

00;15;29;20 - 00;15;32;24

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

They want every single system that has ever existed,

00;15;32;24 - 00;15;34;01

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

from the Great Green Wall

00;15;34;01 - 00;15;36;08

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

to be included into this observatory

00;15;36;08 - 00;15;37;20

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

so that nothing is lost

00;15;37;20 - 00;15;39;28

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

and no one is reinventing the wheel,

00;15;39;28 - 00;15;40;27

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

and that we have,

00;15;40;27 - 00;15;42;26

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

sort of a one stop shop

00;15;42;26 - 00;15;44;05

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

on Great Green Wall,

00;15;44;05 - 00;15;45;17

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

technology on,

00;15;45;17 - 00;15;47;08

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

best practices on

00;15;47;08 - 00;15;49;19

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

success stories on,

00;15;49;19 - 00;15;52;03

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

science that is relevant to the great green wall

00;15;52;03 - 00;15;52;17

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

on,

00;15;52;17 - 00;15;54;05

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

geospatial solutions.

00;15;54;05 - 00;15;55;12

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

NPP,

00;15;55;12 - 00;15;58;01

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

soil organic carbon, for instance, is one of the

00;15;58;01 - 00;16;00;04

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

variables that is very important to the

00;16;00;04 - 00;16;02;21

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

initiative. And just to geospatial mapping,

00;16;02;21 - 00;16;03;19

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

as well as

00;16;03;19 - 00;16;05;15

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

land cover change, for instance.

00;16;05;15 - 00;16;06;22

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

having all of that

00;16;06;22 - 00;16;09;08

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

in this solution is extremely important. And,

00;16;09;08 - 00;16;11;05

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

we are committed to making sure that

00;16;11;05 - 00;16;14;26

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

every partner that has a viable solution to propose,

00;16;14;26 - 00;16;16;24

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

towards this process is included.

00;16;16;24 - 00;16;18;25

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

And we are establishing a link

00;16;18;25 - 00;16;20;14

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

from their system to ours,

00;16;20;14 - 00;16;23;04

Gilles Amadou Ouédraogo

so you can have the best of all worlds.

00;16;23;04 - 00;16;24;00

Vanessa Goas

Joshua,

00;16;24;00 - 00;16;25;15

Vanessa Goas

tell us about how

00;16;25;15 - 00;16;27;00

Vanessa Goas

interoperability

00;16;27;00 - 00;16;30;12

Vanessa Goas

as a concept has been integrated within the observatory itself.

00;16;30;15 - 00;16;30;22

Joshua Mbai

We

00;16;30;22 - 00;16;32;04

Joshua Mbai

have designed Observatory

00;16;32;04 - 00;16;32;24

Joshua Mbai

in a way

00;16;32;24 - 00;16;34;16

Joshua Mbai

that allows us one to link to

00;16;34;16 - 00;16;35;06

Joshua Mbai

other,

00;16;35;06 - 00;16;35;29

Joshua Mbai

systems

00;16;36;11 - 00;16;37;19

Joshua Mbai

And secondly,

00;16;37;19 - 00;16;38;14

Joshua Mbai

by the time we are

00;16;38;14 - 00;16;41;19

Joshua Mbai

designing the observatory, there are a couple of things that have been done.

00;16;41;19 - 00;16;44;19

Joshua Mbai

we have made it very easy for us to build a system

00;16;44;19 - 00;16;46;17

Joshua Mbai

that allows interoperability.

00;16;46;17 - 00;16;47;14

Joshua Mbai

And one of them,

00;16;47;14 - 00;16;51;11

Joshua Mbai

the standardization of how we define indicators. what it would mean,

00;16;51;11 - 00;16;52;16

Joshua Mbai

given TimIt what worked

00;16;52;16 - 00;16;55;03

Joshua Mbai

very hard to make sure that there's a common understanding,

00;16;55;03 - 00;16;57;24

Joshua Mbai

a common definition of what indicators across the countries,

00;16;57;24 - 00;16;59;07

Joshua Mbai

across digital payments are to

00;16;59;07 - 00;17;02;27

Joshua Mbai

that make it very easy for us to be able to link systems that define

00;17;02;27 - 00;17;03;28

Joshua Mbai

data in the same way.

00;17;04;10 - 00;17;07;00

Joshua Mbai

And the third thing that is very important for us,

00;17;07;00 - 00;17;12;21

Joshua Mbai

towards the end, we realize that some of the key donors have been quietly publishing that,

00;17;12;21 - 00;17;15;03

Joshua Mbai

publicly, they already adopted open

00;17;15;03 - 00;17;15;29

Joshua Mbai

of data,

00;17;15;29 - 00;17;20;21

Joshua Mbai

and that means we could easily access that data, link to their systems and,

00;17;20;21 - 00;17;22;15

Joshua Mbai

own the data they have, in this case,

00;17;22;15 - 00;17;23;01

Joshua Mbai

into our.

00;17;23;01 - 00;17;25;16

Joshua Mbai

And this really accelerated the process of,

00;17;25;16 - 00;17;29;00

Joshua Mbai

starting to use data that is published by the agencies,

00;17;29;00 - 00;17;30;18

Joshua Mbai

but also being able to build,

00;17;30;18 - 00;17;31;03

Joshua Mbai

pipeline

00;17;31;03 - 00;17;32;00

Joshua Mbai

in a way for,

00;17;32;00 - 00;17;32;22

Joshua Mbai

scheduling,

00;17;32;22 - 00;17;33;29

Joshua Mbai

and a system that it could

00;17;33;29 - 00;17;34;22

Joshua Mbai

interlink in

00;17;34;22 - 00;17;35;14

Joshua Mbai

and that we could,

00;17;35;14 - 00;17;36;06

Joshua Mbai

work on

00;17;36;06 - 00;17;37;01

Joshua Mbai

the ability

00;17;37;04 - 00;17;41;07

Vanessa Goas

You know, it's really exciting for me to hear about the possibilities and the realities of

00;17;41;07 - 00;17;42;23

Vanessa Goas

interoperability in action.

00;17;42;23 - 00;17;45;05

Vanessa Goas

we've talked to a few guests before on this podcast,

00;17;45;05 - 00;17;51;08

Vanessa Goas

about the challenges of making sense of a situation when there are so many systems and so many data sets that are

00;17;51;08 - 00;17;55;19

Vanessa Goas

in reality, like very related, but in practice, can't communicate with one another.

00;17;55;19 - 00;17;56;01

Vanessa Goas

And

00;17;56;01 - 00;18;01;28

Vanessa Goas

in particular, we found this question a lot in in climate change and in climate action, since there are

00;18;01;28 - 00;18;02;27

Vanessa Goas

climate affects

00;18;02;27 - 00;18;04;22

Vanessa Goas

essentially every part of life.

00;18;04;22 - 00;18;05;23

Vanessa Goas

so the data sets,

00;18;05;23 - 00;18;07;24

Vanessa Goas

for every sector are critical for this.

00;18;07;24 - 00;18;10;27

Vanessa Goas

I think those of us who work with data on a regular basis,

00;18;10;27 - 00;18;12;22

Vanessa Goas

can see how the initial flurry

00;18;12;22 - 00;18;13;18

Vanessa Goas

in the so-called

00;18;13;18 - 00;18;17;10

Vanessa Goas

data revolution that was, you know, some years ago, that was, I think, leading

00;18;17;10 - 00;18;18;10

Vanessa Goas

the discourse

00;18;18;10 - 00;18;20;08

Vanessa Goas

on data and development.

00;18;20;08 - 00;18;22;17

Vanessa Goas

it created a lot of data sets. It created a lot of

00;18;22;17 - 00;18;23;22

Vanessa Goas

systems. But they

00;18;23;22 - 00;18;25;06

Vanessa Goas

really didn't stop to think about

00;18;25;06 - 00;18;26;20

Vanessa Goas

what would be the future of that data.

00;18;26;20 - 00;18;28;09

Vanessa Goas

How was it going to be maintained?

00;18;28;09 - 00;18;30;17

Vanessa Goas

data governance rules were we're seeing questions of data

00;18;30;17 - 00;18;31;14

Vanessa Goas

privacy.

00;18;31;14 - 00;18;32;25

Vanessa Goas

and also we're seeing,

00;18;32;25 - 00;18;34;13

Vanessa Goas

more focus on

00;18;34;13 - 00;18;36;25

Vanessa Goas

how can these data sets and data systems work together.

00;18;36;25 - 00;18;37;15

Vanessa Goas

Because

00;18;37;15 - 00;18;38;20

Vanessa Goas

individually,

00;18;38;20 - 00;18;40;17

Vanessa Goas

each data set tells one story,

00;18;40;17 - 00;18;42;23

Vanessa Goas

but together the data sets are going to tell an

00;18;42;23 - 00;18;43;21

Vanessa Goas

even more

00;18;43;21 - 00;18;44;16

Vanessa Goas

strong story,

00;18;44;16 - 00;18;45;28

Vanessa Goas

more clear story for us

00;18;45;28 - 00;18;47;08

Vanessa Goas

to take action in a

00;18;47;08 - 00;18;48;15

Vanessa Goas

critical moment like this.

00;18;48;15 - 00;18;57;06

Vanessa Goas

I can say that increasingly, our partners are recognizing how important it is to work through these questions. It's really exciting for us because I feel like we've been banging the drum for a while

00;18;57;06 - 00;18;58;12

Vanessa Goas

on interoperability,

00;18;58;12 - 00;18;59;06

Vanessa Goas

and I think we can

00;18;59;06 - 00;19;02;01

Vanessa Goas

maximize a lot of progress made in data and digital

00;19;02;01 - 00;19;04;21

Vanessa Goas

development, especially in climate action.

00;19;04;29 - 00;19;06;23

Vanessa Goas

so to close us out,

00;19;06;24 - 00;19;10;16

Vanessa Goas

what's next for Great Green Wall and what's next for the Great Green Wall Observatory.

00;19;10;21 - 00;19;33;11

Vanessa Goas

the data. Task force is going to be instrumental just as much as the monitoring task force is going to be crucial in ensuring that not only is the observatory used by all relevant stakeholders, but in addition, that they're able to improve the platform through an inclusive and collaborative process where existing knowledge is leveraged to benefit the great green community and built upon using our new methodology.

00;19;33;14 - 00;19;58;06

Vanessa Goas

We really look forward to the system coming to its completion. It's been launched already as of June 3rd officially, and we're going to be working very closely with DG and with the Greek renewal agencies to make sure that all the entered data is as accurate as possible, as soon as possible. We're currently finishing the final touches with the geospatial functionalities and the interoperability aspects that are being added with partners.

00;19;58;08 - 00;20;26;00

Vanessa Goas

In our view, this is a complete game changer not only in the monitoring progress of the Great Green Wall, but also in especially in the space of resource mobilization. More specifically, evidence based resource mobilization, because we're really using data to make sure that every country is able to leverage what they bring to the Great Green Wall and how that can be capitalized to change the lives of not only Sahelian, but any great green all stakeholder across the globe.

00;20;30;24 - 00;20;32;23

Vanessa Goas

Thanks to both of my guests,

00;20;32;23 - 00;20;35;09

Vanessa Goas

Gilles and Joshua, for joining me today

00;20;35;09 - 00;20;39;13

Vanessa Goas

sharing your insights, your ideas, also your excitement.

00;20;39;13 - 00;20;47;02

Vanessa Goas

we have been so glad to have this opportunity to collaborate on this project. It's exciting for us for many different reasons. And

00;20;47;02 - 00;20;50;17

Vanessa Goas

looks like there's still a lot of opportunity

00;20;50;17 - 00;20;52;03

Vanessa Goas

and things to look out for.

00;20;52;03 - 00;20;52;07

Vanessa Goas

I

00;20;59;14 - 00;21;02;07

Vanessa Goas

Thank you for listening. And a special thanks to our guests.

00;21;02;07 - 00;21;05;00

Vanessa Goas

This episode was produced and edited by Analisa Goodmann.

00;21;05;00 - 00;21;07;09

Vanessa Goas

Our theme music was created by Mark Hatcher.

00;21;07;09 - 00;21;13;20

Vanessa Goas

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