



The Forests Dialogue

TFD STEERING COMMITTEE 2010

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THE FORESTS DIALOGUE

History: The Forests Dialogue (TFD), formed in 1999, is an outgrowth of dialogues begun under the auspices of the World Bank, World Business Council for Sustainable Development and the World Resources Institute. These dialogues converged to create TFD when leaders decided to build an on-going, civil society driven, multi-stakeholder dialogue platform and process to address important global forestry issues.

Mission: To address significant obstacles to sustainable forest management through a constructive dialogue process among all key stakeholders. The Forests Dialogue's approach is based on mutual trust, enhanced understanding and commitment to change. Our dialogues are designed to build relationships and to spur collaborative action on the highest priority issues facing the world's forests.

Initiatives: TFD is currently developing or has convened international multi-stakeholder dialogue processes on the following topics:

Forests and Climate: TFD is continuing its focus on forests and climate change by bring leaders together to discuss two dialogue streams related to Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD). The Initiatives are Frameworks for REDD finance and implementation and REDD Readiness at the country level.

Investing in Locally Controlled Forests: Building on the Family Forest Owner dialogue, TFD has begun an initiative focused on increasing the investment in forests and forestry that is controlled by Indigenous Peoples, forest communities and/or family forest owners.

Intensively Managed Planted Forests: TFD has been working with a broad group of stakeholders to develop consensus and understanding on when, where and with whom intensive forest management is an appropriate and feasible land use strategy.

Forests and Poverty Reduction: Many experts believe that commercial forestry can and should be pro-poor. TFD has been working to understand the conditions and enabling environment for successful pro-poor forestry projects as well as the barriers to them.

Forests and Biodiversity Conservation: TFD has helped to establish and support a regional dialogue process solely focused on collaborative conservation of the Atlantic Forest region in Brazil. The dialogues were held primarily among Brazilian NGOs and companies. The dialogues have resulted in several on the ground, joint projects among the stakeholders.

TFD has also led extensive dialogue initiatives on **Illegal Logging and Forest Governance** and **Forest Certification** in the past but is not active on those issues currently. For more information on all of TFD's initiatives go to www.theforestdialogue.org

Governance: A group of international forest, conservation and community leaders oversee the governance of TFD and the planning and execution of it's dialogues. They are selected as individuals based on their personal interest and leadership, not as official delegates of any organization. There are currently 24 members serving on the TFD Steering Committee representing all the major forest stakeholder groups from all regions of the globe (*listed at the left of this page*).

Funding: TFD's Secretariat and activities are collectively funded by a broad cross-section of stakeholders. Current and past funders include The World Bank, Aracruz, CEPF, TNC, WBCSD, CI, Mondi, SIDA, Building and Woodworkers International, NORAD, Swiss SECO, Weyerhaeuser, WWF, International Paper, Stora Enso, Kimberly-Clark, IIED, USAID, American Forest Foundation, ITTO, NORAD, GFP and IUCN.

Secretariat: TFD's work is implemented by a Secretariat hosted by Yale University's School of Forestry and Environmental Studies in the United States. The Forests Dialogue is an autonomous program and its Secretariat is housed within the School's Global Institute of Sustainable Forestry.

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