

Lisa M. Curran

Lisa is a Professor of Tropical Resources and Director of the Tropical Resources Institute at Yale University's School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. She earned a B.A. with honors from Harvard University, a Ph.D from Princeton University and held a Mercer Post-doctoral Fellowship at Harvard University. She has spent over 25 years in the South and Southeast Asian tropics conducting scientific research, training and outreach and policy studies. She has held a diversity of consultancy positions for several foundations, private sector, conservation and rural development organizations, as well as the US Agency for International Development, The World Bank and Asian Development Bank. Lisa served as a Visiting Research Fellow at the East-West Center's Ecosystem & Governance Program, Aldo Leopold Leadership Fellow, and Marie Tharp Fellow at the Earth Institute of Columbia University. Currently, she is a MacArthur Fellow (2007-2012), External Faculty at the Santa Fe Institute (2003-2009) and serves on NASA's Earth Science Advisory Board, as well as governing boards of the Tropical Forest Foundation, The Forest Dialogue and Forest Integrity Network under Transparency International's Corruption Watch Program.

Lisa's current interdisciplinary programs examine the effects of land use change, climate, drought and fire on carbon dynamics and biodiversity; and impacts of governmental policies and industrial practices on ecosystems and rural livelihoods in Asian and Latin American tropical forests.