



Edited
by
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Global Forest Partnership proposed

The World Bank is proposing a new Global Forest Partnership to bring together many organizations to accelerate progress in managing forests, in ways that better meet social, environmental and economic needs. Its focus would be on joint action with developing countries.

The International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) is working with the World Bank to carry out an independent assessment of stakeholder views on this proposal. IIED will convene an internet consultation during October and November to seek feedback and ideas on this proposal from a wide range of different stakeholders to assist the World Bank in deciding how best to proceed.

IIED is looking for ideas and comments on what the overall objectives of such a partnership should be and what type of funding, governance, possible activities and possible partners would contribute most to reducing poverty and sustaining communities and livelihoods.

To join the debate, go to www.iiedgfpconsultation.org where 15 key questions can be answered directly online or downloaded for replies by email or post (all replies must be received by 30 November). All documentation is available in English, French and Spanish.

For further queries contact IIED's Nicole Armitage (gfpconsultation@iied.org; Tel: +44 020 7388 2117).

ITTO and IUFRO sign MOU

A ceremony for signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between The International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) and ITTO was held on 29 September 2007 in Seoul, Korea. The MOU was signed by Dr. Manoel Sobral Filho, Executive Director of ITTO, and Dr. Don K. Lee, the President of IUFRO. It formalizes the agreement

between the ITTO and IUFRO to strengthen partnership and collaboration through their activities and other undertakings as members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF).

Also present at the ceremony were Dr. Young Kyoon Yoon, Director General of Forest Resources Policy Bureau of Korea Forest Service, Dr. Hwan Ok Ma, Project Manager of ITTO, Dr. Won Yung Ahn, Professor Emeritus at Seoul National University (SNU), and Dr. Ho Sang Kang, IUFRO's Global Forest Information System (GFIS) Regional Coordinator for Asia and Russia.

Dr. Lee called the MOU an important commitment to collaboration. He also confirmed his and IUFRO's participation at the 43rd Session of the International Tropical Timber Council (ITTC) which will be held in Yokohama, Japan on 5–10 November 2007.

Toyota drives Philippine forest conservation

Conservation International has recently announced a partnership with Toyota to protect forests in the Philippines. Toyota will provide US\$1.5 million in funding to restore and protect more than 4 000 acres of the Philippines' Peñablanca Protected Landscape and Seascape (PPLS) reserve, located in the northeastern area of one of the nation's main islands. The fund will be provided during the course of the next three years as part of a two-phase program consisting of three-years each.

The project will promote forest conservation in the PPLS as well as demonstrate the compatibility among multiple uses of forests, including biodiversity protection, watershed management, ecosystem services for the benefit of local communities and CO₂ offsets.

The Philippines is considered to be one of the most threatened of the world's 34 biodiversity hotspots, and is home to many critically threatened mammals, birds and amphibians. The Peñablanca conservation project will validate the concept of sustainable development with partnerships that come not only from the local level, but from global stakeholders as well.



Collaborators: Dr Lee (left) with Dr Sobral after signing the MOU.
Photo: H.S. Kang (Seoul National University)