

**Summary of Discussions**  
**Forest Day 6, Discussion Forum 4**  
**Forest landscape restoration: Enhancing more than carbon stocks**

The moderator (Jurgen Blaser) introduced the theme of the discussion forum and welcomed the speakers (Bianca Jagger, Patrick Wylie) and panelists (Juan Carlos Jintiach, Yetti Rusli). The agenda of the discussion forum is attached.

Dr. Blaser noted the importance of forest landscape restoration (FLR) to both of the sponsoring organizations (IUCN and ITTO). He highlighted the relevant work of both organizations, noting that both had been pioneers in the field of FLR. He noted the linkages between restoration and reducing forest degradation (the second “D” in REDD+). Key elements of work on FLR are the role of people and its role in restoring natural forests.

Patrick Wylie provided an overview of the potential of FLR, noting that over 2 billion hectares had the potential for FLR which is a proven approach. He stressed that it was necessary to consider multiple benefits when undertaking FLR and not solely carbon or any other single good/service. Actions and activities will vary by country. Two key myths need to be overcome: that FLR costs too much and takes too long. FLR should be an economic driver rather than a burden. The Bonn Challenge calls for 150 million ha of degraded forest to be restored by 2020; it is estimated that achieving this goal will generate nearly \$80 billion per year in additional income for communities living in and around forests.

Bianca Jagger’s keynote presentation focused on the global impacts of climate change and the role of FLR in helping to ameliorate these impacts. IUCN’s Plant a Pledge campaign commenced earlier this year and is aimed at supporting the Bonn Challenge. Restoring 150 million ha of forest can sequester one gigaton of carbon annually. It could also promote sustainable development in local communities. Plant a Pledge has received pledges to restore 18 million ha for 2012; India recently pledged an additional 10 million ha. Public pressure can force politicians and decision makers to act. FLR can reduce poverty, contribute to human rights and promote healthy ecosystems as well as combating climate change. Ms. Jagger urged participants to support the Plant a Pledge campaign (<http://www.plantapledge.com>).

Juan Carlos Jintiach gave the perspective of the Coordinating Body of Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon Basin (COICA) on forest landscape restoration. He stressed the human rights aspects of FLR, given that so many people depend on forests for food, livelihoods and shelter. Yetti Rusli spoke about Indonesia’s policies on and experiences in restoring forests. She stressed the need to consider the entire landscape and ecosystem when dealing with tropical forests in her country. With significant population pressure on many of Indonesia’s forests, local people must be part of any FLR initiative. She referred to the different categories of forest in Indonesia, some of which are required by law to be protected. Her country will try to scale up FLR activities as a way of reducing carbon emissions. Indonesia’s rate of deforestation remains high (although it has dropped from nearly 3.5% per year in the late 1990s to under 1% more recently) and several activities are under way to address this, including activities to reduce illegal logging. The country has a target to plant one billion trees per year and is undertaking research to optimize the goods and services that can be obtained from these planted trees. Ms. Rusli called for improved criteria and indicators for managing forests for carbon. She also called for efforts to publicize the extensive work on FLR and forest management that countries like Indonesia are undertaking.

During the ensuing dialogue, the speakers and panelists discussed how to scale up FLR efforts. Patrick Wylie noted that there is a lot of data available at the macro level but there is a need for more national level information. The Global Partnership for Forest Landscape Restoration (GPFLR) can play a role in filling this information gap (<http://ideastransformlandscapes.org>); REDD+ projects can and should seek to generate national information on FLR opportunities.

Mr. Jintiach discussed what REDD+ and FLR meant to him as an indigenous leader. He noted that concepts of collective rights and benefit sharing were changing rapidly and pleaded for indigenous and other local

people not to be forgotten in activities to implement FLR and REDD+. He hoped that forests could be treated as a truly shared resource by governments and the people who live in and around them. Ms. Jagger agreed with Mr. Jintiach, stating that REDD or other forest-related initiatives have little chance of working if they don't take into account community and indigenous peoples' rights. The process of granting concessions for natural resource management needs to take these concerns into account.

The final segment of the forum opened the discussion to members of the audience. Questions and selected answers included:

- What type of national data is required to undertake FLR?
- What exactly is being restored in Indonesia (with the point made that the aim should be to restore the functions and capacity of ecosystems)?  
*Ms. Rusli responded that her country was (eg) monitoring fires and illegal clearing, etc to know where to focus; she noted that scaling up FLR depends on global support.*
- Who has the responsibility and rights over restored forests?  
*Mr. Jintiach hoped that local communities and indigenous people would be granted more responsibility and rights but that this would depend on governments.*
- Can communities Plant a Pledge?  
*Mr. Wylie noted that the campaign website contains details of the many different kinds of pledges made.*
- Why aren't existing policies that already exist translated into action?  
*Mr. Wylie noted the need for political will and Ms. Rusli stressed the difficulties of implementing FLR in many countries.*
- How will the quality of FLR undertaken through the Bonn Challenge be ensured?  
*Mr. Wylie explained that a steering committee had been established to assess pledges and quality.*
- Why is the focus on rehabilitation rather than on combating forest degradation before it occurs?  
*Mr. Wylie explained that FLR should be part of a more holistic approach, ie part of a package to promote sustainable forest management and sustainable development.*
- What is the panel's advice for countries just starting the process of FLR?  
*Mr. Wylie noted that the Bonn Challenge can help to leverage political will and initiative to start FLR work.*

Not all questions could be answered due to time limitations. The moderator closed the session by requesting the rapporteur to provide a brief summary of the key points raised in the discussion forum. These were:

- Momentum for FLR is growing, with the work of the GPFLR, the Bonn Challenge and IUCN's Plant a Pledge campaign helping to promote interest and involvement
- FLR has great potential to contribute to reducing poverty, sustainable development, human rights, carbon sequestration, etc.
- Proven techniques are available for FLR, many positive examples already exist
- People have to be involved in FLR, especially people living in or around forests
- Need for better national data and political will at national level
- FLR should be part of a package towards SFM
- Need for quality control mechanisms in FLR and programs like Plant a Pledge

## FOREST LANDSCAPE RESTORATION: ENHANCING MORE THAN CARBON STOCKS

**FOREST DAY 6 – Living Landscapes**  
**December 2, 2012: 1600-1730**  
**Renaissance Doha City Centre Hotel, Doha, Qatar**

### Programme

16:00 – 16:05 **Introduction from Moderator:** Jurgen Blaser, Professor, Bern University, Switzerland

16:05 – 16:15 **Introductory presentation:** Patrick Wylie, Senior REDD+ Adviser, IUCN

16:15 – 16:25 **Keynote statement:** Bianca Jagger, Ambassador, Plant a Pledge Campaign; Founder and Chair, Bianca Jagger Human Rights Foundation

16:25 – 16:40 **Initial statements by panelists** (5-7 min each)

#1 – Mr. Juan Carlos Jintiach, Leader – International relations and chair of the Indigenous Climate Change Forum, Coordinating Body of Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon Basin (COICA)

#2 – Dr. Yetti Rusli - Advisor to the Minister for Environment & Climate Change – Ministry of Forestry of Indonesia

16:40 – 17:10 Dialogue among the panelists/speakers, directed by Moderator, taking into account the Restoration Discussion Forum's key questions and the introductory presentation

17:10 – 17:25 Questions from the audience

17:25 – 17:30 Closing remarks by Moderator

### Key questions to inspire discussion by the panelists

- What is the state of the art of forest landscape restoration in degraded and secondary forests? How can we assess and integrate the benefits of climate change mitigation, biodiversity conservation and sustainable livelihoods in forest landscape restoration?
- What is the potential of forest landscape restoration in achieving global climate change mitigation and biodiversity conservation goals? What would be the best strategies to achieve such global goals?
- How can we scale up forest landscape restoration? How do we promote forest landscape restoration activities in enhancing carbon stocks from degraded forests within the framework of REDD+?
- Why is restoration important from a human rights perspective?