

SUSTAINING TROPICAL FORESTS



INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL
TIMBER ORGANIZATION



WHO IS ITTO?

ITTO IS AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION PROMOTING THE CONSERVATION & SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT, USE & TRADE OF TROPICAL FOREST RESOURCES.

OUR MEMBERSHIP
CURRENTLY INCLUDES

70+

COUNTRIES

INCLUDING THE EUROPEAN UNION

COVERING
80%

OF THE WORLD'S
TROPICAL FORESTS

AND

90%

OF THE TROPICAL
TIMBER TRADE

OUR MISSION

To foster a global effort to conserve, restore and sustain the world's tropical forests. We pioneer ideas and approaches for effective Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) and put them into practice by facilitating international partnerships and implementing local projects.

THE GLOBAL LEADER
IN THE SUSTAINABLE
MANAGEMENT OF
TROPICAL FORESTS
FOR NEARLY 30 YEARS.

VISION

Enhance community livelihoods and economic resilience through the sustainable use of forest products;

Reduce deforestation and promote biodiversity conservation;

Provide adaptive solutions to climate change;

Improve legality and market transparency of tropical timber and timber products;

Increase the efficiency of forest industries.

WHAT DOES SFM MEAN?

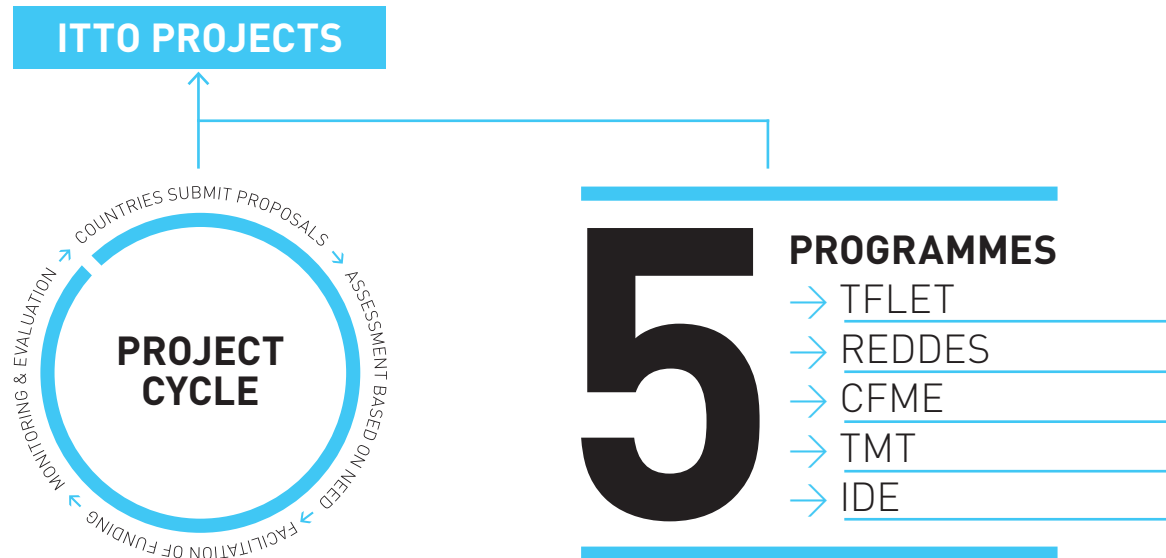
SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT MEANS MANAGING & PROTECTING FORESTS TO UPHOLD THEIR SOCIOECONOMIC & ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES FOR CONTINUED PRODUCTIVITY.

Achieving SFM is essential for improving the social and economic condition of forest dependent communities while also maintaining ecosystem services, such as the provision of clean water, the sequestration of carbon and the conservation of biological diversity.

Our programmes and projects have been instrumental in achieving SFM in tropical forests; however, more work is required. Through our leadership, we provide the foundation to make SFM possible for the world's tropical forests.

Projects are developed in two ways;

Through a country-driven project cycle and five unique programmes of work.





ITTO HAS FUNDED OVER

1000

PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES
VALUED AT USD

\$400
MILLION

FOREST LAW ENFORCEMENT, GOVERNANCE AND TRADE

REDUCING DEFORESTATION AND FOREST DEGRADATION AND ENHANCING ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

COMMUNITY FOREST MANAGEMENT AND ENTERPRISES

TRADE AND MARKET TRANSPARENCY

INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND EFFICIENCY

Local community in
Cordillera del Condor, Ecuador.
Photo: N. Kingman

A photograph of three women in a forest setting. The woman in the center is holding a small green seedling in a black plastic nursery bag. She is looking at the camera with a slight smile. The woman to her right is looking down at the seedling. The woman on the far left is partially visible, wearing a dark blue garment with a gold and black patterned strap. The background is a lush green forest.

SFM MEANS: CREATING SUSTAINABLE, RESILIENT LIVELIHOODS

Nursery of the
Asháninka ethnic group.
Photo: R. Guevara

OUR GOAL IS TO WORK WITH FOREST-DEPENDENT COMMUNITIES TO CREATE SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS & DEVELOP STRONG & RESILIENT LOCAL ECONOMIES.

CASE STUDY: PERU

Working in collaboration with Peru's natural resource management agency, ITTO funded a project to help seven indigenous communities of the Asháninka ethnic group assess the timber potential of their forests, develop forest management plans and negotiate to obtain fair prices for timber sales. The project also trained youth in forest management and timber-processing skills, and assisted women in organising mothers' groups to undertake income earning activities, including forest tree nursery management and ecotourism.

Working in partnership with communities is key to achieving sustainably managed forests.



Create more efficient forest resource processing practices.

Build local capacity in managing and using forest resources sustainably.

Help facilitate access to forest resources and land tenure rights.

Access markets and negotiate fair prices for forest products.

The future prospects for the community have changed a lot with the project. The young people of our community will now be able to better manage our forests and will also be able to continue improving in the future.

Fernández Santo B, Sargento Lorenz community, Peru.

SFM MEANS: SUPPORTING FOREST PROTECTION

ITTO'S WORK CONTRIBUTED TO
A **50%** INCREASE IN THE AREA OF
TROPICAL FOREST UNDER SUSTAINABLE
MANAGEMENT BETWEEN 2005 & 2010.

*Gorilla, Kahuzi-Biega National Park, Democratic Republic of the Congo.
Photo: A. Boedihartono*



CREATING GUIDELINES

In 2009, in partnership with the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), ITTO developed and released guidelines for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in tropical timber production forests. These guidelines used lessons learned from several ITTO projects and activities, including a project in northern Congo, one of the most critical regions for biodiversity in Africa, and home to endangered species such as gorillas.


BUILDING CAPACITY

ITTO collaborates directly with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) to build local capacity in the major timber exporting countries of the world. Training in areas such as wood identification and timber tracking has significantly improved the management and conservation of tree species.

CASE STUDY: MALAYSIA/INDONESIA

Supporting transboundary protected area development:

ITTO supports more than 10 million hectares of transboundary conservation areas. For example, ITTO funded a biodiversity conservation project across borders in Malaysia and Indonesia, protecting 1.2 million hectares of vital habitat for over 4000 orangutans. The project also helped the local government protect their forests by reducing the threat of illegal logging and creating new income earning opportunities for community members.


An aerial photograph of a river winding through a vast, dense tropical forest. The river is light-colored, possibly due to sediment or sunlight reflecting off the water. The forest is a deep green, with varying shades indicating different types of trees and vegetation. The river flows from the upper left towards the lower center of the frame.

Kuankus River, Ecuador.
Photo: A. Bellusi & N. Kingman

OUR WORK REDUCES ILLEGAL FOREST ACTIVITIES & FOREST DEGRADATION & BUILDS CAPACITY IN MANAGING CONSERVATION AREAS.

Working with the local communities has taught us that [they] need not be a hindrance to biodiversity conservation. Indeed, the local people are in a better position to help the government to protect the forest and its resources because they are on the ground. This is one of the most important lessons that we have learnt.

Sarawak Chief Minister, Malaysia.

A group of local women in a forest nursery. The women are wearing colorful headwraps and patterned clothing. They are standing in a lush green environment with many young plants in black plastic pots. The background is filled with dense tropical foliage.

Local women at work in their community
nursery in the Worobong South Forest Reserve.
Photo: P. Masupa

**SFM MEANS:
RESPONDING
TO CLIMATE
CHANGE**

Four women standing in a forest nursery. They are wearing colorful headwraps and patterned clothing. They are standing in a lush green environment with many young plants in black plastic pots. The background is filled with dense tropical foliage.

OUR PROJECT WORK DIRECTLY
CONTRIBUTES TO LOCAL CLIMATE
CHANGE SOLUTIONS THROUGH
REFORESTATION, FOREST PROTECTION
& RESTORATION ACTIVITIES.

Tropical forest ecosystems play an important role in mitigation and adaptation to climate change. When managed sustainably, forests have the potential to absorb about one-tenth of global carbon emissions projected for the first half of this century.

Healthy forest ecosystems also help forest-dependent communities adapt to the impacts of climate change. Through our projects and the REDDES Programme, we enhance climate change mitigation and environmental services of tropical forests in our member countries by collaborating with REDD+ initiatives including UN-REDD and others.

CASE STUDIES

In the Ankasa conservation area, **Ghana**, ITTO is promoting participatory governance and management systems, helping communities actively participate in forest conservation for REDD+. By supporting community-based forest management, the project will reduce emissions from forest loss and degradation and assist communities in creating benefit-sharing opportunities for REDD+ finance.

In **Indonesia**, ITTO is facilitating multi-stakeholder processes for a national strategy to implement SFM for successful REDD+ outcomes. The project established a national database, delivered methodologies and raised awareness with over 500 diverse local and national stakeholders on the importance of SFM in achieving Indonesia's REDD+ goals.

ITTO is also helping native communities benefit from REDD+. In the Ese'Eja community in Infierno, **Peru**, ITTO has helped provide studies to uphold native land rights, and assisted communities to strengthen their forest management capacity to adhere to international carbon standards, such as the Climate, Community and Biodiversity Alliance (CCBA) and the Voluntary Carbon Standard (VCS).

OUR IMPACT

30
REDD+ PROJECTS IN
27
TROPICAL COUNTRIES

→ FACILITATED WORKSHOPS TO EDUCATE STAKEHOLDERS ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF SFM AND REDD+.



→ HELPED BUILD COMMUNITY FOREST MANAGEMENT CAPACITY TO IMPROVE INTEGRATION OF CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION IN SFM, AND SUPPORT SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAFEGUARDS IN REDD+.



SFM MEANS: IMPROVING FOREST GOVERNANCE


Access to reliable and up-to-date data on the forest sector, as well as an improvement of capacities and effective actions to monitor logging activities...are essential components of greater transparency and better governance...Thanks to the information generated, stakeholders can easily access and process most recent and relevant data relating to the monitoring of forest activities.

Benoit Mertens and Pierre Méthot, World Resources Institute.

WE FACILITATE STRONG
& INCLUSIVE GOVERNANCE
POLICIES & PROCESSES TO IMPROVE
TRANSPARENCY, PARTICIPATION
& ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE TROPICAL
FOREST INDUSTRY.

Our work plays a vital role in developing and implementing local, regional, sub-national and national forest management policies that encourage effective leadership, generate valuable dialogue and improve practical policy application.

We provide critical information about the global timber trade to help governments put constructive forest policies in place and assist industry organisations, NGOs and communities to make good decisions about forest governance. By regularly providing this data, we have helped increase transparency and decrease illegal logging thereby assisting the efforts of our partners around the world to carry out their work more effectively.



Logs arriving at the log yard, Indonesia.
Photo: R. Carrillo



THE **TROPICAL TIMBER MARKET REPORT** (TTM), DELIVERED TO 12,000 SUBSCRIBERS, IMPROVES TRANSPARENCY IN THE INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER MARKET BY PROVIDING MARKET TRENDS & TRADE NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD, AS WELL AS INDICATIVE PRICES FOR OVER 400 TROPICAL TIMBER & ADDED VALUE PRODUCTS.

ITTO PROVIDES THE WORLD'S LARGEST SOURCE OF DATA & STATISTICS ON THE TROPICAL TIMBER TRADE THROUGH ITS ANNUAL REVIEW AND ASSESSMENT OF THE WORLD TIMBER SITUATION WHICH RECEIVES OVER 6000 HITS ON ITTO'S WEBSITE ANNUALLY.



ITTO HAS UNDERTAKEN WORK TO IMPLEMENT AN **INDEPENDENT MARKET MONITORING SYSTEM.**

DELIVERING SFM MEANS:



ADVANCING POLICY & PUTTING IT INTO PRACTICE

Drawing on 30 years of experience and knowledge of tropical forests, we advance, test and put into action policies that support the sustainable management and protection of tropical forests and related trade.

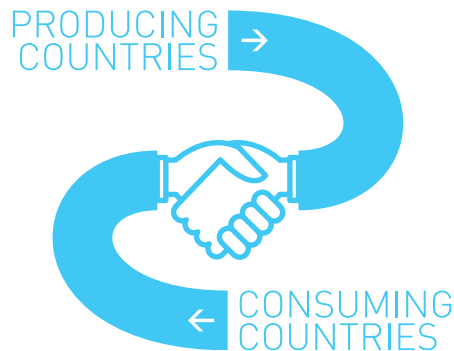
*Cordillera del Condor, Ecuador.
Photo: A. Bellusi & N. Kingman*



DELIVERING PROJECTS ON THE GROUND

Our dynamic Secretariat has global reach; we work directly with developing countries on the ground to deliver effective projects that result in the sustainable and legal management of tropical forest resources and local economic development.

We work alongside local organisations to build capacity and create local ownership of sustainability in forest dependent communities.



FOSTERING TRUSTED PARTNERSHIPS

Our projects and policy work are developed on the basis of a fair, equal and mutually beneficial partnership between tropical timber producing countries and tropical timber consuming countries.

Our work benefits from partnerships with stakeholders at all levels: intergovernmental, non-governmental, civil society, private sector, tropical forest conservation and trade organisations, and training and research institutions.



MAKING A POSITIVE IMPACT

- Sustainable, resilient livelihoods and economic development.
- Forest protection, conservation and species protection.
- Mitigating and adapting to the impacts of climate change.
- Improved forest governance.

PARTNER WITH US

TOGETHER WE CAN SUSTAIN THE WORLD'S TROPICAL FORESTS.

Our work over the last 30 years has had a positive impact on the world's tropical forests but there is still much to achieve. Please work with us to help realise our vision to ensure forests are here for the future.

To learn more about our organization, programmes and projects, visit us at www.itto.int

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