



Forests

The 8th roundtable at Rio+20

Integrating forests into the global agenda on sustainable development

19 June 2012

Royal Tulip Hotel, Gavea Room

A concept note prepared by
the Center for International Forestry Research



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CIFOR advances human wellbeing, environmental conservation and equity by conducting research to inform policies and practices that affect forests in developing countries. CIFOR is one of 15 centres within the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). CIFOR's headquarters are in Bogor, Indonesia. It also has offices in Asia, Africa and South America.

1 Summary

In June 2012, one of the most important environmental gatherings in a generation will take place in Brazil – Rio+20. The summit will mark the 20th anniversary of the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992 and seek, as its key objective, to secure progress on developing a global green economy. Toward that goal, organisers have identified seven key issues to form new sustainable development goals: jobs, energy, cities, food, water, oceans and disasters. Forests, however, have been largely excluded from most of these key issues – with only one mention in the description of ‘food’.

While it is important that the Rio+20 meeting explore new ground in addressing the emerging problems of the 21st century, forests must remain high on the agenda in 2012. Forests make important – but underappreciated – contributions toward solving many of the problems that are on the table at these discussions. And it is critical that Rio+20 deliver a global message that forests matter.

Therefore, the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) will hold a conference on the eve of the Rio+20 Summit to inform 400-500 environmental negotiators, global and national leaders, policy makers and other leading stakeholders on critical role forests play a global green economy. The event will discuss new research findings – and remaining knowledge gaps -- and their policy implications for integrating forests into the solutions to four key challenges to progress toward a green economy, namely energy, food and income, water, and climate. Recent research by CIFOR and others has shown that:

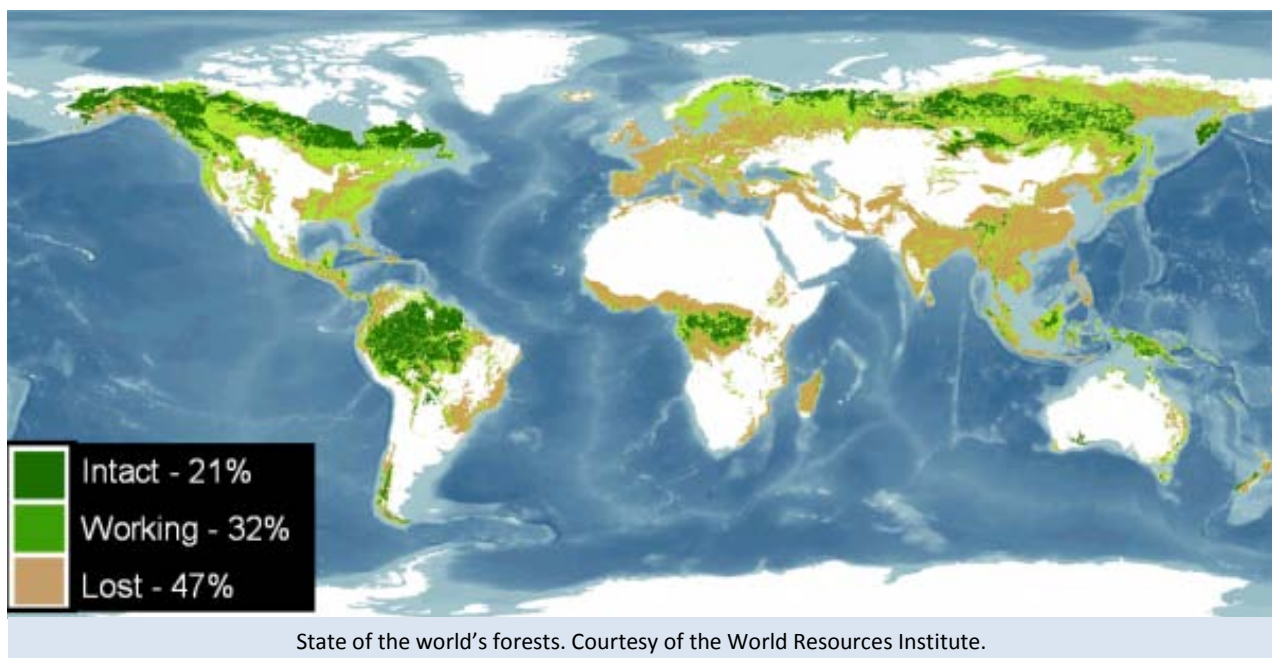
- Forests constitute an important source of biomass for **energy** supply and are directly threatened by land-use change to meet a growing global demand for biofuels;
- Forests directly contribute to rural diets and cash **incomes** of the world’s poorest, and without forests, plans to secure future **food** supplies through sustainable intensification of agriculture will be compromised.
- Forested catchments supply a vital source of clean **water** for human use: an estimated 75% of usable water worldwide;
- Forests play a vital role in slowing the pace of **climate change** through carbon storage and in helping countries adapt to climate change; with deforestation and forest degradation currently account for 15-17% of global carbon emissions, thereby accelerating climate change.

2 Introduction

2.1 Why are forests important?

Forests make up 31 percent of the world's entire land mass and provide essential resources to the daily livelihoods of close to 1.6 billion people – more than a quarter of the world's population¹. Forests are key to many ecosystem services, including mitigating and adapting to climate change, influencing weather patterns, capturing and storing carbon, providing food and fuelwood for many poor and vulnerable communities, conserving biodiversity and generating employment.

However, in the time it takes to read this document, an area of forests roughly equal to almost 550 football fields (247 hectares) will have been lost. Swathes of tropical forest are cleared every year to make way for agriculture, pastures, mining and other non-forest uses, or are degraded by unsustainable and illegal logging and other poor land-use practices. Not only does the destruction of forests immediately worsen the food security of communities that live in and close to forests, it can also have long-lasting negative impacts on the agriculture that feeds us all. In addition, deforestation increases the pace of climate change, which in turn is predicted to shift agricultural patterns worldwide.



For example, large portions of the Amazon rainforest have been cleared for cattle pastures and crops, leaving the remainder more susceptible to fires during the severe droughts, such as those of 2005 and 2010; this has reinforced concerns that the Amazon is reaching a tipping point where large areas of forests give way to savannah-like ecosystems. The situation in the Amazon is not unique and forests are rapidly becoming replaced by grasslands in Africa and Asia as well. This could irreversibly change macroclimate regimes on several continents².

¹ <http://www.fao.org/forestry/livelihoods/en/>

² Lewis et al. 2011, Nepstad et al., 2008, Malhi et al., 2009

“ In the time it takes to read this document, an area of forest equal to almost 550 football fields (247 hectares) will have been lost.”

The large-scale destruction of forests, which are home to 80 percent of terrestrial biodiversity, is also having a severe impact on terrestrial ecosystems. Since 1992 biodiversity in the tropics has decreased dramatically: today almost one-fifth of extant vertebrate species are classified as “threatened” and 1,745 plant species are “critically endangered”, according to the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species³. While efforts to replant forests with trees intended for timber, pulp and firewood production helps to stabilise soil and increase watershed protection, these do not always enrich local biodiversity, due to the heavy reliance on monocultures composed of introduced species, creating “green deserts” largely devoid of biodiversity value.

The demand from both producers and consumers for socially and environmentally sustained timber production has seen certified forests grow by 20 percent each year according to two of the largest timber certification bodies⁴. Still, only 13 percent of global forests in 2011 were under certified sustainable management with the Forest Stewardship Council and Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification⁵.

2.2 How have forests featured so far in the international dialogue on sustainable development?

The concept of sustainable development first emerged for global public discussion in 1972 at the United Nations Conference on Human Environment in Stockholm. The Conference’s resulting documents, the Stockholm Declaration and Action Plan, defined the principles for the preservation and enhancement of the natural environment.

Twenty years later, the issues of environment and sustainable development were brought back to the world agenda at the UN Conference on Environment and Development, popularly known as the Rio Earth Summit, held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. The summit, attended by more heads of state than any other international conference, set the stage for all major international environmental agreements, including the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change – which laid the foundation of the 1997 Kyoto Protocol - and the Convention on Biological Diversity. The summit also produced a non-binding statement of forest principles, which emphasised the global importance of all types of forests to sustainable development and the emergence of the sustainable forest management paradigm.

“ Leaders at Rio+20 must recognise that it is time for a more integrative approach to forests.”

One important message from the 1992 Rio summit was the explicit recognition that forests shall be managed in a socially inclusive, holistic manner. This view paved the road for the inclusion of economic, social, and biophysical aspects under which sustainable forest management would be assessed – the many safeguard criteria that emerged in the 1990s were based upon these three pillars.

³ IUCN 2010. IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2010.3; Hoffman et al., 2010

⁴ UNEP GEO data portal (FSC, PEFC)

⁵ UNEP GEO data portal (FSC, PEFC)

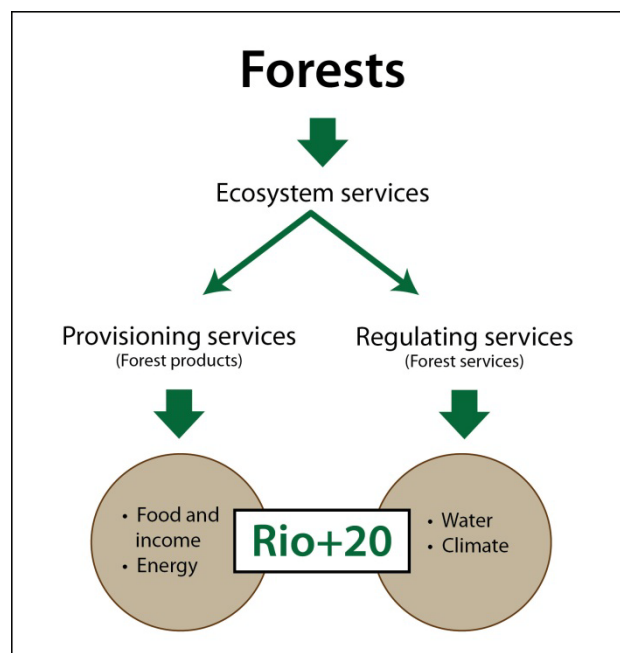
Rio 1992 accelerated the ongoing trend towards de-centralization, local ownership, and devolution of ancestral forest lands to indigenous and local communities. It also placed the issue of “forest sovereignty” on the negotiating table through landmark agreements aimed at genetic resource access, prior informed consent, and/or bioprospecting from foreign individuals and companies.

The incentive-based scheme, Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) – a climate change mechanism designed to channel funds from developed to developing countries to protect the world's forests – was formally recognised at the UNFCCC 13th Conference of the Parties (COP13) in 2007 under the Bali Action Plan. REDD+ exemplifies how climate concerns can be addressed through integration of sustainable forest management with social development and poverty eradication and is vital at a time when unsustainable practices and economic crises continue to threaten healthy forests and the people who depend upon them.

2.3 Forests must be integrated into the Rio+20 discussions

In June 2012, more than 40,000 participants and world leaders are expected to descend on Rio to mark the 20th anniversary of the Earth Summit (Rio+20), which has been billed as the most important environmental gathering in a generation. The objective of Rio+20 is to renew political commitment and progress on developing a global green economy through sustainable development and poverty eradication.

The meeting will discuss seven key issues (jobs, energy, food, water, cities, oceans and disasters) that are the focus on “green economy” principles. While forests have been mentioned briefly – in the description of the food roundtable -- research by CIFOR and others has shown that forests have instrumental but underappreciated roles to play in many of these areas. According to the UN Millennium Ecosystem Assessment Framework⁶, the ecosystem services that forests provide can be split into two classifications: **provisioning services**, or forests products, obtained from ecosystems such as food and firewood, and **regulating services**, or benefits obtained from the regulation of ecosystem services, such as climate stabilisation. Most of the key issues to be discussed at Rio+20 directly relate to these two types of services provided by forests.



Two types of ecosystem services that forests provide according to the UN Millennium Ecosystem Assessment

⁶ Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, 2005. Ecosystems and Human Well-Being: Synthesis Report. Island Press, Washington DC.

Forest provisioning services (forest products)

The first of two science panels will focus on the role forests play in three key issues at Rio+20: Energy, Food and Jobs.



Energy: Forests provide an important source of biomass for energy supply. According to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, in some parts of Africa, wood fuels account for almost 90% of primary energy consumption⁷, and satisfy the energy needs primarily of the rural and urban poor. It takes 7 to 10 tonnes of raw wood to produce one tonne of wood charcoal, making fuelwood collection an important driver of deforestation in Africa, a continent of nearly one billion

people who have few alternative fuel sources. Underscoring the urgency to supply a sustainable fuel alternative to replace wood, the International Energy Agency (IEA) predicts that if business continues as usual, by 2030 traditional sources of biomass energy in sub-Saharan Africa would still account for about three-quarters of total residential energy⁸.

At the same time, rising oil prices and growing concerns about climate change have heightened commitment of industrialized countries to finding new sources of renewable energy, mainly aimed at expanding the production and use of first-generation liquid biofuels for transportation. However, the latter has placed additional demand on biofuel feedstock crops, such as oil palm, sugarcane, soy and *Jatropha*, which are often grown on former forested lands. Research by CIFOR and others has shown the clearing of forests for biofuel crops can reduce or even eliminate these fuels' positive impact on the atmosphere if the full life-cycle greenhouse gas emissions are taken into consideration.

As the demand for global energy increases in the future, different sources of forest biomass may play a vital role in providing a more stable energy future. Scientists believe the development of second-generation bioenergy is on the horizon, which could enhance the contribution of forests residues to cellulosic bioenergy supply⁹. However it also may lead to add additional pressures on land systems and impacts on forest conservation¹⁰.

Food and Jobs: Forest resources are essential to the daily livelihoods of more than a billion of the world's poorest people. In rural areas of the Congo Basin, for example, many communities depend on meat hunted in forests for up to 80 percent of the fats and proteins in their diets. In areas where fish are an important source of protein, forests – including floodplain forests and mangroves – support the aquatic ecosystems necessary to maintain fish stocks. Fats sourced from oil palms are essential to rural diets in West and Central Africa, while starch from the sago palm is consumed on a regular basis by a million people across Southeast Asia and the Southwest Pacific. Forest fruits and greens supply many of the “micronutrients” that keep rural communities nourished and healthy.

⁷ <http://www.fao.org/docrep/x2740E/x2740E00.htm>

⁸ International Energy Agency (IEA) 2002. Energy and poverty. Chapter 13. In World Energy Outlook 2002. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Paris, France. 530p.

⁹ Eisentraut, A. 2010. Sustainable Production of second -generation Biofuels: Potential and perspectives in major economies and developing countries. International Energy Agency, Paris, France.

¹⁰ Popp, A., M. Krause, J. P. Dietrich, H. Lotze-Campen, M. Leimbach, T. Beringer, N. Bauer. 2012. Additional CO2 emissions from land use change — Forest conservation as a precondition for sustainable production of second generation bioenergy. In *Ecological Economics* 74:64-70.

In addition to their direct contributions to rural diets and cash incomes, forests provide regulating services that support the production of food and other agricultural products. For example, livestock production benefits from the shade provided by forests and trees. Forests provide homes for the bees, bats, and other pollinators of agricultural crops. Production of 87 of the leading global food crops, including fruit, vegetables and grains, is dependent upon animal pollination which accounts for about 35 percent of global crop production. And for many of these crops, agricultural intensification at the expense of forests jeopardizes the provision of pollination services at the landscape scale¹¹. Forests are also crucial for protecting wild relatives of crop plants that can be used for future breeding for pest and disease resistance¹², for sustaining the soil and water base that underpins agriculture, and in mitigating the impacts of climate change and extreme weather anomalies¹³.

“ Each year, people in the Congo Basin consume up to 7 million tons of bushmeat – roughly equal to the amount of beef exports from Brazil – without the widespread destruction of the forest.



Income from natural resources (such as wood for fuel and construction, bushmeat, edible and medicinal plants, and other resources harvested from the wild) is often ignored in many existing tools for assessing poverty and income. A recent global study by CIFOR's [Poverty and Environment Network \(PEN\)](#) found that forest income – on average – constitutes almost one-quarter of total household income for people living in or near forests, topping the amount they gain from agricultural crops. Without recognition in the World Bank's Living Standard Measurement

Survey and other national income accounting systems, the true value of forests in the livelihoods of the world's rural poor will remain largely invisible. Income is also often used to buy food, providing a strong relationship to food security.

In short, future food supplies cannot be secured without forests.

Forest regulating services

The second science panel will focus on the role forests play in two other key issues at Rio+20: Water and Climate.

Water: Forested catchments supply a vital source of clean freshwater for human use: an estimated 75 percent of usable water globally. If kept largely intact, forests enhance the water supplies needed by rural and urban populations by controlling water yield, peak flows, low flows, sediment levels, water chemistry and water quality. Though demand for water continues to rise, remaining forest lands are disappearing due to land use change, climate

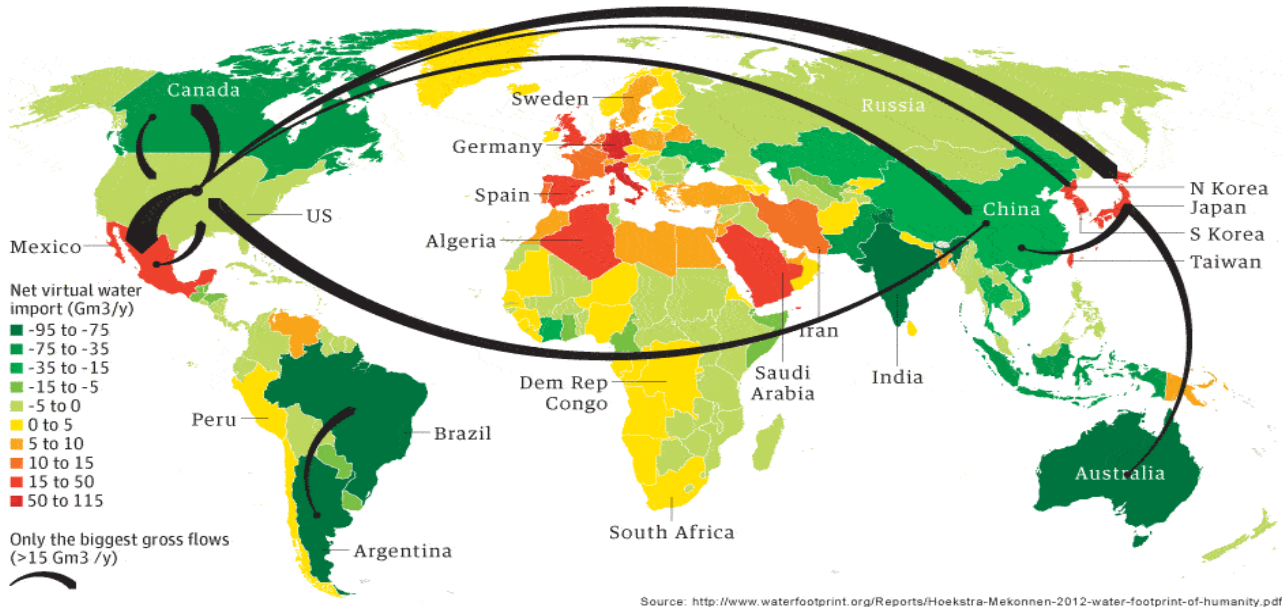
¹¹ Klein et al., 2007. Proc. R. Soc. B

¹² UK Department for International Development, Scuba rice success <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/stories/case-studies/2010/sowing-the-seeds-of-scuba-rice/>

¹³ Arnold M., Powell B., Shanley P., Sunderland T.C.H. 2011. Editorial: Forests, biodiversity and food security. International Forestry Review 13(3): 259-64.

Virtual water balance

The exports and imports of water through food and commodities, 1996-2005



change, insect or disease epidemics and increased fire frequency – affecting the vitality of ecosystems and compromising their hydrological buffering function¹⁴. This will also have negative impacts on the essential services and safety net functions forest ecosystems provide to the livelihoods of local communities, increasing the likelihood of tensions between water users and user groups, at local, community, national and regional levels¹⁵.

Forests appear to mitigate small and local floods, although earlier assumptions that forests also moderate extreme and extensive flooding seems largely to have been exaggerated. One important exception to this, however, may be the reduction of downstream flooding by floodplain forests; they do appear to slow down raging floodwaters as they run downstream¹⁶. Forests also protect soils and reduce erosion rates and the sedimentation of rivers¹⁷. As climate change intensifies, the shade provided by a variety of coastal and riparian forests may also help reduce temperature stresses to aquatic life.

Climate: In recent years there has been growing attention to the role forests play in slowing the pace of climate change and in helping countries adapt to climate change. One of the most promising programs under the UNFCCC has been the scheme to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in tropical countries (REDD+); parties to the convention are looking for significant emissions reductions as well as enhanced



REDD+ projects in West Kalimantan, Indonesia are helping local communities to sustainably manage their forests. Photo courtesy of Ryan Woo/CIFOR.

¹⁴ Oregon State University, 2008, July 14. Greatest Value Of Forests Is Sustainable Water

¹⁵ van der Zaag et al., 2011.

¹⁶ Calder I, T Hofer, S. Vermont and P Warren 2007. Towards a new understanding of forests and water Unasylya Vol. 58, No. 229. FAO: Rome.

¹⁷ Calder I, T Hofer, S. Vermont and P Warren 2007. Towards a new understanding of forests and water Unasylya Vol. 58, No. 229. FAO: Rome.

carbon sinks through this program in the coming years. In addition to mitigating climate change, well-managed forests can help societies to adapt to current climate hazards and future climate change by providing a wide range of ecosystem services. For example, in addition to absorbing and storing carbon in their root systems, mangroves protect coastal areas against storms and waves, regulate water quality, and provide emergency food and fodder to local communities when crops fall victim to extreme climate events like drought. Also, when rural communities in East Kalimantan, Indonesia were recently devastated by a catastrophic flash flood, a CIFOR study found that nearby forests played a crucial role in providing basic subsistence to vulnerable communities for many months following the disaster¹⁸.

¹⁸ Paumgarten and Shackleton, *Population and Environment*. 33 (1) 108-131. 2011; Liswanti et al., *International Forestry Review*. 13 (4) 442-455. 2011

3 Forests: The 8th Roundtable at Rio+20

Against this background, forests are crucial to the issues under discussion at Rio+20. The summit offers a unique opportunity to discuss forests in the context of some of the world's most pressing problems and integrate them into the solutions. Without addressing these forest-related issues at Rio+20, advances to the global challenges being discussed will likely fall short.

For these reasons, and to ensure forests will remain high on the agenda in Rio and globally, CIFOR will convene *Forests: The 8th Roundtable at Rio+20*.

3.1 Objectives

The event will seek to:

- Inform negotiators, policy makers, scientists and the public at the Rio+20 conference of the important role of forests in a future green economy based on a sound scientific evidence base;
- Leverage the global attention at Rio+20 to raise the awareness of the world's forests and the important but underappreciated role they play in providing ecosystem goods and services and in sustaining the global environment and local livelihoods; and
- Provide a platform to promote the findings of the latest research by CIFOR and other organizations, on the relationship between forests and biofuels, food security, income, climate, and intensification of production landscapes while identifying and prioritizing remaining knowledge gaps.

CIFOR will accomplish these objectives by inviting 10-12 outstanding scientists and world leaders for key speaking roles; by informing the discussions with past and present research; and by ensuring the free exchange between speakers and participants throughout the event. CIFOR will further achieve these objectives with a web-based global media and knowledge-sharing campaign entitled "The Road to Rio," commencing three months prior to and leading up and throughout the Rio+20 conference.

CIFOR will invite 400-500 carefully-selected policy makers, scientists, leaders in business, and representatives from donor and development agencies, international and local civil society. CIFOR will endeavour to make the event a "must-attend" gathering of the most influential forest stakeholders, experts and decision makers, while making its content widely available through web-based outreach.

3.2 Timing and Location

Forests: The 8th Roundtable at Rio+20 will be held on June 19, 2012 alongside official Rio+20 events. The venue for the event will be the Royal Tulip Hotel, which has a plenary room that can accommodate up to 500 participants in theatre-style setup.

3.3 Structure and Partners

CIFOR will host the event in collaboration with key partners and sponsors (to be announced).

3.4 Agenda and Speakers

The event will be split into two parts. Following a keynote address by a global leader (to be announced), two science discussion forums will be held in parallel where leading researchers will review the progress or lack thereof in each area since 1992, discuss new research findings and identify remaining gaps in the global challenges of energy, water, climate, food and income security. This will be followed by a policy discussion forum, where leading policymakers and global thinkers will lead a discussion of the implications of these new research findings and gaps on policy.

At the end of the day, participants will be invited to attend a closing cocktail to provide further opportunities for networking and discussion.

The proposed structure of the event is (as follows) currently planned for the afternoon. However, discussions are ongoing with partners that would shift the beginning of the event to the morning, to include a lunch and afternoon session.

| | | |
|-------------|---------------------------------|---|
| 13:00-14:00 | | Registration and welcome drinks |
| 14:00-14:30 | Keynote speech | Why forests matter. The role of forests in poverty alleviation, sustainable development and a green economy. |
| 14:30-16:00 | Science Discussion Forum | Panel 1: Forest Goods (Energy, Food and Income) Panel 2: Forest Services (Water and Climate) |
| 16:00-16:30 | | Coffee break |
| 16:30-18:00 | Policy Discussion Forum | Policy implications of current forestry research |
| 18:00-18:30 | | Closing remarks |
| 18:30-20:30 | | Cocktail reception |

4 CIFOR's experience organizing and convening major events

Founded in 1994, CIFOR is a member of the consortium of 15 research centres that form the CGIAR, and is one of the leading centres in the world with the mandate to carry out globally comparative research on the world's tropical forests, the people who depend on them and biodiversity they embrace. Our research has a strong focus on combating climate change through a multidisciplinary approach that considers the underlying drivers of deforestation and degradation, which often lie outside the forestry sector: forces such as agriculture, infrastructure development, trade and investment policies and law enforcement. This research and expert analysis help policy makers and practitioners shape effective policy, improve the management of tropical forests and address the needs and perspectives of people who depend on forests for their livelihoods.

CIFOR has extensive experience with organising large-scale events and international conferences. Since 2007, CIFOR, on behalf of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, has organized and coordinated the past five annual Forests Days. Forest Day, held alongside the COPs, has become one of the most influential global events on forests. It is a platform for all forest and climate change stakeholders to gather and ensure that forests remain high on the agenda of global and national climate negotiations and strategies.

“ For the past two years, Forest Day has been covered by more journalists than any other global forestry event.”

At Forest Day 1 in Bali in 2007, participants informed the inclusion of forests in the Bali Action Plan. The next year, nearly 1,000 participants gathered at Forest Day 2 in Poznan, to signal the urgency of including forests in the global climate protection regime and clarify the importance of managing forests for livelihoods and biodiversity, as well as carbon storage. At Copenhagen in December 2009, Forest Day 3 attracted nearly 1,500 stakeholders, including more 250 UNFCCC negotiators. Forest Day 4 surpassed its predecessor in terms of attendance,



Indonesian President, Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono addresses participants at “Forests Indonesia” hosted by CIFOR. Photo courtesy of Sade Bimantara.

media coverage and reach, with over 1,500 people from 109 countries (over 53% from developing countries), including 276 UNFCCC delegates attending. More than 1,100 people, including 214 official climate-change negotiators, from 82 countries attended Forest Day 5 in Durban, South Africa – and many participants described it as the most successful to date.

In 2011, CIFOR also hosted “Forests Indonesia,” which provided a platform for 1,000 leaders of Indonesia's government, business community and civil society, as

well as foreign donors, to discuss the future of the third-largest tropical forest area in the world. At the conference, Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhyono vowed to dedicate the last three years of his administration to safeguarding his nation's rainforests.

5 Global Media and Knowledge Sharing Campaign

CIFOR is a world leader in development communication and is a recognised credible news provider of articles to Google News. Between now and July, CIFOR will design and implement an extensive global outreach and media campaign entitled “The Road to Rio,” in the lead-up to, during and after the Summit.

The approach will build on CIFOR’s experience in implementing highly successful and multipronged outreach campaigns for Forest Day and the Forests Indonesia conferences – both of which resulted in hundreds of media articles worldwide. At each event, CIFOR dispatched a team of former journalists (TIME, Associated Press, Bloomberg News) to report for CIFOR Forests Blog, which currently has 25,000 readers worldwide (increased from 300 in January 2011). These blogs – combined with outreach through traditional media, social media and websites – have not only created significant attention and momentum for each event but broadened their impact (see Annex 2 for a full list of blog stories from the recent UN Conference on Climate Change in Durban).

In addition to our extensive engagement with the mainstream press (CIFOR has built a carefully managed mailing list of 2,500 environmental journalists), the centre will invest significant resources to produce multimedia story packages, starting in the months leading up to Rio+20 and continuing well after the conference is concluded. These packages include press releases, blog stories, photo essays and video documentaries, which are not only posted on CIFOR’s website, blog and social media outlets (YouTube, Slideshare, Flickr, Facebook and Twitter news feeds in French, Spanish, Indonesian and English), but also republished by media, reaching tens of thousands of people worldwide – as well as our key audience: official country delegates attending the Rio+20 event.

CIFOR will again dispatch a team of professional writers and journalists to Rio de Janeiro to produce dozens of stories in English, Spanish, French, and Indonesian, that document how forests are featured at the Rio+20 conference and side events.

At the CIFOR-led conference, *Forests: The 8th Roundtable at Rio+20*, an extensive media outreach campaign will be implemented to attract top-tier international and Brazilian journalists to the conference – and provide them access to key speakers through a series of media events. In addition, CIFOR will arrange live web streaming of video from the conference so it can be followed by stakeholders worldwide.

This strategy has proved highly effective at the past two annual Forest Day conferences, as well as the Forests Indonesia conference in 2011. This is despite a widespread drop in media coverage of environmental issues globally since 2009.

Annexes

1. About the Organisers

Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR)

The Center for International Forestry Research is a nonprofit, global facility dedicated to advancing human wellbeing, environmental conservation and equity. We conduct research that enables more informed and equitable decision making about the use and management of forests in less-developed countries. Our research and expert analysis help policy makers and practitioners shape effective policy, improve the management of tropical forests and address the needs and perspectives of people who depend on forests for their livelihoods. Our multidisciplinary approach considers the underlying drivers of deforestation and degradation which often lie outside the forestry sector: forces such as agriculture, infrastructure development, trade and investment policies and law enforcement. CIFOR annually organises Forest Day on behalf of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests. For more information on CIFOR's research agenda and outreach efforts, please go to www.cifor.org.

2. COP 17 Blog stories

www.blog.cifor.org

1. [3 sticking points to tackle on REDD+ in Durban, says facilitator](#)
2. [Carbon market financing biggest factor to determine REDD+ success, says expert](#)
3. [Fears about community rights under REDD+ are justified despite tenure reforms](#)
4. [Asia Pacific negotiators hope for decision on REDD+ financing in Durban](#)
5. [How to connect REDD+ and markets while avoiding crises over access to land](#)
6. [REDD+ best chance for progress on climate change at Durban, says scientist](#)
7. [Failure to have second Kyoto Protocol will threaten UN climate system, says Indonesian negotiator](#)
8. [Adding 'gender' not always a recipe for REDD+ success](#)
9. [Climate talks on "African soil" must help developing countries fight climate change, says Sierra Leone's negotiator](#)
10. [Adaptation activity funding left hanging since Cancun – progress needed at Durban](#)
11. [REDD+ challenges as enormous as its opportunities in the Congo Basin](#)
12. [Mexico pushes for transparency in carbon emissions reporting](#)
13. ['Carbon debt' created by some biofuels must be considered in sustainability debate, new study shows](#)
14. [Negotiators should address illegal logging when crafting REDD+ rules, says watchdog](#)
15. [International community needs to make space for developing countries to take ownership of REDD+](#)
16. [Forested countries need reassurance that "massive investment" in REDD+ will pay off](#)
17. [REDD+ needs to invest in alternative livelihoods before making carbon payments](#)
18. [Newly released draft REDD+ text is robust and emphasises transparency but fails to address verification, says CIFOR scientist](#)
19. [REDD+ developers hesitant to talk carbon to local communities, experts say](#)
20. [New CIFOR map gives first global overview of REDD+](#)
21. [REDD+ draft texts postpone financing decision to 2012, water down safeguards](#)

22. [REDD needs to move quickly as forest degradation decimates Africa's wildlife, says leading conservationist](#)
23. [Countries draft "global business plan" for planet at climate summit, Figueres says](#)
24. [Adaptation-based mitigation: The No-Regrets Option](#)
25. ["Forests cannot be sustained if people are hungry": future climate change negotiations likely to include agriculture](#)
26. [Private sector sees hope in REDD+ from Australia, California market schemes](#)
27. [Expert: Donors could do more to champion gender in climate mitigation and forestry programmes](#)
28. [World Bank: More donors supporting REDD+](#)
29. [Indonesia to release improved moratorium map this week, chair of REDD+ task force says](#)
30. [California working with global governors group to include REDD+ in trade scheme](#)
31. [REDD+ biggest success in climate change talks, Norway says](#)
32. [A day in the life of a REDD+ negotiator](#)
33. [Durban talks both good and bad for REDD+, says expert](#)
34. [Speaking out on climate change: COP17 in quotes](#)
35. [Undying flame: Replacing fuelwood with bamboo may help to combat Africa's deforestation crisis](#)
36. ["Stop Talking, Start Planting": Children fight for their future](#)