

Growing Together

Enhanced engagement will rely on voluntary, collaborative initiatives. It will respond to the interest and commitment of individuals and organisations able to contribute to the process. Over the next three years we are planning a number of different activities. Some of the areas where participation will be needed now are in:

- Identifying examples of good partnerships that might provide a model for a new forest partnership as well as sharing information on the specific partnerships' needs. Join our growing **Wall of Friends** (see below) and tell us about partnerships that could realise new forest potentials.
- Taking part in pilot country processes – we aim to build on existing local strengths and to stimulate participation in people's diagnostics and other activities exploring and supporting new ways of working across sectors and communities.
- Raising awareness about **Growing Forest Partnerships** – sharing knowledge and ideas or contributing to in-country research programmes

Together, if we can get this right it will provide us, our communities, our organisations, our countries and our world with more sustainable livelihoods.



Growing the Wall of Friends

If you are interested in giving us your opinion on what a new kind of partnership could look like, or telling us about a new kind of partnership you are developing please let us know. We are building a Wall of Friends – short video film and written messages from all kinds of different stakeholders – that we will bring together on the partnership website, Facebook, as well as displaying at a number of different national and international events. Please contact liz.carlile@iied.org



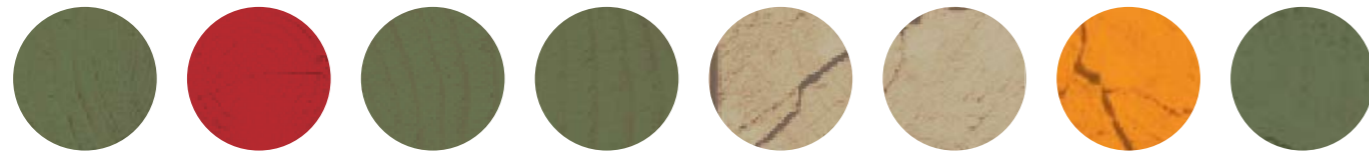
Contact details

Growing Forest Partnerships is an initiative designed to facilitate local and international partnerships and investment to support stakeholders in their efforts to improve forest livelihoods and ecosystem services. An evolving catalytic group currently comprising the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), The International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the World Bank and supported by the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) is facilitating the initiative in its development phase.

Your feedback on this flyer is welcomed
growingforestpartnerships@iied.org

Growing Forest Partnerships





Vision

Imagine a world where forests and the different people who live and work in them are in balance. Where forests are looked after so that they can support people's livelihoods, offer opportunities to tackle climate change, provide good economic returns for responsible businesses, and raise revenue for governments.

Glimpses of such a world can already be seen. Many excellent approaches to forest management have been pioneered by forest communities, businesses and national governments and are thriving today.

International institutions already offer resources and frameworks to support sustainable management and economic return from the world's forests – but they find it challenging to work together as demands intensify from many diverse groups who rely on forests for their livelihoods.

Many forest businesses understand sustainable management, and some are adopting voluntary improvements and certification – but are calling for a clear way of engagement that rewards good long-term practice.

Some discriminating markets buy sustainable products and some even pay higher prices for them – but they remain the exception not the rule.

Local forest owners and small enterprises are well placed to contribute to sustainable forestry – but lack clear tenure, market options and support to develop their business capacity.

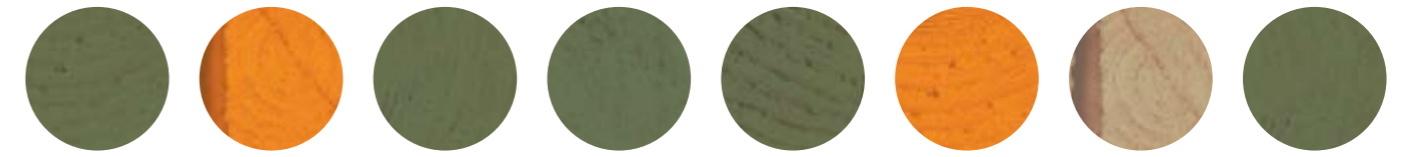
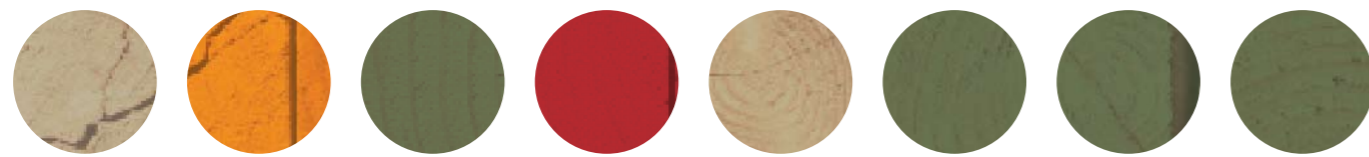
Those approaches that are succeeding are increasingly based on open communication and vibrant partnerships between government, private enterprises, communities and smallholders. We now need to build on this – finding new ways of working that enable different interests and constituencies to communicate and work together to make the right choices.

The need for context-specific solutions is pressing. Forests and our expectations of them are changing rapidly.

Climate change is putting the spotlight on the world's forests and the potentials they offer for mitigation and adaptation. New sources of funding are being directed towards forestry to achieve this – but it is not yet clear how well they will also support financial, social and biodiversity needs. The growing demand for food and biofuels is increasing competition for forested lands. There are not enough sources of finance and information in place to ensure that the forest community can make the most of rapidly changing opportunities.

How can we get strong and equal partnerships among all interest groups so that the world's forests remain a healthy public good – sustaining local jobs and livelihoods, national development and global benefits such as carbon storage?

Something different is needed and is needed now...



What people want from the world's forests

A recent worldwide consultation¹ welcomed the idea of a new effort in partnership-building for forests – one that brings together ideas and perspectives, global to local, in a new way of working together so that forest needs are met for all.

The responses called for an exploration to search out effective partnerships that can both build on the good work done so far and bring out new ideas – ideas that will reach across sectors to tackle both the causes of forest problems that lie in other sectors, and to attract the resources of these sectors to sustain forests.

Just as our forests thrive on a vast range of species of plants and animals working together so we need to diversify and grow new partnerships that offer different choices and bring new alliances closer together with international sources of support.

Achieving this would:

- empower forest stakeholders
- make effective connections within the forest sector and across to other sectors
- provide practical mechanisms to sustain and reward climate change mitigation and other global public goods in diverse local forest conditions
- improve the quality and quantity of forestry investment
- link national needs and priorities with the international forestry agenda

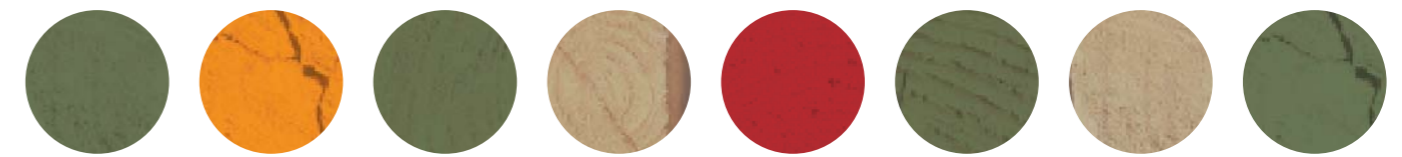
More and better partnerships

A range of partnerships that eventually combine to truly global effect can only be forged through the interest and involvement of a wide range of stakeholders from local community groups and indigenous forest dwellers, to forestry corporations, to international agencies and national governments.

Over the next three years in the run up to 2011, the International Year of the Forest, **Growing Forest Partnerships** (GFP) – a process of enhanced engagement – is under way to identify what new partnerships are already emerging locally, nationally and internationally and to support a good number of practical examples.

This is likely to include:

- **Identifying effective partnerships** and rehearsing, in pilot countries, how some partnership models might be expanded.



The stakeholder challenge... Voices from a recent consultation

- *"Partnerships that put real forest-dependent groups at the centre. Linking indigenous peoples, community groups, small enterprises and forest authorities. Initially building on promising local and national partnerships – and ultimately forming global links for knowledge sharing and financing"*
- *"Partnerships that bridge gaps between local and international concerns. Encouraging collaboration that combines global public goods like carbon storage and biodiversity, with local needs like wood and renewable fuels"*
- *"Partnerships for action and investment. After 15 years of international talks, we need to support good forestry and good forest stewards with investment – and to turn financial models away from deforestation"*
- *"Partnerships that 'mainstream' forest needs into other sectors. Sectors such as food, energy and water supplies are both dependent on healthy forests and cause deep-rooted forestry problems; partnerships with them could improve behaviour"*

- **"People's diagnostics" or focus groups** in pilot countries will aim at defining the national objectives and outcomes for the GFP endeavour
- **Improved in-country collaboration of donors** will be forged, so that this collaboration is based entirely on in-country expressed needs
- **Cross-country thematic work** will draw on country processes and, developing innovative, locally practical mechanisms that can both influence and gain from international forestry initiatives
- **Effective and targeted communications** with and between stakeholders, notably through knowledge networking about effective forest partnerships – see over for our Wall of Friends
- **A learning approach**, including regular monitoring and tracking of progress against work plans and targeted outcomes nationally and internationally.

¹ The International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) was invited by the World Bank to carry out an independent consultation on a forest partnership proposal. IIED consulted with over 600 key stakeholders from across the world. The final report of this consultation can be found on www.iiedgfpconsultation.org