Welcome Back to TFD's

# Scoping Dialogue on Climate Positive Forest Products (CPFP)

26 April, 29 April, and **03 May** 2021 Virtual via Zoom

#CPFPscoping





#### **Dialogue Ground Rules**

#### TFD Operates under the Chatham House Rule

"Participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed".

- The "Spirit" of dialogue
- Practice active listening
- Participate as individual
- Take space, make space
- Virtual engagement
- Help define and own the outcomes







#### Agenda – Day 3

10:00 Welcome, Ground Rules, Agenda, Co-Chairs Introductions 10:15 Summary of Session 2 and overarching themes 10:35 Breakout discussion: co-creating strategies and actions 11:50 Break 12:00 Group photo 12:02 Breakout groups report back 12:20 Plenary discussion: Mobilizing stakeholder networks and action 12:45 Reflections and final thoughts 12:55 Wrap up and adjourn (All times in EDT)





#### **Dialogue Co-Chairs**

**Caitlin Clarke** – The Nature Conservancy Lauren Cooper – MSU, Forest Carbon and **Climate Program Ben Kaiser** – Kaiser + Path Architecture Sector Mokena Makeka – Dalberg Advisors **Steve Marshall** – Mass Timber Strategy Sarah Price – Sappi Europe **Rod Taylor** – World Resources Institute



# Climate Positive Forest Products Scoping Dialogue: Day 2 Overview

### Themes from Day 2 – Exploring Challenges

Forest Health, Ecosystem services and Biodiversity Considerations	Forest + Landscape Management	Climate Change Mitigation (and projections)	Social Considerations (human impacts, equity, livelihood, etc.)	Regional variation in supply, need, and risk	Supply and market dynamics for Timber	Barriers to scaling up Mass Timber Industry	Built Environment + Demand
Ecosystem services (carbon as only one, also water, air) Non-timber, non- market forest values Forest habitat and biodiversity Resilience, defining healthy forests	Timescale of carbon on landscape Types of forest management systems and species "Climate-smart" practices Identifying opportunities (restoration, intensive management)	Mitigation potential in natural and built environments Uncertainty in carbon accounting Trade-offs of wood products Urgency of climate as a catalyst	Equity in benefits and providing materials and labor Indigenous Peoples, local communities Governance and land rights	Regional forest availability and wood use from a societal perspective Global south versus global north considerations Challenges facing developing countries	Product substitution for other materials Substitution for other wood uses (cascading uses) Sourcing – use, geography, availability of key species Relationships and influence of key actors Ethics and transparency Material reuse	Familiarity with material Infrastructure and skills Path dependency	Urban planning, housing needs (bioeconomy) Circular Design End of life of mass timber Planning and Decision-makers Bioeconomy, waste materials from urban areas, adhesives and other inputs (non- wood) Materials reuse Perception change

#### Thematic overview

Forests	Forest management, protection of forests (from degradation and land use change), pressure for land and resources
Climate	Pressing challenge of climate change, carbon storage and substitution, and mass timber as a climate mitigation tool
Social	Societal relationship of mass timber – impact on society and societal influence on adoption, forest protection and forest management, and forest-dependent communities
Urban/ Building	Building technology and design, bioeconomy, urban planning and decision-makers

### Cross-cutting challenges

Scale (Global v local scope)	Clarifying which issues are best addressed at which scales
Uncertainty	Lack of data vs discrepancy in data or methodology
Urgency vs risk of harm	Need to move forward with imperfect information and recognize potential for harm

## **Climate: Challenges**

- Urgency to act swiftly and decisively on climate
- Risk of unintended carbon losses (e.g., forest degradation, conversion to plantations) and negative climate impact
- Need to improve measurement and tracking stored carbon
  - LCAs, land-based methods, regional economic trends
- Concern about biodiversity / forest complexity loss
- A need to attract climate mitigation funding

- Its hard to model the impacts of different management practices on climate ..... there's a lot of uncertainty
- There's lots of money being poured into climate mitigation. Can we use that to subsidize/finance the investment needed to transform mass timber supply chains?

### **Climate: Solutions**

- Continued dialogue, identifying trusted voices
- Engaging science and data
  - E.g., refining forest impact information into analysis
- Identify where and how mass timber can be part of climate mitigation targets
- Leveraging mass timber to boost forest sector investment, possibility to increase forest cover and land-based carbon storage
- Set global and regional paths forward

- We may well need a follow-on dialogue that focuses on the science
- We can store carbon in buildings and increase forest cover if we do it right. It could be a net climate positive.
- a common accounting system helps, but won't account for all the variation in local, regional, and national emissions of forest products.

### Forests: Challenges

- Effect of increased demand
  - Conflicting understanding of what increased demand for forest products could mean
- Protection vs Harvest
- Other uses/demands for forest materials
- Many actors involved in forests, land management, and products
- Regional differences in terms of forest product type, confidence in sustainability and governance
- Lack of transparency in wood supply chains and plantation management

- Mass timber is more sustainable but the more mass timber we use, the less sustainable it becomes.
  - This is a huge dilemma. QUANTITY is a huge dimension of sustainability.
- Complex dynamics between geographical regions and interactions with trends in re/afforestation and forest cover loss
- But most deforestation has nothing to do with mass timber or wood for buildings.

#### **Forests: Solutions**

- Use of material
  - Identifying and promoting highest and best use
  - Recycle and re-use material
- Leverage existing networks and build new alignments
- Push forestry actors to keep improving (management, transparency, climate alignment)
- Public perception change: build trust in forestry sector
- Assess opportunities (e.g., species and investments) and risks (e.g., deforestation, landing grabbing) in major regions
- Innovation investment and technology to create more material, more efficiently, and with fewer emissions
- Improve productive forests we have, avoid conversion of complex forests to plantations

- Develop strategies for regional mass timber supply, including both timber and mass timber fabrication
- Forestry folks can often be in the middle between protection vs. production world
- Develop a domestic forest products industries to preserve forest cover and introduce some form of checks and balances

## Social: Challenges

- Need to address development issues alongside promoting a bioeconomy
  - Will look quite different in different parts of the world
- Historic winners and losers in terms of benefitting financially and who must do the work/give up resources (equality concerns)
- Land rights and land use rights
- Varied decision-makers

Examples:

• Seeing social considerations as separate from forest health/climate change/other themes is a big problem - if we don't consider social considerations, livelihoods, we are in big trouble

### Social: Solutions

- Identify and leveraging existing work on social safeguards
  - Influential groups are increasingly assessing and incorporating human rights with corporate activities
- Identify decision makers, sources of information and influence
- Promote access to needed capital to invest in forests and facilities
- Partner with diverse organizations
  - create cohesive and data-backed engagement strategies and monitoring
- Center social considerations: integrate into forest, climate and built environment strategies

- Make this a conversation about not just climate and carbon but also about local community needs: Indigenous land rights; Indigenous population needs; jobs/reskilling in rural communities
- Social can't just be an added benefit or external consideration, it needs to be central i.e. policies need to be defined in a way that centers social issues or else they won't be effective.

# Urban/ Building: Challenges

- Knowledge gap in using the material
  - Architects, urban planners
- No incentives for mass timber
  - Risk aversion for investors and bankers
- Scale of the development need couped with limited global facilities
- Plenty of inertia to continue with current materials

Examples:

• Architects and engineers need to be convinced. Not many people know how to incorporate these new concepts into design.

# Urban/ Building: Solutions

- Increase adoption curve, highlight case studies and proof of concept
- Develop a narrative where mass timber/building with wood is part of a holistic path for the built environment
- Consider material/energy efficiency throughout manufacturing to building use
- Develop incentives
- Education and engagement
- Collaboration with forest sector

Examples:

 There are a lot of opportunities for efficiencies here: (1) within the building sector (less waste), (2) in the manufacturing sector (better resins etc.), and (3) substitutes for fuel wood

## Cross cutting themes (in process)

- Public perception
- Demand
- Innovation
- Safeguards / avoiding negative consequences
- Scale (local, region)
- Policy
- Data/ Research
- Dialogue and collaboration

#### **Breakout group Discussions**

Given the challenges we face in each dimensions, what are some potential solutions and strategies?

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#### **Plenary Discussion**

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#### **CPFP Dialogue Coordination and Support**

**Climate Smart Forest Economy Program Collaborators** 

#### **CPFP Advisory Group**

Stephanie Burrell – WEF *Kerry Cesareo* – WWF Robyn van den Heuvel – Dahlberg Ben Kaiser – Kaiser+Path *Jamie Lawrence* – Good Energies Antti Marjokorpi – Stora Enso Rachel Pasternack – TNC Sarah Price – Sappi Fabrizio Rossi - Climate-KIC *Rod Taylor* – WRI Mark Wishnie – BTG Pactual Yuan Yao – Yale University

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#### **Convener and Host**

Yale SCHOOL OF THE ENVIRONMENT The Forest School



TFD Team + Yale Rapporteurs

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### Thank You!!



# **Thank You!**

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