

THE
FORESTS
DIALOGUE

ENGAGE! EXPLORE! CHANGE!



WELCOME TO THE FORESTS DIALOGUE (TFD), a platform and process for multi-stakeholder discussion and collaboration on the most pressing local and global issues facing forests and people. Our primary tool – **focused dialogue** – is simple and powerful:

We first **ENGAGE** a diversity of interests to foster relationships and build trust around contentious forest issues, or ‘fracture lines’;

We then **EXPLORE** the issues at hand and craft a shared understanding of the objectives, challenges and opportunities ahead;

We ultimately seek **CHANGE** through consensus-based collaboration aimed at immediate action and long-term progress.

OUR PROCESS

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OUR CHALLENGE

CONFLICTS RELATED TO FORESTS are complex and persistent, ranging widely across scales, timeframes, players, and goods and services. Particularly challenging are the inequalities in power, resources and capacity of those with a stake in the forests, which can create fundamental stumbling blocks to finding solutions. A lack of solutions threatens a host of dire environmental, social, and economic consequences: irreversible change to global climate systems, a biodiversity extinction crisis, the exhaustion of resources and collapse of industry sectors, and continued impoverishment of many whose livelihoods depend on forests. TFD works to reduce conflict among forest stakeholders by engaging divergent actors in the pursuit of common action.





OUR COMMITMENT

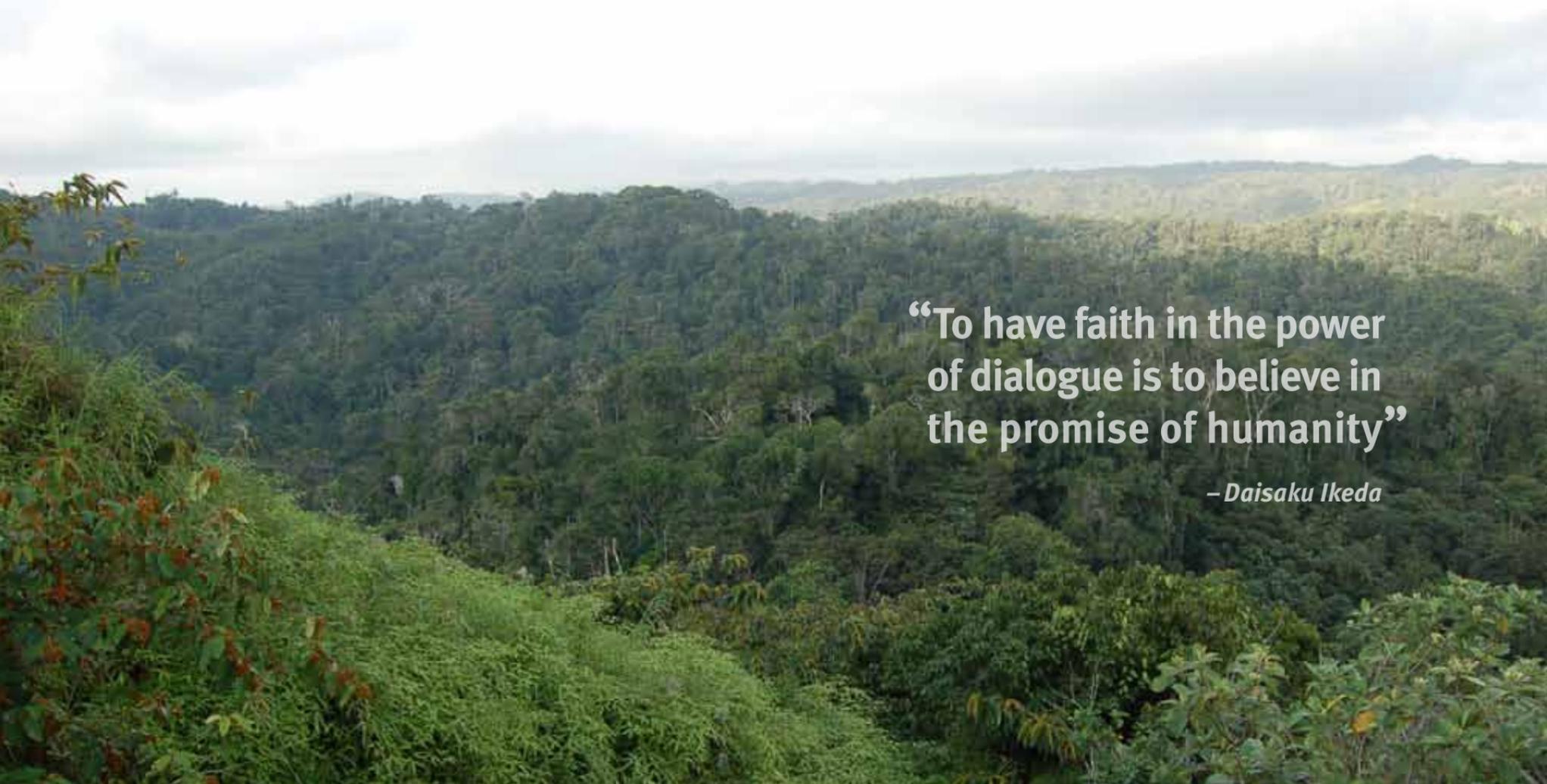
THE PURPOSE AND MISSION OF TFD are designed to confront a broad and evolving landscape of global forest issues.

PURPOSE: *Better forests, improved livelihoods.* To contribute to sustainable land and resource use, the conservation and sustainable management of forests, and improved livelihoods by helping people engage and explore difficult issues, find collaborative solutions, and make positive changes.

MISSION: *Dialoguing can bring change.* To pursue our purpose through constructive dialogue processes among all key stakeholders, based on mutual trust, enhanced understanding and commitment to change. Our dialogues are designed to build relationships and to spur collaborative action on the highest priority issues facing the world's forests.

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A wide-angle photograph of a lush, dense tropical forest. The foreground shows a steep, vegetated slope with various green plants and some reddish-brown flowers. The middle ground is filled with a thick canopy of trees, extending to the horizon. The sky is overcast with soft, grey clouds. The overall scene conveys a sense of natural beauty and vastness.

**“To have faith in the power
of dialogue is to believe in
the promise of humanity”**

– Daisaku Ikeda

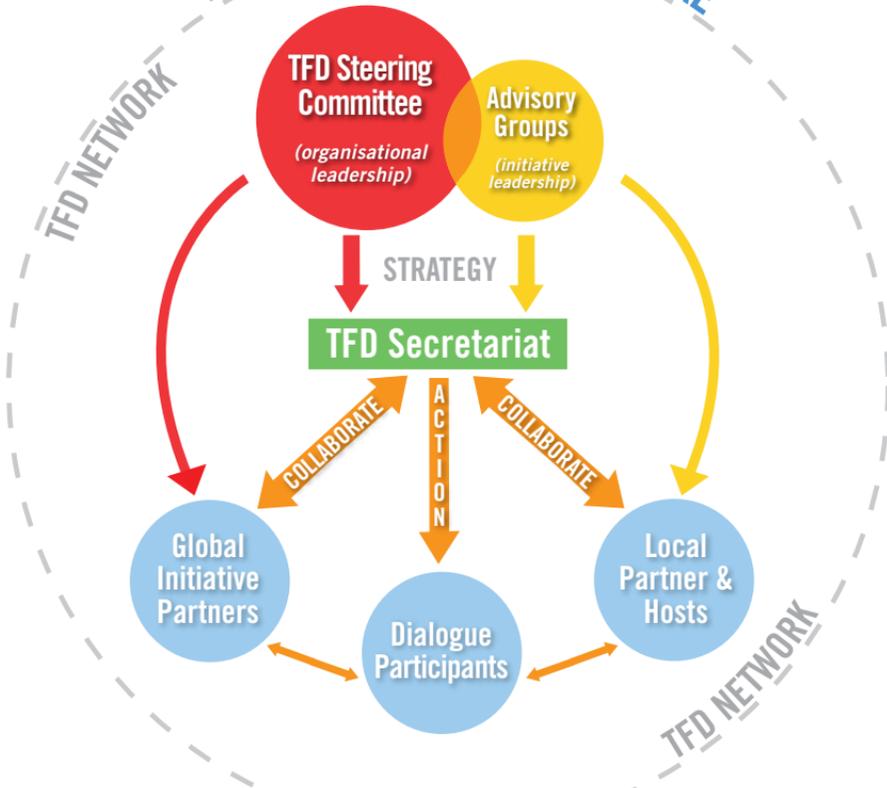


OUR DIALOGUES

TFD DEVELOPS AND FACILITATES

multi-stakeholder dialogue-based initiatives on issues key to the forest sector. We build a dynamic, bottom-up form of dialogue to ensure that stakeholders' concerns are well represented. TFD uses techniques that range from intimate, small-group dialogues to large forums involving hundreds of participants. Direct engagement with issues on the ground at field sites is an important component of many dialogue processes. At the conclusion of each dialogue and initiative, we produce summary publications, form coalitions among key actors, and meet with decision-makers to move from ideas to action.

TFD's ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE



OUR ORGANISATION

TFD FORMED IN 2000 under the guidance of a dedicated group of civil society/private sector leaders who care about forests. Our diverse and representative Steering Committee agrees on each initiative and leads its development. A small and experienced Secretariat staff based at Yale University coordinates and manages the daily operations of TFD, using its extensive network of forest-sector leaders and community members to provide input and support for each ambitious initiative. Finally, TFD relies on a broad donor base to support all of its operations.

www.theforestdialogue.org





OUR INITIATIVES

From year 2000, **TFD** has developed 20 different initiatives, convened 75+ dialogues and engaged more than 3000 participants. We encourage you to explore our work online at www.theforestdialogue.org



TFD STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS - 2021

CHRIS BUSS

International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) –
Switzerland

KERRY CESAREO

WWF – *United States*

MARCUS COLCHESTER

Forest Peoples Programme (FPP) – *United Kingdom*

CRYSTAL DAVIS

World Resources Institute – *United States*

MINNIE DEGAWAN

Conservation International – *United States*

GARY DUNNING

The Forests Dialogue (TFD) – *United States*

JOSÉ CARLOS FONSECA

Ibá - Indústria Brasileira de Árvores – *Brazil*

DAVID GANZ

The Center for People and Forests (RECOFTC) – *Thailand*

PAULA GUIMARÃES

The Navigator Company – *Portugal*

PAUL HARTMAN

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) – *United States*

JUAN CARLOS JINTIACH

Coordinadora de las Organizaciones Indígenas de la Cuenca
Amazónica (COICA) – *Ecuador*

VICTOR LOPEZ

Ford Foundation – *Mexico*

ANTTI MARJOKORPI

Stora Enso – *Finland*

IVONE NAMIKAWA *TFD Co-Leader*

Klabin – *Brazil*

CÉCILE NDJEBET

African Women's Network for Community Management
of Forests (REFACOF) – *Cameroon*

MILAGRE NUVUNGA *TFD Co-Leader*

MICAIA Foundation – *Mozambique*

SAMI OKSA

UPM Kymmene Corporation – *Finland*

SARAH PRICE

Sappi – *Belgium/Switzerland*

KITTISAK RATTANAKRAJANGSRI

Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP) – *Thailand*

FERNANDA RODRIGUES

Diálogo Florestal - Brazilian Forest Dialogue – *Brazil*

FRANCISCO RODRIGUEZ

CMPC – *Chile*

CHRISTOPHER STEWART

Olam – *United Kingdom*

RUTH THOMAS

Global Agribusiness Alliance (GAA) – *United Kingdom*

MARK WISHNIE

BTG Pactual – *United States*

OVERVIEW OF TFD'S INITIATIVES IN 2021

CLIMATE POSITIVE FOREST PRODUCTS (CPFP): Research indicates that climate-positive forest products have the potential to deliver massive climate change mitigation benefits when substituted for traditional resource-intensive inputs under specific conditions and with appropriate safeguards. The pressing need to respond swiftly and decisively to climate change creates both pressure and opportunity to promote climate-positive forest products. However, there is disagreement amongst stakeholders across the forest sector, academia, and climate mitigation policy field amongst other around the impacts increasing demand for climate-positive forest products might have on forests. Using mass timber construction materials as an entry point, the Initiative aims to build understanding and agreement amongst stakeholders around the opportunities, challenges, and knowledge gaps related to utilizing forest products as a climate change mitigation tool.

LAND-USE DIALOGUES (LUD): The 'landscape approach' has been advocated as an inclusive, adaptive approach to managing and allocating land to achieve multiple objectives. Despite strong and renewed emphasis on the 'landscape approach' from the conservation and development communities, few examples of successful implementation exist. TFD's LUD Initiative aims to create ongoing stakeholder engagement platforms in landscapes with actual or high risk of deforestation for the purpose of gathering knowledge and leading processes to enable responsible business, improved governance and inclusive development that will strengthen the implementation of landscape approach concepts.

TREE PLANTATIONS IN THE LANDSCAPE (TPL): Tree plantations currently provide a third of the world's industrial wood, a proportion expected to increase significantly in coming decades. They also have great potential to deliver environmental services and social benefits. However, many aspects of tree plantations have been and remain controversial, with concerns that associated environmental and social costs often outweigh economic and other benefits. TFD's Tree Plantations in the Landscape (TPL) Initiative explores the evolving state of issues related to tree plantations and planted forests within the larger landscape context through engaging key stakeholder groups at the international, national, and local levels. The TPL Initiative will build and expand on TFD's previous Intensively Managed Planted Forests (IMPF) Initiative, conducted from 2005-2008.

CLIMATE POSITIVE FOREST PRODUCTS (CPFP)

INITIATIVE GOAL: Using mass timber construction materials as an entry point, the Initiative aims to build understanding and agreement amongst stakeholders around the opportunities, challenges, and knowledge gaps related to utilizing forest products as a climate change mitigation tool.

THE CHALLENGE: *Buildings currently account for 39% of global GHG emissions, and of that the emissions associated with the material used in construction (building embodied carbon), accounts for 28% of this sector. GHG emissions will increase as current estimates show that global building stock is expected to double by 2050. Research indicates that climate positive forest products have the potential to deliver significant climate change mitigation benefits when substituted for traditional resource-intensive inputs under specific conditions and with sustainable sourcing. This could include mass timber construction materials if specific conditions are adopted and met. Despite the promising potential, disagreements remain on key aspects and knowledge gaps persist - especially when it comes to the impacts and unintended consequences an increase in demand for mass timber materials may have on forests.*

OBJECTIVES:

- **Build a collective understanding** of stakeholder perspectives and concerns; knowledge and research gaps; and priorities related to using 'mass timber' construction practices to mitigate climate change; and identify areas of disagreement and agreement, especially as these issues relate to forests;
- **Foster collaboration** across stakeholders that care about the mass timber value chain, allowing forest owners, timber producers, policy makers, NGOs, and architects/developers to learn from one another and a synthesis of the current scientific knowledge on the topic;
- **Co-create an actionable** plan that presents a path forward and will mobilize stakeholder networks.

OUTPUTS:

- Background paper that synthesizes best available research and includes relevant information on the barriers to adoption, conflicting view points, and opportunities related to scaling up mass timber construction as a potential climate solution;
- Co-chairs' summary report of the 2021 Scoping Dialogue;
- Future collaborative research efforts that will enhance knowledge on this topic as well as potential thematic areas or key-regions where future, focused dialogue is needed. Engagement with key stakeholders and opinion-makers with a set of best practices for sustainable biomass production and consumption.

PROCESS TO DATE: TFD launched the CPFP initiative in 2020 and brought together a committee of advisors to coordinate and convene a global Scoping Dialogue in April 2021.

LAND-USE DIALOGUES (LUD) INITIATIVE

INITIATIVE GOAL: Along with its partners, TFD has developed the LUD to address specific landscape challenges in key high risk geographies around the world. TFD's role in this initiative is as an engagement platform to gather knowledge and lead processes to enable responsible business, improved governance, and inclusive development in landscapes at risk.

THE CHALLENGE: *Despite renewed emphasis on a landscape approach, there are few examples of successful implementation. Landscape initiatives have difficulty in engaging the private sector in particular, with private-sector stakeholders participating in less than 10% of African and 22% of Latin American landscape initiatives. Governments increasingly seek solutions to optimize land-use decision-making, while civil society seeks regular and collaborative engagement processes to discuss challenges that extend across individual organizational priorities and geographic regions.*

OBJECTIVES:

- Create an ongoing platform for engagement among all stakeholders in a specific landscape that will develop solutions to implement, test and reevaluate impact;
- Support policy making, and development assistance programming and implementation;
- Resolve conflicts and creation of new partnerships between and within the forest, agriculture and other sectors that have stakes in the identified landscape;
- Encourage global commodity supply chain initiatives, and support improved land use governance;
- Develop local ideas and activity plans for sustainable development to enable implementation of international initiatives and commitments.

OUTPUTS:

- Global partnership to address land-use issues;
- Establishment of several landscape-specific platforms;
- Research and publications that describe actions and recommendations for ongoing engagement;
- Private sector commitments to reduce deforestation.

PROCESS TO DATE: TFD and their partners convened the following LUD's to date: scoping LUD in Santa Catarina, Brazil in April 2016; scoping LUD in Iringa, Tanzania in November 2016 with a second in June 2017; and an LUD in Wassa Amenfi, Ghana. In 2019, LUD's have also been held for Agoro Agu, Uganda; Kilombero, Tanzania; DRC; and Mole National Park, Ghana.

GOING FORWARD: TFD will continue to support ongoing LUD's and anticipate launching new LUD's in Myanmar and Brazil.

TREE PLANTATIONS IN THE LANDSCAPE (TPL)

INITIATIVE GOAL: TFD's TPL initiative builds upon TFD's previous IMPF Initiative (2005-2008) to explore the evolving state of issues related to tree plantations and planted forests within the larger landscape context through engaging key stakeholders at the international, national, and local levels.

THE CHALLENGE: *Planted forests, including tree plantations established for wood production, continue to grow in both extent and significance. Tree plantations currently provide a third of the world's industrial wood, a proportion expected to increase significantly in coming decades. They also have great potential to deliver environmental services and social benefits. However, many aspects of tree plantations have been and remain controversial, with concerns that associated environmental and social costs often outweigh economic and other benefits.*

OBJECTIVES:

- Explore the identified priority topics, including: Plantation forests in the context of the global development agenda; Design/implementation of plantation forests through the landscape approach; Approaches to enable good governance and inclusive development; Identifying key externalities; and Diversification of the composition of plantation forests;
- Establish specific, practical, context-dependent ways forward on these priority issues;
- Link to and share learnings from related initiatives, inform and connect key audiences and influence policy and practice.

OUTPUTS:

- Background papers and summaries for each dialogue in the Initiative; *TFD Review* outlining the conclusions and recommendations from the full Initiative;
- Press conferences coordinated with local media outlets, targeted outreach via social media to opinion-shapers, news articles reporting out on key messages, edited videos to be posted on TFD and partner websites, and webinars on the subject of TPL and on the dialogue concept.

PROCESS TO DATE: TFD convened a scoping dialogue in Durban, South Africa in September 2015; and field dialogue's in Temuco, Chile in April 2016, Porto Seguro, Brazil in March 2018, and Rotorua, New Zealand in October 2018.

The Forests Dialogue

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