



# Assessing the influence of Forest Day 5

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Green Ink





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This report has been produced following an evaluation of influence carried out by Green Ink at the request of CIFOR and the Collaborative Partnership on Forests. Green Ink provides a range of communications services for organizations working in sustainable development in agriculture, natural resources and related fields.

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## Executive summary



Tina Joemat-Pettersson, South African Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

### 'You need a spoonful of words with a bucketful of thought.'

Tina Joemat-Pettersson, South African Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, quoting Nelson Mandela.

This spoonful-sized summary of the influence of Forest Day 5, held in Durban on 4 December 2012, follows Nelson Mandela's wisdom. It results from a broad and varied analysis of a bucketful of views from almost one in seven of the event's participants, and a parallel media and literature review. Although it is qualitative—and so by its nature, somewhat subjective—this assessment has succeeded in addressing the primary objective of the organisers, the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) and the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), to identify how much and in what ways Forest Day influences the UNFCCC negotiations. It also offers suggestions on how to increase this impact, provides many examples of other parallel benefits, and reveals insights into perceptions of the organisation of the event itself and how it could be improved.

From a survey, 92% said that Forest Day 5 was successful or very successful, and 94% wanted to see a Forest Day 6. One interviewee said, 'Only if we had all the answers, we wouldn't need another Forest Day.' The fact that so many of those who gave their opinions had been to at least one previous Forest Day and more than half had been to at least three, was also an indication of its popularity. As some interviewees said, 'it is the high point in the forestry calendar', 'the only day that all the big actors in forestry are in one place', and 'the best meeting place for forestry people each year'.

The format of Forest Day 5 was very well liked, with only minor reservations given and suggestions made for improvement. Although some wanted to merge it with Agriculture Day, to hold it before the COP, or even to have it twice a year, most wanted to keep it as a single forestry-focused day in the middle of the COP, just as it has been up to now. To increase participation (in both senses of the word), it was suggested that the event should be better advertised before and around the COP, and there should be no registration fee. Also, proposed themes and session topics could be put online beforehand to give prospective participants the opportunity to comment, as could details of those registering, to allow more meetings to be pre-arranged.

There were calls from some quarters for more representation from certain groups. The most vocal were the private sector, based on a view that 'we are paying for REDD projects' and so we should have a bigger say in the discussions. Almost unheard, however, was the voice from civil society, forest communities and indigenous peoples. Although 'the one billion forest-dependent poor' are supposedly the ultimate beneficiaries of REDD+, they were notably underrepresented, with community groups making up only 1% of all participants in Forest Day 5; and, calls were made for future Forest Days to provide a platform for them to express their views and concerns.



### 'If you didn't come to Forest Day, you missed the COP'

Odigha Odigha, Chairman of the Cross River State Forestry Commission, Nigeria

There were five clear messages participants took home with them. These can be summarised as: 'forests are more than just carbon', landscape-level links exist between forests and agriculture, policy implementation is needed, progress has been made in REDD+ and carbon markets, and a better understanding of local needs is required. Most participants said they intended to share their message, and while some said that they would apply it elsewhere or further research it, there were very few concrete examples of participants acting on their intentions.

As for the benefits, the participants who responded to the survey appreciated Forest Day mostly for the opportunities it provided to network, share knowledge, raise awareness and build capacity, in that order. Two typical comments from interviewees were that 'there is

abundant time for networking and not a jam-packed schedule, an optimal balance in fact', and 'Forest Day is a blast of information'. However, influencing the UNFCCC negotiations was ranked seventh out of the 11 different benefits considered.

If a principal aim of Forest Day is to continue to try to increase its influence on the UNFCCC negotiations, and the date is not to be changed, there were four recommendations that could have an impact. (1) CPF should produce briefing papers from the conclusions reached during each Forest Day, to feed directly into the ongoing discussions. (2) Forest Day organisers should determine the key issues likely to be debated in the next round of negotiations, and use these as a basis for deciding session topics. (3) CPF should produce publications (technical





papers, policy briefs) on these key issues well before national and regional positions are agreed and submitted to the UNFCCC, to be targeted at those involved in these discussions. (4) Forest Day organisers should invite more journalists from leading newspapers/TV channels in selected key countries and produce press packs for all attending media.

The subject of future session themes also attracted many comments, divided roughly into two groups. The smaller one included a preponderance of negotiators, who held the view that with an aim of maximising impacts on the negotiations, the themes should mirror those that are likely to be discussed at the coinciding COP. Acknowledging that such information was not publicly available, it was thought that the CPF could still obtain this information well in advance, as reference levels and financing had already been suggested for COP18. The second, larger group made various suggestions based on their personal opinions or interests. Most of the prevalent ideas were REDD related (adaptation, mitigation, etc.), although, of the new topics suggested, restoration stood out,

along with other non-REDD mechanisms such as biodiversity and watershed payments. Also, noting the venue of the next Forest Day, it was proposed that relevant themes could include dry forests and desertification, restoration and reforestation, and water-related issues. It was also suggested that sessions could be divided into COP-active REDD-related themes and general technical themes. Also requested were more examples and success stories, where practitioners and beneficiaries could recount their stories.

Most participants remarked on the effective organisation of the event, choice of speakers, etc., one saying that 'It is consistently one of the best organised events surrounding the [COP] negotiations.' However, some made pertinent suggestions for improvement. As at Forest Day 4, some felt that the panel discussions were still poorly organised, and that smaller panels (with a maximum of 3-4 people) were better, with improved briefing, tougher moderating, more questioning and good synthesising. Others wanted more physical space with more 'corner meeting places' for small group discussions.



**‘Forest Day is the greatest event in the COP. It has a large impact, and must have the best value for money. The information I take away helps me in the negotiations and in the informal discussions around.’**

UNFCCC negotiator

The marketplace was a resounding success. Introduced for the first time at Forest Day 5, small groups met around specific themes in the afternoon based on a speakers’ corner concept. One participant was so impressed that he copied it for use at a regional forestry meeting in Cameroon in March 2012 to great effect. Other innovations were also suggested for Forest Day 6, with several wanting to see an ‘open market’ or ‘connection booths’ where REDD practitioners could meet REDD funders, or at least exchange details or share information—called a ‘REDD speed dating service’ by one interviewee. This could be themed by geographic region/forest type, and by project type/

activity, and could be linked to the marketplace. The opportunity to vote during sessions was also appreciated, adding to the feeling of ‘participation’, and it is recommended that this is expanded with an aim to fully analyse results in the future.

An evaluation of Forest Day 4 in Cancún produced findings that were examined by the CPF, incorporated into the planning for Forest Day 5, and mentioned by Frances Seymour in her opening plenary presentation. However, after two consecutive years, it was suggested that there should be some change in the focus of future assessments. Examples of suggested changes include: to look in more detail at other benefits, sectors and/or topics besides UNFCCC negotiators and REDD; to undertake a detailed study on media coverage of Forest Day or of REDD+ more generally; and to assess the impacts of CPF publications and related dissemination on the COP negotiations.



## Recommendations

### Future Forest Days

- There is a strong desire for a Forest Day 6, to coincide with COP18 to be held in Doha, Qatar.
- The format is generally well liked, but with a number of suggestions for improvement.
- Keep it as a single forestry-focused day, in the middle of the COP.

### Increasing influence on UNFCCC negotiations

- CPF to produce briefing papers from the results of discussions after each Forest Day, to feed directly into the ongoing discussions.
- Forest Day organisers to find out the key issues for debate in the next round of negotiations, and use these as a basis for deciding future session topics.
- CPF to produce publications (technical papers, policy briefs) on these key issues in advance of the COP, made available well before national and regional positions are agreed and submitted to the UNFCCC, targeted at those involved in these discussions.

### Themes

- REDD-related themes to include financing, reference levels, and others to be elucidated nearer to COP18.
- Technical themes to include restoration and reforestation, dry forests and desertification, water-related issues, and other non-REDD mechanisms such as biodiversity and watershed payments.
- More examples and success stories needed, with practitioners and beneficiaries recounting their stories.

### Increased representation

- More representation from civil society, forest communities, and indigenous and forest-dependent people.
- More representation from the private sector.
- More journalists from leading newspapers and TV channels in selected key countries.



### General organisation

- Improve the briefing for speakers, panellists and moderators; concise concrete examples from smaller panels (3–4 people maximum), ample time for questions and discussion, with good time-keeping and a clear synthesis by the moderator.
- More physical space needed, and more ‘corner meeting places’ for small group discussions.
- Improve the advertising of Forest Day before and around the COP, with no registration fee.

### Innovations

- Session voting was appreciated—repeat, expand, and aim to analyse results fully next time.
- The marketplace (speakers’ corner concept) was a resounding success—repeat with minor modifications.
- Consider adding a ‘REDD speed dating service’, ‘connection booths’, ‘open market’ or similar, where REDD practitioners can meet

REDD funders, or at least exchange details or share information. This could be themed by geographic region/forest type, and by project type/activity.

- Put proposed themes/session topics online, and allow prospective participants to comment.
- Allow those registering to place their details online, to facilitate contacts being arranged beforehand.

### Focus of future assessments

- Assess the impacts on the UNFCCC negotiations of CPF publications, its website and news services.
- Undertake a detailed media study on the coverage of Forest Day, REDD+ and the negotiations.
- Look in more detail at other benefits, sectors and topics, rather than focusing on the negotiations.







# Introduction

## The road to Durban - a brief history of Forest Day

Durban, 2011, was the fifth consecutive year that Forest Day has been held in conjunction with the annual United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of Parties, or COP negotiations. The first was held in 2007 in Bali, Indonesia, during COP13, when forests were rising on the agenda of the negotiations in parallel with the acceptance of possible global agreements on how to reduce deforestation and land degradation, or REDD. The aim of that Forest Day was to reinforce the early momentum of REDD, and to inform forest-related discussions during the coinciding COP, with more than 800 participants attending.

◀ Speakers at Forest Day 5 (clockwise from top left)  
Rachel Kyte, Tony La Viña, Eduardo Rojas-Briales,  
Caroline Spelmant, Christiana Figueres and Richard Black



Forest Day 2 took place alongside COP14 in Poznań, Poland, in 2008, where more than 900 participants discussed various cross-cutting themes related to the development of REDD methodologies. Forest Day 3 was held in Copenhagen, Denmark, in 2009 during COP15, and was the largest of all of the five events, attracting more than 1600 participants to specifically discuss REDD-related challenges. Forest Day 4 in Cancún, Mexico, in 2010 during COP16 was almost as large with more than 1500 attendees under the theme ‘Time to Act’, and it was during this COP that REDD+ was formally added to the international climate change negotiations. Decision 1/CP.16 encouraged developing countries to take part in climate change mitigation by using REDD+, although discussions on different financing options for its implementation were deferred to COP17. This was held in Durban, South Africa, where Forest Day 5

attracted more than 1100 participants under the banner ‘From policy to practice’.

Each of the five events involved selected themes that paralleled the evolution of REDD from a theoretical concept into practical ‘on the ground’ measures that required discussion during the UN climate change negotiations. For example, Forest Day 1 included methods to estimate forest carbon, markets and governance, equity versus efficiency, and adaptation. Forest Day 2 included adaptation of forests to climate change, addressing forest degradation through sustainable forest management, capacity building for REDD, and options for integrating REDD into the global climate regime. Forest Day 3 discussed various mitigation, adaptation and degradation challenges associated with REDD+, including how to measure and monitor baseline data, financing, potential social effects of REDD initiatives, and

landscape approaches to mitigation and adaptation. Forest Day 4 highlighted the urgency in protecting the world's forests and their biodiversity; highlighted the multiple benefits of sustainable forest management and REDD+; promoted synergies between climate change mitigation and adaptation; land use, land use change and forestry (LULUCF); REDD+ and agricultural drivers of deforestation.

Forest Day 5 discussed how REDD+ is evolving on the ground, social and environmental safeguards, gender issues, financing, reference levels and monitoring, and landscape approaches. However, it is not the place of this assessment to repeat summaries of the speeches and sessions of Forest Day 5 that have been published elsewhere. To read these, please see some of the articles and reports cited in the bibliography in this report, particularly IISD's summary, that in CIFOR's 2011 Annual Report, the Forest Day 5 Donor Report, and videos of many of the speeches and presentations available on CIFOR's website, and much more information besides, including previous Forest Days.

However, as the evaluation of the influence of Forest Day from last year has indicated (Higman, 2011), Forest Day has evolved into much more than a showcase event for REDD. An original aim was for it to effectively influence the negotiations themselves, and whereas this did appear to happen, many more people appreciated Forest Day for many other reasons, particularly the chance to network. Thus the CPF chose to repeat the evaluation undertaken by Green Ink in 2011, and to further assess whether this objective of influencing the negotiations was being met, and how to make improvements to the organisation of

Forest Day 6 due to take place in Doha, Qatar, in December 2012 in parallel with COP18.

## An introduction to the assessment process

For this evaluation of Forest Day 5, it was agreed to use the same approach that had proved so successful in evaluating the influence of Forest Day 4. This had three stages: informal on-the day interviews, an internet survey, and targeted telephone interviews. The combined results these produced were taken up by CIFOR and the CPF, and were used when making decisions on the organisation of Forest Day 5. Some of the key findings were also mentioned by CIFOR's former Director General Frances Seymour during her presentation in the opening plenary session of Forest Day 5.





In addition, it was also suggested that further parallel stages be added, comprising of a literature and media review, and analysis of other data collected by the CPF from the event itself, which was accepted. The data from Forest Day 5 included the overall participant registration data, and 'session voting', where participants of the six themed sessions were asked to respond to selected questions. Both sets of data were also divided by sector type, although only the published results of the session voting were made available for analysis.

More exacting analysis would be possible by using the raw data. The media review included an independent internet search of selected mainstream newspapers in three countries, a review of the 210 articles tracked by the CPF, and a selected review of similar work undertaken. The literature review searched the most comprehensive database of scientific publications alongside general web-based searches.

Detailed information on the methodology of each of the stages is included in the relevant sections of this report. However, in summary, sector and geographic information from all 1110 registered participants was analysed, and from all participants who voted in the six main sessions (total numbers not available). Informal interviews were conducted on the day itself with 46 people, or more than 4% of all registered participants. The internet survey was completed by 124 respondents, more than 11% of all participants, or almost 15% of those with valid email addresses. Detailed telephone interviews were then conducted with 10 people, focusing on key REDD negotiators, former negotiators and REDD advisors to negotiating teams. Excluding the voting session data, and allowing for that fact that some individuals responded to more than one of the three stages, this assessment is based on the views of approximately 15% of all registered participants.

However, caveats must be acknowledged that are likely to have affected the findings. This was never intended as being a thoroughly objective analysis based on a rigid experimental design that would produce statistically robust results. This is a subjective evaluation of only those views that were expressed, i.e. only those who were willing to spend 5 minutes being interviewed on the day, only those who were willing to spend 15 minutes



completing the internet survey, and only those who were willing to spend 30 minutes being interviewed by telephone. However, as views were received from almost one in seven of all registered participants, including those from all sectors, this assessment can be considered thorough and representative.

The names, affiliations and country of residence of all the participants who offered their views are included in each of the three stages of assessment presented in this report, along with most of the statements, organised by question or by common issues. It was during this process of classifying all of the statements into groups where they could be counted and compared, that the common issues became apparent. There are 152 individual

statements from the on-the-day interviews, 42 selected statements from the internet survey, and approximately 300 separate statements that could be extracted from the inclusions from the ten telephone interviews – making approximately 500 statements in all. Full transcripts of all interviews are retained by Green Ink, in confidence, and not presented in this report, nor have they been shared with CIFOR or its partners. It was considered that more frank and critical opinions would be expressed only if interviewees were guaranteed anonymity. The interviewer informed all interviewees that if a direct quote was to be attributed to them, or the CPF specifically wanted to know the source of certain quotes or views, then Green Ink would first contact the interviewee separately and ask for permission.





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## Data from Forest Day 5

### Overall participation

The following information was collated by CIFOR from registration information and presented in the Donor Report (January 2012). This is shown below with the equivalent data from Forest Day 4 for comparison. All percentages have been rounded up or down to the nearest whole number.

There were some significant differences in the ranking and attendance by sector compared to Forest Day 4. NGOs were again the most represented group, though they made up a relatively lower percentage of participants in Forest Day 5, down 9% from a high of 37% at Forest Day 4. There was also a much lower relative representation from universities, down 8% from 19%. In contrast, there was a notable increase

◀ Sheona Shackleton leads a discussion group during the Issues Marketplace at Forest Day 5

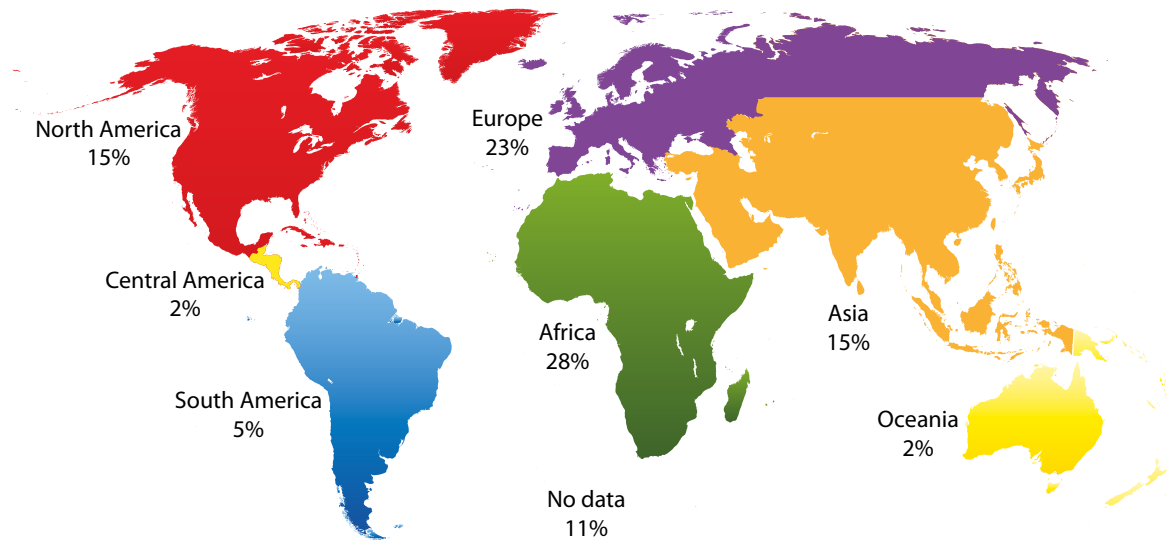


Figure 1. Attendance at Forest Day 5 by region

in media (up from 2% to 6%), indicative of the increased importance given by CIFOR and its partners to media coverage of the event. There was also a higher relative attendance from government bodies (up 8%), who make up the majority of UNFCCC negotiators, and many more from international organisations (up 6%). Attendance from the private sector remained constant at 9%, with little or no change in the other smaller sectors (media, donor, community).

However, CIFOR quoted on its Forest Day website that ‘216 official climate change negotiators’ attended (amended to 214 in its Annual Report 2011). But as was revealed during Green Ink’s evaluation of Forest Day 4, it became clear that not everyone who registered as a ‘UNFCCC

delegate’ was actually involved in the negotiations. This assumption was further supported during this assessment. On questioning, few delegates were in fact negotiators. Most were only ‘observers’, although a few others had more influential roles such as special advisors. Thus, unless this data can be verified, it is suggested that CIFOR refrains from citing registered ‘delegates’ as ‘negotiators’.

As would be expected, Forest Day 4 in Mexico had many more participants from the Americas, especially Central America, and Forest Day 5 in South Africa had a much larger attendance from African countries. The percentage of participants from Asia, Europe and Oceania were similar for both events.

## Session voting

Data were collected by the CPF from the six main sessions that occurred during the day, on participation by sector, and responses to selected questions. The full titles of the sessions were:

1. How is REDD+ unfolding on the ground:  
An exploration of the social, political and biophysical issues
2. Landscape approaches: Change and adaptation in African drylands: Reversing deforestation while contributing to food security
3. Financing opportunities and issues for mitigation and adaptation with a focus on the private sector
4. Addressing gender considerations in climate change adaptation and REDD+ efforts
5. Landscape approaches: The place of agroforestry, afforestation and reforestation in REDD+
6. Exploring reference levels and monitoring for REDD+: Early country pilot activities

The results were presented in the Donor Report (January 2012), and separately on the Forest Day website broken down by sector, so the figures are not repeated here, merely summarised where it was felt necessary to do so. To view the results in their entirety, see the Donor Report at [www.forestclimatechange.org/fileadmin/downloads/fd5/FD5-Donor-Report-FINAL.pdf](http://www.forestclimatechange.org/fileadmin/downloads/fd5/FD5-Donor-Report-FINAL.pdf); voting at the morning sessions at [www.forestclimatechange.org/events/forest-day/forest-day-5/voting-results.html](http://www.forestclimatechange.org/events/forest-day/forest-day-5/voting-results.html); and voting at the afternoon sessions at [www.forestclimatechange.org/events/forest-day/forest-day-5/voting-results-afternoon-session.html](http://www.forestclimatechange.org/events/forest-day/forest-day-5/voting-results-afternoon-session.html).

The following presents the overall attendance data by session and by sector in a single table, and compares this to the same data at the event as a whole. This section then goes on to present a brief analysis of the results from all of the questions in each session. Whereas the data is not robust enough to be able to undertake statistical analysis or present findings with 95% confidence, the data has been subjectively assessed, and issues are highlighted that may merit further investigation. This preliminary analysis has not been undertaken elsewhere, and indicates some potentially important findings.

The corresponding percentage participation from the event as a whole at the bottom of the table was still included for comparison, even though

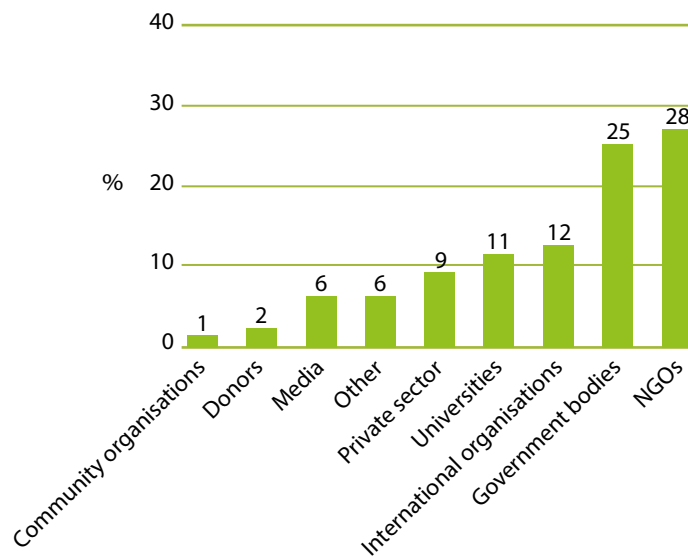


Figure 2. Attendance at Forest Day 5 by sector

data from all the same sectors was not available. For example, those from the media, donors, community organisations sectors and ‘no data/ others’ that comprised 18% of all registered participants overall, were not included as options in the session data collected. However, even allowing for the reduced accuracy in comparing such variable data, they do appear to indicate the relative interest of certain sectors to some of the different session topics.

NGOs were relatively more represented/ interested in financing issues and in agroforestry/ reforestation, and much more represented in the sessions on developments of ‘REDD on the ground’ and gender issues. The private sector showed little interest in gender consideration, but

as might be expected, much more in REDD on the ground, financing, and monitoring issues. This contrasted with international organisations, which were less represented in REDD on the ground, financing, and monitoring, possibly because they were more aware of these, and much more so in gender and agroforestry/afforestation. Researchers were more represented in each of the six sessions than in the event as a whole, especially in the session on African drylands, but in contrast, government bodies were less represented in all sessions than in the event as a whole, and as with the private sector, showed relatively little interest in the session on gender issues. It may be valuable to assess such differences in more detail in future Forest Days, and further analyse why such contrasts occur and how to rectify them.

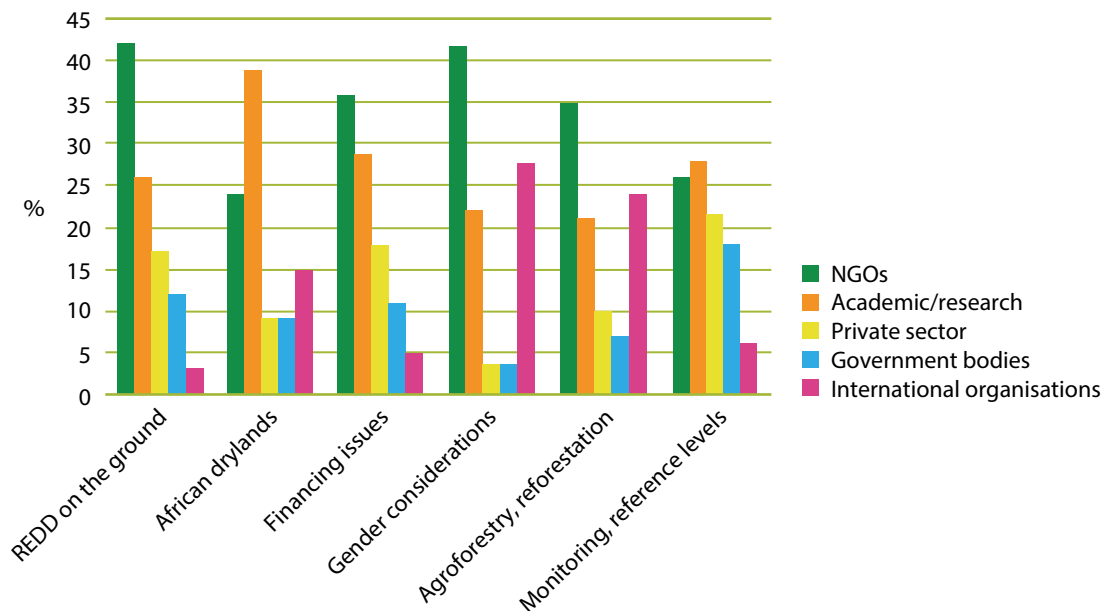


Figure 3. Attendance at Forest Day 5 sessions, by sector

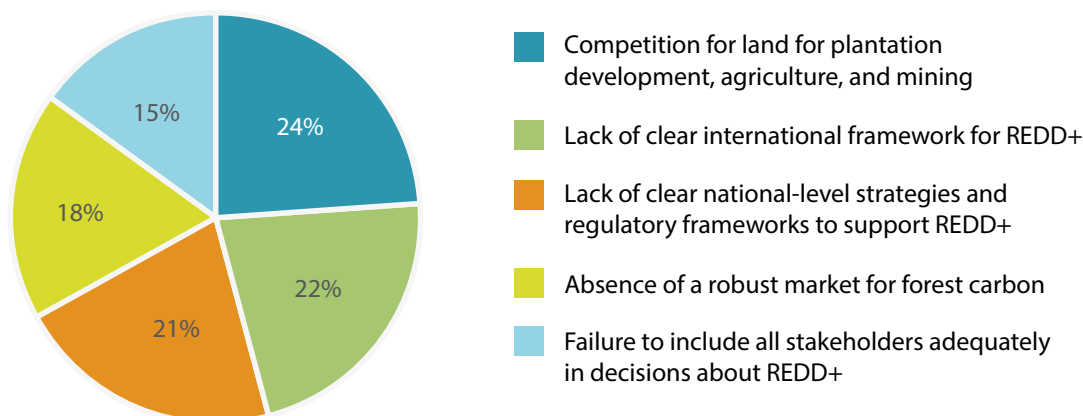


Figure 4. Most important barriers to the design and implementation of REDD+ policies and strategies

## Session 1. How is REDD+ unfolding on the ground: social, political and biophysical issues

### Question 1. What is currently the most important barrier to design and implementation of REDD+ policies and strategies?

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| a. Competition for land for plantation development, agriculture, and mining           | 24% |
| b. Lack of clear international framework for REDD+                                    | 22% |
| c. Lack of clear national-level strategies and regulatory frameworks to support REDD+ | 21% |
| d. Absence of a robust market for forest carbon                                       | 18% |
| e. Failure to include all stakeholders adequately in decisions about REDD+            | 15% |

Overall, participants agreed that all five proposed barriers had some importance, but none were outstanding. However, when divided by sector, some notable distinctions became apparent. All

the session 1 participants from government bodies (100%) considered the lack of a clear international framework for REDD+ as important. From international organisations, there was a 50:50 split between this and the failure to include all stakeholders. Perhaps unsurprisingly, the majority of those from the private sector (56%) considered the absence of a robust market for forest carbon to be the main barrier. NGOs, however, were more likely (40%) to consider the lack of clear national-level strategies and regulatory frameworks the most important barrier.

### Question 2. Which of the following are the most important obstacles to implementing REDD+ demonstration activities in specific areas on the ground?

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| a. Conflict over use rights to forest resources   | 32% |
| b. Technical issues associated with establishing baselines and reference emissions levels | 20% |

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| c. Community knowledge of carbon issues and how this relates to lands they traditionally use         | 20% |
| d. Conflict over benefit sharing among government agencies, implementers and communities             | 16% |
| e. Carbon measurement issues to convert areas of different activities into emission saving estimates | 12% |

There was clear agreement overall that conflict over use rights was the main obstacle to implementing REDD+ demonstration activities. However, the lack of community knowledge was considered to be a more important obstacle by most session 1 participants from government bodies (60%), whereas the majority of those from the private sector (37%) considered that technical issues were the most important.

**Question 3. What is the most important area for capacity building to facilitate better implementation of REDD+?**

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| a. Governance and legal frameworks   | 39% |
| b. Local and indigenous community understanding of REDD+                               | 32% |
| c. Spatial land use planning   | 13% |
| d. Measuring carbon/forest inventory   | 6%  |
| e. Identification of sector specific contributions to deforestation/ degradation rates | 6%  |
| f. Remote sensing and land use change monitoring                                       | 4%  |

Two areas were clearly identified as most important for capacity building. These were governance and legal frameworks, and local and indigenous community understanding of REDD+. However, support for these differed by sector, with all session

1 participants from international organisations (100%) and a slight majority from government bodies (57% compared to 43%) considering community understanding of REDD+ as the most important area, whereas more from the private sector (56% compared to 33%) considered government and legal frameworks as the most important.

**Question 4. What is the most important area where science can contribute to better implementation of REDD+?**

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| a. Understanding the economics of land use change to design better incentive schemes          | 39% |
| b. Measurement of the impacts of activities on emissions reductions                           | 21% |
| c. Analysis of governance, institutions and existing benefit sharing schemes                  | 15% |
| d. Trade-off analysis of development opportunities to facilitate better spatial planning      | 14% |
| e. Analysis of policy processes and documenting success stories to facilitate policy learning | 11% |

The need to better understand the economics of land use change in order to design better incentive schemes was considered the most important area for science to contribute overall, and by the majority of session 1 participants from NGOs and academic/universities, and also most of those from government bodies and the private sector. Interestingly, however, not a single voting participant (0%) from an international organisation considered this to be the most important, thus highlighting a potential area for discrepancy when deciding (and funding) priorities for future research.



**Question 5. What is the most important action that could be taken by the international community to enable countries to address the challenges of REDD+ implementation?**

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| a. Accelerate agreement on a financing mechanism for REDD+ in the UNFCCC                              | 41% |
| b. Increase bilateral and multilateral investment in 'REDD readiness' at national/sub-national levels | 18% |
| c. Increase private investment available for REDD+ projects   | 16% |
| d. Accelerate agreement on social and environmental safeguards  | 15% |
| e. Increase support to research in order to learn lessons from early activities                       | 10% |

There was little ambiguity in the responses to this question, with at least half of all sectors considering that accelerating the agreement of a finance mechanism for REDD+ is the international community's most important priority. This was agreed by a significant majority from the private

sector, government bodies and NGOs. However, half of those from international organisations (50%) considered increasing private investment as the most important action, whereas those from the academic/university sector also voted equally for increasing research support, perhaps unsurprisingly. Interestingly, although social and environmental safeguards are often reported as being a critical area for agreement, this vote suggested that few of the session 1 participants considered this as so important, including not a single voting participant from international organisations (0%) or from the private sector (0%).

**Session 2. Landscape approaches: Change and adaptation in African drylands**

**Question 1. What is the most important change needed to take climate-smart agriculture to scale?** Of the four options offered as responses, two came out clearly as the most important from the



overall vote. These were better policies (39%), supported by the majority of all sectors except NGOs, and more coordination among government agencies (31%). More financing (20%) and more information (10%) were considered less important by all sectors, with the exception of 40% of those from NGOs who considered financing as most important.

**Question 2. Given experience in your country, how would you rate the importance of devolving control over natural resources to local people as a way to improve woodland management in a way which builds resilience to climate shocks?**

Of those voting in session 2, 88% considered that devolving control over natural resources to local people was important or very important, and 10% were not sure. The 2% that thought it was not important were all from the private sector. Even though the majority of the private sector (57%) thought it was very important, that one in seven (14%) thought was not important lends

credence to the view held by a number of NGOs and civil society organisations representing forest-dependent communities and indigenous people, that a significant minority of the private sector are standing in the way of a fair and equitable distribution of rights and associated benefits.

**Question 3. Assuming that rights to woodland resources are clearly defined, which of the following would be the best way to involve the private sector in improving woodland management and landscape restoration?**

Following the assumption preceding the question, of three individual options put forward, 39% overall and the majority of the private sector (57%) though the best way was in partnership with community-based organisations. Only 10% thought partnership with individuals was preferred. The third option, partnership with forest departments or other government institutions, was perhaps surprisingly voted for by only a mere 7% in total, including no one from government bodies

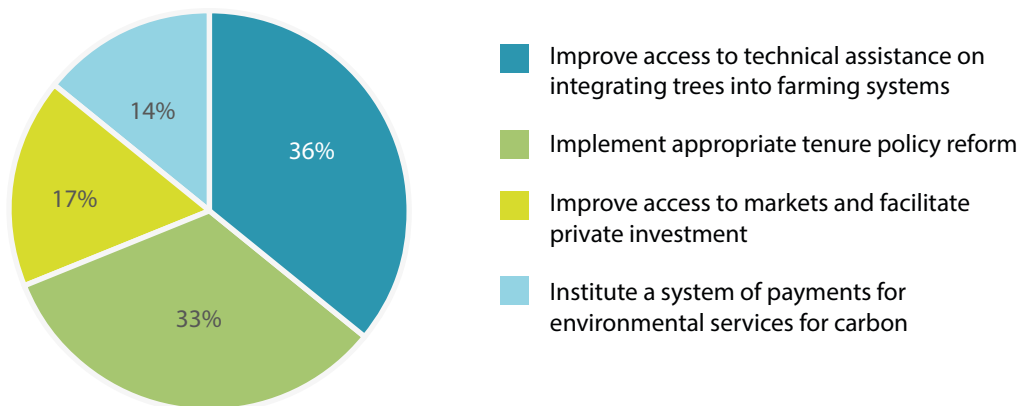


Figure 5. Climate investments that would most effectively promote adaptation in dry woodlands

(0%) and only 4% from the private sector. A third of all session 2 participants did, however, choose to vote for the 'any of the above' category, thus blurring any distinction. Finally, 10% thought that the private sector was not an appropriate partner, comprising 30% of the vote from international organisations, 20% of the NGO vote, 17% of the vote from government bodies, and unsurprisingly, 0% from the private sector.

**Question 4. Which of the following climate investments would most effectively promote adaptation (e.g. by improving household food security) in dry woodlands?**

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| a. Improve access to technical assistance on integrating trees into farming systems | 36% |
| b. Implement appropriate tenure policy reform                                       | 33% |
| c. Improve access to markets and facilitate private investment                      | 17% |
| d. Institute a system of payments for environmental services for carbon             | 14% |

The two options for climate investments that were considered most effective overall were improved access to technical assistance (36%) and tenure policy reform (31%). Access to markets and facilitating private investment, and payments for environmental services, received much less support. Tenure reform received the support of 60% of the vote from international organisations and half of those from government bodies (50%), whereas half of those from the academic/research sector (50%) were in favour of technical assistance. The private sector vote approximately followed the overall repartition.

### Session 3. Financing opportunities and issues with a focus on the private sector

**Question 1. Which of the following would be the most appropriate financing mechanisms to facilitate the implementation of REDD+?**

Of the five options offered, an overwhelming majority (80%) voted for a combination of market and non-market based mechanisms. This comprised the majority of all sectors, including 94% of the private sector vote. Only a mere 3% and 4% overall voted for only one or the other. Of the remaining options, only 7% preferred a special REDD+ fund, and 6% chose an unspecified 'other'.

**Question 2. The involvement of private sector in REDD+ implementation should be:**

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| a. Depends on local and national circumstances             | 48% |
| b. Strong  | 39% |
| c. Low initially, and gradually increasing in later phases | 6%  |
| d. Limited   | 5%  |
| e. Not sure  | 2%  |

The non-exclusive nature of several of the responses makes results from this question rather ambiguous. Nonetheless, 39% thought that private sector involvement in REDD+ implementation should be strong, but almost half (48%) thought that the level of involvement should depend on local and national circumstances, thus diluting this response. The private sector vote was perhaps unsurprising split two-to-one in favour of 'strong' (63%) rather than 'depends'. The international

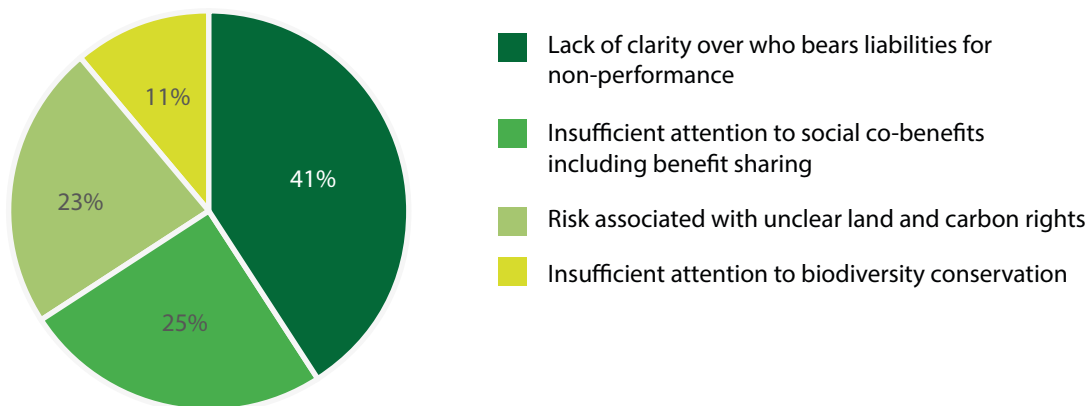


Figure 6. Main concerns related to private sector participation in REDD+

organisation vote, however, was 60% for 'strong', 20% for 'depends' and 20% 'not sure'. Only 18% of those from government bodies wanted strong private sector involvement, with 46% preferring to consider local and national circumstances.

**Question 3. What are your main concerns related to private sector participation in REDD+?**

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| a. Lack of clarity over who bears liabilities for non-performance (REDD architecture, MRV, taxation, etc.) | 41% |
| b. Insufficient attention to social co-benefits including benefit sharing                                  | 25% |
| c. Risk associated with unclear land and carbon rights   | 23% |
| d. Insufficient attention to biodiversity conservation   | 11% |

Most concerns related to private sector involvement overall (41%) regarded 'lack of clarity over who bears liabilities for non-performance', which could be read as concerns over whether the

private sector would pay (or try to avoid paying) if rules are broken. There were also social concerns surrounding benefit-sharing (25%) and land and carbon rights (23%). There was, however, relatively little concern regarding private sector involvement in biodiversity conservation (11%). The majority of all sectors agreed with the lack of clarity over liabilities, with the exception of international organisations, 60% of which indicated that they were more concerned with benefit-sharing.

**Question 4. Which of the following would be the main benefit of expanded private sector involvement in REDD+?**

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| a. Facilitating access to markets for forest carbon              | 37% |
| b. Development of private/public partnerships                    | 22% |
| c. Providing incentives to clarify rights and improve governance | 18% |
| d. Promoting technology transfer and new economic alternatives   | 13% |

- e. Supporting REDD readiness projects including human resource development 10%

Facilitating access to markets for forest carbon was the main benefit from more private sector involvement overall, having support from three quarters (75%) of the international organisation vote, and more than 40% of the vote from the private sector and NGOs. There were few significant differences between the other considered benefits, although importantly perhaps, 40% of those from government bodies thought that the development of private/public partnerships was the most important.

#### Session 4. Addressing gender considerations in climate change adaptation and REDD+ efforts

**Question 1. Which of the following is the most important barrier to gender equitable policies and**

#### **practices regarding climate change mitigation and adaptation in the forest sector?**

- a. Women's limited access and control over land, forests and trees 37%
- b. Absence of women in adaptation and REDD+ planning and decision making 36%
- c. Lack of recognition of women's knowledge, innovations and contributions to NRM 21%
- d. Lack of climate knowledge among women's organisations 6%

Limited access and control over forest resources, and lack of involvement in planning and decision-making, were both considered equally as the main barrier to developing gender-equitable practices. Lack of recognition of natural resource management and climate knowledge by women and their organisations were considered less of a barrier. However, there were significant sector differences. Limited access and control to resources was seen as the main barrier by

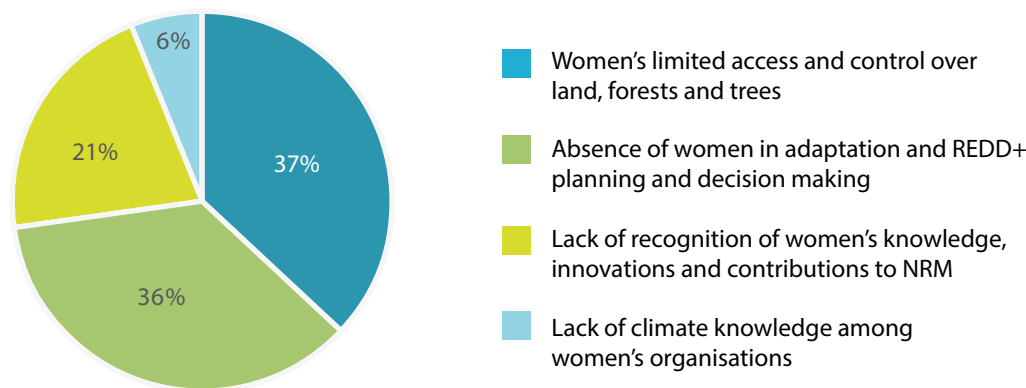


Figure 7. Most important barriers to gender equitable policies and practices regarding climate change mitigation and adaptation in the forest sector

everyone from government bodies (100%), 60% from the academic/researcher sector, but not one person from the private sector (0%). Those from international organisations were split evenly between the two main identified barriers. The private sector was split equally between absence of women in planning and decision making, and lack of climate knowledge among women's organisations.

**Question 2. Which of the following is the most important action that could be taken nationally to address these barriers?**

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| a. Making land and forest policies and laws gender responsive  | 35% |
| b. Adopting gender-responsive planning and programming in government agencies and civil society organisations  | 25% |
| c. Raising awareness among policy makers and practitioners of the concrete and unique contribution of women to forest and natural resources management | 24% |
| d. Mandating representation of women and women's groups in adaptation and REDD+ planning and decision making   | 11% |
| e. Mandating gender auditing of climate finance  | 5%  |

As with the previous question, there were some notable sector-specific responses. To address these barriers, a third of all session participants (35%) thought that changes to forest policies and laws were required, though no one from the private sector (0%) thought this was important. A quarter overall thought the most important action was either more gender-responsive planning and programming (25%) or raising awareness among policy makers and practitioners (24%). Interestingly however, no one from government bodies (0%) thought that more gender-responsive planning and programming

in government agencies and civil society organisations was important. Gender auditing was not considered an important action, with only 5% of the overall vote.

**Question 3. Which of the following is the most important action that could be taken by the international community to enable governments to address barriers to gender equitable policies and practices?**

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| a. Supporting and strengthening the implementation of gender-responsive land and forest laws and policies  | 37% |
| b. Raising awareness among policy makers and practitioners of the concrete and unique contribution of women to forest and natural resources management | 23% |
| c. Supporting and strengthening networking between women's groups and climate change organisations   | 19% |
| d. Supporting climate science training and education programs that incorporate both women's and men's local technical knowledge                        | 14% |
| e. Mandating gender audits of climate-related financial flows  | 7%  |

This question differed from question 2, by asking what specifically the international community could do, but the answers were similar. Changing forest policies and laws were seen as the most important action overall, supported by about half of all sectors except NGOs (only 22%). Supporting and strengthening networking was supported by the other half of the private sector (50%) but no one from government bodies (0%), whereas for raising awareness among policy makers and practitioners, the opposite was true. [N.B. Data from the CIFOR website, as (b) was incorrectly cited in the Donor Report as a repeat of (c).]

## Session 5. Landscape approaches: The place of agroforestry, afforestation and reforestation in REDD+

### Questions 1 & 2. To what extent do REDD+ negotiators recognize the importance of landscape approaches in REDD+?

Results from these questions must be taken in context, as it cannot be assumed that those who voted had an accurate insight into the minds of UNFCCC negotiators. However, from the first question, a quarter (25%) thought that REDD+ negotiators did not recognize the importance of landscape approaches at all, 65% thought that they 'somewhat' recognized the importance, and only 10% thought that they understood the importance very well. This result means that results from the second question carry even less weight. However, 20% thought (that the negotiators thought) that landscape approaches should be considered as a separate mechanism outside of REDD+, though this included no one from the private sector or from government bodies.

### Question 3. Should REDD+ funds be invested in agroforestry, afforestation and reforestation as part of strategies for achieving REDD+?

This question received emphatic support, with 79% wanting to see substantial investment, 18% wanting a little investment, and only 3% wanting none at all. The 'substantial lobby' included a majority of all sectors, but was unanimous only with the private sector (100%), and least certain in government bodies (57%).

### Question 4. Which of the following has been the greatest challenge for the inclusion of agroforestry in climate change mitigation strategies so far?

- a. Exclusion of agriculture from the CDM and REDD+ 41%
- b. UNFCCC negotiations and procedures 18%

- c. Rights and ownership issues (land, trees, and carbon tenure) 18%
- d. Lack of finance 16%
- e. Lack of technical capacity by program implementers 7%

Exclusion of agriculture from the CDM and REDD+ was seen as the greatest challenge overall, and by most sectors, with the significant exception of government bodies who considered rights and ownership issues (50%) and UNFCCC negotiation and procedures (33%) as most important.

### Question 5. Which of the following is likely to be the most useful contribution to REDD+ landscape approaches?

- a. Landscape approaches as a means to enhancing synergies between mitigation and adaptation 65%
- b. Intensification of production through agroforestry as a strategy to reduce deforestation 20%
- c. Increased timber production on farms/ in woodlots as a strategy to reduce forest degradation 8%
- d. Increased fuelwood production on farms/in woodlots as a strategy for reducing forest degradation 7%

Landscape approaches as a means to enhancing synergies between mitigation and adaptation (e.g. ecosystems, biodiversity and livelihood benefits) was significantly considered as the most useful contribution by all sectors with the exception of the private sector, which was split relatively evenly between all four responses. [N.B. the figures above are taken from the voting results on the CIFOR website. These differ from those included in the Donor Report, which includes an extra question and a response total of 116% and not 100%.]

## Session 6. Exploring reference levels and monitoring for REDD+: Early country pilot activities

### Question 1. I am informed about and understand the debate about reference level in REDD+.

Of the session 6 participants, 82% agreed or strongly agreed with the statement, whereas only 6% disagreed or strongly disagreed.

### Question 2. Reference levels are essential for moving forward with REDD+

This received almost unanimous approval, with only 2% disagreeing or strongly disagreeing.

### Question 3. Methods for establishing reference levels should be:

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| a. Developed by each host country using historic deforestation rates and modified for expected development pathways with common parameters | 38% |
| b. Progressively rigorous as countries move from phase 1 to phase 3 of REDD+ implementation  | 26% |
| c. Adapted to specific country situations without common parameters  | 20% |
| d. Very rigorous and consistent across all countries   | 12% |
| e. Other modalities  | 4%  |

Most session 6 participants acknowledged that it is preferable that each country develops their own reference levels depending on individual circumstances, and that there should not be common and consistent 'across the board' reference levels. A progressive implementation was also considered an important approach by a quarter (26%) of voters, and the percentages were relatively evenly distributed amongst all sectors.

## General conclusions

The overall participation of 1110 people at Forest Day 5 was significantly lower than its peak at Forest Day 3 and 4 where more than 1600 and 1500 people attended, respectively. This could be indicative of 'Forest Day fatigue', but this is not supported by the responses received from interviewees and internet survey respondents. However, comparison of the last two Forest Days shows some positive trends, particularly in the increased relative attendance of those from government bodies and the media, two key sectors that can help to drive policy change.

Session voting was expanded in Forest Day 5 and it was appreciated by many, with none stating that they did not like this initiative. The raw data not being made available, however, meant that the preceding analysis is rather vague, but does indicate the potential value that such information can reveal. It is strongly recommended that session voting be continued at Forest Day 6, and even expanded, with a plan in place to undertake a full and detailed evaluation.

That certain sectors are attracted to certain topics and not to others will not be a surprise to many. For example, the private sector made up 9% of participants at the overall event, but they comprised 18% of those voting in the session on financing, but only 4% of those voting at the gender session. Highlighting such discrepancies shows where more efforts could be made to attract the interest of some sectors to certain topics, if desired.

Concerning the questions themselves, it is clear from this preliminary analysis that results by sector



can be more revealing than the results overall. For example, when one answer to a question attracts a large vote from the private sector but none from government bodies and another answer shows the opposite, this highlights areas where there are

potential constraints to further understanding and agreement. Where this is considered of specific interest, it should first be verified by further analysis of the raw data, and acted upon on a case-by-case basis.



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Supporting commercial  
plantation forestry  
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# On-the-day interviews

## Interviewing and the interviewees

On the day itself, 46 interviews were conducted using a ‘broad sweep’ approach. Prospective interviewees not in discussions or rushing to attend sessions, etc., were stopped while circulating in the open spaces. All without exception willingly agreed to answer questions. This was surely helped by Frances Seymour’s acknowledgement in the opening plenary address, where she noted some results from last year’s survey, the importance of feedback, and requested that everyone should fully participate in this year’s assessment. She said that there were 1200 registered participants from 87 different countries (and a show of hands indicated that 18 people in the plenary had been to all five Forest Days). The key message was ‘From policy to practice, shaping the global agenda for forests and climate change.’

◀ Nick Pasiecznik interviewing Stephen Devenish of the Clinton Foundation

The following list of questions was prepared and agreed beforehand, as a basis for the interviews.

1. What organisation are you representing [use registration categories], and in what capacity? [official delegate, negotiator, researcher, development workers, journalist/media, etc.]
2. Why have you come to Forest Day?
3. What is the key 'take home' message that you have gathered (so far), and what do you intend to do with it? [share it, research it, apply it, or more than one]
4. Do you want a Forest Day 6? If so, what do you want to see done the same, or differently?
5. [Optional - Does Forest Day have any influence/impact beyond the day itself? If so, what?]

The interviewer introduced himself, showing the evaluation of Forest Day 4 brochure that was included in each participant pack, and mentioned Frances' opening plenary. Most interviews took between five and ten minutes. Some took longer, however, where circumstances permitted or the interviewee was very open to offer relevant feedback. No two sets of interview questions were identical, and certain modifications to the above questions became consistent over time, summarized as follows.

The first question 'what organisation are you from?' was rarely required as the affiliation was obvious from the name badge, except when needing to know in what 'capacity' the interviewee was attended, especially whether the interviewee was an official negotiator. A new question was often included here as it appeared important to 'frame' the questions that followed, being 'have you been to previous days?' This then lead easily to a follow-up question, being 'is this an improvement?'

The second 'why have you come?' question was blended in other ways after initial interviewees failed to provide any meaningful information. The third 'take home message' question needed approaching in different ways depending on the interviewee and the time of day (obviously impossible to answer in the morning...), and the second part on 'what will you do with the message' was left out, as became clear that it was not providing meaningful responses. The fourth question was often reworded into 'do we need another Forest Day?' or 'has the job been done now?' and 'if you were on the organising committee for next year's Forest Day, what would you do differently?' The final optional question on 'does Forest Day have any influence/impact' was also asked in many cases.

Although trying to be 'random' in interviewee selection, attempts were made to target participants from all sectors or capacities (negotiator, intergovernmental, research, private, etc.) during the day. Of the 46 interviewees, 18 were principally involved in development work (39%), 10 were researchers (22%), 8 were official UNFCCC negotiators or their key advisors (17%), 6 were involved in private business (13%), with 3 in communications/media, and 1 donor representative. Regarding institutional affiliation, the largest group of the 46 interviewees were the 17 NGO representatives (37%), followed by the 14 working for governmental departments (30%), 6 from intergovernmental organisations (13%), 6 from the private sector (13%), 2 from universities, and 1 from a newspaper. These figures correspond very approximately with those for the event as a whole, and thus the interviewees can be considered representative of all sectors present.

**On-the-day interviewees**

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Capacity</b>	<b>Country</b>
1.	Urs Dieterich	International Students Assoc.	NGO	Development	Austria
2.	Gert de Gans	Fair Climate Fund	NGO	Development	Belgium
3.	Lorenzo Morales	La Semana (newspaper)	Media	Media	Colombia
4.	Debbie Bossio	IWMI	IGO	Research	Ethiopia
5.	Kriton Arsensis	EU	IGO	Development	France
6.	Stefan Salvador	FSC	NGO	Development	Germany
7.	Andreas Wertzte	Helmholtz Centre UFZ	NGO	Research	Germany
8.	Timm Tennigkeit	Unique	Private	Private	Germany
9.	Georg Schattrey	Forest Carbon Group	Private	Private	Germany
10.	Ernest Foli	FORIG	Gov.	Research	Ghana
11.	Stephen Devenish	Clinton Foundation	NGO	Development	Indonesia
12.	Eugene Hendrick	Department of Agriculture	Gov	Negotiator	Ireland
13.	Patrick Farrington	Forest Service	Gov	Negotiator	Ireland
14.	Andreas Langner	FFPRI	Gov	Research	Japan
15.	Mahawane Lawanou	Africa Forest Forum	IGO	Research	Kenya
16.	Dennis Garrity	ICRAF	IGO	Research	Kenya
17.	Horst Weyerhaesur	Department of Agriculture	Gov	Negotiator	Laos
18.	Majella Clarke	Department of Forestry	Gov	Negotiator	Laos
19.	Marie Allimant	Alamanga Reforestation	NGO	Development	Madagascar
20.	Ganesh Karki	FECOFEN	NGO	Development	Nepal
21.	Adrian Enright	SNV	Gov	Development	Netherlands
22.	Steve Swann	SNV	Gov	Development	Netherlands
23.	Salisu Dahiru	Ministry of the Environment	Gov	Negotiator	Nigeria
24.	Richard Okibe	Ministry of Agriculture	Gov	Negotiator	Nigeria
25.	Marlea Muñoz	Women's Initiative (WISE)	NGO	COP advisor	Philippines
26.	António Leitão	IITC	Gov	Research	Portugal
27.	Adriana Gonzalez	Sierra Club Youth Engagement	NGO	Development	Puerto Rico
28.	Bob Scholes	CSIR	Gov	Research	South Africa
29.	Sakhumzi Tswina	National Forestry Advisory	Gov	Development	South Africa
30.	Alan Bernstein	SFM Africa Limited	Private	Private	South Africa
31.	Dev Tewari	University of KwaZulu Natal	Univ	Research	South Africa
32.	Thorsten Artda	PEFC	NGO	Development	Switzerland
33.	Susan Price	PEFC	NGO	Development	Switzerland
34.	Eliakimu Zahabubu	UN REDD	IGO	Negotiator	Tanzania
35.	Baanda Salim	Sokoine Univ. of Agriculture	Univ	Research	Tanzania
36.	Pierre Nguinda	African Development Bank	IGO	Donor	Tunisia

continued on next page

**continue**

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Capacity</b>	<b>Country</b>
37.	Fredric Kizza	Uganda Wildlife Service	Gov.	Development	Uganda
38.	Jeff Jackson	Tropical Forest Forum	NGO	Development	UK
39.	Liz Carlile	IIED	NGO	Media	UK
40.	Tope Akinwande	Tear Fund	NGO	Development	UK
41.	Scott Settelmeyer	Terra Carbon	Private	Private	USA
42.	Naomi Swickard	Verified Carbon Standard	Private	Private	USA
43.	Kristy Buckley	Meridian Institute	NGO	Development	USA
44.	Molly Peter-Stanley	Ecosystem Marketplace	NGO	Media	USA
45.	Brian Bean	Winrock International	NGO	Development	USA
46.	Jeremy Freund	Wildlife Works	Private	Private	USA

**Statements and common issues****Sample interview**

The following is a good example of one of the on-the-day interviews, where most of the key questions were answered. It is presented below as a single continuous statement, though it was originally transcribed as a collection of separate answers. In the sections that follow, many of the

different answers and various statements made by the 46 interviewees have been broken down into separate responses and grouped into a number of classifications based on the question or issue raised, to allow for ready comparisons and the drawing out of common themes and views. Some have been edited to make them grammatically correct. Only very occasionally are some repeated due to having relevance to several issues, or were deemed irrelevant and not included.

**“This is my third Forest Day, and I have seen each building on the previous one, from more general to more specific issues following the development of the COPs. They are great in providing new information. The message is not so clear though, nothing seems so new this year in a sense. It is likely to have more impact on the discussions than in previous years, as there are a lot of first time negotiators this year. [However] as someone who shares information either in the form of advice or as inputs to my country’s delegation, I see that the information from Forest Day does influence negotiations via the technical advisors. It provides seeds of thoughts for questioning issues. It is therefore very important. For the next Forest Day, there is a need to work on the plenary sessions. There is a need to set the stage better in the opening, and add a more ‘human’ touch’ to the presentations.”**

Marlea Muñoz, President of WISE (Women’s Initiatives for Society, Culture, and Environment), the Philippines.  
Interview during Forest Day 5, Durban, 4 December 2012.

## General 'bouquets'

"It is consistently one of the best organised events surrounding the [COP] negotiations."

"Today is the only day that *all* the big actors in forestry are in one place, and every year now, to debate the key issues, key regions, and it gives an opportunity to take new information on board."

"It has now become the best meeting place for forestry people each year. Compare it to the World Forestry Congress that occurs only once every five years..."

"Forest Day is the greatest event in the COP. It has a large impact, and must have the best value for money. The information I take away helps me in the negotiations and in the informal discussions around."

"Only if we had all the answers, we wouldn't need another Forest Day."

"This is my fourth Forest day, and it is a great event, a perfect day, seeing concentrated progress..."

"Forest Day is a blast of information."

"There is abundant time for networking, and not a jam-packed schedule, an optimal balance in fact."

"This year's event was extremely well put together, better than previous years."

## Key messages

### Progress in REDD and carbon markets

"The message is clear, to demonstrate progress in these [REDD] issues, their diversity and the links."

"The message was the agreement to work on REDD, and that it may dominate market development."

"The message is that there is a growing market for carbon that focuses on REDD, but there is a fear for the future of this market especially as forests are now recognized for having multiple ecosystem services. But the gap between the poor and the services they need, and the rich who want trade, still seem to be growing."

"The message is that forests are becoming more important in the carbon community in general, and not just on the 'hippy fringe', and are becoming more effective in slowing climate change than even the COP negotiations themselves. Real connections are leading to real actions."

"A message? We see the increasing role and importance of the private sector, clearly."

### Forests are more than just carbon

"Forestry is broader and much bigger than just 'carbon!'"

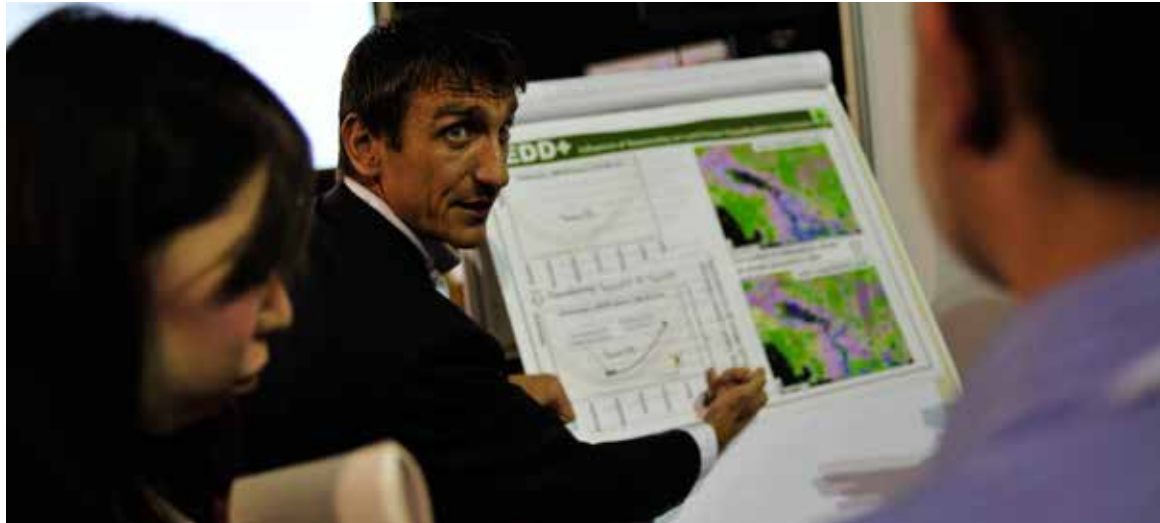
"The message was the linkages between forests and sustainable development in the broader sense. Helen [Gichoni] from AWF [African Wildlife Foundation] presented it in a nutshell, unpacking the key issues."

"The message is to promote the importance of forests for climate change and for biodiversity conservation and livelihoods issues."

"The key message is to see the tremendous interest in FMNR [farmer managed natural regeneration] as a no-cost pro-poor intervention."

### Need to implement policy

"The message is clear, on how to turn policy to practice, and what we can gain from doing so."



"The key message was clearly the strapline, 'turning policy to practice'."

"The message is the need for implementation, with lots of technical discussion. There has been lots of progress in measuring the health of ecosystems, which is now ingrained in the process thanks to the great advances since Bali."

"The key message from the plenary was that it has become clearer that we need to put things into practice, to transfer science for development, for implementation, with whatever tools are available."

#### **Need to link forests and agriculture**

"The key message is the importance of the link between forests and agriculture."

"The key message is that we should lump agriculture and forests together, and go forward together for a better global well-being. It makes intuitive sense to me."

"A researcher at my first Forest Day, I see the emphasis on forestry, but also the realisation of the importance of agriculture in REDD and the need to be holistic regarding forests, agriculture and soil."

#### **Need to understand local needs**

"The key message is the impression that for all of this to work it needs strong local commitment and government involvement, to craft their own solutions to their own national problems."

"The message is that more collective engagement is needed, along with more harmonization and 'perennisation' [to ensure continued existence]."

#### **Uncertain/negative**

"The message is not so clear though, nothing seems so new this year in a sense."

"There is no key message that stands out."

"No new message this Forest Day."



"No key message."

"As for a key message? Do you have an easier question?"

## Influencing the negotiations

### Positive, direct

"Forest Day is the greatest event in the COP. It has a large impact, and must have the best value for money. The information I take away helps me in the negotiations and in the informal discussions around."

"I am an observer, working on the margins and getting negotiators to talk. And yes, it does impact on the negotiations. One example is that text from one of my reports has gone 'in' as an objective."

"It is likely to have more impact on discussions than previous years, as there are a lot of first time negotiators this year."

"As someone who shares information either in the form of advice or purely inputs to my country's delegation, I see that the information from Forest Day does influence negotiations via the technical advisors. It provides seeds of thoughts for questioning issues. It is therefore very important."

"Negotiators from my country are here today and I know they will take information away with them."

"There is plenty here, and yes it will influence even this COP."

### Positive, indirect, longer term

"Forest Day helps, especially those new to the negotiations like me, regarding theoretical frameworks

and methodologies. It is a good crowd too, offering good general information, but no 'light bulbs over your head'. It is worth carrying on, as I see quite a few other negotiators here..."

"Forest Day sends a strong signal to the COP, not directly via content, but as a symbolic gesture of this group of people who want to see action taken. Otherwise there is little effect, with participants being mainly observers and NGOs, though information and knowledge sharing feeds into the process."

"It brings forest issues to the fore, especially in making them more prominent to the UNFCCC. So many key people in forestry are here, with discussions that are the basis of the agreements that are to come."

"Its influence is indirect, from brainstorming and thoughts that push delegates to get what is needed on to the agendas. CIFOR has been on a steep learning curve, with good results, though now levelling off."

"There is no direct impact on the COP, but indirectly, yes, from the wider body of intellectual thought that has continued to evolve since Forest Day 1 in Bali."

"It cannot influence the concurrent COP as the draft text is already written by the time Forest Day occurs, but it is likely to influence negotiations in the longer term, such as by setting the right priorities for future discussion."

"A big failure of the COP talks (but not of Forest Day!), and climate change in general, is that it isn't communicated to normal people in understandable ways."

"An impact yes, as many of those who help to 'decide' are listening here, and use the information they

get here to deepen their understanding of the role of forests.”

“Forest Day does have an impact on new legislation [other than UNFCCC agreements], informing EU Working Groups for example, in making recommendations for member states.”

“There is an impact, but what, is hard to find out. What is certain is that if you do nothing, you get nothing...”

### **Undecided/negative**

“It might influence the COP negotiations, but I am sceptical.”

“That last year’s survey showed that 85% felt that Forest Day influenced the negotiations directly, I doubt it. I think that it has no direct impact on current negotiations per se, but new ideas could influence future COPs.”

“I am not sure it influences higher level decisions.”

“No, I can see no influence on the COP, but yes on business networking, financing projects, services, helping to close that circle, but not for the UN and public funded work.”

“Does it impact government decisions? Certainly not.”

“It has no influence on the COP, well not this one at least.”

“The impact is on increasing awareness, and is not likely to influence the COP.”

“Yes, Forest Day has an influence, it is useful, for knowledge sharing, networking, but I cannot see how it might impact on the negotiations.”

## **Other benefits**

### **Awareness raising and information gathering/sharing**

“Of course Forest Day has an impact. There was no coverage of the first one, but now everyone is aware and listens. Yes to more Forest Days as issues are developing, now with talk of REDD++...”

“Forest Day has introduced a set of issues and has had a demonstrable impact that is good to see.”

“More Forest Days are needed. We need steady pressure, something scientists may not understand, to get the messages across. And Forest Day is evolving to meet the challenges.”

“I am here as an observer to the COP, and have come to Forest Day to find out what ‘REDD’ is, and to listen and learn.”

“Forest Day is good to increase awareness of REDD issues.”

“The draw of Forest Day is to be able to hear presentations and discussions on very relevant topics all in the same day, and have such a broad coverage.”

“The reason for coming was to gather information on REDD+, methods and baseline data, and it is worth it – better than just following the blogs...”

“Forest Day is good to disseminate information more broadly.”

“Good as an information gathering event, especially to introduce the issues to those new to them.”

“The impact is on increasing awareness, and is not likely to influence the COP.”

"They are great in providing new information."

"I came to share, to give and to take. The impact is on sharing information, which has gone far, with lots of linkages and feedback on processes."

"Forest Day certain helps create awareness. But how can we break the information down, to achieve impacts on policy makers, and on poor forest peoples."

"Forest Day has impacts on methodology, means of evaluation, with lots of information from scientists."

"I do not have a forestry background and have learnt lots of new information."

### **Networking**

"The impact is hard to say, though it does facilitate developments such as its great value in making connections, but can't point to specifics."

"The importance of Forest Day for us (an NGO) is for networking, visibility and fundraising, as meeting place for our global team, and to absorb technical information."

"A great opportunity to meet so many important forestry people together in one place, to network and learn about the importance of REDD for the Amazon."

"Forest Day is a great networking event, and as such there is always a need for more."

"Its impact comes from bringing together the great thinkers, not on negotiation but on recognition of the importance of forests in mitigating climate change."

"The most important part is networking, getting feedback, and reinforcing the main messages."

"It is much more of a networking event, and not for giving answers."

"My aims here are to connect, to network, and link with other similar experiences."

"I came to make better links with scientific knowledge, to meet the experts, and learn how this can feed into project in my region."

"For me, it is an important day for networking and ideas for practical actions."

"I am here to meet other companies, to network, and we should all be here to stop deforestation, and not promoting the big salaries of consultants."

"A great event for networking, that is so essential."

"I am happy with the networking opportunities, but not with the sessions."

"Forest Day is good for business deals, meetings, and meeting DNAs [designated national authorities] all in one go."

"There are lots of technical people that help the technocrats set terms of reference and forms part of the lobbying, leveraging off each other, so is useful."

"I am here for networking, and for selling our services, and marketing."

"No, I can see no influence on the COP, but yes on business networking, financing projects, services, helping to close that circle, but not for the UN and public funded work."

"This is an important event to bring together actors with the same concerns, though they may have

different emphasis, e.g. on communications, or sustainable management. As for impacts, yes it can, if everyone here can reach consensus decisions."

"Forest Day is a perfect illustration of the complementarity between us all, who all have so much that we want to achieve that is so similar, can attract attention towards the key actions, unresolved issues and information needs."

## Organisation

### Themes/topics/issues

"As for the next Forest Day in Doha, how about focusing on desertification, dry forests, water and those linkages?"

"There is a need for more general information such as on reforestation, and a need to bring people working on carbon-linked projects together."

"There is lots of emphasis today on safeguards and protecting biodiversity, but some people want to see a greater focus on local communities, their involvement and the benefits they can get."

"It should also get away from concentrating on REDD+ and carbon, and take a more holistic view and also look at other mechanisms such as biodiversity payments, watershed payments."

"The problem is that everything here is all REDD+, when there are lots of other issues to be dealt with."

"Would like to see more practical examples though, real successes, and not just talk, talk, talk..."

"There should be more on different topics, e.g. indigenous peoples."

"Yes to another Forest Day, but widen the number of themes covered, such as certification, governance, adaptation – and it could even go beyond forests as there are many other relevant actors."

"Yes to more Forest Days, but consider new themes and ideas."

"Change the themes each year so all concerned issues are covered at least once every few years."

"There is a need to make stronger the research to policy dialogue, so often lost in the translation."

"Need more capacity building, and questions and answers on REDD, even amongst senior folk in large organisations..."

"Investors should get a bigger say."

"To have an influence, Forest Day also needs to acknowledge the role of the private sector more. Why do we have to carry on believing that it has to be the UN that saves the world? While the forests are burning and negotiations are going nowhere, we are selling ever more certified credits and making a difference. "

"Technical sessions were either over my head, or too low in other ways, so wasting my time in attending."

"I was really surprised, that it was 99% focused on Africa. Doesn't Asia have to deal with deforestation, and in CIFOR's back yard after all. In topics and geographical coverage it was not balanced, so need to think about this for next year."

"Have a future focus on the big communications issues - there is already plenty on the technical competencies. Why, there only one journalist in the whole of Germany who fully understands forest carbon markets, there is much to do!"



"I wanted more agroforestry before, now included so I am content there, with a good balance."

#### **Future Forest Days to link to COP themes**

"The big issue is where the COP is going, not where Forest Day is going. Forest Day just has to echo the changes in issues and the COP negotiations from year to year. And it does now, less so in previous years..."

"This is my third Forest Day, and I have seen each building on the previous one, from more general to more specific issues, following the development of the COPs."

"Yes to a Forest Day 6, based on the main themes COP18 will carry, and where it is will be important..."

#### **The Marketplace**

"The marketplace was interesting, as a way to find concrete ways to implement projects."

"The 'marketplace' is a nice idea, but not perfect..."

"I like the idea of the marketplace, but it needs developing and will probably evolve."

"The marketplace still seemed based on 'one-to-many' communication even if in smaller groups, with inadequate scope for true discussion, and too much of a 'lecture' style format. Also, as open plan, it was rather noisy with lots of interruptions (though intended to be like a real marketplace) but it was still difficult to concentrate..."

"The noise [in the Marketplace] was fine if you would've been just haggling for potatoes, but it was hard to get detailed arguments across on, for example, the need for more community involvement REDD discussions..."

### **New innovations?**

"Could have a 'connection booth', a sort of REDD speed dating service that could link funders and projects quickly, region by region, project type by project type."

"Have one or more five minute videos summing up key issues, running continuously in various corners of the event."

"Next year, an issue may be if we need to integrate Agriculture and Forest Days. CIFOR was the key 'resistor' to a merger in years past, seeing how REDD could be the success that it has proved to be and not wanting any dilution to slow down progress. But now REDD is accepted, there is a better case, and also for including Land Day also. Why have three similar separate days. But maybe spread such a merged event over two days, or the whole weekend."

"Forest Day should be arranged around the different interest groups, rather than themes."

"Take journalists to the Amazon, let them see first hand and then they can report back to their readers."

"What about a 'paperless Forest Day' next time?"

"Prepare proper 'press packs' for Forest Day well before COP starts, including all the relevant definitions, basic trends, background information specific for different interest groups such as the largely uneducated public, and private investors.

### **General organisation - positive**

"This is my third Forest Day and it does not need a change in format, though more such days are needed as there is no formal agreement yet."

"The high level speakers are great, and I am looking forward to the parallel sessions..."

"This is better than the other Forest Day that I attended when there were too many sessions, and I see it has been a steep learning curve to reach this improved level."

"This is an improvement on Forest Day 4, with more going on."

"It has a good format, with lots of improvements over past years."

"Good selection of high level speakers from Forest Day 2 through to this one, with Forest Day 5 especially good."

"A Forest Day 6, yes! The job isn't done yet. It is a good format – it works!"

"Forest Day should continue even without the COP, and regardless of what else happens, keep it separate."

"Need to keep the momentum going, and to flag the issues that are not resolved. More progress is still needed to better share experiences and to keep learning from each other."

"Good on a Sunday."

"Lunch was better this time."

### General organisation – improvements?

"For the next Forest Day, there is a need to work on the plenary sessions. There is a need to set the stage better in the opening, and add a more 'human' touch' to the presentations."

"Preparations were not as they should have been. The expert presenters should have been better informed about the number of slides, messaging, timekeeping, and the panel discussion moderator should have been much better briefed, as there were no real discussions of interest, or dealing with most of the real burning questions."

"Such a diverse group of people but the facilitation was not so great."

"All the right technical expertise is here, but the organisers need to tease out better the 'reasoning' to link all the different sectors, as maybe 50 key people from everyone here could do so much, advance lots. There then needs to be a firm commitment to make it work."

"The speakers are a good balance between the emotional, solid science and policy. But there is not enough private business involvement – who are expected to pay but are not given any space here to put their views across, sending the wrong message out."

"Smaller group discussions would add to the day."

"The stands are useful but the sessions weren't, as we [negotiators] spend from nine till nine from Monday to Friday in 'sessions', so the last thing we won't do on the weekend is to be in more sessions..."

"Forest Day could have been closer to other events, it was not easy to find and get to. Booths could be

grouped into types, such as all auditors in one corner, all researchers in another."

"I didn't even know that Forest Day was 'on', with no information in the main conference centre. We just found it by chance while going to the beach on a bus."

"Not sure of the benefit of the booths."

"Nothing ground-breaking here today, though the tribute to Wangara Maathi was touching."

"Not sure whether another Forest Day would be useful."

"Logistically, the registration process was a mess, and why did anyone have to pay when it had sponsors? This surely put some people off coming who might have learnt or added things."

### General REDD comments

"The problem with REDD is that it is *so very* complicated, a constraint to its further impact. Many want it to have thorough integrity, and those with simple views are attacked. But it would be worth from a practical standpoint, to sacrifice a bit of the complexity for broader participation and reduced transaction costs. Some are starting to stand up and say so, but too few as yet."

"See the methodology they write [about REDD] – they're brutal. Totally impossible to understand the first time, you can start to get an idea the second or third time round, but need to read it four or five times to get the idea. And there are at least ten types of methods to choose from..."



"REDD is a climate change 'model' for holistic thinkers, who all come together here and ensure that there are no leakages, using forests as a global 'case study'."

"Certification must be better considered in the MRV [measuring, reporting and verification] considerations for credibility, especially as verification is almost entirely absent so far from current discussions, as governments want to play down true 'accountability' and play up 'voluntary agreements'."

"There is unity and optimism that REDD will move forward, but we must intensify dialogue to break down the barriers between the proponents and those who do not believe..."

"There appears to be lots of money – but how much will have any impact on the communities in question?"

Maybe it is worth considering community level infrastructure much more, such as road building, etc.

"The carbon market must also consider local communities and their supply and demand. Charcoal cutters, for example, would need an alternative source of income, and the communities may need an alternative source of energy and possibly the means to pay for it. Solutions may have many prongs..."

### Common issues

Common issues have been identified for further discussion, developed from the sub-headings in the list of statements above that became apparent during the 'sorting' of the statements received. These will be combined with additional views on



the equivalent issues, received from the internet survey and the telephone interviews, and presented in the overall conclusions.

There were 150 individual statements, 22 gave key messages, 56 remarked on the influences and impacts, 57 on organisational issues, 7 general REDD comments and 9 general complements. Of these, the 9 complements received were full of praise ('bouquets'), with very few critical statements received overall. Regarding the key messages received, 5 commented on the progress of REDD and carbon markets, 4 noted the need to implement policy, 3 noted the need to link forests and agriculture, 2 noted the need to understand local needs, with 4 others noting individual messages grouped under 'forests are more than just carbon', i.e. seeing the links between forests and sustainable development, biodiversity conservation and livelihoods. There were 5 who said that there was no clear message or uncertain.

On influencing the negotiations, there were 5 statements on positive and direct impacts, 9 on positive but indirect impacts, and 8 that were uncertain or thought that Forest Day had no impact. Regarding other benefits, however, there were 15 statements on awareness raising and information gathering/sharing, and 19 regarding networking. There were 57 statements that were grouped under organisational issues, further subdivided. Most were on the topics of suggested themes for future Forest Days, and general

### Classification of 150 interview statements into common issues and numbers of statements in each.

<b>Key messages</b>	<b>22</b>
Progress in REDD and carbon markets	5
Forests are more than just carbon	4
The need to implement policy	3
Link forests and agriculture	3
Understand local needs	2
No key message	5
<b>Influences and impacts</b>	<b>57</b>
Influencing the negotiations (6 direct, 9 indirect, 8 no impact)	23
Networking	19
Awareness/information	15
<b>Organisation issues</b>	<b>57</b>
Theme changes	21
The marketplace	5
New innovations	7
Complements	11
Suggested improvement	13
General compliments	9
General REDD issues	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>152</b>

organisation, with several on how future Forest Days should be better linked to COP themes, the Marketplace, and new innovations suggested. Finally, there were 7 comments on REDD in general that did not appear to fit into any of the other groups of statements.



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# Internet survey

## Introduction and respondents

The survey was prepared and agreed in advance, following exchanges with John Colmeley and colleagues at CIFOR. In response to feedback from the previous year's survey, it was reduced in length, this time to only ten questions. The link was sent to CIFOR a week before Forest Day 5.

An email with the link to the survey (<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/forestday5survey>) was sent by Green Ink to the emails of all participants on 12 December. There were, however, less than 800 email addresses for more than 1000 named participants initially received after the event, and more than 60 emails were found to be invalid. However, a revised list with 1110 named participants was received by

◀ A discussion group during the Issues Marketplace at Forest Day 5

Green Ink after this, though this still had more than 250 names without corresponding emails. Nonetheless, by 24 December, 54 participants had already completed the survey.

After an extra 100 email addresses were added following individual internet searches, a second email was circulated on 5 January to 925 addresses (included those who had already responded, with thanks), which encouraged a further 34 responses, leading to a total of 88 completed surveys by 10 January. A final email was sent to the same names, with the addition of a further 35 new email addresses on 20 January, leading to a final email list of 960, or 86% of the total number of registered participants. However, a further 50 emails 'bounced' in addition to the 60 that had been 'returned to sender' in an earlier email, i.e. 110 invalid email address in total. The survey link and a request for more responses were also included in a CIFOR News Update released on 25 January, and a final reminder was sent out on 15 February. The survey was closed on 18 February.

The final number of responses was 124, or more than 11% of the 1110 registered participants, or almost 15% of the 850 participants with valid email addresses. Six people responded to the general CIFOR News Alert request who did not attend Forest Day 5, though their responses are still included in the overall analysis. One duplicate response was identified only after analysis had taken place, and is thus retained, as it did not change the results in any meaningful way.

The total number of respondents to this internet survey, was however, only a little more than a third of the total number of respondents who completed the internet survey following Forest Day 4 in 2011. There are several possible reasons for this significant reduction between these two consecutive years. All of these may have had some



influence, although there is no evidence to gauge the relative importance of these, if any. Firstly, last year's survey was sent out to almost 200 more participants, to 1150 as compared to 960 in 2012, although the exact number of 'bounced emails' was not assessed in 2011. Secondly, last year's survey was sent out in three languages, though the English version alone still attracted 227 responses in 2011, 100 more than this year, with an additional 97 responses received in Spanish and 18 in French. Thirdly, 'survey fatigue' may have set in, even though efforts were made to counter this by making this year's survey shorter and informing potential respondents of this fact in advance. Perhaps people were also just less interested or motivated by the subject, and many other possible considerations could have added to this and cannot be discounted.

With such surveys, a 10% response rate is considered acceptable, which was still surpassed. The names of all respondents are listed below, ordered alphabetically by country of residence, irrespective of whether their affiliated organisation and their work is global in scope. The quotes that follow in the analysis and discussion of each of the ten questions are not attributed to any individual to preserve anonymity, but are only a small selection of all the statement submitted.

### List of internet survey respondents

Name	Organisation	Country
Johannes Ebeling	BioCarbon	Australia
Alexander Buck	IUFRO	Austria
David Neil Bird	Joanneum Research	Austria
Paula Ellinger	AVINA	Brazil
Anne Marie Tiani	CIFOR	Cameroon
Mateus Bonadiman	Hdom	Brazil
Fernanda Viana de Carvalho	The Nature Conservancy	Brazil
Rane Cortez	The Nature Conservancy	Brazil
Frederik Vroom	Brinkman and Associates Reforestation	Canada
Johannes Stahl	CBD	Canada
John B. Flynn	USAID	Central Africa
Shuhong Wu	Beijing Forest University	China
John Robert Gibson	Civic Exchange and City University of Hong Kong	China
Coosje Hoogendoorn	INBAR	China
Carlos Manuel Rodriguez	Conservation International - Gov of Costa Rica	Costa Rica
Marte Franck	IFSA	Denmark
Gertrud Kümmel Birk/Nielsen	NEPCon	Denmark
François Paluku Biloko	Réseau CREF	DR Congo
G. Ken Creighton	USAID/CARPE	DR Congo
Olli Isotupa	Arbonaut	Finland
Markku Aho	Ministry for Foreign Affairs	Finland
Emmanuel Torquebiau	CIRAD	France
Nick Pasiecznik	Green Ink	France
Juliette Mouche	International Forestry Students' Association	France
Jennifer Newlands	Planet Action - Astrium	France
Gregory Jean	FSC	Germany
Johannes Förster	Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research	Germany
Ralf Seppelt	Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research	Germany
Andreas Werntze	Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research	Germany
Urs Dieterich	IFSA	Germany
Horst Freiberg	Ministry of Environment	Germany
Claire Martin	Transparency International	Germany
Manoj Nadkarni	Transparency International	Germany
Jasmin Metzler	UNCCD	Germany
Merger Eduard	UNIQUE forestry and land use	Germany
Timm Tennigkeit	UNIQUE forestry and land use	Germany
Alexander Knohl	University of Goettingen	Germany

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<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Country</b>
Imani Kikoti	University of Goettingen	German
Christoph Kleinn	University of Goettingen	Germany
John J. Mason	Nature Conservation Research Centre	Ghana
Frances Seymour	CIFOR	Indonesia
Louis Verchot	CIFOR	Indonesia
Fahmuddin Agus	Indonesian Soil Research Institute	Indonesia
Frederic Achard	European Commission Joint Research Centre	Italy
Rojas-Briaies, Eduardo	FAO	Italy
Susan Braatz	FAO	Italy
Eduardo Rojas-Briaies	FAO	Italy
Danae Maniatis	FAO	Italy
Adam Gerrand	FAO	Italy
Vanda Altarelli	SONIA	Italy
Eduardo Mansur	ITTO	Japan
John Recha	CCAFS	Kenya
Paul Stapleton	ICRAF	Kenya
Thomas Mwambi Mwikamba	Kenya Natural Resources Alliance	Kenya
Faizal Parish	Global Environment Centre	Malaysia
Kurt Christoph Neitzel	Universidad Autonoma de Mexico	Mexico
Joaquim Aramando Macuacua	National Directorate Of Lands And Forest	Mozambique
Tasila Banda	Face the Future	Netherlands
Gert de Gans	ICCO	Netherlands
Carl Königel	IUCN	Netherlands
Bamidele oni	International forestry student association	Nigeria
Eirik Sorlie	Norwegian Ministry of Environment	Norway
muhammad tahir siddiqui	University of Agriculture, Faisalabad	Pakistan
Peter Cronkleton	CIFOR	Peru
Gonzalo Griebenow	IDB	Peru
Natalia Reategui	University of Dresden	Peru
Alaya de Leon	Ateneo School of Government	Philippines
Andrey Laletin	Friends of the Siberian Forest	Russia
Lua Hock Keong	National Parks Board	Singapore
Geoffrey Davison	National Parks Board	Singapore
Gwendoline Sgwabe	DAFF	South Africa
Ronald Heath	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	South Africa
Stephanie Aubin	SACAU	South Africa
Catherine Traynor	Peace Parks Foundation	South Africa

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<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Country</b>
Michael James Underwood	Independent observer	South Africa
Sheona Shackleton	Rhodes University	South Africa
Matabaro Ziganira	IFSA	South Africa
Leon-Jacques Theron	The Cirrus Group	South Africa
Mashingaidze I	FANRPAN	South Africa
Mary Scholes	University of the Witwatersrand	South Africa
Emad	Individual	Sudan
Dalton Ncamiso Nxumalo	World Vision International	Swaziland
Sabine Henders	Center for Climate Science and Policy Research	Sweden
Lennart Ackzell	International Family Forestry Alliance	Sweden
Susanne von Walter	-	Sweden
Willem PLEINES	Agriforest SA	Switzerland
Thorsten Arndt	PEFC International	Switzerland
Sarah Price	PEFC International	Switzerland
Christian Dannecker	South Pole Carbon	Switzerland
Taiser Aborashed	DRR Individual Researcher	Syria
Nuridin Athuman Chamuya	Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism	Tanzania
Jim Stephenson	RECOFTC	Thailand
Wesley Gibbings	Association of Caribbean Media Workers	Trinidad & Tob
Nabil Hamdi	Ministry of Environment	Tunisia
Christian del Valle	Althelia Ecosphere	UK
Andre Cau dos Santos	University of East Anglia	UK
David Howlett	University of Leeds	UK
Jason Gray	California Air Resources Board	USA
Mary D. Nichols	California Air Resources Board	USA
Mario Chacon	Conservation International	USA
June Reyes	Duke University	USA
John Steffenson	Esri	USA
Andrea Tuttle	Forest and Climate Policy	USA
Paula J. Williams	Forest Carbon, Markets & Communities Program	USA
Kerstin Canby	Forest Trends	USA
Keyvan Izadi	GCF	USA
Scott Settlemyer	TerraCarbon	USA
Gabriel Andres Thoumi	Terra Global Capital LLC	USA
Jeff Fiedler	TNC	USA
John Earhart	Global Environment Fund	USA
Molly Bartlett	William J. Clinton Foundation	USA

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<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Country</b>
Brian Bean	Winrock International	USA
Sandra Brown	Winrock International	USA
Glenn Kumar Bush	Woods Hole Research Center	USA
Peter Dewees	World Bank	USA
Fred Stolle	World Resources Institute	USA
M	S	USA
Adrian Enright	SNV	Vietnam
Emmerson Chivhenge	University of Goettingen, Germany	Zimbabwe
John Dennis Liu	EEMP/IUCN	Worldwide
X	Academic	Africa
X	X	X

**Analysis by question****Question 1. Please provide your name, institution, country of residence and e-mail address**

Respondents came from 43 different countries. Africa, Europe and North America were well represented, whereas Asia and Latin America had the least number of countries and respondents. The countries with more than five respondents were USA (20), Germany (15), South Africa (10) and Italy (6). Those with 3 or 4 respondents were Austria, Brazil, China, Indonesia, Kenya, the Netherlands, Peru, Sweden, Switzerland, and the UK. Four countries had 2 respondents, and the remaining 24 had one each. One respondent did not answer, one put 'Africa' and one put 'worldwide'.

Grouped by continent, most (39%) were from Europe, with 21% from Africa, 18% from North America, 11% from Asia, 6% from South America, 2% from Central America and 1% from Oceania. This ranking was similar as in the breakdown of Forest Day participants showing that the survey

sample was approximately representative by region, although Europeans made up a larger number of survey respondents compared to their percentage participant in the event itself.

**Question 2. Which of the following best describes your institutional affiliation?**

Regarding institutional affiliation, more than one third were from NGOs (35%), 16% were from universities and 15% from the private sector, with 16% from governmental bodies and 13% from intergovernmental organisations. Two respondents each were from donor organisations and the media. No respondents identified themselves with community organisations.

This division by sector was approximately representative of those who attended Forest Day 5, as taken from the registration information reported earlier. The 'top five' sectors were the same for participants and respondents, and although NGOs were the best represented in both, a relatively higher number of those who participated volunteered to complete the survey (35% of survey respondents compared to 28% in



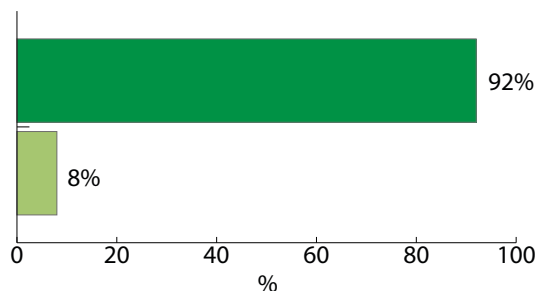
the overall participation). The same was also true from universities (16% and 11%, respectively) and the private sector (15% and 9%), being equivalent for intergovernmental organisations (13% and 12%). This was countered by the lower level of response from governmental bodies (16% survey response compared to 25% participation), and fewer from the donor, media and community organisation sectors.

### Question 3. In what capacity did you attend Forest Day?

The question allowed respondents to answer to as many of the listed categories as they saw fit. A quarter of respondents stated that they were official UNFCCC delegates, though these 30 individuals included only 4 who stated that they were actual negotiators in the talks. Almost a third stated that they were researchers (31%), with 15% of respondents declaring that they were development workers, and another 15% conservationists. Some 6-8% of respondents identified themselves as campaigners, students, donors or forest managers. However, a large number (19%) added comments to the 'other' section, indicating that the list of capacities was not adequately comprehensive. These included co-organizer, speaker, impact assessor, investor, advisor, observer, consultant and volunteer.

### Question 4. How would you rate this Forest Day, and any previous Forest Days you have attended?

Of the 116 people who attended Forest Day 5 and responded to the question, 92% said they thought it was either successful or very successful, with 8% saying that it was either unsuccessful or very unsuccessful. These figures were similar to those for Forest Day 4, 3 and 2, with only a minor variation for Forest Day 1 (95% and 5%, respectively). Of these, 41% thought Forest Day 5



- Either successful or very successful
- Either unsuccessful or very unsuccessful

Figure 8. Success rate of Forest Day 5 versus previous Forest Days attended

was very successful, compared to 34% for Forest Day 4, 41% for Forest Day 3, only 24% for Forest Day 2, but 60% for the first Forest Day. These indicate that the vast majority of respondents felt that the events achieved expectations, and more than a third felt the last three Forest Days were a great success. Limited variation over the years show that 'event fatigue' has not had a negative impact, or that Forest Day has continue to respond to the perceived and assessed needs of participants, thus maintaining their satisfaction over the years.

Regarding participation in earlier Forest Days, 50 had also participated in Forest Day 4 in Cancún, 39 had attended Forest Day 3 in Copenhagen, 25 were at Forest Day 2 in Poznań, and 20 had been to the first Forest Day in Bali. That such large numbers of respondents had chosen to invest in returning to subsequent Forest Days gives a good indication in its own right that they are considered valuable.

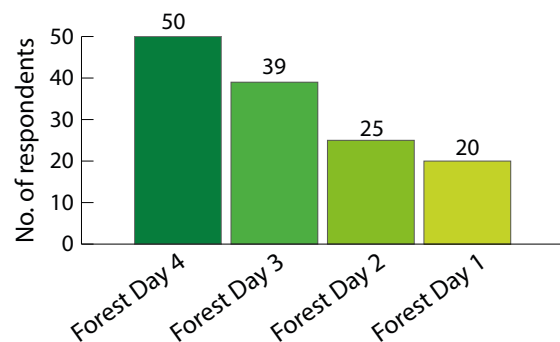


Figure 9. Number of respondents who also participated in previous Forest Days

#### Question 5. What is the key message (or messages) that you took away from Forest Day 5?

Key messages taken away from Forest Day 5 were reported by 105 respondents. They were varied, including many statements of opinion rather than message received, but some common themes were apparent as with those from the on-the-day interviews. Progress on REDD+ attracted many specific comments as could be expected, with a number of examples presented below. Two other frequent messages were the importance of further integrating forestry and agriculture and the use of landscape level approaches. The importance of dry forests was also mentioned by several.

"Tropical forests role in climate change mitigation is being more understood and accepted by the UNFCCC negotiators over time."

"Although Forest Day is able to give an overview of state-of-the-art thinking on the subject matter, it also becomes apparent that the highly motivated people that gather there are not the only participants during negotiations. That may bring us together again for

COP 71:-( " (meaning that this respondent thinks that such negotiations may go on for more than half century more, sadly...)

"Unfortunately, that many organisations and stakeholders are still stuck in concepts and stating general messages over and over again. Relatively few participants had concrete messages, critical reflections, and real suggestions on how to overcome difficulties. Main message for me was, unfortunately, that most participants somehow hope that the general value of forests for climate, people, etc. will somehow "miraculously" translate into real progress through REDD - without tackling the questions of why forest conservation, community programmes, etc. have generally had so many difficulties and often failures in the past and present! This has not been addressed, and more money through REDD won't fix this."

"Forests are still dealt with as sanctuaries for researchers."

Those specifically related to REDD/REDD+ included:

"I realized that forestry/REDD has finally arrived at the policy level of the climate change agenda. It seems to have evolved from being a practical issue that a few experts are concerned with to a political issue that everybody talks about. This also implies that practical discussions and result-oriented debates have entered a very rhetoric stage, where many repeat the same messages without saying much."

"Regardless of the slow steps taking place in the multilateral fora, private sector and NGOs are showcasing a lot of progress in the area of forest conservation and REDD."

"REDD+ is a main issue in the agenda, but there are many uncertainties around it and it does not necessarily solve the problem."

"That REDD discussions need to move from an individual compensation to a development perspective. Simplification of methodologies is badly needed, otherwise REDD will end up like the CDM."

"A compliance REDD carbon market is at least 10 years away and we need to find non-carbon linked mechanisms for financing REDD."

"(1) There is still a long way to go in the development of practical approaches to implementing REDD;. (2) the dialog between forestry and agriculture for REDD implementation has begun, but there is still a lot of work to do; and (3) science is linking better with policy in the forestry and climate change arena than it did 5 years ago."

"There is a glaring lack of understanding on markets within REDD advocacy groups."

"That REDD+ has lots of disadvantages and that markets are not desirable for carbon offset."

#### **Question 6. What do you intend to do with the knowledge behind the key messages?**

Respondents were asked what they intended to do with the knowledge behind these key messages, and were offered three choices. Of these, 92% said that they would share the knowledge, 75% said that they would apply the knowledge in a different context, and 64% said they that would research the idea or knowledge. However, there was also significant uncertainty with the latter two options, with 20% and 22%, respectively, saying that they were not sure. Only 3% said firmly that they would not share the knowledge, 5% said that they

would not apply it, whereas 14% said that they would not research it.

#### **Question 7. In what ways have Forest Days 1 to 5 had an influence?**

Eleven options were presented to respondents when asking in what ways Forest Days 1 to 5 had an influence, and most respondents (96%) answered. By far the single most positive influence identified was 'networking in general', with 64% noting it was very important, and 97% stating it was very important or important. The other ten options could be divided into several groups with similar levels of responses.

The first of these groups comprised three influences that were all personal/individual in nature and that all scored highly. These were 'keeping personally informed of developments' noted as very important by 41% and important or very important by 92% of respondents, 'facilitating the development of new partnerships' (35% and 93%, respectively) and 'building personal or institutional capacity' (33% and 90%).

A second group of two quite different influences had similar figures. A total of 80% of respondents thought that both 'disseminating information from one's own organisation' and 'informing the formulation of new government policies' were either very important or important, and for both, 20% thought that Forest Day was not important or had no influence.

The first in a further group of three was the key influence intended by the co-organizers of Forest Day, i.e. 'providing information to feed into the UNFCCC COP talks'. However, of the 110 respondents who chose to answer this question, only 29% thought Forest Day was very

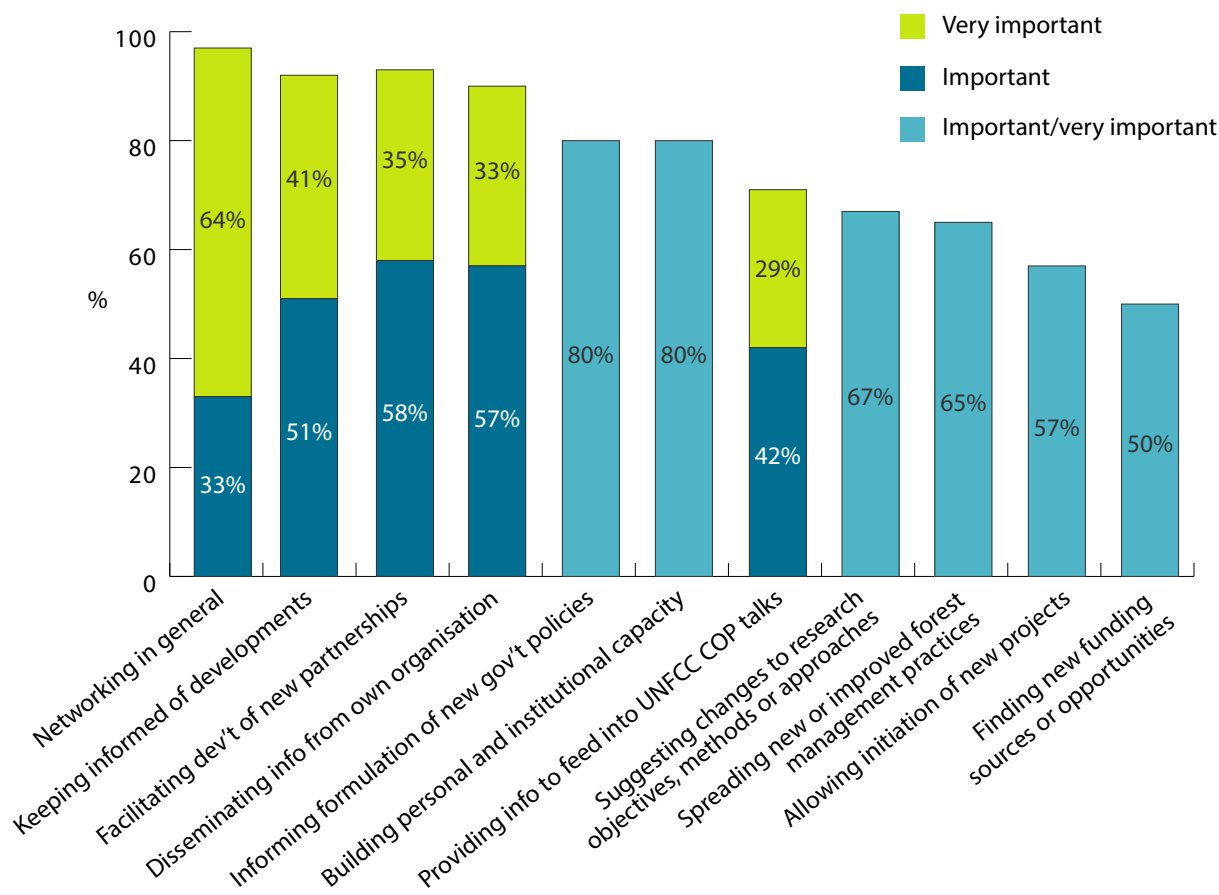


Figure 10. The ways Forest Days 1 to 5 have had an influence

important, and 42% thought it was important (71% in total). However, a large number (22%) thought that Forest Day was not important in influencing the COP talks, and 7% thought that it had no influence at all. That almost one third of respondents thought that Forest Day was not important or had no influence on the UNFCCC negotiations, and that this influence ranked seventh out of the 11 options offered, should provide food for thought for the co-organisers.

The other two in this group scored only very slightly less. These were 'suggesting changes to research objectives, methods or approaches' being either very important or important to 67% of respondents, with 33% thinking that Forest Day was not important or had no influence on this; and 'spreading new or improved forest management practices' with 65% and 35%, respectively.

The lowest ranking influences were 'allowing the initiation of new projects' which only 57% of respondents who thought it was important or very important and 43% thinking Forest Day had no influence or was not important; and finally, 'finding new funding sources or opportunities' which was split approximately 50:50.

Seven respondents also offered additional comments, and two these related specifically to the benefit of creating a (sense of) 'community' to those already involved in forests and climate change issues and a shared belief in the importance of forests. However, a critical comment was added, that said that a "big chance was missed to move beyond generalities and messages everyone likes to hear to tackle challenges many people are struggling with, suggest difficult solutions, etc."

#### **Question 8. Do you have any specific examples of the influence of Forest Days?**

When asked to describe any examples from the use of information gathered and/or followed up contacts made at this or earlier Forest Days to develop any new initiatives (e.g. projects, publications, policy recommendations, policy changes, networks, etc.), only 37% of all survey respondents offered any answer at all. This was by far the lowest response rate of any of the ten questions in the survey, and indicates by itself, that most respondents have no examples. Of those that did reply, two said 'no' and a further six said 'not yet', 'too early to tell' or similar. Of the remaining 38 examples offered, 10 could be grouped into the more general 'contacts and networking' type of answer. The following include some of the 28 specific examples put forward.

"The best example is the formulation of different projects in my country. 1. National Forest Resources Monitoring and Assessment (NAFORMA); 2. REDD+

pilot projects; 3. Completion of the REDD readiness phase; 4. Development of a national REDD+ strategy."

"Influencing and inspiring first class speakers that attract an impressive audience with active interested people including heads of Collaborative Partnership on Forest organisations is simply a unique forum. My best professional foresters' day per year!"

"We use information gathered during the last Forest Day for adjusting the forest policy of our organisation and we also established new partnerships and relations as a result of meeting people during Forest Day."

Six of the comments linked Forest Day specifically to the development of REDD+.

"The contribution of forest day to negotiations on REDD+ in the COP is clear - scope, MRV, field implementation, safeguards, certification, finance..."

"Forest Day 1 informed the UNFCCC negotiations on REDD by reporting a consensus that methods for measuring forest degradation were 'good enough' to support inclusion of the 'second D'."

"Successive Forest Days have provided me (and colleagues) with opportunities to (re)connect with colleagues working on various aspects of REDD around the world at the national level, and get a sense of the relative importance of various issues and actors. This information has in turn influenced the design of our global comparative research and publications on REDD."

"I have used information and ideas gathered during Forest Day in different analyses that I have made, both in written form and in presentations on REDD+."

“Better understanding of REDD+ gained at Forest Days has helped in the development of REDD+ activities in the peatlands in South-east Asia.”

“Civic Exchange submitted a paper on the 21<sup>st</sup> of February 2011 to the UNFCCC on REDD+. Some of the stimulus from this came from conversations at Forest Day.”

One example is worth highlighting here, showing an added benefit that built on successive Forest Days:

“The Agence Française de Développement and the French commitment to provide satellite imagery to Congo Basin countries – a dynamic created in Copenhagen, followed up in Cancún and delivered in Durban.”

Specific comment on a part of the organisation of the event.

“The market place was so crowded. I did not enjoy it. The information from the guidebook was so poor. The program needs a bit more elaboration.”

#### **Question 9. Do you want a Forest Day 6 in 2012?**

Of the 120 respondents who stated whether they wanted a Forest Day 6, 113 (94%) said yes, and only 7 (6%) said no, with a significant majority of 70% who also offer comments.

“The strength of Forest Day also lies in its continuity.”

“Forest Day has become the main CIFOR footprint, the reason why Dr Odigha Odigha, when talking about the transformational change at Forest Day 5, said: “If you don’t come to Forest Day, you miss the COP.””

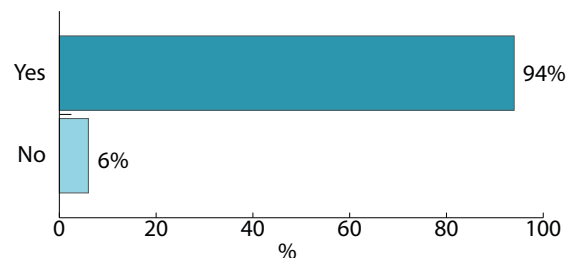


Figure 11. Percentage of respondents who want a Forest Day 6 which is Yes and which is No!

“You are making great progress on educating people and organisations on the value of forests and leading conservation methods.”

“This event is the high-point of the REDD+ calendar for the year. I may have learned more in one day that I did in the rest of the year put together.”

“The political sector needs to be involved more in the next Forest Day. This will add a voice experienced in the political reality outside of scientific research. REDD+ now enters its third stage - implementation. Political guidelines are essential for a success of REDD+.”

“The ‘job’ is far from ‘done’.”

Negative comments included those that said that the event was “too big”, and “if the focus of FD6 continues to be dominated by REDD+, we will lose an opportunity to raise important issues and visibility on adaptation and dryland forests.”

“It is indeed important to discuss the future and the role of forests in changing climatic conditions, but hopefully in a more inclusive way, i.e. with representatives of forest dwellers and forest users amongst the organisers and the panellists.”

"I am not sure if it makes sense to have another Forest Day. On one hand it has become an institution and attracts great attention among COP participants, hence it has definitely been a successful event. On the other hand I was personally a bit disappointed this time in Durban to hear so many 'word shells' and listen to so many repetitions of how important forests are without major new developments or practical implications. Maybe this is a sign of forests entering the policy arena, but personally I would only like to attend another Forest Day in 2012 if there is more to discuss, like the panel discussion on MRV for example, which was really good at FD5."

"Hopefully there will be much improved, more critical discussions and contributions for sharing real experiences on how to tackle problems that have made so many past initiatives fail! Most important for all - get concrete! Force presenters to tackle the reasons for the failure of so many initiatives. Don't preach to the converted about how important forests are for climate change mitigation, communities etc., etc.!"

"Forest Day needs to mature in to something else which takes account of a wider range of opportunities for influencing the climate discussion. Now that agriculture is on the agenda via new language on incorporation into the UNFCCC work program, there is an important opportunity for broadening the discussion. A two day event at the same facility, with cross fertilization of sessions would be great."

"I think that Forest Day needs to really re-invent itself if it wants to have a purpose and stand out from the crowd of REDD+ meetings and conferences. Forest Day 5 did not do this in my mind. One idea to consider is to really focus on new ideas and issues, and not to bother so much with status updates of existing activities. For example, on the negotiations side, there is much to clarify on what the drivers

are, including how if at all to address demand side pressures through policies in non-REDD+ countries; or on safeguards. There are still wide differences on how to include the '+' without creating perverse incentives. But I didn't really see much on the agenda in this regard. It was more a practitioner update, which really can be obtained elsewhere. I also personally found the keynotes to be at such a high level as to be very uninteresting. The Issues Marketplace was an interesting idea, but too chaotic."

"I think the format of the event was tiresome and the panels and presentations were 'more of the same'. I only liked the discussion on Rio+20, which wouldn't be a part of the program if the event was not forthcoming. Enough déjà vu for me."

"If it is a re-hash of the same type of information we got this time, then I probably won't attend. There is a lot going on 'on the ground' that was not represented. For example, the panel called REDD+ on the ground had no one who is actually a practitioner or implementer - they were all researchers or investors. Need to emphasize on the presenters that the people attending Forest Day already know a lot about the topic and they don't need to spend time leading off with the basics. Need to go more in-depth."

More than ten respondents also mentioned in some form or other that if there is to be a Forest Day at COP18 in Qatar, it should take the opportunity of being in a dry country, to focus on dry forests.

#### **Question 10. If you would like to see a Forest Day 6, which issues should be covered in future?**

Most respondents answered the question on what they wanted to see at a next Forest Day. Of the 13 suggested topics, four were 'strongly supported' by more than half respondents to each: drivers of deforestation (62%), climate change adaptation

(62%), financing REDD+ (60%), and climate change mitigation (58%).

These 'top four' topics were followed by a second group of six topics which were strongly supported by 44-50% of respondents. These included: measuring, reporting and verification (MRV) (50%), tenure rights (48%), social safeguards (48%), responsible forest management practices (46%), indigenous peoples and traditional knowledge (44%) and agroforestry (44%).

The three topics with the lowest percentage of 'strongly supported' responses were: biodiversity conservation (38%), certification (31%) and gender issues (25%). These latter two also stood out, with 14% 'not supporting' gender issues, and 11% 'not supporting' certification, while all other topics had similar levels of 'do not support' of 3-6%. Significant numbers of respondents, however, also noted 'no strong opinion' on certification (19%), gender issues (13%), indigenous peoples and traditional knowledge (13%), and MRV (12%), all others with 2-8%.

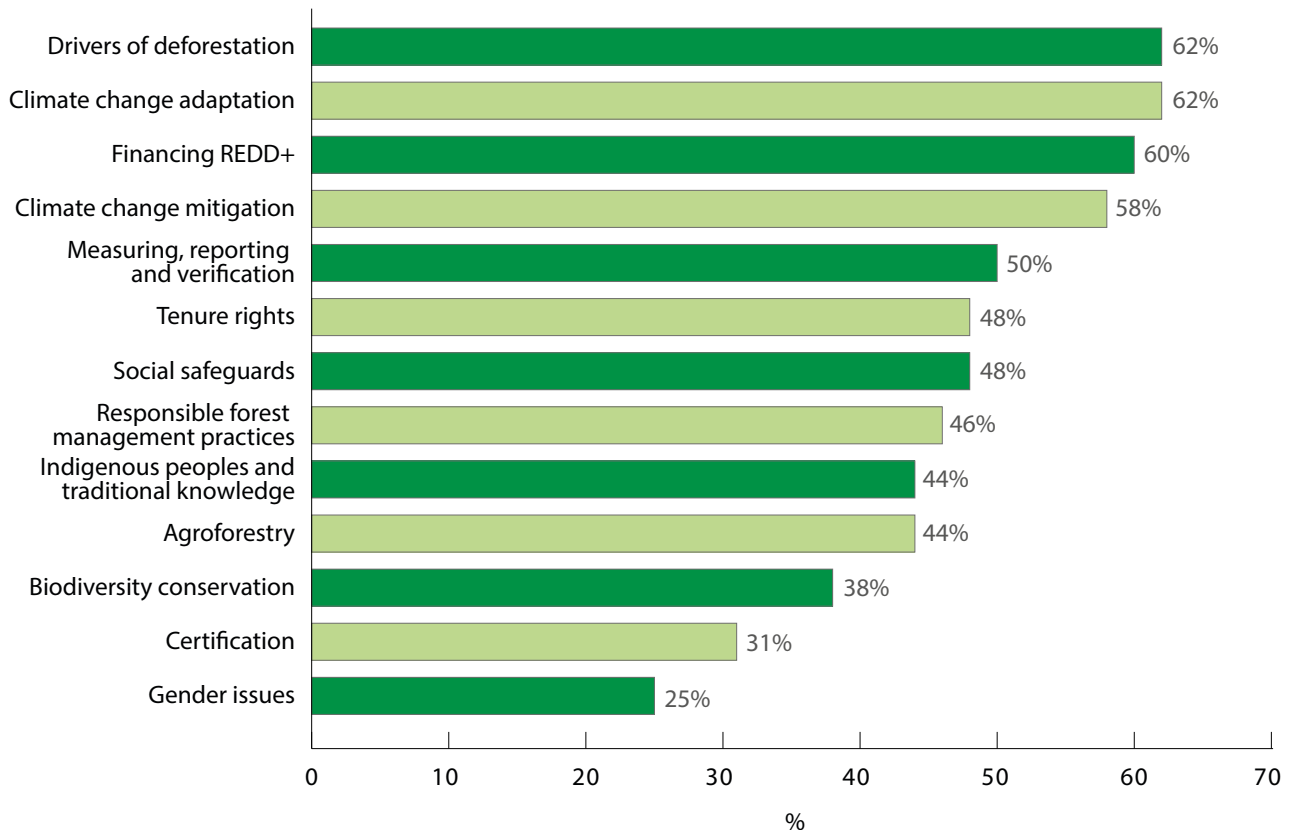


Figure 12. Percentage of respondents who strongly support seeing the suggested topic issues covered in Forest Day 6



Additional suggestions were also offered by 25 respondents, although some were merely a repeat (or possibly aimed as a re-emphasis) of a listed topic option, e.g. financing REDD and tenure issues. Others were additional suggestions for inclusion in some of the listed topics, e.g. bio-energy as a driver of deforestation, and air quality as an ecosystem service and part of the global commons. A further two added the need to look more at the synergies between adaptation and mitigation in forests.

Two new topics were suggested however, in various ways by several respondents. The first of these was restoration of forest ecosystems, as most forests are already degraded in some way. The second was landscape approaches, including agriculture, dry forests, peat forests, land use planning, forest and water etc.

There were also several statements relating to increasing the influence of Forest Day on the UNFCCC negotiations, suggestions for Forest Day 6 and on REDD+ in general. One asked for a session on the 'ethics of REDD offsetting', and a presentation of the cases for and against REDD+.

"Priority should be given to issues that are of current or prospective interest to negotiators (given that Forest Days are held in conjunction with UNFCCC COPs), and challenges of policy or implementation that are 'ripe' for exchange among REDD or adaptation practitioners working at national or local levels. The test should be relevance to forests and climate change, not general topics (e.g. 'agroforestry') but specific ones (e.g. 'how agroforestry can promote adaptation to climate change')."

"No strong opinion for all these issues, because Forest Day 6 would need to be geared to the specific issues at hand for COP18, and these are not clear enough yet."

"Many of the suggestions above have been covered in past Forest Days. As important as MRV is, it has been in all previous Forest Days, likewise, tenure, social safeguards and financing have got a lot of airing. We should seek to explore some different issues. Forest Days have been consistently weighted heavily toward REDD+ and also toward developing countries. Forest Day 5 went further than past Forest Days to explore adaptation issues, which is a trend that should continue in Forest Day 6. We should also include developed country forest and climate change issues in Forest Day 6, i.e. implications of the decision in Durban on LULUCF (from the AWG-KP stream) related to accounting for forest management and harvested wood products. Another topic we should consider (given the venue) is the link between forest-based energy and climate change mitigation. Agroforestry (silvo-pastoral systems) from an adaptation standpoint should be included as important in the Near East region and would be preferable to one on responsible forest management practices."

"As someone working on the social dimensions of REDD+, I wanted to attend the sessions on safeguards and on gender - but they were scheduled at the same time! Kindly try to avoid such conflicts in the future."

"I would recommend some differences in the Forest Day organisation. In some cases less would be more when it is impossible to get to everything."





# Telephone interviews

## Interviewing and interviewees

The CPF was keen to concentrate on evaluating in detail the potential and actual links between Forest Day and the UNFCCC negotiations taking place at the COP discussions. Thus, a mix of target sectors was initially suggested, but the decision was taken to focus this stage of the assessment on those directly involved in the talks as much as possible. It was agreed that this assessment would aim to interview 20 people, as was carried out in the previous year.

In 2011, those who responded to the internet survey as ‘members of UNFCCC official parties’ were assumed to be ‘negotiators’ and were targeted for telephone interviews. However, it was only during the interviews that it became clear that the

large majority were merely observers and took no actual part in the talks. Thus, in 2012, attempts were made to further narrow down the targeting to those directly involved in negotiations, with the addition of some who volunteered to offer their opinions.

From the initial on-the-day surveys and Forest Day 5 internet survey, ten negotiators were positively identified, and one 'COP advisor' with close links to the negotiations. Furthermore, the full list of 1100 participants was cross-checked with the lists of official country delegates published prior to the UNFCCC COP17 at Durban, to identify other possible negotiators. Some subjectivity was employed in this selection, however, as it was rarely made clear in the official lists who the actual negotiators were. Two people also volunteered to offer their views.

A final list of 53 names was collated who were all emailed individually on 4 April. Of the 45 with valid email addresses, 10 responded immediately

expressing a willingness to be interviewed, and 10 more responded positively after a reminder. Five declined due to lack of time or saying that they had little else to add in addition to what they had said during the on-the-day interview or internet survey. The other 20 failed to reply even with two further reminders. However, it was still not always possible to elucidate whether a person was a negotiator even from an email exchange, and it was decided to accept offers of interview on the understanding that negotiators were targeted, and would make up a larger percentage of interviewees as compared to last year, and that valuable information would be still be obtained from the others.

Finally, ten interviews were undertaken between 18 April and 10 May, comprising four national REDD+ negotiators including the head REDD+ negotiator at the UNFCCC negotiations, a former negotiator for the USA, and a representative from the European Union delegation, in alphabetical order by country.

### Telephone interviewees

Name	Role	Organisation	Country
Gaston Grenier	REDD advisor	Consultant, Congo Basin Partnership	Canada
Horst Freiberg	REDD negotiator	Ministry of Environment	Germany
Arsenis Kriton	EU delegation	MEP, European Parliament	Greece/EU
Majella Clarke	REDD negotiator	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	Laos
Ajayi Babatunde	Researcher	University lecturer	Nigeria
Eirik Sorlie	REDD negotiator	Ministry of Environment	Norway
Tony la Viña	REDD negotiator	Ateneo School of Government	Philippines
Pat Hardcastle	Observer	Consultant, various REDD projects	UK
Ken Andrasko	Former negotiator	World Bank, Carbon Finance Unit	USA
Robert Chimambo	Observer	Conservation Committee, NGO	Zambia

The following question guide was used as a basis for each of the interviews, with some variation depending on the interviewee and how the interview progressed. Some additional and more specific questions were occasionally asked if further relevant information was sought.

### Introduction

- Thank you for your time, etc.
- Green Ink is a small communications company undertaking a third party review for the second year.
- Comprising on-the-day interviews, internet survey, telephone interviews, literature/media review.

### Interviewee information

- What is your affiliation, position, current roles and activities related to REDD+, CC and forests, etc.?
- In what capacity did you attend Forest Day 5, and what role regarding the actual negotiations?
- How many Forest Days have you attended?

### Messages

- What was the key take away message that you took away from Forest Day 5?
- Have you acted on that message already? If so, did you share the information, research the idea, and/or apply it in another setting? Any examples?
- If you haven't acted on the message yet, are you intending to? If so, in what way?

### Impacts

- Has Forest Day had any impact on your own personal thinking re REDD+, CC and forests, or that of your organisation's work in those areas?

- Has Forest Day had any impact on the UNFCCC negotiations? If so, any concrete examples?
- Do you know any projects or publications linked to Forest Day, from information or contacts made?

### Organisation

- What 'worked' during the event itself, and what didn't work?
- How did this Forest Day compare with previous ones attended?
- If you were on the organising committee for Forest Day 6, what key changes would you insist on?

### Generally

- What do you think are the prospects for REDD+ as part of the overall CC negotiations?
- Anything else you would like to add, or ask me?

## Statements and common issues

The following are a selection of the statements made by the interviewees, grouped together under the questions asked, and/or identified common issues or sub-topics, as was carried out with the statements from the on-the-day interviews. However, as more detailed questions were asked during this stage of the assessments, some additional groups were needed to classify statements.

Personal information on each interviewee has not been included for reasons of anonymity, e.g. affiliation, current roles, in what capacity were they at the COP, number of previous Forest Days attended, etc. Of the remaining comments,

many statements have been left entire, as they were transcribed, but a number have been cut for reasons of length or editing slighted to make them grammatically correct. Others have been cut to remove actual names of individuals or organisations that would otherwise have broken the confidentiality of the interviewee. Some attempts have also been made to group similar statements under each issue.

However, no attempt will be made at the end of this section to summarise key points or issues raised by any individual, or highlight the common issues. Rather, this will be undertaken in the final discussion and conclusion that follows immediately after this section, where this information will be combined with that from the on-the-day interviews and the internet survey.

## Messages

### Positive

- Forest Day said that it was time to move forward in the implementation of REDD at a national level.
- The message was what climate change means for Africa.
- We took this from Forest Day 5, that restoration topics should be highlighted as an important side of the coin of the forest discussion.
- The importance of forests in the context of climate change may not be centre-stage, but it is rising on the world agenda, slowly but surely.
- The importance of forests in the climate change discussions was clear, but also the complexities, and the need for more research. How can the carbon market work? Issues of indigenous populations? Women in development?
- There is a lot more research needed, especially in social aspects, and technical foresters often forget about the social dimensions as well as the economic dimensions.
- The biggest issue was realising the large country differences and understanding of the different needs and capacities of each, but so many talked in isolation from reality, with reduced acceptance of the different capabilities. Too much talk about the potential money but not enough about the huge complexities involved. Huge problems with low capacity countries regarding the huge quantities of information they have to digest.
- The highlight was the gathering of high level and highly committed people from all over the earth on Forestry-related issues. It was remarkable to see such a mix of people from high level to NGOs, those working in the field, civil society, all together to discuss together, to hear how the negotiations were going, and to push agendas forward. Interesting to see an international forest 'community' from all levels coming together.
- No messages, but I did take a lot of information away as an official party, to add to the COP17 delegate points and in ways to move forward. So it was more of more of an information-gaining event, a positive networking opportunity, to work together to increase the effectiveness of helping forests to help society.
- Forest Day made it clear that many young foresters don't understand the history of how things worked before, so many are repeating things, or even going backwards. This is especially true with REDD.
- I knew much about REDD already, and tried to meet so many people so less time to take it all in and must have missed much, but the REDD+ stories were clearly listened to.

- Q. In the internet survey on 16 January, you said that the key message you took away from Forest Day 5 was that: “Forests need to be dealt with on a landscape level, integrating forests and agriculture and human beings, ‘packaging’ forest activities to attract private sector investment. There is no single solution for all situations - always regard the importance of the localities.” Have you acted on that message already? If so, in what way? You said you would share it, and apply it in a different situation. Did you?
- A. We are beginning to work on it, to act on it. We are collaborating with the Global Partnership on Landscape Restoration (CIFOR are also a partner), to support parts of that partnership that support REDD+, and to attract private investors into the landscape approach.

REDD negotiator. Telephone interview, 24 April 2012.

### Negative

- Most people I spoke to found very little actual knowledge or updates on programs convened in this Forest Day as compared to previous ones. They wanted more detailed updates on major areas of work related to forests and REDD in particular. What are key initiatives doing now? What have they produced that is new? New issues they now face? How are they dealing with them? What country experiences or lessons or new tools are emerging in key issues, e.g. community participation in forest monitoring, governance, etc? What tools are now emerging or changing? What experiences are there in using them?
- There were too many panels of talking heads who did not prepare well beforehand – too casual a style, thus little concrete information was presented or shared by the speakers, who didn’t do their homework or organize their thoughts as well as they should have for such a huge audience. As a result, most of audience and other presenters I talked to felt this Forest Day was the weakest of the last three or so.

- I remember Christine Figueras and Tony La Viña talking, and Caroline Spelman, but cannot recollect any key messages, though I was there for the whole day as a participant. But it was too long ago and only one event of many in Durban - maybe if I looked at the programme again...
- A good question, allow me to think back. Usually in Frances Seymour’s wrap up. The Wangari Maathi tribute.

### Impacts

#### Personally

- From each of the Forest Days I left inspired by one or two new things to use in my professional work and my private thinking. There was no Forest Day where I did not get any ideas, e.g. use of satellite imaging from Poznan - and I hear this from many participants.
- On my personal thinking, Forest Days at Poznań and Copenhagen were very good, filling a clear niche bringing together the forestry community

– but now it has been done for 3-4 years there is a need to hear something new – most people are aware of the many issues and what is going on, e.g.. REDD benefit-sharing and local communities with direct experience.

- Forest Day has changed me a lot, that forests are essential for the world.
- No change in my own thinking, but it made me feel more of a part of this world forestry community where it feels like home, and to meet so many people with a different focus but all fighting for forests, and protecting public goods. I aim to be at FD6 and offer to be a speaker.
- Not affected my personal thinking. However, one presentation at Copenhagen on reference levels was a good technical presentation that made me think.
- No – I am already converted! And what we believe in is actually happening, but not as fast as we would like.

#### **On the interviewee's organisation**

- Forest Day is an excellent opportunity for building the capacity of my negotiating team.
- I intend to gather a working group/unit on my return after sabbatical to go and educate more government groups and NGOs on the value of REDD, but especially higher in government such as in the new REDD department in the Ministry of the Environment.
- Yes, when we write background papers to our ministers, this will include references to Forest Day, and the climate change arena, so is an important reference point.
- REDD has a higher profile in my organisation now, and I now add REDD information to my forestry and wood science lectures.
- Of the countries [I advise], of the 15-20 specialists only 3-4 were mastering the issues..., and lots needs to be done to bring them up to speed.

- Not sure, probably not, as we are so involved in this. It is more an opportunity for us to engage, to get insights from other people. No, we heard nothing new.
- No, from my ministry, which is a bit too far away from these issues. But our Ministry for Technical Cooperation and Development will have actual projects and publications directly related CIFOR and Forest Day.

#### **On the UNFCCC negotiations**

- Yes, I actually do think that Forest Day has had impact on the negotiations. First, it gives a space for people to come together and exchange ideas. There are lots of 'corridor ideas' and 'corridor exchanges' in Forest Day, and that is important. Sometimes, not in the information but in the engagement, you can find new ideas. But this is indirect; Forest Day providing a setting.
- It might affect the same COP, but indirectly, informally, from the conversations finding their way into the outcomes.
- I did take a lot of information away as an official party, to add to the COP17 delegate points and in ways to move forward.
- I think that Forest Day has impacts on the high level discussions. For example, Forest Day gives a strong emphasis on the importance of forests in climate change adaptation, and even the dry forests are important as a buffer zone for the high forest, and this surely must have influenced the views of the negotiators.
- Forest Day doesn't affect this current COP, but it certainly affects future COPs. And I know that people use information they get from Forest Days and that it does influence the activities of their organisations and their governments – and this important aspect should not be neglected.
- Forest Day influences negotiations by gathering this mass of people, leading to political pressure.



But I do not think it is possible to directly influence the negotiations at that late stage in the process, but more the political pressure in the future, in the overall perspective... for COP18, 19, 20... to help create a social and political movement.

- Forest Day has positive impacts by increasing awareness of forests around the meeting in Durban. It is full of information relevant to discussions not just in the COP but in governments around the world. So many people there, and details on display that were verified for use by UNFCCC, especially financial information, but also environmental management. Good policies and practices were presented.
- CIFOR is not the UNFCCC. CIFOR is like an engine room, to make the UNFCCC machine move in regards to forests. Delegates are coming to discuss but they also want to implement the results of the discussion, and that is CIFOR's role, so Forest Day should become a functional part of the discussions.
- You cannot attribute Forest Day in a specific way, only in a general way.
- Forestry was on the COP agenda before the first Forest Day, but Forest Days have helped a great deal in advancing discussions in the UNFCCC. But for more impact, it would need to have much more targeted panels (e.g. on reference levels) that would directly influence negotiations. So the organisers must pick issues that are coming up for discussion in the next COP, i.e. organise the agenda around the topics that are coming up.
- It is not an official forum, but that is its strength. If it was official, then many people would not say what they say, they will feel constrained.
- In Poznań, Yvo de Boer said that it is difficult to have an influence on the negotiations.
- Forest Day has no influence on the negotiations, and the organisers need to remember that most of the technical stuff has already been negotiated. It is based on discussions and submissions sent in 6 months before, so Forest Day cannot influence this. And how can it affect future negotiations either, as it doesn't allow negotiators to interact implicitly with others.
- We go in to COP meeting with a country position on various aspects such as reference levels, signed off by a minister, so even knowing other country's views, nothing can be changed.
- It is in the middle of the negotiations when most of the text has been agreed, so it should be held before negotiations begin. But it creates momentum to influence future negotiations. If it preceded Forest Day, it would have to be several months before, and you wouldn't get the same attendance as now. If 2-3 days before, there are difficulties with clashes with regional meetings that occur in the week before, and also those from developed countries would not come, e.g. 4 days before. So, maybe it is best where it is. It is fine for bringing a real opportunity to bring together all these different experts to get the best insider views on the topics.
- CIFOR's publications leading into a COP are much more influential on the negotiations than Forest Day itself, through its research reports, briefs, and workshops etc., as it needs a ministerial-level sign off way before. Three months before a COP we start to develop national positions, then we discuss what submissions we want to make. There are set deadlines for the COP. The national positions go before the REDD+ Task Force, then to the minister who signs off. The negotiators are designated by the prime minister to only support that position.
- If Forest Day's organisers want it to influence negotiations it must talk to the insiders who are following it closely and find out what is coming up, and what additional clarity is needed in what areas – key. This would make a big difference.

Finance for REDD is a big issue that has not yet been address by any negotiating sessions in any detail, but organisers will have to make sure that they don't duplicate the work of the REDD+ Partnership, and then be disciplined in how they address them, not just lots of people talking for five minutes each.

- Depends on what type of people you bring. To expand the impacts, you need to specifically invite the REDD focal points and get them to listen and sit in, with targeted negotiators, e.g. the new chairman of the African group from Swaziland – these sorts of people. Could also be done prior to the negotiations.

### Other benefits

- Forest Day is important every year as it broadens REDD from carbon in forest management, with multiple stakeholders and ecosystems services, etc., and especially governance. Overall, it was successful.
- The reason I will go back again and again is to network, network, network. There is more than a thousand top level foresters in the same place. It is unique in the whole world, so lots of business is facilitated at all levels.
- It is an excellent meeting place, a market place, and an excellent opportunity to interact.
- As a consultant, we are always looking for collaboration, and yes, there are lots of new projects coming from this event. I could put four contracts and two methodologies directly down to contacts made at Forest Day.
- Forest Day has been thus far a pivotal event that helps define CIFOR in particular and has given it a vast global stage and voice. CIFOR now needs to refine its Forest Day brand, ensure continued relevance and quality, and find a way to tighten up the event after this year so that the audience sees progression and begs for more -- and it does not fade away.

- Influence of Forest Day on actual examples of policy and practice on the ground is difficult to trace and may only be anecdotal, but I haven't heard of any examples.
- Forest Day strengthens this informal group of those interested in forests, forming common views and standpoints which can then have more influence, possibly. Otherwise, the knowledge and expertise become dissipated. Such a meeting gives forestry a presence and a profile and reinforces ideas.
- Regarding influences on EU policies, there were interesting debates re REDD funding, should they be public funded or forest credits? This will help me in the debate I am trying to raise within the European parliament.

## Organisation

### Positive

- Some of the passionate African speakers in plenary were very effective, articulate, and diverse-- a movement away from the usual FAO or European faces that dominate many such events.
- Great to have Tony La Viña talking, who chairs the REDD+ negotiations, giving us an insight into what is going on inside.
- I was impressed with the conclusion, and Frances' overall management of the event. She did a great, great job.
- The focus on Africa was pretty successful as an area that doesn't get much attention, and the grassroots role also pretty successful. A couple of great speakers great in plenary, but nothing really cohesive in the rest of it.
- Tough decisions have to be made to try and please everyone at such a large event, although CIFOR has been extremely successful in creating a name for themselves and leadership in this area.
- An extreme valuable event.

- Everything worked perfectly.
- The sessions gave positive impression.
- They had good networking time this time, better than before.
- The greatest value of Forest Day is the ability to communicate and engage with each others.
- Great advantage in capturing everyone interested in forestry-related issues in one smaller place, so the big thing was meeting folk, but didn't get much out of the presentations as less important.
- Extremely well organised, excellent administration and I was very successful in meeting my objectives of meeting people.
- This Forest Day was smaller, the place was smaller, with more practitioners, but in terms of breadth of discussion it was as good as the previous ones.

### Suggestions for improvement

- Allow more time for people to discuss, have less events, and more physical space for people to discuss, find empty corners for small groups to meeting.
- Too many speakers in most panels diluted the message. Better to pick fewer, well-prepared speakers whose job it is to be tasked to synthesize what is happening on a given issue or region, e.g. forest governance or MRV or dry forest management systems in dry East Africa... or experience in designing registries to track forest sector activities and finance, etc.
- It was obvious that many panel speakers didn't have a message so missed a terrific opportunity.
- Could task speakers to provide a 'creative synthesis' of what has happened in the previous and concrete examples, e.g. on benefit sharing, overview, keywords, emerging experience, concrete examples with enough detail to be relevant.
- We can contribute to the Aichi targets of the CBD. These were mentioned at Forest Day but not focussed on. For Forest Day 6, restoration should be added as a topic. We have added text to target 15 (restoring 15% of degraded ecosystems by 2020), so it is not just about retaining natural forests, but what is overlooked, neglected, is the restoring of ecosystem services where they are already degraded, giving new space and new opportunities.
- From Forest Day 5 there was talk of drivers of deforestations, consumers and producers of forest producers, therefore there is a possibility to link producers and consumers of forest commodities, where we want to value them in improved ecosystems, and sell this idea to the consumers on restored land. An interesting concept, either consumers to pay more, or those within the ecosystem to see the benefits themselves, and both ends could be certified.
- The private sector panel in the afternoon plenary was poorly conceived and implemented (both my view and the view of others I spoke to). It had really only 1 real private sector person, and the speakers wandered all over the place, so little coherent message or experience or learning came out. But this topic is critical - what role is the private sector playing in investing in forest sector? What are the prerequisites for this to work? Is the set of opportunities limited, or wide? How can the private sector get more involved in funding REDD, sustainable development plans in forestry, etc.? How can the private sector work with governments on this? How can they better communicate with each other? This topic should be tried again, with better planning, private sector participants with explicit experience on the ground and in financing forest activities they can share, and provocative questions directed to them by an experienced chair.
- The worst was the private sector session, with only 1 out of 6 really private – and people here are essential, i.e. financing an area of gigantic interest, potential for next time, and maybe another

ecological/geographic issue, e.g. African dry forests, etc.

- Could you 'group' countries with similar levels of capacity? They could be cut in many different ways, for example in sub-Saharan Africa, divided into high forest and dry forest countries – otherwise the discussion tends to 'flit about'.
- Split into common interest groups, country interests, different ecologies.
- Too crowded, and the agenda too crowded.
- Summary – not focussed enough, too rambling.
- Too much going on, and not enough time for discussion or meeting people.
- Avoid just making publications. We need implementation on the ground. And if you put a picture of a poor person on the back cover of a book, you must go and see a year later how he or she is –if they are still alive... That would be one a measure of what impact may have been achieved.
- Don't make Forest Day a side event - make it a key event part of the negotiations. Those in the negotiations have the money, have the power, but don't have the knowledge. So Forest Day must be fully integrated in the talks.
- Would appreciate an opportunity to have more interaction between participants, e.g. to link different people working in a certain country, in a more organised way, e.g. a way to send requests for meetings, either one-to-one or with groups, making alliances and synergies, but pre-arranged before the event, i.e. to have the participants up on a social media basis.
- Find ways to build human interaction between the different members of the international forestry community, to consolidate their ideas, and to add synergies and alliances between policy makers and the other actors.
- Could the organisers compile articulated views related to the negotiations, such as financing options, guidelines for successful REDD projects, to help add/improve to upcoming decisions? They should offer the different sides of the views, not juts one side of an opinion.
- Should build a bridge between negotiators and Civil Society Organisations, and allow space for interaction.
- Suggest a provisional programme and invite comments.
- It appeared to be organised by and targeting big organisations, and not the people who are most concerned. CIFOR, ITTO, etc., but what about indigenous peoples groups and forest dependent community organisations who should have had a greater role, a platform for talking.
- Invite targeted ministers of natural resources, and have a discussion panel from such a government level, not from high forest countries - ministers in dry forest countries from water and other departments, related to forests.
- There is a need to raise the profile and voice of the forest communities.
- Big problem in climate change meetings is the over-representation of enthusiastic but less knowledgeable NGO people. You have to be inclusive, but still. There are many worse meetings, however, but just be aware of this, as it interferes with the prime focus of getting influential people meeting each other.
- Not enough future-looking. What will be the future priorities? What will be the follow-up? Who would be interested? Who would like to add their views? There is a lack of connection between the end of the last Forest Day and the beginning of the next one. How to do this? With an open forum to add ideas, to add to the urgency of the discussions to topics and priorities for Forest Day 6. This assessment forms part of this, but could also get more information from survey respondents, etc.
- Emphasise restoration of ecosystem services: innovative means of obtaining finance, and novel means of certification linking drivers, consumers and companies, to those producers in

- the forest, how to make consumers value this, and investment models.
- Focus on tropical high forests, but what about dry forests? What about the amount of carbon in the miombo woodlands, when REDD cover much more than just high forests – please share more information.
  - I would have liked to have got something stronger from the South African minister – needed something stronger from a better chosen politician.
  - Cancún had the Mexican president. They get very good speakers, but some in each Forest Day struggled with the concepts. In Durban, nothing stood out. Much the same. They get big names in, but often the same.
  - I would like to see a chance for questions in the plenary session.
  - The topics at Forest Day 5 were appropriate; landscape approaches, reference levels, etc., closely aligned with the topics that were discussed in Durban – but came a week a too late! But there are other venues for such pre-negotiations.
  - Reaching out to negotiators is one issue, and also to the public, but it is hard to achieve both well. Forest Day should be more of an event to inspire people, as well as and besides working with REDD.
  - It should ‘hit’ the hot topics, so when planning the programme, think further ahead to the future COP. Be flexible, but that makes timing difficult, in trying to discuss the future COP at the current COP.
  - Different partners in charge of different elements, the coordination and information in advance could have been better, i.e. between CIFOR and the others.
  - Needs better advertisement. I was at Cancún and Copenhagen, but didn’t go to Forest Day as didn’t know it was there, though it was better advertised in Durban.
  - It took me some time to know the meaning of Forest Day and its aims, and increase the awareness of the existence of Forest Day, though it is spread from mouth-to-mouth, and more promotion is needed.
  - Choice of venue wasn’t bad considered the lack of choice, but problems with poor sound quality, seating arrangement, creaking wooden floors, difficulty in finding some meeting rooms, some cramped.
  - The Green Room was good (the VIP room) to allow speakers to interact.
  - Forest Day should continue. Why not twice in one year?
  - It is not REDD+ Day, it is not Climate Change Day, it is Forest Day. So what about other things like water, NTFPs and all the other products of forests? I really hoped that they would cover more of the angles, such as biodiversity and watershed services, restoration, blue carbon (mangroves, sea grasses, salt marshes), economic aspects and mechanisms for markets for these services, rather than just concentrating on carbon, carbon, carbon, carbon. What about certification? CIFOR has really gone down the climate change road for several years, and it needs to break out of it a bit.
  - The REDD+ Partnership is an interesting organisation, a working group thinking it is an institution, but aims to help communicate information to young foresters – and has an identical mandate to Forest Day – so the organisers must ensure that they are complimentary and do not duplicate efforts.
  - The outputs of Forest Day should be put into practice. For example, governments should be encouraged to put money into universities who put energy into educating and awareness raising, also in community participation and increasing their input, as their knowledge is not so well absorbed.

### The Marketplace

- I liked the Marketplace idea - a new element. Also, voting. And many other participants liked this too as part of the participation between panellists and participants.
- The biggest thing was the Marketplace concept, which impressed me very much. I shared it with colleagues, that convinced them and we implemented it. We used the Marketplace idea 90% and I would use the methodology again.
- The format of the marketplace session we liked very much and copied in during a workshop in Douala, reproducing 90% the methodology of Forest Day. It was a great success in getting difficult issues discussed, and was complimented by everyone.
- The Yaounde CIFOR regional office may want to consider using the Marketplace model as a basis for training.
- The Marketplace was very interesting with different people and examples on the ground.
- The Marketplace, OK as an idea, but not enough time allowed for it to work. Very chaotic place with poor acoustics (I realize CIFOR had major limitations in venues... but the venue is important for this kind of a session). Those who did best had some presentation or poster, so there is a need get each presenter to have a poster or laptop 4-slide presentation to show in order to focus the discussion. Has the potential to work. Could set up a session/evening for a real marketplace to introduce people, or sign up, with activities and donors...
- Marketplace new, good, but hard to hear, no microphones, so needs fine tuning.

### Logistics

- All other Forest Days were free, whereas this one required payment, and I was shocked. CIFOR gets plenty of money from various governments,

so why do they need more income. This was exclusionary for especially for development countries, which was a pity. What is CIFORs objective? There should not be a registration fee.

- The Forest Day process of sending out multiple, multiple emails asking for little bits of information is time consuming and frustrating. We then get hassled if we don't respond to the dozen emails each asking for one thing - now send us the 3 background papers...or bios... or email addresses of speakers... I suggest giving the whole list of what each co-chair is responsible for (x, y, z etc.) and due dates for it all and make only say 3 due dates maximum -- you need to send x,y,z to us by August 15th; a,b,c by Sept. 15th, etc.
- Guidance in 20 emails..., too many speakers in each panel (e.g. 6 or 7), should have 3-4 maximum, and one must be a synthesis, and 2 others of real experience. This year it didn't work.
- Difficulty in reaching the meeting rooms. They should be more easily accessible, rooms made easier to identify, better plans, coloured signs, etc.
- Managing the traffic between meetings in such a short place had problems. Some rooms were difficult to find, I got lost, so consider again the venue/facilities.
- Short films that give a nice impression on a specific topic. There were some in FD5, that were good, and there could be more, even if only 1-2 minutes long, to introduce a topic, a panel, and which could add colour.
- The governance structure of the Forest Day has well-known challenges, forcing institutions to work together to develop a panel is artificial and very laborious, though it may protect against one organisation's agenda dominating a session (which could be handled via oversight by the steering committee). In my experience, having chaired or organized panels at multiple Forest Days, it is more work coordinating with some co-chair partners

than organizing the work. I was ready to simply quit the co-chair role several times this round, as it was so political trying to deal straightforwardly with [others] - not worth the hassle for a 1.5 hour event.

### Other issues

- Amazon Day in Cancún was very successful, but in Durban it wasn't, it just rambled on. People didn't put enough work into their presentations.
- Agriculture Day and Forest Day could be better integrated, but it is a huge political issue, even with the increased interest in landscape approaches. Personally, Forest Day is successful because it is focussed on forests, but it may not work if it is diluted, and this could endanger the 'brand'. Many also say that Agriculture Day is too academic. Could for example more of Forest Day focus on the agricultural interface?

### General REDD issues

- Advances in Durban met my expectations, to move REDD forward, to implementation.
- REDD is a good initiative, an important issue – but people are not aware of all the issues. We need food, water and air, but people don't realise that much is polluted, and the roles that forests play in reducing this. Need to show better the consequences of our actions. REDD provides the policy documents first to governments as a first step, and solutions can be solved.
- All countries should be grouped together, with no separation of REDD-ready and REDD-unready countries, and we need an enabling environment for all countries, even little countries, to move forward. The world must come together.
- REDD in my country is just like a baby. They have only just created a department on REDD in the Ministry of Environment. It will grow, though.

- With the focus on REDD and the highly detailed information on MRV systems etc., we are taking the attention away from forests onto only one environmental service, and adding a huge transaction cost in evaluation. Put the focus onto sustainable forest management, this then deals with REDD and improving the delivery of production and (all) environmental services. REDD juts highlights just one pixel in such a large image.
- We need much more information, when many countries don't even know their total forest area, species compositions, etc.! We need to tighten up the overall assessment of forests, and have a 'relative state of forest' assessment, i.e. how degraded is it and what it should be (% cover, size class cover and conservation). All this MRV is just a job-creation scheme.
- Safeguards are another issue, as REDD is seen as a means to achieve many different goals, such as supporting the rights of indigenous people, that are quite distinct. Private investment is looked at as unpopular by the public sector, and there is lots of risk involved too that put off the private sector.
- Amongst some of my colleagues, REDD is a 'non-runner'. Others say yes, and some say that it must work, it has to work, or else it will be a disaster. Hopefully science will help. Or politicians?
- Yes, got decisions on reference levels in Durban, also safeguards. Not perfect but OK. Financing is next to be cleared up, with advances expected at Rio.
- Reducing degradation, deforestation, forest carbon, biodiversity..., and if, this works for the communities, no one can really argue with it. But, there is the whole issue of carbon trading where people get suspicious.
- It really depends on donors and recipient countries. I reckon that we will know in five

years. Similar things have been done before, and not worked. In my experience, the departments of forestry in developing countries may have relatively little voice. Departments of mining might have more, with many delicate balancing acts. Here it is a really changing. When we were in Durban we had eight REDD project sites, now we only have two, as they involve a huge level of commitment.

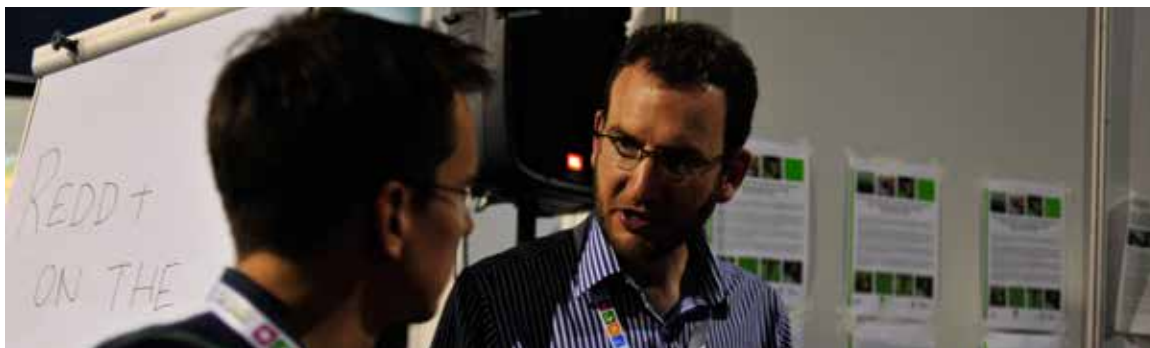
- I don't know whether we will call it REDD+ in 5 years. A new name could include 'sustainable'..., REDD+ was 'sexy', a fashion statement, but as with fashions, they get worn out.
- We need to take agriculture together with forestry, and we must look at restoration measures as most forests are degraded and need restoring, but there are no measures for levels of degradation, so measuring carbon offsets is a real problem. This is the big challenge.
- Things don't move fast enough in the UN and fatigue is beginning to set in.
- We are now discussing the same old thing for five years, and folk are getting tired with no agreement.
- In the UN, there is no conflict resolution mechanism, which is a problem, leading to more fatigue.
- Quality of reporting and validation. With an accuracy level that is so high that developing countries must hire in expensive consultancies from developed countries, this takes most of the money in the voluntary carbon market
- One country can kill the negotiations, like what happened in Cancún, and there was a call to amend Articles 17 and 18 in the convention to help speed up the process, to allow progress without requiring 100% support.
- At a Carbon Partnership facility meeting, the World Bank tells you that they have put in stringent safeguards. But one of their lawyers said that it is the responsibility of the borrower to ensure that the safeguards are put in place, but the World Bank has no role in ensuring that they are put in place, and walk away from their responsibilities. Also, financial safeguards are surely put in place so people can get their money back, but whether this money is abusing the forest community or the forest is not checked. What about involuntary eviction? It seems that these safeguards are not going to help and who will ensure that they are being implemented? And what if the carbon market collapses? Bring different people to a World Bank presentation, full of acronyms, and they have had a meeting so can tick the box that they have 'consulted' communities, when there was no real consultation.
- Many organisations send people to do MRV on carbon stocks on selected land, but do not assess the impacts and benefits on the local communities.

Q. What about the concerns of some NGOs and Civil Society Organisations regarding REDD - about the lack of adequate benefit sharing, insufficient emphasis on indigenous and forest-dependent peoples, too great a role for the private sector, etc.?

A. These are legitimate issues, and this is why REDD must have safeguards, and we must be strict about how they are developed and how they are enforced.

REDD negotiator. Telephone interview, 8 May 2012.





- We hear again from big organisations about charcoal burners as a key driver of deforestation. But ask the charcoal burner what he was doing ten years ago, and he will tell you that he had a job with the government, or a company, but lost his job. It was the structural reform programmes forced upon many countries ten years ago that led to hundred of thousand of job losses in the government and private sectors, and these forced thousands of people back into the rural areas without an income. Some went to the lakes and forests, and fished out the waters and cut down the tree. So one of the drivers of deforestations was retrenching people without alternatives, by the policies of the IMF and other international organisations. But the narrative we tend to hear repeated is the mainstream, rather than 'out of the box' thinking like this. Maybe that is why they don't invite forest communities – as they will tell us the hard truth, the real truth. Who pays the piper?
- The impacts of mining on forest should be an issue at Rio+20 as an important driver of deforestation. Forests are also important for conservation of water, energy (hydro), so linking them to other areas.
- Developing integrated rural resources management must involve water. In discussing this with the Ministry of Planning, the Forest Department had not been invited to meetings, and they considered forests only for wildlife and tourism, though forests also provide 40% of the water. And ensuring that the rivers flow supports hydro-electricity, sometimes in other countries.
- The rich nations need to pay to the poor nations, but it is also the poor governments that cut down the forests and waste the money. So we must ensure that this money is only used for appropriate projects, and universities as established institutes with good links to community groups as well as government departments can act as good intermediaries.
- Link man to his environment and not to 'imports' in policy formulation, decision making, and in testing and improving the impacts of such, with training. Why bring in foreign trees if they destroy the environment? If we need new technologies, why bring in those from elsewhere when we have so much knowledge at home?
- People used to eat yam, now they are supposed to eat spaghetti. This is not good, but the world will only begin to adapt when they learn again the real value of forests.





# Media and literature review

## News and the media

### Forest Day 5

CIFOR and the CPF made a concerted effort to improve the media presence at this Forest Day compared to previous ones. The results, as explained in the Forest Day 5 Donor Report, detail the successes.

FD5's extensive outreach and media activities reached new levels in Durban to ensure that the role of forests in mitigating and adapting to climate change remained high on the agenda of the COP and globally.

FD5 organisers developed and implemented a sustained and far-reaching outreach strategy, working together with partners within and outside the CPF. In addition to our extensive engagement with the

mainstream press, the organisers invested significant resources to produce multimedia story packages, starting in the weeks leading up to FD5 and continuing well after the COP itself was concluded. These packages included press releases, blogs, photos and video stories which were reposted by the media and reached tens of thousands of people worldwide – as well as our key audience: official climate change negotiators within the COP itself. On the day, communication staff from CPF partners worked closely with CIFOR to arrange press conferences and interviews with experts, as well as in disseminating press releases.

Some 65 journalists attended Forest Day, including representatives of the BBC, AFP, AP, Reuters, Nature, The Economist, Le Monde, New Agriculturalist, as well as leading reporters from the national press across Africa. Some 210 articles have been tracked by these reporters, as well as others from around the world, who either republished parts of related press releases, reposted parts of blog stories (in the lead-up, during or after the event), watched videos from the event posted on YouTube, or cited quotes and comments posted live throughout the day on Facebook and Twitter. A full list of the stories, with hyperlinks, is included in Annex 2. It includes about 120 pages of clippings – which equates to about a third of the tracked stories.

The 65 people from the media who attended Forest 5 made up 6% of the total registered participants, compared to only 2% at Forest Day 4. The media coverage was broad, as indicated by the range of 210 tracked articles documented in Annex 2 of CIFOR's Annual Report 2011 (a separate document, not available online). These were mostly online articles and releases, but are likely to have reached a wide audience as the organisers claim, and all those that reported on

Forest Day were full of praise regarding the value of the event.

Of the tracked articles listed, only 14 were identified as being carried by national newspapers, although the global range was wide. They included articles in: La Tribune Online (Algeria), the Peoples Daily (China), Liberation (France), the Jakarta Globe (Indonesia), the Jerusalem Post (Israel), the Nation (Malawi), the Times of Malta (Malta), the Daily Trust (Nigeria), the Straits Times (Singapore), the Independent Online (South Africa), The Seoul Times (South Korea), the Telegraph (UK), the Times (UK) and Le Courrier (Vietnam). The best coverage of the event itself were the articles in the Daily Trust (Nigeria) which was exclusively concerned with the Forest Day (Abuto, 2011), and the People's Daily (China) which mentioned Forest Day twice and quoted five of the speakers.

Although most of the national newspaper articles included quotes from Forest Day, few mentioned the event specifically. The 4 December entry in the Telegraph's 'Durban Climate Change Conference 2011 latest', for example, included the announcement of the new 10-year CGIAR Research Program on Forests, Trees and Agroforestry, but did not mention Forest Day. An article in the New Scientist on 6 December quoted two of the speakers at Forest Day, and two articles on Reuters Alertnet on 9 and 12 December quoted one of the speakers from a Forest Day, but again, they did not mention the event itself.

Internet searches of selected global titles in three countries were undertaken as part of this assessment in January 2012, using the term "Forest Day" or "Journée de la Forêt", but resulted in very few direct 'hits'. Searches were not carried out in

other languages or in other countries. Of six major newspapers in France, the UK and the USA, only two carried single articles that mentioned Forest Day 5 itself, the Guardian (UK) with 'Britain spends £10m to fight deforestation in Brazil' quoting the UK environment secretary who was present (Press Association, 2011), and Liberation (France) carried 'Climat: n'oublions pas les forêts!', both on 4 December (Zérah, 2011). There were no direct hits on websites for the Times (UK), Le Monde (France), the New York Times or the Washington Post (US).

The numerous blog stories, video clips, Facebook and Twitter postings and other web-based dissemination and re-postings were significant and the number of downloads and hits could be quantified for future comparison (see also Annex 3, Blog Postings, the CIFOR's Annual Report 2011). This must be praised for the major achievement it is, especially as CGIAR Centres and other international organisations involved in natural resources research and development have traditionally been relatively slow to acknowledge the huge and increasing importance of social media as a means of effective communication, and to adopt and expand the use of new forms of communication and dissemination as a matter of urgency. Nonetheless, although the figures and graphs all look very impressive, it is uncertain whether this 'machine-gun' style of web-focused dissemination is the most effective.

Whereas the messages appear (relatively) clear and unambiguous, three questions regarding the target audience become apparent that cannot immediately be answered. Who are the key target audiences? Is the target audience global or only in selected key countries? Should the target audience be subjected to the message at all times, or especially at crucial periods?

Is the target audience policy makers related to UNFCCC negotiating positions? If so, ministers and their advisors are still considered by many as more likely to be influenced by news from the 'quality press', and the lack of coverage in these could indicate that more work is required in targeting the most respected newspapers. With resources always limited, targeting selected newspapers in key countries could prove to be more effective. For example, it could be seen that high visibility in the major newspapers in Canada and the USA, China and India, Brazil and South Africa, and at certain key decision-making periods such as during discussion prior to the agreement and submission of country positions on REDD, could help to unblock the main identified barriers.

If such targeted delivery were to be attempted, it would also benefit from information regarding what are the most important information sources for policy makers and negotiating teams (or other target audiences), which need not be restricted to Forest Day only. Similar work may have been done before, or could be commissioned or expanded upon to improve the impact of future messages.

#### **REDD+ politics in media case studies**

CIFOR and the CPF also commissioned four case studies on 'REDD+ politics in the media' that were published in 2011, from Brazil (May et al., 2011), Cameroon (Kengoum, 2011), Indonesia (Cronin and Santoso, 2011) and Vietnam (Pham, 2011). These were detailed attempts to elucidate through quantified means the impacts that REDD+ is having by means of tracking the number and importance of REDD-related newspaper articles in these four selected timber-exporting countries. Where the results will not be repeated here, they do, however, deserve a brief mention here.

All four case studies used the same methodology, of ‘media framing’, defined as a broad organising theme for selecting, emphasising, and linking the elements of a story such as the scenes, the characters, their actions, and supporting documentation. This was applied to all articles containing ‘REDD+’ (and other selected search terms such as ‘climate change’, etc.) from some of the largest circulation newspapers in each country over several years. This information was then combined with the ‘3Es’ approach (effectiveness, efficiency, equity) proposed in ‘Moving ahead with REDD: options, issues and implications’ in 2008 (edited by Arild Angelson, cited in the case studies). Media framing was also used successfully by Jules Boykoff of Pacific University, Oregon, USA, whose work is variously cited in the case studies (see the reference sections of the case studies from Indonesia and Vietnam for a comprehensive list).

Whereas the four case studies produced some interesting results, there were too few articles in total in two of the countries to make any meaningful conclusions. In Cameroon, only 14 articles containing reference to REDD+ were identified in three of the main newspapers over a five-year period. In Vietnam, only a total of 18 articles including REDD+ were identified from three newspapers over a six-year period. From such a small base number, many of the tables and analyses appear to have little value. However, valuable insights were gained from the more subjective analysis of individual articles.

In Indonesia, 190 articles containing REDD+ were identified and analysed, from three newspapers over five years, with 245 in Brazil from four newspapers over five years (with a further 164 that made only a passing mention of REDD+). Much

more robust analysis is possible with figures of this magnitude, and data from these two studies is well presented and deserves more widespread dissemination. However, it is suggested that these four case studies could be combined to produce a single paper for publication in a peer-reviewed scientific journal.

More interestingly and more relevant, however, is Jules Boykoff’s most recent paper which specifically analysed how the media in one country (the USA) reported the negotiations from COP16 in Cancún, with which Forest Day 4 was associated. The paper analysed 143 newspaper articles from the four main newspapers (the New York Times, USA Today, the Wall Street Journal and the Washington Post) along with segments from four main news channels. It also made important comparisons between the news coverage from Copenhagen and Cancún. The conclusion, in summary, was that “the US media discussed economic opportunities more frequently than economic impacts and that the media treated China in an even-handed way. Established political actors dominated coverage, followed by representatives of nongovernmental organisations and the business community. Meanwhile, grassroots activists and indigenous voices were marginalized.” (Boykoff, 2012).

It is suggested that such a detailed approach to media analysis that was not within the scope of this assessment, be considered for analysing the impacts of Forest Day 6 in selected countries.

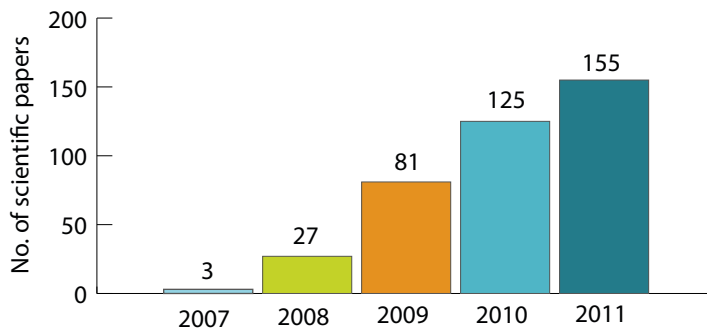
## Scientific publications

A search for the term “Forest Day” in the title or the abstract was undertaken as part of this assessment, encompassing all the scientific literature across all fields in the whole of CAB

Abstracts. However, this surprisingly resulted in no ‘hits’ whatsoever. References to the negotiations in general were also surprisingly low, with only 24 publications in total that contained both the terms ‘UNFCCC’ and ‘COP’. This showed how few articles in the published scientific literature covered this important topic, though there was a general increasing trend, with two papers in 2001, two in 2005, and the rest in 2008-11, with a peak of nine appearing in 2010. However, with no results for papers relating to Forest Day specifically and so few referring to the UNFCCC talks in general, no further analysis was possible as was initially intended, following the model developed by Pasicznik and Petrokofsky (2005).

Thus, a further search was undertaken using the search term “REDD” (thus also including REDD+). This was mentioned much more frequently, however, though with no direct references to any of the Forest Days. There were a total of 410 papers referring to REDD/REDD+ in the title or abstract in CAB Abstracts, from the first mention in 2007, the year of COP13 in Bali and the first Forest Day, to the date of the search (March 2012). There was an almost straight-line increase, with 3 papers in 2007, 27 in 2008, 81 in 2009, 125 in 2010, 155 in 2011, and 19 more in the first three months of 2012. Thus, it could be expected to rise, assuming that REDD+ continues to develop and expand in global scope.

The initial counts were originally higher, however, before it was found that they contained articles with no relevance to REDD/REDD+ in the context of forests and climate change. Manual searching then removed 48 fishery-related papers that referred to ‘redd/redds’ (salmon nesting sites), and one-off references to RedD (a regulatory protein), REDD (‘Regulated DNA Damage and



\*The data excludes 51 “false positives” where REDD related to non-forestry issues.

Figure 13. The number of scientific papers in CAB Abstracts with REDD/REDD+ in the title or abstract

Development’) and REDDES (a project and related computer software package). These ‘false positives’ are important to note for any future searches. Also, as REDD/REDD+ is referred to in many different fields, it was considered that a specific search of forestry-only abstracts may have missed relevant papers, so all subject databases were searched.

Interestingly, however, even in a paper that specifically detailed REDD-related issues and decisions made during the UNFCCC negotiations in Durban during COP17 (Perugini et al., 2012), there was no reference to Forest Day specifically either in the keywords, abstract, the full paper, or the references. Thus by its very absence, this suggests the difficulties in assessing direct influence and reinforces the view that as many of the national and region submissions have been made months in advance, Forest Day cannot be seen as a force in changing policy or direction of the agreements made at the COP it coincides with. However, it may also indicate that Forest

## 3<sup>rd</sup> edited volume



Day is still not ‘selling itself’ as well as it could. Considering the investment in the event and the high level of participation and increasing media interest, one might expect that such articles at least include a mention of Forest Day in passing, even if not in the keywords or abstracts.

However, following Forest Day 4 in Cancún, a paper was published in the scientific forestry journal *Bois et Forêts des Tropiques* (Pramova and Locatelli, 2011) that did mention Forest Day as a key event in processes surrounding COP16 decisions, and included several photographs taken on the day itself. The article was written by CIFOR scientists (unlike the article described above), which is likely to have included a bias towards the event. But such self-promotion is a necessary part of promoting forestry up the global agenda – and a key role of CIFOR. It may be that similar articles by CIFOR scientists regarding the COP17 talks in Durban and also mentioning the role of Forest Day are either in preparation, in press or submitted, but have not

yet been published and thus were not analysed in this review.

In future, however, another form of ‘literature review’ not anticipated before this assessment began, could produce meaningful results in analysing the impacts of CIFOR and CPF research and development activities as a whole, and not just of Forest Day. Several interviewees stated that one of the most important influences that the CPF has on the UNFCCC negotiations was not via Forest Day itself, as it occurs too late in the process to have any impact on on-going discussions. The real impact, it was stated, was from the impact of the many insightful and valuable publications it produces on key REDD-related topics, that are read by those involved in advising on and preparing national positions before they are submitted to the UNFCCC.

CIFOR and the CPF may thus wish to consider undertaking a targeted evaluation of its REDD-



related publications, either via a ‘broad sweep’ approach globally, or by focusing on selected country negotiation teams. It could assess what publications were read when and by which people, and attempt to elucidate whether the information and arguments they contained had any bearing on changing personal, institutional or national perceptions and positions.

The results from such an evaluation could prove very valuable in helping the CPF reconsider what publications to produce, and may influence its overall communication strategy. One suggestion made was that the CPF concentrate specifically on key issues that will be discussed in the proceeding COP. It should also ensure that they are published at least three months before the COP, preferably more, in order that the information can feed into national-level and regional-level discussions well before positions are decided. Also, whereas they should be widely disseminated, they should be specifically targeted at the key identified groups. The information should, of course, contain clear and concise messages, and be in a format and style that is likely to impact on the target audience groups.

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# FOREST DAY 5



Shaping the global agenda for forests and climate change



From Policy  
to Practice

Sunday, 4 December 2011  
Durban, South Africa





## Was Forest Day 5 a success?

With more than 1100 registered participants, Forest Day 5 was one of the most popular single side events surrounding the COP17 talks, if not the most popular. It drew less people in total than in the two previous years (where attendance was 1500-1600), but this should not in any way be seen as a sign of failure or decreased interest, as the vast majority of those who attended offered only very positive comments through interview responses and from the internet survey.

“Forest Day is the greatest event in the COP. It has a large impact, and must have the best value for money. The information I take away helps me in the negotiations and in the informal discussions around.”

◀ Frances Seymour (former CIFOR Director General), Tina Joemat-Petterson, Eduardo Rojas-Briales, Helen Gichohi and Bob Scholes at Forest Day 5 plenary session

From the internet survey, 92% said that Forest Day 5 was either very successful or successful, and of these, 41% said that Forest Day 5 was very successful. Whereas the opinions received from the interviews undertaken in this assessment cannot be quantified accurately, it is estimated that the majority were positive or complementary, less were 1 out of 10 were critical, with a third suggested possible improvements or carrying mixed messages.

“This year’s event was extremely well put together, better than previous years.”

Comparing with previous Forest Days, 41% that said that Forest Day 5 was very successful, an improvement on the 33% who said that Forest Day 4 in Cancún was very successful, and a return to the equally high figure of 41% ‘very successful’ reported for Forest Day 3 in Copenhagen. Forest Day 2 in Poznań was considered the worst by respondents who attended, with only 24% saying that it was very successful, whereas Forest Day 1 in Bali was considered the most successful (60% ‘very successful’). What is also clear from these figures and the interviews, is that very many people keep coming back to Forest Day, indicating that they have experienced the benefits themselves and choose to invest the time in returning year after year.

The desire to continue having Forest Day was almost unanimous from the interviewees, with 94% of those responding to the internet survey answering positively to wanting a Forest Day 6. Reasons varied however, along similar lines to the perceived benefits that became apparent from each of the stages of this assessment. The same three common themes stood out above the rest, and in this order – networking, knowledge sharing, and influencing the negotiations. Many other valid

points also followed, but also many general ones also, such as “The ‘job’ is far from ‘done’.”

Nonetheless, there were 6% who did not want a Forest Day 6, a number of negative comments and many suggestions for improvement, most of which related to the general organisation of the event and are thus included in the following sections. A typical critical comment was that “a big chance was missed to move beyond generalities and messages that everyone likes to hear, and tackle the challenges many people are struggling with, suggest difficult solutions...”

### Key messages

*The five most common messages taken away from Forest Day 5 were:*

1. The progress in REDD+ and carbon markets
2. Forests are more than just carbon
3. Landscape level links between forests and agriculture
4. The need to implement policy
5. The need to better understand local needs

Five main messages came across repeatedly from the on-the-day interviews and the internet survey. These can be summarised as: ‘forests are more than just carbon’, landscape level links between forests and agriculture, the need to implement policy, the progress in REDD+ and carbon markets, and the need to better understand local needs. Messages were less clear from the telephone interviewees, possibly indicating their much better knowledge of the subject area.

The 17 clear messages received from the 46 on-the-day interviewees all fell into one of the five main messages above. A further five of these said there was ‘no key message’. The 105 message statements received in the internet survey were not classified

by number as many contained multiple messages or were statements of opinion. Nonetheless, the same main common message themes as above were apparent and in similar proportions, although the list also included many other messages mentioned by only one or few respondents, such as gender, the importance of dry forests, etc. Of the five main messages, however, most related to REDD+, then those related to 'more than just carbon', landscape and policy implementation, and least for those related to local needs.

Questions were added to the interviews and surveys at the request of the CPF with the aim of elucidating what the participants intended to do with their key message (share it, apply it, or research it), and whether these intentions were carried out. When asked in the internet survey what they would do with the knowledge behind the message, most respondents said that they would share it (91%), three quarters would apply the knowledge (75%), and two thirds would research it (64%). However, this question produced very few responses during both sets of interviews. The concept proved difficult to get across and/or be understood, so it was not possible to obtain any clear data on whether these intentions were acted upon effectively or not. It is also not clear what meaningful results could have been obtained in any case.

## Identified influence and impacts

### On the UNFCCC negotiations

There is no doubt that the majority of participants at Forest Day, including the majority of negotiators who were consulted, consider that Forest Day is an important event that does influence the UNFCCC negotiations. From the interviews carried out on the day, some two thirds who expressed an opinion

(64%) thought that Forest Day had a positive influence, though only a third of these thought that these were direct. One third said they were uncertain or it had no influence.

"There is an impact. But what, is hard to find out. What is certain is that if you do nothing, you get nothing..."

NGO representative

In the internet survey, 71% thought Forest Day was important or very important in providing information to feed into the COP talks, with only 29% thinking that it was not important or had no influence. However, it could also be said that almost one third of respondents thought that Forest Day was not important or had no influence on the UNFCCC negotiations. Also, influence on the COP talks ranked seventh out of the 11 options offered in the survey, the top six being related to either networking or knowledge sharing (see the below). This, importantly, highlights the *relative* importance of influencing the COP talks in the eyes of the participants compared to the other perceived benefits, which should be noted by Forest Day organisers and funders.

Results were not quantified from the telephone interviews, but were approximately one quarter positive, one quarter negative, with half claiming varying degrees of indirect influence. Some said that Forest Day could influence the UNFCCC negotiations at the same COP, several negotiators saying that information they obtained during Forest Day they took back to their negotiating teams immediately. However, the prevailing viewpoints and particularly from the negotiators, was that the influence was indirect and affected future decision making, while not necessarily influencing the talks coinciding with that particular Forest Day.

“Forest Day is the greatest event in the COP. It has a large impact, and must have the best value for money. The information I take away helps me in the negotiations and in the informal discussions around.”  
UNFCCC negotiator

Valuable suggestions were obtained from the interviews and survey on how Forest Day and related CPF activities could better influence the UNFCCC negotiations. These can be grouped into three: those regarding the (1) timing of the event, (2) chosen themes, and (3) increasing impact of CPF publications.

1. Forest Day occurs in the middle of that year’s negotiations, when most of the positions have already been agreed. During the evaluation of Forest Day 4, some negotiators suggested that holding Forest Day a few days before the COP talks start would increase its impact. In the current evaluation, this view was reconsidered, including a change in the view of one negotiator interviewed last year, for two reasons. The first was that many negotiators (and other potential participants) attend principally for the talks themselves, and would not be able to spare the additional time of arriving several days before the negotiations start. Secondly, as most national and regional positions are already agreed and submitted at least three months in advance, even this change could have only a limited increased impact. Thus, to maximise the impact would mean holding Forest Day several months before the COP. But this would have many undue negative consequences. It is likely that less people would attend, and many of the other benefits (see below) such as networking would be reduced. Acknowledging these various impacts and the accepted influences Forest Day has on future negotiations, it was considered that the scheduling of the event should remain unchanged.

2. The chosen themes of Forest Day was one of the topics that elicited most comments, unsolicited responses during interviews as well as from specific survey questions. These are covered in detail in the following section (Views on the event itself – Session themes). However, relevant to this section, are the views including those from negotiators, that future Forest Days should focus on the key themes up for discussion at the coinciding COP. Whereas it is accepted that these are not made public, nor are they always decided well in advance, CIFOR and its partners in the CPF should be able to obtain an adequate ‘insiders’ idea of those themes, and use them as a basis for deciding themes for the next Forest Day.

3. It was also noted that CIFOR and the CPF’s influence on the negotiations was not restricted to Forest Day. Its publications had an important impact, which helped to inform decision making especially on REDD-related issues. In parallel to the point above on linking future session themes to topics likely to be discussed in the coinciding COP, it is suggested that the CPF consider producing timed and targeted publications on these same themes. These could include technical information notes and policy briefs, specifically for negotiation teams, ministers, advisors and others involved in forming and agreeing national and regional positions for submission to the UNFCCC process, before this process begins.

### **Networking and capacity building**

This includes all the benefits resulting from the direct interpersonal interaction and engagement with other professionals during the day itself. Networking was cited as the single most important benefit of Forest Day 5, as it was for Forest Day 4. Of the respondents to the internet survey, 97% said networking was very important or important

(including 64% saying it was very important), and this was by far the highest ranked of the 11 options offered. Ranking third and fourth were ‘facilitating the development of new partnerships’ (93% very important or important) and ‘building personal or institutional capacity’ (90%).

“The reason I will go back again and again is to network, network, network. There is more than a thousand top level foresters in the same place, it is unique in the whole world.”

“It has now become the best meeting place for forestry people each year. Compare it to the World Forestry Congress that occurs only once every five years...”

A significant number of statements from both sets of interviews also focused on networking. Of the statements received from on-the-day interviewees on influences and impacts, a third of these (19 out of 56) related specifically to networking and related issues. In addition, some took this to a higher level, expressing a feeling of a ‘sense of community’ at Forest Day, of being amongst such a large and diverse group of people, but who exhibit a common desire (though maybe in different ways) to protect the world’s forests and trees everywhere and the life they help to support.

#### **Raising awareness and knowledge sharing**

Keeping personally informed of developments was the second most important influence cited by internet survey respondents, noted by 92% as very important or important (41% as very important). Also, ‘disseminating information from one’s own organisation’ and ‘informing the formulation of new government policies’ were ranked fifth and sixth in the list of most important influences of Forest Day, with a total of 80% of

respondents stating they were either very important or important. Of the statements received from on-the-day interviewees on influences and impacts, more than a quarter of these (15 out of 56) related specifically to knowledge sharing-related issues and all were positive, saying how they valued either the knowledge obtained, or the opportunity to share or disseminate their own findings.

“Today is the only day that *all* the big actors in forestry are in one place, and every year now, to debate the key issues, key regions, and gives an opportunity to take new information on board.”

“Forest Day is a blast of information.”

#### **Other influences and impacts**

Forest Day is a hugely successful event, and has become the highlight of the forestry calendar for many people, independent of its potential or actual impacts on the UNFCCC negotiations themselves. Whereas this assessment has drawn out and quantified some of these, such as those related to networking, capacity building, awareness raising and knowledge sharing, many other benefits mentioned ‘in passing’ by those interviewed do not fit into any of these classifications. Some also clearly show that the benefits go much wider than might have been expected.

Several interviews noted that they took information away from Forest Day that they used to feed into other decision making environments besides the UNFCCC negotiations. These included national government policy making and regional policy making, for example in the European Union and the Congo Basin. This was also implied but without specific examples by many other interviewees and internet respondents, adding weight to this premise.

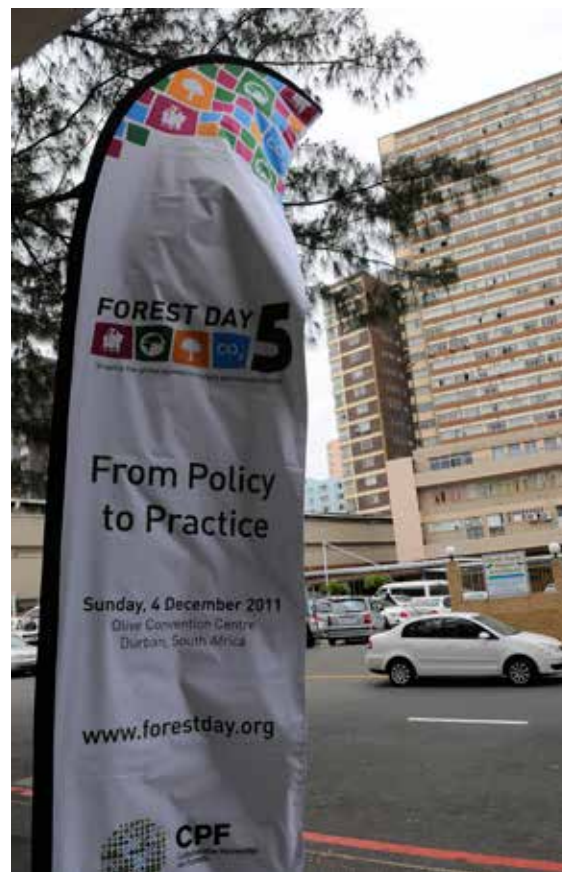
From the internet survey, the top seven ranked responses from the 11 offered have already been covered in the preceding three sections. The four others issues where Forest Day was thought to have an influence were ‘suggesting changes to research objectives, methods or approaches’ and ‘spreading new or improved forest management practices’ with approximate two-to-one thinking Forest Day had an influence to those who thought it did not. The bottom two on the list were ‘allowing the initiation of new projects’ and ‘finding new funding sources or opportunities’ which were split approximately 50:50. Also, of the respondents who offered additional comments, two related specifically to the perceived benefit of creating a (sense of) ‘community’ to those already involved in forests and climate change issues and a shared belief in the importance of forests.

## Organisation of the event

This section includes not only general comments received on the event itself, overall complements, the logistics and other organisational issues, but is also those related to specific common issues that became apparent during this analysis. These have been grouped into the session themes, speakers and panel discussions, the ‘marketplace’ concept, new innovations suggested, and suggested improvements.

“It is consistently one of the best organised events surrounding the [COP] negotiations.”

The numbers of comments received from the on-the-day interviews give an indication of the relative importance of these to the participants. There were 57 comments on all aspects of



organisational issues from the 152 recorded comments in total (22 were key messages, 57 in influences and impacts, 9 bouquets and 7 general REDD). Of these, the highest number related to the session themes. However, almost nothing was said regarding the speakers or panel discussions, possibly because interviews were undertaken throughout the day starting from the early morning when many interviewees had not yet been to many/any presentations. However, speakers and



panel discussions became an important common issue in the telephone interviews.

### Session themes

Various suggestions were made on the day itself. These included the desire to have more focus on local communities and indigenous people, practical examples and success stories, more private sector involvement, broader topics such as certification and governance, biodiversity and watershed payments and not just REDD+, and concentrate more on communicating these.

Of the 13 suggested topics for a future Forest Day in the final question of the internet survey, four were 'strongly supported' by more than half of the respondents. These were: drivers of deforestation (62%), climate change adaptation (62%), financing REDD+ (60%) and climate change mitigation (58%). These 'top four' topics were followed by a second group of six topics which were strongly supported by 44-50% of respondents. These included: measuring, reporting and verification (MRV) (50%), tenure rights (48%), social safeguards (48%), responsible forest management practices (46%), indigenous peoples and traditional knowledge (44%) and agroforestry (44%). Below these in importance was biodiversity conservation (38%), with the bottom two being certification (31%) and gender issues (25%), also having much higher percentages of 'do not support' than all the others.

Additional and repeated topics suggested for a next Forest Day revolved around landscape approaches (including agriculture, dry forests, peat forests, land use planning, forest and water, etc.), restoration of forest ecosystems (as most forests are already degraded in some way), and the need to

look more at the synergies between adaptation and mitigation in forests. Others were suggestions for additional inclusion in existing listed topics, e.g. structural reform programmes and bio-energy as drivers of deforestation, air quality as an ecosystem service, and 'blue carbon' in REDD+ (mangroves, salt, marshes, sea grasses, etc.). Importantly, several statements related to increasing the influence of Forest Day on the UNFCCC negotiations, as well as other suggestions for Forest Day 6 and REDD in general. One asked for a session on the 'ethics of REDD offsetting', and another for a presentation of the cases for and against REDD+.

"As for the next Forest Day in Doha, how about focusing on desertification, dry forests, water and those linkages?"

From the telephone interviews, the views were generally positive. It was appreciated that Forest Day 5 covered a number of themes which have generally received less attention in previous Forest Days, notably gender, dry forests and Africa. However, it was repeated in these interviews that to maximise the influence and impacts on the UNFCCC negotiations, the themes should mirror the key issues being discussed at the coinciding COP talks.

"Priority should be given to issues that are of current or prospective interest to negotiators (given that Forest Days are held in conjunction with UNFCCC COPs), and challenges of policy or implementation that are 'ripe' for exchange among REDD or adaptation practitioners working at national or local levels. The test should be relevance to forests and climate change, not general topics (e.g. 'agroforestry') but specific ones (e.g. 'how agroforestry can promote adaptation to climate change')."

The role of the private sector in investing in the forest sector was again highlighted as needing further attention. What are the prerequisites for this to work? Is the set of opportunities limited, or wide? How can the private sector get more involved in funding REDD+ and in sustainable development plans in the forest sector? How can the private sector work with governments on these issues? How can they better communicate with each other? Whereas this topic was included in Forest Day, it was considered poorly executed, and thus should be tried again with better planning and more provocative questions directed to them by an experienced moderator.

### Speakers and panel discussions

Comments were mixed, though most of these were received from the telephone interviews. There were a number of general complements, particularly regarding the speakers at the plenary sessions. Also, having Tony La Viña, who chairs the REDD+ negotiations, was appreciated, giving participants a direct insight into what is going on 'inside' the negotiations. However, it was also stated that speakers in this Forest Day were not as good as in previous events.

"Some of the passionate African speakers in plenary were very effective, articulate, and diverse – a movement away from the usual FAO or European faces that dominate many such events."

"Cancun had the Mexican president. They get very good speakers, but some in each Forest Day struggled with the concepts. In Durban, nothing stood out. Much the same. They get big names in, but often the same story."

However, many of the comments were negative, and the following give some examples of these

received from UNFCCC negotiators. In addition, several stated that the private sector panel in the afternoon plenary in particular, was poorly conceived and implemented, with only one of the six on the panel really 'private', and having no coherent message or learning experience.

"Too many speakers in most panels diluted the message. Better to pick fewer, well-prepared speakers whose job it is to be tasked to synthesize what is happening on a given issue or region, e.g. forest governance or MRV or dry forest management systems in dry East Africa... or experience in designing registries to track forest sector activities and finance, etc."

"It was obvious that many panel speakers didn't have a message so missed a terrific opportunity."

"Could task speakers to provide a 'creative synthesis' of what has happened in the previous and concrete examples, e.g. on benefit sharing, overview, keywords, emerging experience, concrete examples with enough detail to be relevant."

"Invite targeted ministers of natural resources, and have a discussion panel from such a government level, not from high forest countries - ministers in dry forest countries from water and other departments, related to forests."

Several wanted to see changes in the plenary sessions. One saw a need to set the stage better in the opening, another to 'add a more human touch' to the presentations', and another wanted to see a chance for questions. Some wanted smaller group discussions. Two UNFCCC negotiators said that "The stands are useful but the sessions weren't, as we [negotiators] spend from nine till nine from Monday to Friday in 'sessions', so the last thing

we won't do on the weekend is to be in more sessions..."

Finally, it was mentioned by several people that forest communities, community organisations and those representing forest-dependent and indigenous people were not adequately represented, especially as speakers or members of panels. Also, from the data available, they also made up only a very small percentage of the total registered participants, and this supported the following comment which summed up this viewpoint.

"Forest Day appeared to be organised by and targeting big organisations such as CIFOR, the ITTO, etc., and not the people who are most concerned. What about indigenous peoples groups and forest dependent community organisations? They should have had a greater role, a platform for talking here.

### **The Marketplace**

This was unanimously seen as a very good innovation by all participants who mentioned it. One was so impressed by the marketplace concept as witnessed at Forest Day, that he even went so far as to use the 'speakers' corner' format behind it (or 90% of it at least) at a conference that followed. Thus, the Forest Day marketplace led directly and immediately to that used at the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Congo Basin Forest Partnership held in Douala, Cameroon on 1-2 March 2012. The value of the event was complimented by many present and it is hoped that it may become a regular feature at these meetings in the future. It was further suggested that CIFOR's Yaounde office may consider using the marketplace concept as a training tool in outreach and communication.

Any criticisms from the interviews were relatively minor, relating either to the venue, the noise or the presenters, but even these acknowledged that this was a first attempt, and expected it to evolve and improve. Some said the venue was inadequate but noted the likely lack of alternatives. Others said that noise levels were so high that it was difficult to hear clearly, and a few said that presenters should have had less of a 'lecture-style' and just a few slides to help in presenting opening ideas. One comment in the internet survey said that it was too crowded, and the guidebook and program needed more elaboration.

### **Session voting**

Session voting was a new component added for Forest Day 5, and it was appreciated by many, with none stating that they did not like this initiative. The preliminary analysis in this report indicates the potential value that such information can reveal, especially the differences in preferences between different sectors proving particularly revealing. It is strongly recommended that session voting be continued at Forest Day 6, and even expanded, with a plan in place to undertake a full and detailed evaluation.

That certain sectors are attracted to attend certain sessions and not to others may not be a surprise. For example, that the private sector made up 9% of participants at the overall event, but 18% of those voting in the session on financing, though only 4% of those at the gender session. This data has shown that it is also possible not just to highlight such discrepancies, and indicate where more efforts could be made to attract the interest of some topics to selected sectors, if desired.



Concerning the questions themselves, it is clear from this assessment that the results by sector can be much more revealing than the overall results. For example, when one answer to a question attracts a significant vote from the private sector but none from government bodies, and another answer to the same question shows the opposite, this clearly highlights an area where conflicts may arise with potential constraints to further understanding and agreement. Where this was seen to occur in the voting results has been mentioned in the text following each of the questions. In the case where

such differences are deemed of specific interest, the raw data should be verified by further analysis, and acted upon on a case-by-case basis.

#### **New innovations?**

Several completely new and 'stand-alone' ideas were put forward by interviewees and respondents, as was the marketplace concept last year, outside of the other suggestion for new/different themes and improvements to the general organisation of the event.

Of these, the most common were those that wanted to see a special meeting place for those who want to fund REDD projects, and those who have or are planning REDD+ projects. These could be 'connection booths, or as one interviewee put it – "a REDD speed-dating service". Some wanted a personal meeting place, either around countries or regions, or themes, whereas others thought that a 'virtual' system may be more effective, as people are unlikely to open discussions on 'deals' during an initial meeting in a public place. Rather, it could merely be a place to exchange contact details, whether leaving/collecting business cards, leaflets, or filling in names and details on notice boards or relevant websites. Such an 'open market' could also be linked to, or made a part of, the marketplace concept, with a stall for each region (and/or type of project/activity) where donors (buyers) and REDD-ready projects (sellers) could meet to exchange contact details and further information.

A second repeated idea, following on logically from the key message of landscape approaches and the links between forests and agriculture, was the suggested merger of Forest Day with Agriculture and Rural Development Day, and even with Land Day. However, it was noted especially by UNFCCC negotiators that this would be a politically sensitive issue, and it would dilute the forest-focused messages that Forest Day has come to be respected for. However, more integration especially in planning, could be considered.

Two other suggested innovations related to having an interactive online 'space' for Forest Day in advance of the event. One suggested that the provisional themes and even a provisional programme could be posted online in advance, and inviting comments. A second suggested an online forum, with an up-to-date and searchable list of

registered participants and their emails, in order to facilitate the arranging of meetings on the day.

Other suggestions were more organisational, but are also included here as they stand out as specific single measures. These were the idea of having more short (2-5 minute?) videos summing up key issues, running continuously in various corners of the event. Another was that Forest Day could be arranged around the different interest groups, rather than themes. One suggested that CIFOR and the CPF prepare proper 'press packs' for Forest Day well before the COP starts, including all the relevant definitions, basic trends, background information specific for different interest groups such as the largely uneducated public, private investors. Another idea was that for real media impact, Forest Day organisers should just take journalists to the Amazon to let them see first hand, and then they can report back to their readers. Finally, what about a 'paperless Forest Day' next time?

### **General organisation and logistics**

Many changes to session themes, choice of speakers and organisation of the panels and panel discussion have already been covered, whereas this section concentrates more on the logistics behind the organisation of the event.

Networking is again one of the main advantages of Forest Day according to almost all participants, and several suggests for improvements revolved around improving the physical space to do so as an important factor to increasing the benefits that can be derived from such meetings. These included having more 'corners' and space for small group discussions in and around the event venue, allowing more time for people to discuss, and having fewer events. Others stated that they

wanted the opportunity for more interactions with other participants, but did not put forward any concrete examples. These also encompass suggested improvements regarding knowledge sharing, independent to those regarding the marketplace and suggested innovations which have already been covered separately.

There was a range of one-off criticisms relating to individual issues but these were few in comparison to the many general and specific complements. Negative comments included poor sound quality, creaky floors, poor seating, small meeting rooms, poor internal signage, poor facilitation, having a registration fee, and the large number of emails asking for information from panel members.

Several stated that the advertisement of the event was still poor, though it was apparently better than in previous years. Two rather informally dressed UNFCCC negotiators interviewed on the day said that they were on their way to the beach to relax a little, but saw the Forest Day banner on the way and so stopped and came – otherwise they would never have known it was going on. Clearly, still more work is needed in promoting Forest Day, especially to UNFCCC negotiators and others outside of the forestry sphere of influence.

“Preparations were not as they should have been. The expert presenters should have been better informed about the number of slides, messaging, time-keeping, and the panel discussion moderator should have been much better briefed, as there were no real discussions of interest, or dealing with most of the real burning questions.”

“Logistically, the registration process was a mess, and why did anyone have to pay when it had sponsors? This surely put some people off coming who might have learnt or added things.”

Beside the many general complements such as “It is consistently one of the best organised events surrounding the [COP] negotiations”, many praised various specific aspects of the event. These included a liking for the Green Room that allowed speakers to interact, and up to and including “the lunch was better”. However, the bulk of the comments, however, were neither complementary nor negative, but mere suggestions of their own opinions on means and aspects for improvement, although most of these have already been covered in previous sections.

#### **Focus of future assessments**

This assessment of the influence of Forest Day 5 was asked to focus on those impacting the UNFCCC negotiations. It was also the second assessment commissioned to Green Ink, a third party independent reviewer, but it was based largely on the same methodology. Again, participants highlighted that they consider that Forest Day has many other benefits that are more important than influencing the negotiations, related to networking, awareness raising, knowledge sharing and capacity building. CIFOR and its partners may want to consider that future assessments focus on different areas of influence, different sectors, and/or specific topics.



# FOREST DAY 5



Shaping the global agenda for forests and climate change



**CPF**  
Collaborative Partnership  
on Forests



agriculture,  
forestry & fisheries

Department:  
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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