



CLIMATE AND LAND USE ALLIANCE

Priorities and Focus



Climate and Land Use Alliance
Cultivating solutions for people and the planet

OUR MISSION

The Climate and Land Use Alliance seeks to realize the potential of forests and land use to mitigate climate change, benefit people, and protect the environment.

WHY FORESTS AND LAND USE?

Forests provide the essentials of life—clean air, fresh water, food, fuel, medicines, and livelihoods—for billions of people. Forests are also critical to the fight against climate change. Trees already capture and store nearly a third of human-caused climate pollution and forests naturally cool the planet's surface and regulate rainfall. By protecting, restoring, and expanding forests, they can do even more to significantly limit global climate change while increasing our resilience to its worst impacts.

And yet the world's forests are being destroyed at an almost unfathomable rate. Across the tropics, 15.8 million hectares of tree cover was lost in 2017, an area approximately the size of Bangladesh. This forest

loss drives increased climate change and the loss of people's livelihoods and a wealth of plant and animal life. Indigenous and traditional peoples that defend their lands from deforestation are too often met with violence, criminalization, expulsion—even murder. As the global demand for land and resources increases, the window of opportunity to stop forest loss is narrowing.

Halting and reversing forest loss around the world and more sustainably using lands would help mitigate climate change, empower forest communities, protect biodiversity, and ensure a more prosperous and sustainable future.

Who We Are

The Climate and Land Use Alliance is a collaborative of foundations that believe forests and sustainable land use are an essential part of the global response to climate change. The member foundations of the Climate and Land Use Alliance are the ClimateWorks Foundation, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, the Ford Foundation, and the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation. Additionally, Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies and Good Energies Foundation fund projects that support the Alliance strategy.

By bringing together our resources and diverse expertise, the Alliance seeks to promote viable solutions and mobilize greater funding to conserve forests and more sustainably use land—for the benefit of people and the planet.

How We Work

Working across borders and sectors, the Climate and Land Use Alliance supports policies, practices, and partnerships that halt and reverse forest loss, advance sustainable land use and development, and secure the rights and livelihoods of indigenous and forest communities.

To this end, the Alliance makes high-impact grants to innovative projects at the global level and across forested regions, primarily focused on Brazil, Indonesia, Mexico, and Central America. Informed by the experiences of our grantee partners, the Alliance also works to advise and convene a growing network of public and private sector allies to galvanize the international community to action to conserve and more sustainably use forests and lands.

OUR MEMBER FOUNDATIONS



ALIGNED FOUNDATIONS



We Support

Our grantmaking is linked by our cross-cutting support for:



Effective Land Use Policy and Finance

Advancing land use policies and finance that help countries achieve ambitious climate targets and contribute to sustainable development.



Secure Community Rights and Management

Supporting indigenous and traditional communities' land rights and management of their forests, and stopping the killing and criminalization of environmental defenders.



Deforestation- and Conflict-Free Agricultural Commodities

Eliminating deforestation, land degradation, illegality, and social conflict from global supply chains and related financial investments.



Strong Standards and Transparency for Infrastructure and Extractive Industries

Establishing strong environmental, social, and governance standards, and increasing transparency and oversight of investments in infrastructure and extractive industries.



Awareness of Forests and Lands as Climate Solutions

Increasing understanding of forests and lands as essential to people and the planet to improve policy outcomes and land use practices.

The Alliance is also developing programs in two new thematic areas:



Natural Carbon Capture

Increasing the role of forests and lands as carbon sinks, while ensuring forests retain ecosystem, livelihood, and other values for local communities.



Healthy Diets/Healthy Planet

Shifting consumption toward protein sources that are healthier for people and the planet.

Where We Focus

The Alliance focuses its grantmaking in key geographic regions that are home to globally important tropical forests with significant potential for mitigating climate change.



GLOBAL

We support international public and private sector policies, programs, and finance that help conserve forests and lands, and increase their ability to remove carbon from the atmosphere, while securing the rights and livelihoods of indigenous peoples and rural communities, and protecting biodiversity and ecosystem services.

MEXICO & CENTRAL AMERICA

We support efforts to protect forests and the climate by strengthening indigenous and community land rights and forest management in Mexico and Central America and by sharing experiences from the region with forest communities and countries around the world.

BRAZIL

We support efforts to mitigate climate change by reducing emissions from deforestation and by capturing and storing carbon in Brazil's Amazon and Cerrado biomes, while promoting biodiversity conservation, the sustainable use of natural resources, and equity and rights for forest communities.

INDONESIA

We support efforts to reduce emissions from Indonesia's forests and peatlands in ways that secure indigenous peoples' land rights, enhance local livelihoods, and contribute to sustainable development.



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