

Submission related to potential partnerships and events for the third SCF Forum in 2015

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I am pleased to respond to the “invitation for submissions on potential partnerships and events” for the third SCF Forum in 2015, which will focus on the topic of financing for forests.

The Forum could serve as a platform for constructive dialogue between those working to finance activities related to forests and climate change on the ground and financial entities that are currently or could potentially support these activities. The Forum should be a technical discussion of specific barriers to implementation, country needs, and overlaps in institutional procedures and architecture that will enhance our collective understanding of what works and what does not. Considering the scale of financing needs, the Forum should be used as an opportunity to discuss, in particular, how to best engage the private sector in financing and implementing activities related to forests and climate change.

To this end, the Forum should convene:

- i. country experts involved in designing and implementing activities related to forests and climate change,
- ii. public and private financial institutions,
- iii. indigenous peoples,
- iv. relevant civil society organizations, and
- v. other private sector institutions with relevance to forests, land sector emissions, and the drivers of deforestation (e.g. agricultural, forestry, commodity, consumer goods, and retail companies).

In particular, scheduling the Forum in the margins of existing initiatives could provide a meaningful opportunity to engage with at least some of these core stake-holder groups. This could include meetings of the World Economic Forum, Climate Investment Funds, Forest Carbon Partnership Facility Participants Committee and UN-REDD Policy Board, UNEP-Finance Initiative, UNFCCC, UN Forum on Forests, and World Business Council on Sustainable Development. While no single venue will include all relevant stakeholders, priority should be given to fora that can help to advance strategic partnerships with key stakeholders who are not often involved in multilateral discussions on these issues, such as private sector actors.