

Background and Focus

Sustainable agricultural practices can reduce emissions, conserve native ecosystems and relieve pressures on threatened forests. The Rainforest Alliance, Cornell University and Mexican conservation organization Pronatura Sur share research and on-the-ground experiences to demonstrate how agriculture can support climate change mitigation and adaptation and bridge the research, practice and policy arenas.

The Cornell team presents recent data on the University's approach to reduce emissions and sequester carbon as part of its Climate Action Plan, including plans for the Cornell Renewable Bioenergy Initiative (CURBI). Current projects and new insights into the efficiency of different soil management techniques to improve carbon sequestration will be highlighted, including ways to quantify soil carbon changes in an efficient and affordable way, conservation agriculture, and biochar systems.

The Rainforest Alliance will share progress on developing the means, tools and guidance for farmers to engage in climate-friendly farming practices and address challenges and next steps to implement these practices at scale.

Sustainable Agriculture Network partner Pronatura Sur highlights a pilot project to develop a carbon-credit generating reforestation project on Rainforest Alliance Certified™ coffee farms in southern Mexico.

THE RAINFOREST ALLIANCE, CORNELL UNIVERSITY AND THE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE NETWORK (SAN) PRESENT

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND TERRESTRIAL CARBON

RESEARCH AND BEST PRACTICES TO INFORM CLIMATE POLICY

TUESDAY, 30 NOVEMBER 2010
16H45–18H15
ROOM ÁGUILA, CANCÚN MESSE
CANCÚN, MEXICO

Tentative Agenda

16.45–17.20 New Research

Overview of Cornell's research approach; soil carbon MRV, conservation agriculture and biochar. Q&A session.

Dr. Johannes Lehmann, Michael Walsh, Samuel Bosco, Cornell University

17.20–17.55 Innovative Projects and Practices

RA and the SAN's agriculture-climate activities; criteria to guide adoption of climate-friendly farming; carbon-coffee pilot projects. Q&A session.

Jeff Hayward, Director, Climate Program, Rainforest Alliance; Gianluca Gondolini, Projects Manager, Sustainable Agriculture, Rainforest Alliance; Israel Amezcua Torrijos, Coordinator, Climate Change Program, Pronatura Sur

17.55–18.15 Policy Implications

A joint session to discuss opportunities and challenges to incorporating sustainable agriculture in climate policy. Interactive, with Q&A.

All speakers