



Family and community forestry (represented by IFFA and GACF) and indigenous peoples (represented by IAITPTF), have joined forces to COP 15 for highlighting the importance of Locally Controlled Forestry.

- **Close to 25%** of the world's forests is managed by **200 million** community members and families
- **40%** of the forest in the North is owned by 30 million families
- **25%** of the forest in the South is owned or managed by communities.
- Securing **property rights and land tenure** are a basic objective of the partnership. Only when clear property rights are established will the long term positive effects of careful forest management be assured.

Locally Controlled Forestry is essential in contributing to the mitigation of climate change; the sustainable use of the forests can be secured by locally controlled forestry.

The use of sustainable wood substitutes non-renewable use of emissions sources. The use of wood gives carbon storage as a positive side effect.

Besides the ecological benefits, sustainable forestry delivers income and increases knowledge among local people, it reduces poverty and it secures property rights and land tenure.

The best outcome of improving forests as a source of carbon storage is achieved by cross sectional teamwork in local, regional and global levels. However, it should be noticed that the right to benefit from the carbon stored in the forest should be the same as the right to benefit from other forest products: it should belong to the owner. Therefore, consultation of local people and of organisations presenting their rights and ideas, is essential in the decision making process.

Local Controlled Forestry is too powerful to be ignored in battling against the climate change. It is the people who make the difference and the people who are influenced by the decisions.

The Global Alliance of Community Forestry (GACF)

GACF seeks to represent the interests of communities with rights to forests at the international and regional levels, and promotes knowledge and information exchange among 11 regional organizations throughout the world. These regional organizations in turn have many local organizations as members. ACICAFOC represents 70 organizations in Central America, FECOFUN is a federation of 15,000 Community Forest Users Groups in Nepal (Asia) and CAFT represents 40 community-based organizations that manage community forest in Cameroon (Africa). GACF's members manage about 9 million hectares of community forests and represent more than 12 million people who depend directly on forest products and community forest incomes. GACF provides a coordinating link between community forestry organizations in order to have a common voice and strong presence in international and regional forums on issues of interest to their members.

www.gacfonline.com



International Alliance of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Tropical Forests (IAITPTF)

IAITPTF is a worldwide network of organizations representing indigenous and tribal peoples living in tropical forest regions (Africa, the Asia-Pacific and the Americas). The main objective is to promote recognition of the rights and territories of indigenous and tribal peoples. In addition, alliance aims at establishing effective networks between indigenous peoples at regional and international levels.

The Alliance has a flexible structure of nine autonomous regions coordinated and supported by a Technical Secretariat. The membership of the Alliance, made up of indigenous and tribal peoples organizations in regional networks, is the highest policy-making body in the network. Policy is formulated through the Alliance's International Conferences, which have been held every two to three years since the establishment of the Alliance in 1992.

www.international-alliance.org



International Family Forestry Alliance (IFFA)

IFFA is a network of national family forest owner organizations to raise awareness of family forestry and to advocate for supportive policies. IFFA has 23 members and is now the voice of 25 million family forest owners worldwide. IFFA provides a vehicle for the exchange of experience, ideas and information, and also provides recommendations to international forest policy processes and institutions such as the World Forestry Congress, the Climate Change summits, the World Bank, the United Nations Forum on Forests and other UN forest related processes. It places particular emphasis on the importance of policies that support long-term commitments, recognize the diversity of forest conditions and owner objectives, and seek to ensure the economic viability of family forestry.

www.familyforestry.net



International Alliance of the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples of Tropical Forests