



**FCLP**

**The Forest & Climate Leaders' Partnership**

**FORESTCLIMATELEADERS.ORG**

# **Advancing Forest and Climate Action: Summary of FCLP activities during Climate Week NYC 2024**

October 2024



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# Advancing Forest and Climate Action: Summary of FCLP activities during Climate Week NYC 2024

During the recent [Climate Week NYC](#) (22-29 September 2024), the Forest and Climate Leaders' Partnership convened multiple high-level discussions aimed at steering critical conversations on forest conservation, carbon finance, and sustainable construction. These efforts brought together government representatives, financial institutions, Indigenous Peoples, local communities and civil society organisations to advance the global agenda on climate, nature, and forest protection.

Each session focused on distinct yet interconnected themes, contributing to the broader agenda of achieving ambitious climate and biodiversity goals.

We extend our sincere thanks to all participants for their time and meaningful contributions, and to the co-organisers, as each event was delivered in close partnership, highlighting the collaborative effort required to drive meaningful action.

For a detailed recount of all events, please refer to the daily updates on our [LinkedIn](#) account.

## Empowering Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in Forest Climate Action:

### ***Workshop: Rights, participation and benefits for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in Forest Climate Action***

Our workshop on 23 September brought together senior officials from tropical forest countries, funders and international organisations discussed forest tenure rights and direct financing for Indigenous Peoples and local communities. The session explored overcoming political and technical barriers to securing land tenure and how to streamline climate finance by reducing intermediaries.

Two panels discussed land tenure and more inclusive climate and forest finance with highlights including interventions focussed on the important of any future pledges focussing on the quality of finance to support IP + LCs land demarcation, and the importance of a rights-based approach to all development aid. Attendees were then moved into four groups to discuss lessons learnt from the COP26 Land Tenure Pledge; Challenges faced by governments to securing land tenure; the role of the

Multilaterals in supporting IPs and LCs; and, Barriers faced by IPs and LCs in accessing funds.

This event was made in collaboration with the [Ford Foundation](#), [Climate and Land Use Alliance](#), [Re:wild](#), [Global Alliance of Territorial Communities](#), and FTFG

## Championing Sustainable Timber and Forest Protection

### ***Roundtable: Principles for Responsible Timber Production***

Together with [Built by Nature](#), we co-hosted a multistakeholder event on Tuesday, 24 September focusing on the guiding principles for responsible timber construction. This initiative builds on the momentum from the Sustainable Wood Coalition, launched at COP28. Participants discussed how increasing timber demand can benefit local communities and climate action while avoiding unintended environmental impacts.

## Engaging the Financial Sector for Climate and Nature Solutions

### ***Roundtable: Private Financing of Public Debt for Climate and Nature: Shaping New Financial Instruments***

The FCLP hosted a high-level roundtable on private financing for public debt, engaging representatives from the IMF, credit rating agencies, and institutional investors. The meeting was chaired by John Podesta, Senior Advisor to President Biden for International Climate Policy and Minister Susana Muhamad, Minister of Environment, Colombia. The discussions focused on clarifying how sovereign risk assessments can integrate climate and nature considerations and how private sector participation can be incentivized in public finance for climate action. The event also delved into innovative financial tools that can be scaled up to address climate finance gaps.

These discussions will continue at the upcoming Annual Meetings in DC and at CBD COP16 in Cali, Colombia.

# Supporting Demand for Forest Carbon Credits and Results

We hosted three events focussed on forest carbon markets:

## ***Accelerating Momentum for Large-Scale Tropical Forests Conservation through Jurisdictional REDD+***

This session celebrated the successes of forest nations and Indigenous Peoples in developing robust Jurisdictional REDD+ programs. Discussions highlighted the potential of carbon markets to drive gigaton-scale mitigation efforts by 2030. The event also stressed the importance of maintaining the integrity of these programs, especially in ensuring that local communities directly benefit from forest conservation efforts.

This event was convened with support from [Jurisdictional REDD+ Technical Assistance Partnership](#) partners [Conservation International](#), [Climate Law and Policy](#), [Environmental Defense Fund](#), [Wildlife Conservation Society](#) and [Winrock International](#).

## ***Working Breakfast: Technical Assistance for Jurisdictional REDD+: Addressing Critical Gaps***

The day began with a working breakfast focused on bridging the gap in technical assistance for Jurisdictional REDD+ (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation). Co-hosted with the Climate and Land Use Alliance and Environmental Defense Fund, this session brought together key stakeholders to discuss the urgent need for long-term, predictable support for community and civil society engagement in REDD+ programs. The conversation revolved around governance, transparency, and social integrity, critical elements for scaling up high-integrity REDD+ initiatives.

This gathering set the stage for deeper collaboration on REDD+ and the necessary support mechanisms for success. The emphasis on social integrity also points to a future where climate finance directly benefits the people most impacted by deforestation and climate change.

## ***Forest Carbon Results and Credits Convening: Boosting Global Forest Carbon Finance***

The last FCLP-led session convened 14 Directors from FCLP members to discuss the future of forest carbon finance, including the demand for forest carbon credits and the role of results-based payments. Participants highlighted the importance of trust, transparency, and stronger engagement with Indigenous Peoples and local communities to ensure that the benefits of carbon markets are widely shared. Key

outcomes included identifying pathways to increase demand for forest carbon credits through both voluntary and compliance markets.

**There were significant demonstrations of ambition from members outlined through the week:**

We witnessed the **formal signing of a USD 30 million partnership between the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Ghana**. Following the groundbreaking announcement made at COP28 in December 2023, the partnership was formalised by H.E. Dr. Amna Al Dahak, UAE Minister of Climate Change, and Hon. Samuel A. Jinapor, Ghana's Minister of Lands. This agreement signifies a significant step in supporting Ghana's ambitious climate and biodiversity targets.

We celebrated news on the extension until 2035 of Norway's International Climate and Forest Initiative, a step that reaffirms Norway's dedication to forest protection, and a long-term commitment to address the driver of deforestation and providing support for forest conservation on tropical regions.

We saw the UK government and FMO-Dutch entrepreneurial development bank commit to invest \$55 million into BTG Pactual Timberland Investment Groups Latin American reforestation strategy which focuses on the conservation, restoration, and planting of deforested and degraded properties across the region.

The 2024 New York Climate Week demonstrated a collective commitment to advancing forest and climate action through inclusive discussions, the showcasing of innovating financial mechanisms. The convenings highlighted critical progress and was an important step towards upcoming international negotiations, as the COP16 to the CBD and COP29 to the UNFCCC. Each event underscored the urgency of collaboration and cooperation amongst different stakeholders, and the vital role that forests play in global climate solutions.