



Advancing Forest and Climate Action: Summary of FCLP activities during the Convention on Biological Diversity COP16

November 2024

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During the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP 16) (21 October - 1 November 2024), the Forest & Climate Leaders' Partnership convened multiple high-level discussions aimed at steering critical conversations on forest conservation, innovative instruments for financing forests, and land tenure recognition. 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 each event, please refer to the daily updates on our [LinkedIn](#) account.

Aligning Financial Strategies for Biodiversity and Climate Change

The FCLP convened governments to discuss financial strategies for biodiversity and climate change alongside partners, the Government of Colombia and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).

The first discussion was focussed on the updating process of NBSAPs and NDCs in South America, and focused on the critical linkages between biodiversity and climate change. The session provided a deep dive into how three South American countries - Perú, Ecuador and Paraguay - are advancing their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). These countries emphasized the critical importance of addressing both the climate crisis and biodiversity loss in the implementation of NBSAPs and NDCs. They also highlighted the need to access a diverse range of funding opportunities, including both public and private sources, and highlighted the significant role private sector can play in addressing these challenges. The event showcased the power of partnerships to build sustainable futures for forests and communities.

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The second discussion did not have a regional focus. With 2024 and 2025 marking key milestones for the CBD and UNFCCC conventions, this discussion explored opportunities for countries to align their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) with National Determined Contributions (NDCs). It emphasized the role of forests in achieving these synergies, while tackling the persistent challenge of securing sufficient funding to develop and implement these strategies. Suriname emphasized the critical role of its forests, highlighting that it is the most forested country in the world, underscoring its dependence of their livelihoods on these forests, which also provide essential environmental services to the world. They highlighted the urgent need to secure new and additional funding to avoid deforestation and promote the livelihoods of communities that depend on those forests. The United Kingdom highlighted that land is a finite resource and emphasized the need for optimal synergy in its use. Every inch of land must contribute to multiple objectives, including addressing biodiversity loss and climate change. Additionally, they mentioned that forest protection and conservation are likely the easiest areas to align across all three conventions.

The event showed progress, challenges, and funding opportunities to support the alignment of biodiversity and climate change priorities.

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Leaders protecting forests to meet global Biodiversity and Climate goals

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Hosted by Colombia and the FCLP, the high-level event on 28 October 2024 gathered ministers and institutions for a dialogue that highlighted synergies across the Rio Conventions, and outlined a number of financial mechanisms that can support forest protection. During the event, Brazil, The World Bank and Germany discussed the importance of exploring the Tropical Forest Forever Facility as a serious idea that requires further exploration through 2025. The Green Climate Fund announced the permanent integration of results-based payments into the regular programme activity cycle. High-level representatives from IDB, Colombia and Nature Finance explored strategies for scaling finance from all sources, including debt-related financial instruments. WWF launched a 2030 vision to meet the 2030 target to halt and reverse forest loss, and France, Gabon, CI and TNC launched a \$60M country package to support Gabon's national forest strategy. Ministers from nine countries delivered a clear message at CBD COP16 in Colombia: increasing the range of financial mechanisms to support countries, developing a broader range of financial instruments, and scaling the volume of finance available must happen in parallel in order to halt and reverse deforestation and land degradation by 2030.

Further information:

- Press release 28 Oct 2024: [Leaders Protecting Forests to Meet Global Biodiversity and Climate Goals – FCLP – The Forest & Climate Leaders' Partnership](#)
- Impressions on [LinkedIn](#)

Championing Land Tenure and Indigenous Rights

Ministerial dialogue of the IP&LC Platform to support forest climate action

This ministerial-level dialogue on 31 October 2024 focused on supporting Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IP&LC) in forest climate action by mobilising finance and strengthening political commitments for land tenure recognition. The event was co-organized alongside Colombia, Peru, Norway and the FCLP. It built on the Platform to Support Indigenous Peoples and local communities in Forest Climate Action, launched at COP28, emphasising the need for inclusive NDCs and NBSAPs. Ministers and high-level officers from Brazil, Colombia, Peru, Norway, [Bezos Earth Fund](#), [Christensen Fund](#), [OPIAC](#) and the [Global Alliance of Territorial Communities](#) highlighted the need for countries and donors to work together towards COP30 and called attendees to act now and deliver renewed political and financial commitments for a measurable forest tenure pledge, aimed at accelerating global land tenure recognition.

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FCLP activities at COP16 were supported and facilitated by the Presidency in Colombia, and supported several critical interactions regarding how to increase ambition to protect and restore forests, whilst supporting sustainable development.