

# CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST-- PRESENTATION OF SUCCESSFUL PROJECTS RELATED TO FORESTS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## INTRODUCTION

Major Groups Representatives engaged in the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) process are calling for expressions of interest from organizations who have implemented projects that have successfully addressed various dynamics associated with forests and economic development for presentation in an international workshop. These projects are sought as case study for knowledge sharing during a Major Groups workshop to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 13-17 June 2012 on the Theme Forest and Economic Development: Positioning Forests to contribute to Green Economy.

The global workshop is a Major Groups-led Initiative (MGI) in support of UNFF to develop policy recommendations for United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) 10 scheduled to take place in Istanbul, Turkey in 2013 hosted by the government of Brazil and funded by the German Ministry of Agriculture (BMELV).

In keeping with the theme of UNFF10, selected projects will be those that explicitly address successful projects that exemplify the relationships between forests and economic development.

The projects being proposed should address the following broad theme of UNFF10: Forests and economic development or any of the sub-themes below

- a. Forest Products and Services;
- b. National Forest Programmes and other Sectoral Policies and Strategies;
- c. Reducing Risks and Impacts of Disasters;
- d. Benefits of Forests and Trees to Urban Communities.

## **BACKGROUND**

Since the establishment of the UNFF, a number of Major Groups have been participating in the UN-based forest policy processes and have worked together on several occasions to make inputs into policy discussions. Most recently, the Major Groups-led Initiative held in Accra, Ghana in July of 2010 brought together key representatives from Major Groups, governments and intergovernmental organizations with the objective of providing concrete recommendations for UNFF9 (24 January-4 February, 2011). As a result of the workshop in Ghana, Major Groups were able to make effective and targeted recommendations for the ongoing forest policy process. Thus, the goal of the upcoming MGI to be held in Brazil from 13-17 June of 2012 is to continue and enhance the participation of Major Groups in the forest policy process.

## **"EXPRESSION OF INTEREST" SUBMISSION PROCESS**

**Interested persons should submit their proposals following the guidelines below:**

(a) Full name and title of the author (position in the organization), contact address including e-mail and telephone, and name of organization.

(b) The scope of the project in terms of geographical area, individuals or communities involved, etc.

(c) Description of the need for the project and the problems or issues that the project sought to address.

(d) Key issues addressed by the project in terms of the relationship between forests and economic development.

(e) Highlights of the outcomes of the project.

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

1. Submissions should be in English and received by **FRIDAY 16 MARCH, 2012** for consideration. Please send expressions of interest to Dr. Lauren

Eastwood ([lauren.eastwood@plattsburgh.edu](mailto:lauren.eastwood@plattsburgh.edu)). OR ([leeastwood@msn.com](mailto:leeastwood@msn.com))

2. The submissions will be reviewed and authors of successful entries will be communicated to by FRIDAY 20 APRIL, 2012.
3. A memorandum of understanding will be signed between the authors and the organizers for the preparation of the presentation to begin.

## COMPENSATION

1. A onetime \$2000.00 (USD) will be paid for the documentation of successful project upon its acceptance and presentation at the workshop.
2. The authors will be sponsored (return ticket, room and board) to participate in the 5 day global workshop in Rio de Janeiro.

For more information on the Major Groups global workshop in Rio de Janeiro

Contact:

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Workshop Website: [www.mgi-forests.org](http://www.mgi-forests.org)

For more information regarding case studies, or to submit a project proposal/description by the March 16 2012 deadline, contact:

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“Major Groups”, as defined by “Agenda 21” of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (1992), are the following: Women, Youth, Indigenous Peoples, NGOs, Local Authorities, Workers and Trade Unions, Business and Industry, Science and Technological Communities, and Farmers.