Forest Trends Fellowship Program
FOREST TRENDS FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

PREVIOUS FELLOWS INCLUDE

John Begley, CEO, Port Townsend Paper, USA
David Brand, President, New Forests, Australia
Jim Brumm, General Counsel, Mitsubishi Corporation, Japan
Al Cho, Vice President for Strategy and Business Development, Xylem Inc., USA
Victor Galarreta, Technical Secretary of the Interregional Amazon-Peru Council (CIAM), Peru
Victor Luis Gonzalez, President, Windmar Renewables, LLC, Puerto Rico
David Gordon, Associate Director, Pacific Environment, USA
Victoria Hale, Founder, Medicines 360, Institute for One World Health, USA
Asmeen Khan, Practice Manager, Governance Global Practice, The World Bank Group, South Africa
Fernando Momiy Hada, Director, National Superintendency of Sanitation Services (SUNASS), Peru
Mario Monzoni, Assistant Coordinator, School of Business Administration of São Paulo, Brazil
Ole Petunya, Lecturer, Maasai Mara University; Secretary, Shombole Community Trust, Kenya
Carlos Muñoz Piña, Director, World Resources Institute, Mexico
Pati Ruiz Corzo, Director General, Grupo Sierra Gorda, Mexico
Sara Scherr, Director, EcoAgriculture Partners, USA
Tod Sedgwick, Chairman of the Board, Io Energy, USA
John Spears, World Bank/WWF Alliance Coordinator, The World Bank Group, USA
Changjun Sun, Director, Research Center for Ecological and Environmental Economics, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, China
Kerry ten Kate, Director, Investment Responsibility, Insight Investment, London, United Kingdom
Wouter Veening, Former Policy Director, Netherlands Committee for the IUCN, Netherlands
Kim Yeadon, NSW Parliament Member, Australian Government
THE FOREST TRENDS FELLOWS PROGRAM was born in 2000. Its goal was to leverage our unique global network of partners to support our mission to build an economic engine behind conservation. Fast-forward twenty years, and the Fellows program has become a critical way we form flexible, mutually beneficial collaborations with internationally recognized leaders and experts in conservation, climate policy, technology, and finance.

To date, Forest Trends has engaged more than 30 leaders through this program. Fellows have gone on to join the Forest Trends Board of Directors, contribute as thought leaders on our initiative teams, join our staff, or become key implementation partners around the world. Still others accompany us on special field visits to the Amazon and Mekong, help us promote our work, or remain steady collaborators and co-authors on papers and reports. They are an extraordinary group of change makers and visionaries, including community leaders, entrepreneurs, philanthropists, scientists, lawyers, and financiers.

Become Part of an Extraordinary Group of Change Makers
AS WE ENTER A NEW DECADE, Forest Trends is expanding our Fellows program to meet the climate challenges our world is facing, at the speed and scale at which we need to find solutions. Twenty years of experience has taught us that bringing together the most creative, entrepreneurial minds in the field is the way to make a powerful impact.

A healthy planet is the common thread connecting the work that needs to be done. We seek Fellows who can help us craft solutions to issues like the ones below – and to help us find connections between them:

- Responding to and recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic sustainably and equitably, as well as preventing the next one
- Supporting indigenous and local communities as they resist constant threats to their homes and livelihoods
- Providing decision-makers with data they need to enact and enforce policies that curb illegal activities exploiting the world’s forests (and the people living in them)
- Encouraging strengthened climate policy to help meet collective initiatives like the Paris Agreement

These are just a few of the things we’re thinking about as we prepare for a new cohort of Forest Trends Fellows.

Now Is the Time
ABOUT OUR FELLOWSHIPS

OUR FELLOWSHIPS LAST TWO YEARS, with the option to renew partnership for additional periods. Details of the fellowship are flexible, and individually tailored to the needs and interests of a given Fellow and Forest Trends.

An invitation to join the Fellowship program is Forest Trends’ commitment to:

- Publicly recognize them as a Forest Trends Fellow, and encourage them to use the title for their own professional purposes, including seeking funding for professional initiatives independent of Forest Trends,
- Invite them to participate in select Forest Trends events, such as board meetings, planning sessions, and staff retreats,
- Assist them in securing financial and institutional support for their initiatives where they overlap with Forest Trends interests, and
- Fully acknowledge their contributions to all planning, concepts, or publications.
In turn, Forest Trends anticipates Fellows will:

- Participate in the broader development of Forest Trends program concepts and organizational direction, by participating in planning meetings, board meetings, staff retreats, or other events that intersect with personal interests and expertise,
- Collaborate with Forest Trends as a privileged consultant and, in cases of long-term, intensive collaboration, a co-sponsor of funding proposals deemed to be of mutual interest,
- Represent Forest Trends at public events,
- Help support Forest Trends’ growth through annual contributions (suggested contribution of $10,000) and help build connections to new sources of funding.

(NOTE: Fellows are automatically enrolled in the Evergreen Society, Forest Trends’ leadership giving circle, which comes with its own special benefits.)
Special Working Groups and Projects
Fellows may elect to participate in special working groups and opportunities to collaborate with Forest Trends staff on strategic development, thought leadership, research, and other creative work. Recent working group activities includes:

- Developing a business model for Ecosystem Marketplace’s corporate advisory and data intelligence services
- Capitalizing a Core Innovation Fund for Research & Development to incubate new projects and connect high-impact initiatives to funding sources
- Engaging the US federal government and key agencies on scaling nature-based solutions in infrastructure policies and spending programs

Forest Trends Board of Directors Meetings
Forest Trends Fellows are invited to join our Board of Directors and Forest Trends leadership for strategic conversations on key themes and work programs.
Field Visits
Join Forest Trends team members and key supporters on special trips into the field for an immersive look at our work. Past expeditions have included a journey along the Mekong Delta to see a rapidly changing forest landscape, and a voyage through the Peruvian Amazon to experience the emerging “rainforest-to-table” culinary movement in Latin America.

Opportunities to Collaborate and Co-Author
We work with interested Fellows on op-eds, white papers, peer-reviewed publications, and other thought leadership pieces co-authored with Forest Trends experts and Board members.

Expert Roundtables and Events
Forest Trends frequently hosts expert roundtables and other convenings for leaders from government, business, finance, communities, and conservation. Forest Trends Fellows will have opportunities to participate in planning as expert speakers and facilitators, shape the agenda, and network.

Special Briefings from Forest Trends Staff
Fellows can engage with Forest Trends staff during frequent special briefings on our latest work – an opportunity to hear our latest insights and weigh in on key issues for climate and conservation.

Forest Trends Fellows Gatherings
Take advantage of opportunities to network with other Forest Trends Fellows at special events, both in-person and online.
**RECENT FELLOWS**

**Tundi Agardy** is a leader in marine conservation, with extensive field and policy experience in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, the Mediterranean, North America, and the Pacific. Her work has focused first and foremost on articulating the value of the ocean for humanity and the planet.

**Clark Binkley** has been involved in forestry and the timberland investment business for over forty years. In 2005, he founded International Forestry Investment Advisors to develop and implement innovative, socially responsible high-return timberland investment strategies.

**Victor Bullen** recently retired as the Agency Environmental Coordinator at USAID, following a 28-year career there. During that time, Victor was also the Regional Environmental Advisor for South America, the Bureau Environmental Officer for Latin America and the Caribbean, served on the National Invasive Species Council, and represented USAID at the President’s Council on Environmental Quality, among other roles. Previously, he was a natural resource management consultant at the Organization of American States, Senior Program Officer at World Wildlife Fund - USA, and served as a Peace Corps Volunteer/National Park Specialist in Paraguay.

**Michael Cantor** is Co-Founder and Managing Partner Equator Capital Group, a Washington DC-based private equity firm investing in renewable energy projects, plant-based solutions, historic assets, and sustainable real estate development. He also serves on the Board of Directors for Carbon Nation and China Folk House Retreat, Inc.

**Whitney Debevoise** is a partner at the law firm of Arnold & Porter and a specialist in sovereign finance and US international economic policy. He served as US Executive Director at the World Bank and is a member of the Advisory Council of the Bretton Woods Committee.

**Alex Echols** is the Program Director of Agriculture for the Campbell Foundation. Previously, he was Co-Founder and Executive Vice President of Ecosystem Services Exchange Deputy for ten years, Acting Executive Director the National
Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and Principal Staff Lead in developing the Conservation Title of the Farm Bill with the US Senate.

Sally Ericsson is a strategic consultant for non-profit organizations on climate change and natural resource conservation policies. Sally oversaw energy, climate, conservation, and environmental policy for two US presidents, working at the White House Office of Management and Budget during the Obama administration and at the White House Council on Environmental Quality during the Clinton administration.

Brad Gentry is the F.K. Weyerhaeuser Professor in the Practice at the Yale School of the Environment and the Yale School of Management, Senior Associate Dean for Professional Practice at the Yale School of the Environment, and a Director of the Yale Center for Business and the Environment. As both a biologist and a lawyer, his work focuses on strengthening the links between private investment and improved environmental performance, with a particular focus on increasing investment in natural areas.

Lyndon Haviland is a leader, moderator, speaker, author, and fundraiser with more than 30 years’ experience in domestic and international public health. Dr. Haviland has worked with a wide range of organizations including UNAIDS, the UN Department of Public Information, the UN Foundation, UN Women, the UN Development Program, the World Health Organization, and the International Medical Corps.

Eugene Linden is an author whose non-fiction books have covered topics ranging from animal intelligence to the forces that will shape our future. He has written for many magazines and journals, including TIME, The New York Times, Foreign Affairs, and National Geographic. Linden also served for fifteen years as Chief Investment Strategist for Bennett Management, a family of investment funds specializing in distressed investments and bankruptcies.

Bruno Mariani is Founding Partner and CEO of Symbiosis Investimentos e Part. S.A., a privately owned Brazilian reforestation company focused on rare Atlantic Forest tree species. Bruno was also
the Chairman of the Board of Funbio, The Brazilian Biodiversity Fund, and managing director of BBM Bank S.A.

**Susan McIntire** has experience in international and domestic sales and management, primarily with IBM, and in the finance, engineering, and manufacturing industries. She has served on a wide range of philanthropic boards and is currently a Trustee at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science, on the board of the Biennial of the Americas, and a fellow at the Aspen Institute Mexico.

**Manuel Pulgar-Vidal** is the Global Leader of Climate & Energy at WWF. He served as Minister of the Environment of Peru from 2011 to 2016 and as President of the Twentieth Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP-20) in 2014. He has been recognized by the governments of France, Germany, and Spain and by the Royal Scottish Geographical Society for his contribution to the Paris Agreement.

**Alice Ruhweza** has served as Regional Director for Africa at WWF since July 2019. Previously, she led portfolios at Conservation International and led the UNDP’s Global Environment Finance Unit in South Africa. A multicultural leader, Alice has worked for organizations such as the National Environment Management Authority in Uganda, Forest Trends, Sprint Corp., the World Bank, the Foundation for International Environmental Law and Development, and others, on a wide range of issues ranging from the economics of ecosystems and biodiversity to innovative finance.
Jim Salzman is the Donald Bren Distinguished Professor of Environmental Law, with joint appointments at the UCLA School of Law and the UCSB Bren School of Environmental Science and Management. He is a leading international authority on the laws and institutions supporting payments for ecosystem services.

Sudip Thakor is a senior financial and investment executive with 25 years of international experience in sourcing, structuring, and investing in private debt and equity transactions. Sudip founded Pumori Capital in 2014, an Investment and Advisory boutique focusing on impact and emerging market transactions, and serves as Managing Partner.

Holt Thrasher is Founder of Synovia Capital, where he currently focuses on investing in the information technology sector supporting advanced ecosystem data analytics. Holt is an active conservationist and currently serves as Trustee and Treasurer of the National Marine Sanctuaries Foundation, an advisory board member of the Lincoln Land Institutes Center for Geospatial Solutions, a member of the President’s Council of Ceres, and Board Chair of Mongabay.

Wouter Veening is Co-Founder, Chairman, and President of the Institute for Environmental Security, where he promotes environmental protection from an international law and security perspective. His current foci are: preparing an overview (cartographic) of the global hotspots where ecological disruption affects security and stability, advocating the adoption and prosecution of ecocide by the International Criminal Court, and promoting a Global Ecological Investment & Management Agenda based upon the obligations from international law and long-term financial arrangements.