

Enabling Conditions

Advancing Community-Determined Priorities,
Defending Civic Space and Supporting the
Resilience of Organizations and Movements

Photo: Kynan Tegar



Forests, People, Climate (FPC) is a collaborative of philanthropic funders, civil society, and community-based organizations seeking to halt and reverse tropical deforestation while supporting just, sustainable development. We focus on equitable and enduring solutions that safeguard tropical forests and support those stewarding them, in particular Indigenous Peoples, Afro-descendants, and Local Communities in tropical forest countries. For more information, please contact us at info@forestspeopleclimate.org

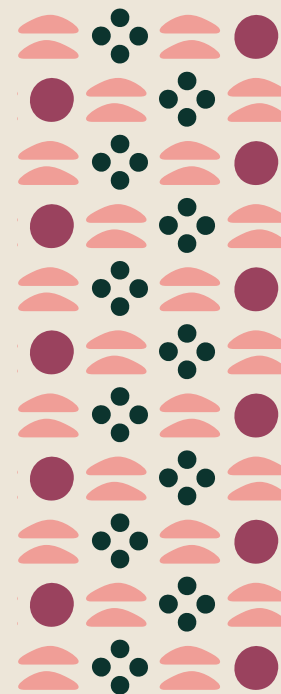
Why Enabling Conditions?

Tangible actions to halt and reverse tropical deforestation currently lack resourcing at the locality of forests themselves, and organizations based in and near tropical forests receive a much smaller proportion of donor support. When communities and other local actors do not have needed funding, support for capacity, and access and space to deliver their self-determined solutions, the infrastructure required to support collaboration and interconnectivity remains distant and insufficient to support their efforts to address the challenges of tropical forest loss.

This strategy is built on a core assumption that the actors closest to the urgent problems of the climate crisis, tropical forest loss, and exploitative rural development must have the necessary resources, capacity, and space to execute just, durable, and sustainable solutions. It also seeks to center their voices in decisions about who and what gets funded and should help reduce the risk to those undertaking environmental and civic action who currently face increasing threats.

Enabling Conditions underscores collaboration with the communities, entities, movements, and groups in tropical forest countries, most directly working on tropical forest protection and just and sustainable development. A key component of this strategy is to address power balances in philanthropy by evolving the Enabling Conditions Strategy in partnership with this broader set of stakeholders who will continue to test, inform, and change the content of this framework and ensure it is responsive to specific, critical on the ground needs.

The process to guide this evolution is tentatively dubbed Co-Lab. It seeks to provide the resources, learning space, and flexibility for local stakeholders to pursue new solutions, respond to



unexpected opportunities and challenges, and test and challenge strategic assumptions to ensure each of the FPC Strategies remain responsive to stakeholder-led innovations, and support the self-determined needs of organizations closest to the work.

Meeting the specific needs of the diverse stakeholders in different tropical forest ecosystems depends on a whole set of enabling conditions. These conditions may include the ability for funding and resources to reach relevant actors on the ground, organizational capability, access to communications tools, regulatory frameworks, among others. The enabling conditions needed should all be defined through processes that respect Indigenous Peoples, Afro-descendants, and Local Communities (IP, AD & LC) rights to self-determination.

Forests, People, Climate (FPC) supports communities, organizations, institutions, and movements identifying the conditions they need to succeed and addressing the barriers that stand in their way. Where pathways and solutions do not yet exist, FPC aims to help support opportunities to facilitate and foster collaboration, experimentation, and the exploration of new ideas.

Our Goal

Support the development of robust and responsive infrastructure to support inclusive, resilient, connected, coordinated, and well-resourced communities, organizations, institutions, movements, and other entities able to achieve their goals.

By strengthening enabling conditions, just and sustainable agendas can be integrated across specific issues and geographies, anchored in the lived realities of those closest to key tropical forest ecosystems and issues. By supporting the needed resources, capacity, and decision-making processes identified by communities and organizations in tropical forest regions, more networked, connected, context-specific solutions can emerge that bring greater benefits for the people living in and across tropical forests.

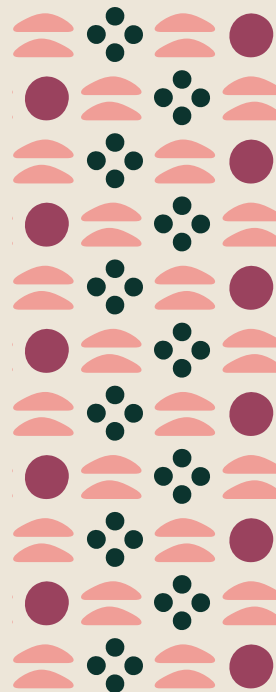


Photo: Joel Redman / Archive by If Not Us Then Who?

Focus Areas

A set of three interdependent and reinforcing initial focus areas combine to provide critical infrastructure needed to support overarching goals for forests, people, and climate. The evolution of these priorities is described in the process below. These focus areas include:

- 01. Resource the Ecosystem** Invest in strengthening and expanding funding and resource flows to effectively channel more financial resources, knowledge exchange, and technology transfer to tropical forest localities and countries.
- 02. Strengthen Community Collaboration** Support key stakeholders and movements in their efforts to design and deliver on their priority agendas, operate successfully, learn and share, convene, network, build their organizational resilience and sustainability, and connect with other stakeholders to coordinate and collaborate on their goals.
- 03. Support Civil Society Action** Support the conditions for civil society to defend its rights, access financial resources, mitigate threats, and ensure security.

Aligned with the premise that those closest to the work are critical to the success of each of the FPC Strategies, the Enabling Conditions Strategy is designed to evolve based on inputs from the field.

Further Information

FPC strategic priorities for strengthening enabling conditions brings a framework that overlays with other cross-cutting and geographic FPC priorities. This overview draws on a strategy that was developed through a participatory process with a focus on representatives from tropical forest countries.

About FPC Strategies

FPC has nine strategies – three regional strategies in the Brazilian Amazon, Congo Basin, and Indonesia, and six cross-cutting thematic strategies: Enabling Conditions, Indigenous Peoples, Afro-Descendants, & Local Communities (IP, AD, & LC), Supply Chains, Strategic Communications, Private Finance, and Carbon Markets Integrity.

The primary purpose of the FPC strategies is to provide a roadmap for grantmaking, action, monitoring progress, and learning. The strategies are also a tool to align a number of actors around strategic goals, whether it's where FPC focuses implementation or funding. These are 'living strategies' that FPC intends to iteratively update to respond to changing contexts.

