



FERN

Annual Report 2008

FERN at a glance

FERN works to achieve environmental and social justice with a focus on forests and forest peoples' rights in the policies and practices of the European Union.

The Forests and the European Union Resource Network (FERN), was set up 13 years ago to coordinate campaigning work around EU policies that have a direct impact on forests and forest peoples. This niche role continues to be of great strength and importance. FERN listens to, works with and learns from civil society, other NGOs and the EU. We pride ourselves in respecting the input of all employees, colleagues and partners.

In 2008, our work focused on six linked campaigns with the following visions:

Avoiding deforestation and degradation: Forest climate agreements ensure forest peoples' rights and are not based on carbon trading.

Bioenergy and forests: EU energy policies enable the EU to meet its rural development objectives and biodiversity targets and reduce the negative impact of issues such as agrofuels outside of Europe.

Controlling illegal logging: Improved governance halts the European illegal timber trade and returns forest land to the ownership of local communities.

Democratising trade and Investment: Trade and investment within and beyond the EU benefits all of its citizens without damaging the environment and the communities that depend on it.

Improving forest certification schemes and timber procurement policies: Certification schemes implement standards which recognise forest peoples' rights and improve forestry practices and legislation.

Keeping track of development aid: EC aid contributes to the protection of forests and ensures respect for the rights of forest peoples.

Who we are

Board

FERN's work is overseen by its board which is made up of experts from around the world in the fields of forestry, forest and community rights, UN institutions, finance and communication. The board and staff meet at least once a year to review the year's work, sign off the following year's workplan and look into the issues that will be affecting forests in the future. This list shows our 2008 board members and the countries they are based in:

Monica Årdback (Sweden), Treasurer

Gemma Boetekees (Netherlands), Secretary

David Kaimowitz (Mexico), Member

Kyeretwie Opoku (Ghana), Member

Elisa Peter (USA), Member

Sian Pettman (United Kingdom), Member

Stan Termeer (Netherlands), Chairperson

Staff

FERN's staff consist of five campaigners, a finance officer, two administrators and a communications officer. They are all based in either Brussels, Belgium or Gloucestershire, UK and they jointly manage the organisation. Between them FERN has fluency in 8 European languages and many years of campaigning experience. Contact details are on page 18.

Veerle Dossche: Bioenergy

Joëlle Dubois: Finance and administration manager

Deborah Lambert Perez: Trade and Investment

Iola Leal Riesco: Forest Governance

Jutta Kill: Climate change and certification

Saskia Ozinga: Campaign coordinator

Richard Wainwright: Communications manager

2008, the year forest discussions turned REDD

Welcome to FERN's 2008 annual report. It will give you a brief overview of our year and we hope that it encourages you to find more information, by clicking on the links or visiting our website www.fern.org.

There were some exciting moments and campaign successes last year, such as the signing of the first Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) Voluntary Partnership Agreement; and the October decision by German, Austrian and Swiss ECAs to begin the official process of withdrawing financial support for the controversial Ilisu Dam in Turkey. The move follows years of campaigning by the European Export Credit Agency (ECA) Reform Campaign, facilitated by FERN, to pressure European ECAs to withdraw. More successes and the details of the challenges we face are outlined throughout this report.

2008 also saw forest discussions dominated by schemes aimed at reducing emissions from deforestation. As decisions made in these forums could derail successes achieved through FLEGT, we chose to focus on the governance implications of the issue. We also tied it in with our long-running campaign against carbon offsetting by working closely with partners to push for a funding mechanism that could achieve the carbon reductions that ADD schemes strive for.

It was an exciting year for FERN as an organisation too, with the arrival of four new staff, two campaigners to run our bioenergy and Avoiding Deforestation and Degradation (ADD) campaigns and an administrator for the Brussels office. As well as this, we signed partnership agreements in 5 countries. This means we are well set up to ensure 2009 holds even more opportunities to turn the tide in favour of forests.

We hope you enjoy reading this report and welcome all feedback on our campaigns. You can find the contact details of the most appropriate person at www.fern.org/contact.html

Deborah



Iola



Joëlle



Julie



Jutta



Marie



Richard



Saskia



Veerle



The FERN team
April 2009

Avoiding deforestation and degradation

The problem:

Initiatives to reduce deforestation are rightly deemed as urgent, but there are real dangers ahead:

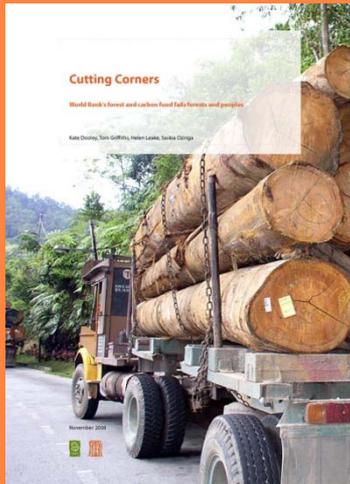
- Schemes may focus on reducing emissions rather than the drivers of forest loss.
- Schemes may allow industrialised countries to burn yet more fossil fuel and cheaply offset their pollution.
- National governments may attempt to claw back control over forests in order to benefit from the expected climate forest agreement, leading to local communities lose their right and access to land.

The solution:

A forest climate agreement that tackles the drivers of deforestation, is based on good governance, recognises the rights of local communities and does not give industrialised countries the possibility to opt out of drastically reducing fossil fuel emissions at home, i.e. is not dependent on carbon trading.

To achieve this we are helping coalitions to push for governance and rights and provide arguments against carbon trading as a financing mechanism for Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD) schemes.

Cutting Corners



In December 2007 the World Bank launched its Forest Carbon Partnership Facility to promote investment in REDD and support pilot projects for developing national REDD strategies. To access funds, countries had to submit Readiness Project Idea Notes (R-PINs).

FERN and Forest Peoples Programme analysed nine R-PINs to assess the extent to which the Facility fulfilled key social commitments and determine if it addressed governance, human rights, land tenure, and required Free Prior and Informed Consent.

We found that the process had been rushed and dominated by centralised government, with little to no consultation with indigenous peoples, local communities or civil society organisations. Many approved R-PINs were of poor quality. Based on our initial assessment it was clear that governments will need to do much better than this World Bank flagship initiative to ensure the forest and climate deal to be adopted in December in Copenhagen will not do more harm than good. Ensuring funding does not come from carbon trading and thus delinking funding from allowing more fossil fuel emissions in the industrialised countries would be a good start.

Avoiding deforestation and degradation

Why FERN decided to be involved in REDD

Intergovernmental initiatives to halt forest loss span at least two decades and FERN has followed them ever since the ill-fated Tropical Forest Action Plans of the late 1980s. Key reasons for the repeated failure of such attempts to halt deforestation lie in the fact that they failed to address the drivers of forest loss. It is this experience and analysis that sparked FERN's focus on the REDD (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation) debate within the UN climate negotiations that are expected to culminate in a climate and forest agreement in December 2009 in Copenhagen. FERN's work in 2008 has highlighted the need to learn from past failures to halt forest loss and the danger of undermining fledgling initiatives to improve forest governance by agreeing a deal that shortcuts the politically difficult aspects of deforestation: forest governance and forest peoples rights, as well as unsustainable and wasteful consumption.

In 2009, FERN's work will specifically focus on informing and influencing the EU position. Through close partnerships in the North and the South, it will also highlight the need to address the drivers of deforestation if forest loss and the resulting emissions are to be reduced successfully and fairly. Ensuring an agreement that is not based on carbon trading will not be easy. Despite increased scepticism about the benefits of trading, a majority of governments, forestry industry and large conservation organisations are in favour and not likely to make recognition of good governance and local peoples' rights a precondition for the funding that is undoubtedly *also* needed to halt forest loss.



20 years of the European Forest Movement

2008 saw the 20th year of the Forest Movement Europe (FME). This annual event draws people working on forest issues from 45 NGOs in 15 European countries.

Hosted by Birdlife Bulgaria, this year's meeting was the first to tackle the subject of avoiding deforestation for its carbon benefits, other topics included: Europe's forests, pulp and paper, bioenergy, carbon trading, Brazil's forests, FSC and FLEGT/Illegal Logging.

The meeting heard in some detail about the effect of the mafia, corruption and tourism on Bulgaria's forests and many organisations returned with concrete actions to raise the issues in their home countries.

Bioenergy and forests

The problem: The need to reduce our use of and dependence on fossil fuels is not in doubt, but the suggested answer of large-scale agrofuels production has many negative environmental and social impacts.

The solution: Whilst the first step should always be to reduce consumption as far as possible, from a climate perspective, using biomass for heat and power is a much better option than using agrofuels for transport. Issues of scale, transport and the sustainability of producing crops for heat and power generation are important questions.

Overview: 2008 was a busy year for bio-energy, and specifically agrofuels production, with January seeing the publication of the EU proposal for legislation on Renewable Energy. Many organisations questioned the proposed target for 10 per cent of transport fuel to come from agrofuels. Problems highlighted included that agrofuels increase the risk of conflict over land, have a negative effect on biodiversity, and are unable to substantially reduce greenhouse gases. After reports and lobbying, the final text allows for the target to be met by all renewables, but NGOs fear that the major part will still be agrofuels.

What FERN is doing: Our focus in 2008 was on establishing a group of NGOs to develop a vision towards sustainable bio-energy production. The NGOs started a first debate at a two day meeting of NGOs at which FERN launched the discussion document “**Powering Europe sustainably**”.

FERN is also monitoring EU energy policies and is beginning to explain why certification is no solution for agrofuels.

Agrofuels – trafficking a global problem



Agrofuels are promoted as helping world economies lessen global warming, improving energy security and creating jobs and opportunities for rural development. However, studies within and outside the EU show the negative impacts, including:

1. Insufficient agricultural land

There is not enough agricultural land available globally to satisfy projected food, fibre and agrofuel production.

2. Social conflicts and violations

Access to and ownership of land increases conflicts between communities, corporations and the state.

3. Bio-diversity destruction

The expansion of plantations destroys tropical forests, cerrado ecosystems and wetlands.

4. No reductions in GHGs

In many countries far more CO₂ is released than is saved by producing agrofuels.

Controlling illegal logging

Illegal logging is not only a problem in the South, but in new EU Member States such as Estonia and Romania. Currently around 30 to 50 per cent of the tropical wood imported into the EU comes from illegal sources. The challenge both inside and outside the EU is to tackle the root causes: corruption, lack of clarity about land rights and the excessive influence of the timber industry.

FERN has been campaigning on illegal logging at EU level for the past nine years and has been heavily involved in the EU's Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) Action Plan since it was launched in 2003. The central plank of this Plan is to develop Voluntary Partnership Agreements (VPAs) between the EU and producer countries.

Once finalised, these agreements aim to allow the EU to control illegal timber imports from partner countries, while supporting these countries to improve their forest governance. Although the Action Plan urges Member States to develop measures to stop financing of illegal activities, so far no action has been taken. In 2008, FERN published the report "Exporting destruction" to highlight ECA financing of illegal logging.

Over the next two pages, we highlight progress so far in some of the countries involved in negotiations.



Ghana

September 2008 saw the EU and the Government of Ghana sign the first ever VPA, a step that may prove fundamental to the EU's fight to control illegal logging and Ghana's fight to ensure that its timber sector serves national development aspirations. The agreement enforces the requirement for communities to provide written consent before logging takes place on their land. It also commits Ghana to a participatory review of forest policy, regulation and institutions.

"The agreement provides a reasonable platform for strengthening community rights and resolving our biodiversity sustainability, rural livelihoods, official corruption and national revenue objectives. Now we must gear up for the real struggle - to move from print to practice" said Kyeretwie Opoku (above, right) of the Forest Watch Ghana secretariat.

Controlling illegal logging

Cameroon

Cameroon expects to sign a VPA in mid 2009, but there are many outstanding issues such as how to ensure civil society remains actively involved in the implementation and monitoring of the agreement.

Cameroonian NGOs argue that the VPA must be seen as a tool towards forest law reform and a shift to truly sustainable and equitable forest management. They are also pushing to ensure that seized illegal timber cannot be sold back into the legal supply chain by auction. Agreement needs to be reached on how to ensure rights of indigenous peoples are clearly articulated and objectively monitored.

Malaysia

FERN and its partners in Malaysia are seriously concerned about progress on a Malaysia/EU VPA. Not only has there been no genuine multi-stakeholder consultation process, the government has not fully recognised native customary rights.

The Malaysian state of Sarawak, which has had the same Chief Minister for 27 years, is the biggest culprit. Indigenous leaders in Sarawak demand that timber from disputed lands not be considered as legal, and that a participatory process for demarcation of indigenous lands start before a VPA is signed. If Malaysia did decide to clear the many hurdles that hold back success it is probably the best organised country to swiftly implement a legality assurance scheme.

Liberia

Liberia has already had two years of preparatory stakeholder discussions, and is set to start formal negotiations in March 2009. This decision has been welcomed by civil society despite real concerns about the poor relations between the NGO coalition and the Forestry Development Authority.

Disagreements are likely to focus on the proposed community forest law, the application of regulations to allocate resources, and registration of NGOs working in the sector. It is hoped the VPA will provide a good platform to work towards solutions and to identify necessary governance reforms.

Republic of Congo

Negotiations between the EU and the Republic of Congo have moved on at a worryingly hurried pace and may be finalised in May 2009. In such a short time, it is hard to see how the multiple different stakeholders can be given sufficient time to capitalise on discussions and participate fully.

For benefits to be achieved, it is vital that the various actors take time to reflect on the different components, and that political space be given to civil society to raise and seek resolution to their specific concerns. Of most concern is that the issue of recognition of indigenous peoples' rights has not been addressed adequately. At a minimum, the VPA must include a clear commitment to maintain dialogue among different stakeholders and rights holders .

Democratising trade and Investment

The year the bubble burst

There were many successes in our trade and investment work in 2008, but it also became clear that there was a need to broaden the campaign. As the financial crisis hit, the Halifax Initiative showed that 2008 had seen ECAs increase business by 30 per cent and that budding ECAs from emerging countries continued to increase their importance. Meanwhile, ECAs seem to be considering a move into the world of carbon markets. Key to any strategy to deal with these geopolitical changes will be the European ECA Reform Campaign (a coalition of NGOs from twelve countries), which FERN has been facilitating for six years. The importance of the coalition can be seen in successes it has achieved such as the Ilisu campaign (see right).

Moving the campaign into the future

Having spent part of 2008 analysing the issues at stake, FERN believes it now needs to look beyond ECAs to financial flows and public subsidies and have closer cooperation with civil society actors in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Whilst the importance of ECAs cannot be forgotten, it is crucial to also consider the other actors that are bankrolling climate change. Although the EU reform treaty stakes the EU's claim to be a leader in halting climate change, it must be made public that its trade and investment policies are worsening the situation, notably ECAs and the European Investment Bank financing destructive activities.



Ilisu dam: the beginning of the end

October 2008 saw German, Austrian and Swiss ECAs begin withdrawing financial support for the controversial Ilisu Dam project by sending an Environmental Failure notice to the Turkish government. The move follows years of campaigning by the FERN facilitated ECA Reform Campaign, to pressure ECAs to withdraw. It is the first time ECAs have suspended a loan once approved.

The Turkish authorities will now have to decide whether to abandon the project by June 2009. This would stop the flooding of the historical town of Hasankeyf, avert the displacement of more than 70,000 people, and remove the threat of a possible dispute with downstream states Iraq and Syria, since the project violates the *acquis communautaire*.

Improving forest certification schemes

Can verification of legality undermine certification?



As well as certification schemes that claim to ensure sustainability, there are also organisations that simply verify legality of timber. Many believe that these organisations undermine certification, but, whilst FERN sees

private schemes to verify legality as a distraction, the FLEGT process (see illegal logging section), aims to be more rigorous than all existing certification schemes. As such FERN believes it can only improve, not undermine, certification.

Certification focuses on progressive companies, is voluntary and designed to work on a case-by-case basis. FLEGT on the other hand is nationwide, legally binding and set up to catch the crooks. Achieving a legal definition under FLEGT is not simple and existing definitions in countries like Ghana and Indonesia show that not all forestry operations certified as 'sustainable' would meet FLEGT requirements. Verification of legality under FLEGT can be a first and useful step towards certification of sustainability as has been seen in countries such as Ghana. However, the first FLEGT certificates are expected in 2011, so it is still too early to know if they will deliver what they promise.

Certification is a very important issue which cuts across several FERN campaigns; it is being used to legitimate voluntary carbon offset projects, undermining processes such as FLEGT, and in the future there is the possibility of FSC certified REDD projects. There is also concern that certification is now being considered as a tool for other products such as agrofuels.

History

In the 1990s, forest certification was developed in order to raise awareness and provide incentives for both producers and consumers to move towards responsible use of forests. The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) was founded by forest industries, social groups and environmental organisations at the end of 1993, but conservative members of the timber industry, forest owners and governments were not supportive and subsequently developed initiatives such as PEFC, MTCC, SFI and CSA which have no, or very little support from NGOs. FERN played a crucial role in analysing, criticising and highlighting the prerequisites of a credible certification scheme.

2008

The situation today is not very hopeful, certification is being used to open up intact forest areas for logging. FSC, the scheme most widely supported by NGOs, is under severe criticism for certifying operations that go against its policies. A set of recommendations were presented at the FSC General Assembly, and these must be implemented swiftly if the FSC is to distinguish itself from other non-credible schemes.

Monitoring development cooperation

Consolidating successes

FERN has achieved many of the aims of its development cooperation work over recent years, and now environmental issues and the rights of local communities and indigenous peoples are considered in EC aid policies. We therefore spent part of 2008 analysing possible future direction for the campaign.

The analysis showed that although it is important to continue monitoring the implementation of policies, there is little more that FERN can presently achieve at policy level. Our main EC aid partners in Cameroon and Indonesia are also focusing their work more directly on illegal logging.

The other main part of our 2008 work was following the 2008 EC evaluation of aid programmes which showed that consultation with civil society had been weak. It is hoped that improvements will come through the mid-term review of the Country Strategy Papers for EC development Cooperation. To this end, FERN, BirdLife and WWF researched many of these papers and the results will be released in mid-2009.

On top of this, FERN will continue to monitor the international situation including the following key moments:

- The revision of the EU 2001 strategy for mainstreaming the environment in development cooperation.
- The 2010 review of the Cotonou Partnership Agreement.
- The outcome of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) negotiations.
- The overall review of the EU Budget.

Partner led work

The strength of our development aid work has always come from our partners and their staff. People, like Samuel Nnah Ndobe, (right), shown here at the UN Convention on Climate Change in Poznan, calling for real change to the carbon economy rather than financial mechanisms such as those outlined on page 4 in the Avoided Deforestation section.

In 2008, FERN and Samuel's organisation Centre for Environment and Development (CED) Cameroon launched the report "Still waiting for the benefits", focusing on how indigenous communities of the Dja Biosphere Reserve were affected by the PMdA (social and infrastructure support project) funded by the European Union.

CED coordinates the 'EC Forest Platform Cameroon', a network of over 30 Cameroonian NGOs and indigenous peoples organisations interested in following EU-Cameroon processes and their links to forests and forests peoples' rights.



Funding for the forests

All figures in euros

Income

	Campaign funding	Core funding	Total
Public Institutions (7)	294,334	120,600	369,934
Private institutions (11)	415,677	173,593	589,270
Other sources (including interest and reimbursements)	39,163	19,709	58,872
Total	704,174	313,902	1,018,076

Funds to match our aims

2008 was a very good year for FERN financially. For the first time our income exceeded €1 million and by the end of the year, much of our fundraising for 2009 had already been successful.

It was not all good news though, the global credit crunch led to some quite extreme currency fluctuations and a drop in income of some of our private funders, but so far we have been able to adjust well. This is a situation that we will monitor closely in the years beyond 2009.

Our work with partner organisations has increased significantly and the transfer of funds to them has increased in proportion. This upward growth looks like it will increase into 2009 as our work on REDD will involve supporting partner organisations across Africa.



Where the money goes

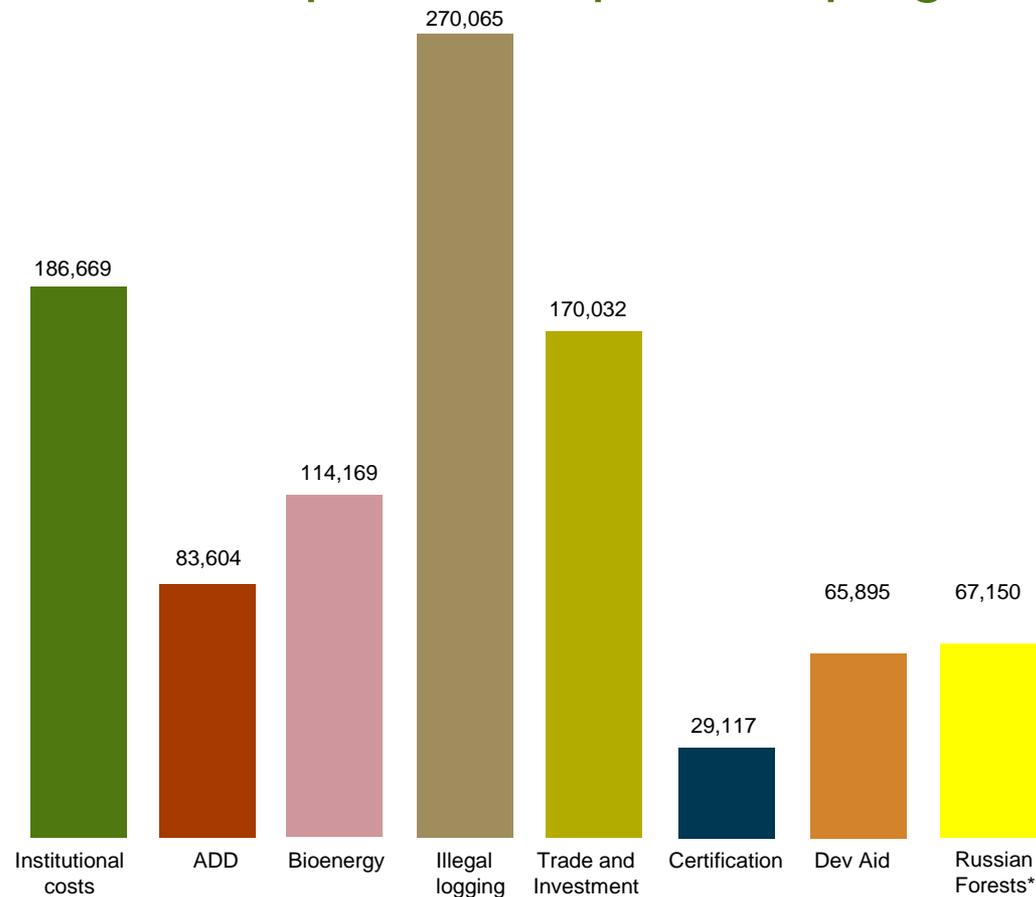
All figures in euros

Overall Expenditure

Staff	371,816
Grants to partner organisations and networks*	310,693
Travel and meetings	112,036
Administration and other costs	112,158
Publications	45,096
Consultants	34,901
Total	986,700

*Including FERN's work with Russian forests, carried out by Taiga Rescue Network. See www.taigarescue.org

Expenditure per campaign



Briefings to keep campaigns updated

During 2008 FERN produced a number of reports and briefing notes some of which are highlighted here and all of which are available from our website at www.fern.org/publications/html Alternatively, hardcopies can be ordered by contacting info@fern.org or either of our offices.

Briefing notes

From green ideals to REDD money

Released in November, this paper outlines the history of Avoided Deforestation and Degradation and explains the basic differences between the country proposals on the table.

[English](#) | [Francais](#)

Forests are more than carbon

Released in October, this paper explains why any mechanism aiming to reduce emissions from forests must be designed to stop deforestation and degradation entirely, not simply reduce or defer emissions.

[English](#) | [Francais](#) | [Espanol](#)

Avoiding Deforestation and Degradation: Walking the tightrope to success

Signed on to by over 20 organisations, this paper calls for REDD schemes which safeguard and enforce the rights of local communities, bring an end to great swathes of deforestation and help address climate change.

[English](#) | [Francais](#)

When the solution is the problem: the EU and its policies on biofuels

A brief description of the two sides of the biofuels issue and the present EU debate. It concludes that present EU policy is misguided and advocates the need to develop a truly sustainable transport policy.

Consultation requirements under FLEGT

This paper, written by a coalition of European NGOs, explains what constitutes a proper consultation process for countries negotiating a Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade, Voluntary Partnership Agreement (FLEGT-VPA) with the EU.

[English](#) | [Francais](#)

Export Credit Debt. How ECA support to corporations indebts the world's poor

Launched in June to highlight the fairly hidden role of Export Credit Agencies (ECAs) in the debt problems of many developing countries. Written by Both Ends and FERN, this paper outlines recommendations for how ECAs must change to become coherent with international efforts to reduce poverty.

Bankrolling Climate Change: Why it is time to end Hermes flights of fancy

While the threat of climate change becomes ever clearer, air transport and other polluting industries are expanding. Supposed green pioneers such as Germany are supporting the trade with public money through its export credit agency *Hermes AG*. This joint Urgewald/FERN briefing note highlights these contradictions and looks for a way out of a system that speaks of concern about climate change whilst funding some of its biggest causes.

In-depth reporting on the issues that matter

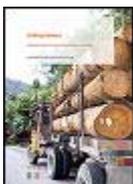
Reports



An overview of selected REDD proposals

Describing the different country proposals on the table to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in the lead up to a forest climate agreement expected to be agreed by the UNFCCC in December 2009. It looks at whether or not these proposals look beyond carbon values in forests and respect local peoples' rights.

[English](#) | [Francais](#)



Cutting corners: How the FCPF is failing forests and peoples

A FERN-Forest Peoples Programme report analysing nine different country proposals to get money from the World Bank's Forest Carbon Partnership Facility. The report concludes that both the process and the proposals adopted do not respect the Bank's own guidelines. The report also includes an annex which details the World Bank funded REDD process.

[English](#) | [Francais](#) | [Espanol](#)



Powering Europe sustainably

A discussion paper looking at the role that biomass could play in meeting Europe's energy needs.



Funding forests into the future

A synthesis of FERN's in-depth research into how the European Fund for Rural Development affects Europe's forests. It reveals that the Commission's own guidance of ensuring NGO consultation and partnership has been routinely ignored and comes up with a series of recommendations. Individual country reports from Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Ireland, Hungary, Portugal and Romania are available from www.fern.org.



Exporting Destruction. Export credits, illegal logging and deforestation

Released in May, this report shines a light on the role that export credit agencies play in financing global deforestation and produces a set of recommendations to reduce their negative impact on forests.



Forest governance in Liberia

The most recent in a series of reports looking at forest governance from an NGO perspective. The series provides constructive input into how to ensure indigenous peoples and their rights are part of discussions and eventually the voluntary partnership agreements between the EU and forest rich countries. Other reports in the same series cover DR Congo, Ghana and Malaysia.

FERN would like to thank...

FERN's funders

FERN's work is entirely dependant on the generosity of its funders, many of whom have been supporters for several years. We do not receive funds directly from the public, nor are we tied to one funding source, we ensure accountability to our donors through regular reporting. Activities and successes in 2008 were made possible thanks to:

- C.S. Mott Foundation - USA
- Department for International Development (DFID) - The United Kingdom
- DG Agriculture of the European Commission
- DG development of the European Commission
- DG Environment of the European Commission
- Ford Foundation - USA
- Grassroots Foundation - Germany
- Greenpeace - Germany
- Interchurch Organisation for Development Cooperation (ICCO) - The Netherlands
- National Committee of the Netherlands (IUCN) - The Netherlands
- Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment (VROM) - The Netherlands
- Oxfam-Novib - The Netherlands
- Swedbio/SIDA - Sweden
- Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality (LNV) - The Netherlands
- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Development Cooperation) (DGIS) - The Netherlands
- The Sigrid Rausing Trust - United Kingdom
- Wallace Global Fund (WGF) - USA
- World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) - The Netherlands
- World Wide Funds for Nature (WWF) -United Kingdom

FERN's partners

FERN works with many NGOs around the world. In 2008 we specifically worked with:

- Both ENDS, The Netherlands
- Brainforest, Gabon
- Campagna per la Riforma della Banca Mondiale, Italy
- CED, Cameroon
- Civic Response, Ghana
- Climate and Development Initiative, Uganda
- The Corner House, UK
- Down to Earth, UK
- Debtwatch, Spain
- Environmental Foundation for Africa, Sierra Leone
- Euronatura, Portugal
- Forest Monitor, UK
- Forest Peoples Programme, UK
- Global Witness, UK
- Initiative to Keep Hasankeyf Alive, Turkey
- IDEAL, Malaysia
- NESPON, India
- OCDH, Republic of Congo
- Pro Regenwald, Germany
- RRN/OCEAN, Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Sahabat Alam, Malaysia
- SAMFU, Liberia
- SDI, Liberia
- Telapak, Indonesia

Photo credits

Filip Verbelen/Greenpeace

Front cover top to bottom

- A man in Cameroon picking a moabi fruit, a key component of the Baka peoples' subsistence.
- Logs are piled up in the Republic of Congo.
- The storm stork is only found in the lowland rainforest and peat swamps of Borneo. Its habitat is disappearing due to commercial logging and forest conversion for the expansion of oil palm.
- The proboscis monkey is only found in the mangroves and riverine forests of Borneo. It is also under threat from the expansion of palm oil plantations.

Iola Leal Riesco

Page 6

- Participants at the 2008 FME meeting in Bulgaria.

Page 12

- Samual Nnah Ndobe of Centre for Environment and Development (CED) Cameroon, calling for change at the UN Convention on Climate Change in Poznan.

Chris Lang

Page 10

- FSC certified destruction in Swaziland.

Forest Peoples Programme

Page 7

- Oil palm being harvested in Indonesia. There is grave concern that the EU's target for 10 per cent of transport fuel coming from agrofuels will lead to further land conversion.

Steven Pavett

Page 8

- Kyeretwie Opoku and Tommy Garnett at a meeting of the African Community Rights Network in Cameroon.

European ECA Reform Campaign

Page 10

- Affected communities march to a tree planting ceremony in Hasankeyf. It is hoped that 2009 will see a final end to the controversial Ilisu Dam project.

Jutta Kill

Page 12

- Bluebells flourish at Foxholes Nature Reserve, near FERN's office in Moreton in Marsh, Gloucestershire.

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