FERN is a small non-governmental organisation (NGO) with big ambitions. We were created in 1995 to keep track of the European Union’s (EU) involvement in forests, and to coordinate NGO activities at the EU level. Our mission is to achieve environmental and social justice with a focus on forests and forest peoples’ rights in the policies and practices of the EU. We believe in enabling change by challenging power imbalances and helping ensure people are able to influence decisions that affect them.

All of our work is done in close collaboration with social and environmental organisations and movements across the world. FERN facilitates several NGO networks both within the EU and globally, identifying and working towards shared goals. We make a point of working with local NGOs who are rooted in local realities, and seek to strengthen the voice of local communities in their own countries.

FERN has no director and is jointly managed by its staff. Consensus decision making drives our way of working which is to open up, rather than occupy space for dialogue. We aim to create space in local, national, regional and international decision making processes, and encourage civil society organisations and local communities to effectively occupy that space.

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Our Year at a Glance

‘Biomass & Resource Efficiency’ high-level event

This high profile event at the European Parliament cemented our argument that biomass use must be supply led, if it is to be sustainable. The associated report, ‘Woody biomass for energy; NGO concerns and recommendations’ brought several NGOs together on a unified platform.
See European Forests and Bioenergy, page 7

Tree Planting offset credits kept out of EU Emission Trading Scheme (EU ETS)

We achieved one of our key campaign aims for 2011 by ensuring the continued exclusion of forest offset credits from the EU ETS, despite pressure for change from some quarters.
See Carbon Trading, page 5

EU Export Credit regulation signed into law

Another huge campaign success as the “EU Regulation on the Application of Certain Guidelines in the Field of Officially Supported Export Credits” was signed into law, requiring Export Credit Agencies to meet new levels of transparency.
See Trade and Investment, page 14

Increasing recognition of FERN’s long-held stance on participation, forests and climate

In 2011 FERN pursued a dialogue with the European Commission, European Parliamentarians and Member State officials on forests and climate. We have seen the EU’s position evolve to acknowledge the limitations to measuring forest carbon, and focus more on the need for effective governance reform and participation from local people as a key element needed to halt deforestation.
See Forests and Climate, page 12

Two groundbreaking trade agreements signed

In 2011 trade agreements were signed with Indonesia and Liberia under the Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT)

The panel at the high level event “Biomass and resource efficiency: The need for a supply-led approach to forest productivity”.

Action Plan. FERN worked hard to ensure improved tenure rights was part of the outcome of the negotiations. 
See Forest Law and Governance, page 9

Resigned from the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)

The FSC has failed to deal with serious concerns over its credibility first raised by FERN in 2009. This year we took the decision to terminate our membership with the initiative. 
See Forest Law and Governance, page 9

Forest Movement Europe

FERN facilitated another successful annual meeting for the network of European NGOs working on forest-related issues. Topics tackled this year included paper reduction, biomass, forests and climate.

Public campaign profile growing

This year has seen FERN’s campaign profile increase substantially, with a doubling of visitors to our website, and increased press coverage for our campaigns, including radio and television programmes in several European countries and full page articles in Parliament Magazine and Ethical Consumer. We also increased our use of social media, so please do follow us on Twitter and Facebook. For a full list of FERN’s publications visit www.fern.org/publicationslist

FERN’s campaigns

Carbon Trading: moving the climate debate beyond carbon trading, supporting communities faced with carbon offset projects and engaging with movements working for a just transition away from fossil fuel dependent economies.

European Forests: for EU forest related policies that contribute to improved forest management and biodiversity conservation.

Forest Law and Governance: for forest law reform processes that strengthen community tenure rights and reduce illegal logging.

Forests and Climate: for forest climate agreements that respect forest peoples' rights and work towards improvements in forest governance.

Trade and Investment: for EU trade and investment policies that do not subsidise climate change and ensure strict financing rules for institutions such as Export Credit Agencies.
“There is no volatility and there is no volume and as traders you have to make money.”

Brett Stacey, CEO of carbon broker Carbon Desk on closure of carbon trading company Greyhound Energy Markets

Why FERN focuses on carbon trading

The fate of the world’s forests is intrinsically linked to global warming. FERN has therefore monitored the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) since 2000 when it became clear the plantations industry was attempting to use the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) as a new source of subsidy.

EU Emissions Trading Scheme in the doldrums

2011 demonstrated just how unfit for purpose the EU Emissions Trading Scheme (EU ETS) really is. At the start of the year, trading in the schemes’ carbon allowances was paralysed for several weeks when a series of thefts exposed the EU ETS’ vulnerability to fraud, theft and malpractice.

“We’ve had VAT fraud, recycling of [Certified Emissions Reduction credits], and now theft. At some point money laundering will come to light,” a carbon analyst with Barcap remarked on the situation, while media reports suggested that the “best and easiest way” to launder money was via the EU ETS.

With the holes exposed by these thefts barely patched and court cases still ongoing, the continued financial and economic crisis revealed yet another inherent flaw of the scheme – its inability to respond to reduced industrial output once permits have been issued.

Emissions levels in 2011 were far below those projected when the carbon permits were issued to participating companies, but there is no mechanism to reduce the supply of carbon permits in the system. As a result, carbon prices tumbled from record low to record low as 2011 drew to a close. The EU ETS started 2012 faced with an oversupply of carbon permits that has locked in carbon prices at levels far below those that could trigger investment in the necessary energy transformation: “The ETS is bust, it’s dead. It gives no signal for new investment in low-carbon technologies” Johannes Teysson, CEO of German utility E.ON.

1 Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) is an arrangement under the Kyoto Protocol of the UNFCCC that allows industrialised countries with a greenhouse gas reduction commitment to invest in projects that reduce emissions in developing countries as an alternative to more expensive emission reductions in their own countries.
In 2004 organisations and individuals including FERN came together in the Durban Group for Climate Justice to analyse the potential of carbon trading. We concluded it was unlikely to contribute to emission reductions at scale, and would not ensure that those most responsible for climate change did the most to mitigate it.

In relation to forests, many industrialised countries still hope to be able to offset rather than reduce their emissions. Some organisations aspire to expand the carbon trading model and embark on initiatives aiming to replace obligations to comply with environmental legislation with the option to purchase compensation credits based on ecosystem functions such as water, natural beauty, biodiversity or individual species.

**FERN’s Carbon Trading campaign engages with movements working for a just transition away from fossil fuel dependent economies, and supports communities faced with carbon offset projects.**

We achieved one of our key campaign aims for 2011 by ensuring forest carbon offset credits continue to be excluded from the EU ETS and that Member States do not use such credits to achieve their Kyoto Protocol reduction targets. Forest-related carbon offsets are currently ineligible for use in the EU ETS and will remain excluded at least until 2020.

2011 also saw the continued translation and dissemination of two key publications launched in 2010 – Trading Carbon and Designed to Fail (now available in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese). These have helped facilitate understanding among key civil society organisations and networks about why carbon trading is a false solution to the climate crisis.

The production of ‘An end to Forest Offsets’ with a coalition of partners funded by the Grundtvig Learning Partnership also helped begin informing the wider public of concerns about carbon offsets in particular. Public opinion continued to be more critical of carbon trading partly due to successful media coverage of carbon trading’s flaws.

In 2011 FERN also focussed specifically on monitoring and contributing to the revision of EU financial and commodities derivatives trading regulations. There is the potential to use this regulation to curtail carbon trading, especially transactions not concluded on a regulated exchange.

**Publications**

**An end to forest offsets! Why forests should not be part of the carbon market**

This short briefing paper provides information on the concept of carbon trade, why offsetting does not lead to a reduction in emissions and the role forests can play in climate mitigation. It looks at the question of who will gain most from forest offsets and sheds a new light on REDD, the concept aimed at including forests into the carbon market. Examples illustrate the importance of community-based forest use and traditional land rights, which are not respected by most carbon offset projects.
"Ecosystem stability is the basis for all biological production and land is a limited resource"

Professor Sten B. Nilsson, CEO, Forest Sector Insights AB

Why FERN focuses on European forests and bioenergy

Forests in Europe are under threat. The Habitats Directive of the European Commission is meant to protect precious forests in Europe but a recent assessment showed that two-thirds of the forest ecosystems protected under the Directive have an “unfavourable conservation status” meaning that they are in serious danger of becoming extinct in the absence of a swift change in management or policy. Despite this, EU forest-related policies continue to focus on increased wood mobilisation to meet growing demand for bioenergy, amongst others.

Increased use of forest biomass for energy production could prove disastrous for forests in Europe, but it is still widely regarded as a realistic means of reducing dependence on fossil fuels. Unless biomass use starts from a position of what can be sustainably supplied, the result will most likely be environmental degradation, land grabbing and displaced local communities.

In 2011 FERN focused its work on the new Rural Development Regulation which forms part of the EU’s Common Agricultural Policy, one of the main EU financing instruments for forests in Europe. The draft Regulation was released in October 2011, after a preparation phase marked by the absence of openness and discussion. It weakens requirements for minimum spending on economic, environmental and social issues, and curtails efforts to support management of existing forests while focussing on support for afforestation projects that could include alien and invasive species.
FERN strongly criticised the draft Regulation in the October edition of its well received periodical, EU Forest Watch. In 2012 we will continue to work towards improving the Regulation and associated texts so that activities which positively affect forests are properly supported.

FERN continues to provide the only NGO voice in the ad-hoc working group on the new Forest Strategy (composed of Member State representatives and stakeholders from the forest sector). This forum has allowed FERN to call for increased policy coherence and forest protection, while also cautioning against calls for increased wood mobilisation without regard to the limits of what forests can sustainably supply.

In keeping with FERN's aim of opening up space and encouraging others to fill it, we facilitated a diverse group of NGOs to produce a coherent position on EU biomass policy. The NGOs were able to feed their position and message into the consultation on the current EU biomass policy for heat and power. The discussions led to a joint report; Woody Biomass for Energy: NGO Concerns and Recommendations.

FERN continued to push for improved policies with a high-level conference at the European Parliament, ‘Biomass and Resource Efficiency’. The event, organised in conjunction with ClientEarth, the Green Party and the European People’s Party was concluded by Bas Eickhout MEP who reminded participants that “Sustainability criteria for bioenergy are crucial. That does not mean we should support low and unambitious criteria. If the criteria turn out to be very weak, we have to vote against and demand a stronger proposal. I therefore urge the Commission to put a proposal on the table that properly addresses the carbon debt of biomass.”

Presentations from the event are available to download at www.fern.org/resourceefficiency

**Publications**

**Flows of biomass to and from the European Union**

This report shows that the quantity of wood required to satisfy the expected demand for biomass due to the EU's target of producing 20 per cent of renewable energy by 2020 is likely to be too large to be met by increased production within the EU. Member States will have to rely on importing biomass from elsewhere, at the risk of damaging ecosystems in other parts of the world, while actually increasing the EU’s own carbon footprint.

**Woody Biomass for energy: NGO concerns and recommendations**

A thorough analysis of the problems with bioenergy and the policies of the EU. This report offers a constructive approach and is the position of a large number of NGOs. FERN facilitated production of the report to present a unified position to the EU about how to solve the energy crisis without losing Europe and the world’s forests.
Illegal Logging and Related Trade; Chatham House; July 2010

"...in five of the top ten most forested countries on the planet, at the beginning of this century at least half of the trees cut were being felled illegally. Just under half of the tropical timber traded worldwide in 2004 was estimated to have been illegally sourced."

Why FERN works on forest governance

Illegal logging and its associated trade are responsible for environmental degradation, billions of Euros in lost revenue for governments, impoverishment of local communities, violent conflicts, and the undermining of the rule of law. While overconsumption of forest and agricultural products drives unsustainable and illegal logging, the conditions that make it possible are created through poor governance, such as lack of clarity around ownership of land and the forests that grow on it.

FERN was one of the driving forces behind the creation of EU legislation to improve forest governance and end imports of illegally sourced timber into the EU. This legislation is based on the EU’s Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) action plan (2003).

A key aspect of the FLEGT action plan is the signing of Voluntary Partnership Agreements (VPAs) between the EU and timber-producing countries. The process to achieve these agreements is particularly important as it requires all stakeholders, including forest communities and the timber industry, to agree which laws need to be enforced or modified to ensure timber can be reasonably defined as legal. In March 2013, EU legislation comes into effect which will make it a criminal offence to import illegal timber into the EU. The next challenge is to ensure effective implementation of VPAs on the ground, so that timber imported to the EU will meet the requirements of this new legislation.

FERN’s Forest Law and Governance campaign aims to bring about forest law reform processes that strengthen community tenure rights and reduce illegal logging.

FLEGT

In 2011 VPAs to improve forest governance and control illegal logging were signed with Liberia and Indonesia, joining the existing four agreements with Cameroon, Central African Republic, Ghana and Republic of Congo. Uniquely amongst the agreements signed so far, negotiations around Liberia’s VPA involved not only civil society organisations and other stakeholders, but local community representatives as well.

This is a major development. There has never before been (at least to our knowledge) an international trade agreement negotiated with the full and inclusive participation of local communities, nor one signed with the full consent of civil society organisations. The VPA process should therefore be seen as an innovative process that could set standards for the negotiation of other trade agreements.

FERN facilitates and supports a number of NGO coalitions involved in
VPA processes, which meet regularly to establish joint strategies. These coalitions including the EU FLEGT coalition, and the Africa Community Rights Network (ACRN), aim to ensure that the VPAs will contribute to improving forest governance, including the clarification of land tenure rights, and that the EU adheres to its 2013 Regulation that all timber sold in the EU will be legally sourced.

In 2011 we revamped the co-managed website www.loggingoff.info, a resource where civil society and those involved in FLEGT negotiations can exchange information. Loggingoff is a one stop shop for those who want to have the latest information on VPA developments. Use of the site has risen steadily over the year, with content being increasingly accessed by users based outside Europe, in countries engaged in or considering entering into a VPA. LoggingOff now has a Facebook site www.facebook.com/loggingoff.info where anyone involved can post updates and a twitter account to highlight mentions of FLEGT in the international media twitter.com/#!/logging_off.

A key objective for FERN in 2011 was to highlight the instructive value of the FLEGT VPA process in informing other bilateral or multilateral initiatives to reduce deforestation, including REDD (Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation). This year FERN delivered presentations at the European Parliament and at UNFCCC negotiations on this topic. Since FERN began highlighting this theme in 2009, awareness of FLEGT amongst those working on REDD has grown significantly. By 2011, organisations including the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), the World Bank, Centre for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) and others had established research in this area.

**Certification**

In 2011, after more than ten years, FERN ended its membership of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). This was the culmination of long running concerns with the initiative.

The FSC runs a certification scheme to allow consumers to identify, purchase and use timber and forest products produced from well-managed forests; but a number of certificates have been given to controversial producers or operations that many NGOs claim don’t even comply with the FSC’s own standards. The FSC has duly lost credibility. In 2009, FERN outlined the issues that would lead to the termination of
its FSC membership and in 2011 it became clear that the FSC had not dealt with these issues in a way that would warrant FERN’s continued membership. Importantly, the FSC continues to align itself with carbon offset standards. We have sought to make it clear that leaving the FSC does not imply support for any other scheme. For more information about FERN’s reasons for leaving and the arguments against offsetting, please visit: www.fern.org/leavingFSC.

Publications

Lessons learnt from FLEGT for REDD

With FLEGT making headway in the fight against illegal logging and poor governance, it is essential that any new schemes to reduce deforestation learn from this work rather than undermine it. This report builds on FERN and our partners’ decades of experience in improving forest governance and outlines concerns that REDD may weaken, rather than build on, advances made so far with FLEGT.

Forest Governance PowerPoints and FLEGT Updates

FERN has published a series of PowerPoints with the aim of explaining different aspects of FLEGT, topics included: What is FLEGT? What are VPAs? and What is EU Timber Regulation? To keep stakeholders up to date with VPA developments from the civil society perspective, FERN produces updates on the VPA process every six months. Sign up to our newsletter to receive these updates direct into your inbox. www.fern.org/get-involved/forestwatch

Whose land is it?

Building on 2007’s “So who owns the forest?” which guided legal reform in Liberia, Liz Alden Wily identifies the current legal status of customary land interests in Cameroon. This report analyses what the law says concerning customary land rights, focuses on the forestry legislation in force and compares the situation in Cameroon to that in other African States. In 2012 it will be followed by a similar report looking at the situation in Gabon.

FERN staff also contributed to external publications, including writing:
Forests and Climate Change

‘...respecting the rights and realities of indigenous peoples and forest-dependent communities is the only way to ensure that the forests remain standing’.

Accra Caucus report, 2011

Why FERN works on forests and climate change

The fate of the world’s forests and the climate are intrinsically linked. Forests can help stabilise the climate but an increase in temperature above two degrees could destroy many forests. Forest protection is therefore an essential part of the climate debate, but any scheme to value forests for their climate benefits will fail unless it deals with drivers of deforestation such as overconsumption of forest and agricultural products, and lack of clarity over who owns the forest. Forest climate action must build on schemes that have improved forest governance, and not on carbon trading which has done nothing to help the climate but led to battles over rights to land.

FERN’s Forests and Climate campaign aims to strengthen forest peoples’ rights and increase environmental and social justice in global forest and climate initiatives

It is well documented that recognising local peoples’ tenure rights to land and resources is key for any attempt to reduce deforestation. In 2011, FERN took this message to global discussions about reducing deforestation for its climate benefits. Through publications, presentations, and public debates, we increased awareness of the need for a participatory approach at the heart of initiatives to reduce forest loss. In particular, through work with the European Commission, European Parliamentarians and Member State officials, we have seen the EU’s position on forests and climate evolve to acknowledge the limitations to measuring forest carbon, and focus more on the need for effective governance reform building on FLEGT, and for engaging the private sector in addressing the drivers to deforestation.

FERN’s international work on forests and climate is done with the Accra Caucus on Forests and Climate Change (a coalition of civil society groups from the global South). The Caucus has increased the advocacy capacity of key civil society actors, and has maintained a strong position against using carbon trading and offsets to finance action on climate change, and for halting deforestation by respecting the land and property rights of forest dependent peoples. The Accra Caucus
has been a significant actor in opening the door to stronger language about rights in the UN’s Cancun REDD agreement.

FERN also supported national civil society organisations to be able to demonstrate the negative impacts that forest based carbon offset projects can have on communities, and worked closely with partners in the Congo Basin region to facilitate strategic work on national and regional level processes.

Publications

**Carbon markets will not deliver for Southern governments, forests and people**

This four page briefing, which more than 30 organisations have signed on to, explains why governments convinced that carbon trading will provide substantial funding to protect or sustainably manage forests in their countries will be disappointed.

**Is REDD-readiness taking us in the right direction?**

This set of case studies shows how the REDD+ process has been experienced on the ground in Ghana, Papua New Guinea, Central African Republic, Nepal and the Republic of Congo. It follows 2010’s “Realising rights, protecting forests,” and shows that despite many of the substantive details of REDD being undecided (including safeguards, the monitoring of results and finance), many countries are pressing ahead with “REDD+ readiness” with the support of bilateral and multilateral donors.

**REDD+ and carbon markets: 10 myths exploded**

Despite the prevalence of REDD+ in global discussions on climate change there are still a number of serious misconceptions among those that believe carbon markets are suitable for financing forest protection. The paper tackles the ten most often heard assumptions and outlines why they are false or misleading.

**Smoke and Mirrors**

One of FERN’s most downloaded reports in 2011, this analysis of Readiness Preparedness Plans was submitted to the World Bank’s Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) and used as a background document for many articles covering the REDD story. The clear conclusion of the report’s research was that rather than strengthening and implementing the World Bank’s safeguards, the FCPF has created a dense set of guidelines that water down existing policies and obfuscate minimum standards.
Trade and Investment

“In 2007, ECAs supported about 10 per cent of world trade (and a greater proportion in developing countries), representing about US $1.4 trillion in transactions and investments”

Why FERN works on trade and investment

FERN has always tried to promote a holistic understanding of why deforestation has continued unabated for decades – as well as holistic solutions. One of these solutions is reducing investment in deforestation, the destructive money flows that lead to environmental and social damage. FERN tracks the financial flows and campaigns for them to be steered instead to support environmental protection and sustainable development.

European Export Credit Agencies (ECAs) (governmental or quasi-governmental organisations that use taxpayers’ money to help companies invest and export overseas) have historically been opaque in their activities and subject to minimal regulation. This has meant they have supported some of the most damaging investments, from pulp and paper factories in Indonesia to destructive dams in Uganda and pipelines in Russia.

This was an extremely successful year for the Trade and Investment campaign, with the adoption of a regulation that demands increased transparency from European ECAs about the movement of their funds. The “EU Regulation on the Application of Certain Guidelines in the Field of Officially Supported Export Credits” (ECA regulation) will ensure ECAs are more transparent and held accountable to EU objectives and policies.

FERN’s Trade and Investment Campaign aims to ensure EU trade and investment policies do not subsidise climate change and secure strict financing rules for institutions such as ECAs

These reports will be monitored by the European Commission and Parliament, and ECA-Watch – the network facilitated by FERN –

Handing out copies of “Financing Nuclear Times at the 50th anniversary meeting of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development.”
will ensure increased transparency leads to reduced support for environmentally and socially damaging projects.

ECAs will also have to demonstrate that the environmental risks of the projects they guarantee are taken into account. If correctly implemented, this new regulation will ensure for the first time that projects backed by ECAs respect EU principles on democracy, human rights, sustainable development and the fight against climate change. 2012 will therefore be an important year for monitoring the implementation of the regulation.

In 2011, FERN also facilitated a summer retreat for participants from countries all over the world. Since the outset of the financial crisis in 2008, it has become important for NGOs to understand the increasingly fluid and complex financial and capital flows if they are to continue to champion the importance of social and environmental sustainability.

The retreat aimed to build a common understanding of global financial flows, and to explore how NGO advocacy can respond to the recent complex changes, in keeping with FERN’s goal to create the space for others to occupy. This work is essential for ensuring that civil society is able to be involved in decisions that will affect the world for many years to come. Organisations which participated in the retreat are now incorporating insights gained in their plans for the future.

After the 2011 nuclear disaster in Fukushima, Japan, environmental organisations, media and parliamentarians urged Hermes, the German ECA to call off its export guarantees to a nuclear power plant in Brazil.

Publications

Financing Nuclear Times

FERN and the ECA-Watch network were at the OECD 50th Anniversary meeting to hand out copies of our parody newspaper “Financing Nuclear Times”. The paper shows that ECA support for the nuclear industry has increased the burden on indebted nations, fuelled the India, Pakistan arms race and continues to prop up a non-financially viable industry. As the paper makes clear, with the nuclear disaster at Fukushima still unfolding and on the 20th anniversary of Chernobyl, now is the time to stop state funded support for this dangerous industry. You can download the newspaper here: www.fern.org/financingnucleartimes or contact us for a hard copy at info@fern.org.
## FERN’s finances

### Income

<table>
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<th>Campaign funding</th>
<th>Core funding</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<td>797,347</td>
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<td>other sources (including interest and reimbursements)</td>
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<td><strong>299,106</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Expenditure

**Total expenditure 2011**: 1,457,773

*all figures are in Euros*

### Income: core funding

- **Public institutions**: 150,644
- **European Forests**: 101,216
- **Trade and Investment**: 167,474
- **Carbon Trading**: 75,339
- **Certification and Procurement**: 6,961
- **Forests and Climate**: 370,675
- **Forest Law and Governance**: 585,464

### Income: campaign funding

- **Public institutions**: 150,644
- **Private institutions (including NGOs)**: 101,216
- **Other income (including interest and reimbursements)**: 6,961

### Expenditure by category

- **Staff**: 30,655
- **Grants to partner organisations and networks**: 5,154
- **Travel and meetings**: 4,415
- **Administration and other costs**: 1,642
- **Publications**: 9,863
- **Consultants**: 1,254

### Expenditure by campaign

- **Institutional (core) costs**: 150,644
- **European Forests**: 101,216
- **Trade and Investment**: 167,474
- **Carbon Trading**: 75,339
- **Certification and Procurement**: 6,961
- **Forests and Climate**: 370,675
- **Forest Law and Governance**: 585,464
This year two valued members of staff moved on, and we welcomed a new member to the Brussels office, Gianni Valentini as Brussels Office Manager.

**In 2011 the FERN staff were**

Marie de Valensart – Brussels office Administrator  
Kate Dooley – Forest and Climate Change Campaigner  
Veerle Dossche – European Forests Campaigner  
Julie Halling – UK office Administrator  
Jutta Kill – Climate Change and Carbon Trade Campaigner  
Rudi Kohnert – Partner Support  
Daniel Lakey – Finance Manager  
Deborah Lambert Perez – Trade and Investment Campaigner  
Iola Leal Riesco – Forest Governance Campaigner  
Saskia Ozinga – Campaign Coordinator and Forest Governance Campaigner  
Gianni Valentini - Brussels Office Manager  
Indra van Gisbergen – Forest and Climate Campaigner – Congo Basin  
Richard Wainwright – Communications Manager

**In 2011 FERN’s Board comprised**

David Kaimowitz: specialist in forest politics and economics and community rights – Nicaragua  
Sian Pettman: specialist in EU policies and fair trade – UK  
Gemma Boetekees: specialist in forest certification and development – the Netherlands  
Elisa Peter: specialist in forest politics and UN institutions – USA  
Kyeretwie Opoku: specialist in forest governance and democracy and tenure issues – Ghana  
Jacques Lauruol: specialist in financial issues and financial training – UK
FME

The Forest Movement Europe (FME) is a network of European NGOs working on forest-related issues. It originated in 1989 and has been facilitated by FERN since our inception in 1995. FME consists of around 45 organisations and each year one of these organisations offers to host the meeting in a forest setting.

In 2011, the FME was co-organised by Les Amis de la Terre (Friends of the Earth France) in Limoges, France. The meeting took place in the Castle of Ligoure, a venue managed by a non-profit organisation in the heart of agricultural land, surrounded by forests.

Topics discussed included tackling over consumption of forest products including paper and biomass; ways to ensure forest climate agreements work for people that live in and earn their livelihoods from forests; ending illegal logging and strengthening European procurement guidelines and problems with forest certification.

Logging truck in Dak Lak, in Vietnam’s Central Highlands. Courtesy PanNature

Forests are essential for our future climate, but also for continuing the cultures of the communities who live in them
Photo: CIFOR
## Our funders

FERN's work is dependent on the generosity of its funders, many of whom are long term supporters. We ensure accountability to our donors through regular reporting and ensure independence by having a wide variety of funding sources. FERN's work in 2011 was made possible thanks to:

- Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, United States of America
- Congo Basin Forest Fund, Tunisia
- Department for International Development, United Kingdom
- DG Environment, European Commission
- DG Development, European Commission
- Ford Foundation, United States of America
- Grundtvig.EPOS, Flanders, Belgium
- Interchurch Organisation for Development Cooperation (ICCO), The Netherlands
- VROM, The Netherlands
- Sigrid Rausing Trust, United Kingdom
- Swedbio, Sweden

## In 2011, FERN specifically worked with

- Amis de la Terre, France
- ARA, Germany
- Both ENDS, The Netherlands
- Brainforest, Gabon
- BSPB – Birdlife Bulgaria
- Campagna per la Riforma della Banca Mondiale, Italy
- CED, Cameroon
- CEDEN, Democratic Republic of the Congo
- CIEDD, Central African Republic
- Civic Response, Ghana
- ClientEarth, UK
- The Corner House, UK
- Debtwatch, Spain
- Euronatura, Portugal
- FASE-ES, Brazil
- Finnish Association for Nature Conservation, Finland
- Foder, Cameroon
- Forest Monitor, UK
- Forest Peoples Programme, UK
- Friends of the Earth International
- Global Witness, UK
- Greenpeace International
- Green Belt Movement, Kenya
- Hnuti Duha – Friends of the Earth Czech Republic
- IDEAL, Malaysia
- LDI, Liberia
- MEFP, Central African Republic
- NESPON, India
- OCDH, Republic of Congo
- OCEAN, Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Pro Regenwald, Germany
- Rainforest Foundation UK
- Rainforest Foundation Norway
- Sahabat Alam, Malaysia
- SAMFU, Liberia
- SDI, Liberia
- SSNC, Sweden
- Well Grounded, UK

FERN would like to thank