

MOBILIZING INVESTMENTS IN ASIA-PACIFIC FORESTS: INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP

9:00 to 12:30, 24 February 2016

Narra Meeting Room, Holiday Inn Clark, Clark Freeport Zone, Philippines

Organized by APFNet in partnership with FAST, The Nature Conservancy, World Wildlife Fund and New Forests

RATIONALE

The forestry sector is booming. With rising global demands from Asia for timber and non-timber forest products, there has been a dramatic shift in world supply from harvesting natural forests to intensively managed plantations and other production facilities. However, in order to transition toward responsible forest production and management, both private and public capital will be required at significant scale. This requires the matching of capital sources with attractive financial opportunities in the forest sector.

At the global level, institutional forestry investments (e.g. investments in funds, insurance companies and banks) are now a 100 billion US dollar industry, but many investors are struggling to expand these investments to tropical forests including those in the Asia-Pacific. At the same time the integration of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) lending practices to the forest sector and deforestation-linked commodities is not yet mainstreamed. A rising group of impact investors has reportedly invested more than \$700 million in sustainable forestry between 2009 and 2013, but only a small portion of this is believed to have reached Asia-Pacific forests. *With growing interest in financing forestry, we face the question of how to mobilize public and private finance to support both conservation and production of Asia-Pacific forest resources.*

A better understanding of forestry investment – *what it looks like, how it works, and how it can inform forestry governance* – can strengthen the role of government in forestry finance, boost forestry issues in the national governance agenda and open channels for private investment.

This workshop aims to build forestry investment literacy, discuss how to overcome investment challenges in the sector, and provide a platform for cross-sector stakeholder discussion. *It is useful to all actors of the forestry value chain regardless of their level of investment knowledge.*

AGENDA

9:00 – 9:10	Introductions	Dominic Elson (73 Ltd.)
9:10 – 9:25	Introduction to forestry investments, Q&A	Dominic Elson (73 Ltd.)
9:25 – 9:40	Impact investments – case studies and opportunities, Q&A	Francesca Nugnes (FAST)
9:40 – 10:30	Subgroup discussions and group sharing	
Tea/coffee break		
11:00 – 11:15	Responsible investments – an institutional investment perspective, Q&A	MaryKate Bullen (New Forests)
11:15 – 11:30	Forestry in capital markets - Mainstreaming environmental, social and governance issues, Q&A	Chris Knight (PwC/WWF)
11:30 – 12:20	Subgroup discussions and group sharing	
12:20 – 12:30	Recap	Dominic Elson (73 Ltd.)



APFW Co-Stream Leader

