

# THE INTERNATIONAL LAND AND FOREST TENURE FACILITY

*Securing community rights for a more just, resilient, and prosperous world.*

*The Tenure Facility provides grants to advance land and forest tenure security and the rights and livelihoods of Indigenous Peoples and local communities.*

*It is governed by a multi-stakeholder body and incubated by the Rights and Resources Initiative (RRI). The Tenure Facility will be fully independent and operational in 2016.*

## PURPOSE

### *Provide Funding & Technical Support*

for strategic tenure reform projects led by Indigenous Peoples, local community and civil society organizations, and governments;

### *Create a Convening Space*

for indigenous and community leaders, development agencies, public officials, and private investors to coordinate commitments and develop shared strategies to promote community land rights across the developing world.

## WHY COMMUNITY TENURE?

More than 3 billion of the world's poorest people live in, and depend upon, forests and drylands. These areas cover nearly half of the earth's surface and store 70% of the planet's terrestrial carbon.

Across the vast majority of these areas, the rights to use, control, and transfer land and other resources are contested. In many places, the rules that govern relationships between land, forests, and people are unclear, unenforced, or undocumented, resulting in competing land claims that often pit communities, businesses, and governments against one another.

## WHAT MAKES THE TENURE FACILITY DIFFERENT?

Although there are various global organizations currently working on aspects of tenure security, The Tenure Facility is the only instrument exclusively focused on securing collective rights to land and forests. It is designed to be strategic and responsive to the needs of Indigenous Peoples, local communities, international institutions, and the private sector while being complementary to existing tools and instruments. It is also the only body intentionally aimed at engaging private investors in being responsive to the needs and aspirations of forest-dependent communities.

### — By the Numbers —

**3 BILLION**

*of the world's poorest people live in, and depend upon, forests and drylands for their lives and livelihoods.*

**OVER 50%**

*of the world's rural and forest land is customarily claimed, accounting for 2 billion residents.*

**OVER 93%**

*of all commercial development projects in tropical forested countries involve land already inhabited by Indigenous Peoples or local communities.*

*The insecurity of forest and land tenure significantly hinders*

## **SIX MAJOR AREAS**

*of global development*

**POVERTY  
ERADICATION**

**ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT**

**FOOD SECURITY**

**CLIMATE CHANGE  
MITIGATION**

**CONSERVATION**

**GENDER JUSTICE**

### **HOW IS IT GOVERNED?**

The Tenure Facility is led by an advisory group comprised of representatives from UN-REDD, Swedish International Development Agency, World Bank, International Finance Corporation, Food and Agriculture Organization, Tebtebba (The Philippines), Centre for Environment and Development (Cameroon), Oxfam International, The Munden Project, and the Global Alliance of Community Forestry.

### **WHY NOW?**

There has been no coherent international response large enough in scope to deal with the global land and forest tenure crisis. Insecure and unjust tenure and weak governance continue to undermine progress on a range of human rights and environmental goals.

Nevertheless, there is unprecedented demand today for tenure reform from Indigenous Peoples, community organizations, governments, private investors, and conservation and development organizations. The aid instruments that currently exist do not adequately address the forest and land tenure crisis on a global scale.

The Tenure Facility is supported by the Swedish International Development Agency and the Acacia Conservation Fund.

### **ON THE GROUND**

*The Tenure Facility has launched pilot projects in two countries where there is currently a real opportunity to implement tenure reform: Panama and Indonesia. Additional projects are being assessed in Mali, Colombia, Peru, Liberia, and Cameroon.*



***To learn more about The Tenure Facility, visit [TheTenureFacility.org](http://TheTenureFacility.org) or contact Patience Fielding at [pfielding@rightsandresources.org](mailto:pfielding@rightsandresources.org).***