# About CIFOR

The Center **for International Forestry Research** (**CIFOR**) was established in 1993 as part of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) in response to global concerns about the social, environmental and economic consequences of forest loss and degradation. CIFOR's collaborative and strategic research produces knowledge and methods needed to improve the well-being of forest-dependent people.

## **Research Objectives**

CIFOR's research aims to provide a scientific rationale for the sustainable management of forests. It aims to develop policies and technologies for the sustainable use and management of forest goods and services. And it aims to help governments improve their capacity to undertake research on forest issues. Above all, CIFOR's research seeks to contribute to the sustainable well-being of forest-dependent people in developing countries, particularly in the tropics.

CIFOR's research falls under three main programmes:

- *Environmental services and the sustainable use of forests*. Research projects under this programme are designed to improve the way we use forests to ensure they deliver a range of goods and services in the long-term. Research focuses on biodiversity, climate change, watershed management and plantations.
- *Forests and governance*. Good governance implies that decisions are made that are just and fair to all interests; that the decision-making process is transparent; and that decision-makers are held to account. The research under this programme ranges from high-level financial investigations of illegal logging to field studies of the way in which communities make decisions.
- *Forests and livelihoods.* A variety of factors political, economic, environmental, often prevent forest-dependent people from raising their standard of living. Under this programme, CIFOR's research projects aim to improve the policies and practices which can help to enhance rural livelihoods. The research touches on issues related to poverty, conservation, human health and sustainable forest management.

## Some links to CIFOR's work in:

Forests & poverty - <u>http://www.cifor.cgiar.org/pen</u> Forests & global warming - <u>http://www.cifor.cgiar.org/trofcca</u> Forest rehabilitation - <u>http://www.cifor.cgiar.org/rehab</u> Forest fires - <u>http://www.cifor.cgiar.org/fire</u> Forests & decentralization -<u>http://www.cifor.cgiar.org/Research/Governance/MainActivities/poverty\_decentralisation.htm</u> Payments for environmental services - http://www.cifor.cgiar.org/pes

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