Welcome to MegaFlorestais

Community, Commerce, and the Bioeconomy: Innovations to Sustain the World’s Forests

12th Annual Meeting of MegaFlorestais
Vancouver and Quadra Island, British Columbia – October 15-20, 2017
Background

1. **Origin and Goals** of the MegaFlorestais Network

2. **Activities** of the Network

3. **Meeting outcomes**
I. The MegaFlorestais Network: Origins and Goals

- **MegaFlorestais**: “Those with the greatest forests” (in Portuguese)
- **Who**: Heads of forest agencies of the 10 most forested countries
- **When**: Created in 2005
- **Why**: To engage informally with top leaders of public forest agencies to advance international dialogue and exchange on critical issues facing the world’s forests. An opportunity generally not offered in other forums.
- **Method**: Create candor using the *Chatham House Rule*
Goals

• Address the most important issues facing the forest sector and accelerate learning and innovation

• Promote the implementation of new practices and policies for strengthening forest governance and forest agencies
Goals

• Foster strong relationships and empower forest leaders to become *change agents* within their agencies and across ministries
The MegaFlorestais network

Current Participating Countries—Million hectares of forests

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Hectares</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>493.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DRC</td>
<td>152.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>347</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>73.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>310.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>28.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>208.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cameroon</td>
<td>18.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Other countries that have participated in MegaFlorestais and activities/workshops include: Australia, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Colombia, Finland, Gabon, Guatemala, India, Kenya, Korea, Lao PDR, Liberia, Mali, Mexico, Myanmar, Nepal, Russia, Senegal, and South Sudan
About 50% of the world’s forests

MegaFlorestais Countries

[Map showing countries with large forests, including Brazil, Indonesia, Russia, Canada, and the USA.]
Governance of the network

Co-Chairs (a duo of current and former MegaFlorestais Leaders):

• Glenn Mason, Assistant Deputy Minister, Canadian Forest Service (CFS), Natural Resources Canada (NRCan)

• Sally Collins, Former Associate Chief, U.S. Forest Service

Co-chair from the host country (changes annually):

• Tim Sheldan, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Forest, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development, Province of British Columbia

RRI acts as the secretariat and co-convener

Financed by RRI and host countries
10\textsuperscript{th} Anniversary Video

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HIh6FtFLLKw
Previous MegaFlorestais Meetings

- 2006 USA (Pennsylvania)
- 2007 Russia (St Petersburg)
- 2008 Brazil (Amazon)
- 2009 Canada (British Columbia)
- 2010 China (Fujian)
- 2011 Mexico (Oaxaca)
- 2012 USA (Santa Fe)
- 2013 Indonesia (Bali)
- 2014 Cameroon (Buea)
- 2015 Peru (Yucay)
- 2016 China (Xishuangbanna)
- 2017 Canada
Participating countries

And resource advisors from Canada, Cameroon, Ghana, Guatemala, and the UK.
II. Activities of the Network

• **Annual meetings of MegaFlorestais**

• **Next Generation of Forest Agency Leaders Seminars**: created to better prepare the next generation of leaders to lead in a more complex social, political, environmental and market context. Held 6 times since 2010 – 116 participants trained.

• **Rethinking Forest Regulations Workshops**: designed to assist forest agency officials undergoing the process of reforming forest regulations. Held 5 times since 2010 – 65 government officials and civil society representatives trained.
Activities of the Network (continued)

- **Exchanges and Study Tours** (e.g. China to US, Lao and India to Mexico, Indonesia to Brazil)

- **Participation in key international events** (UN Forum on Forests, World Forestry Congress, IUFRO)

- **Publications:** 2 papers by former MegaFlorestais Leaders on Public Forest Agencies of the 21st Century (2014) and 10 Years of MegaFlorestais (2016). Brief on “Rethinking Forest Regulations” (2016) by RRI and MegaFlorestais leaders.

- **Communication and exchange of information** through newsletters, blog, social media (LinkedIn)
III. Outcomes: last year’s meeting

- Feedback on draft strategic plan and new funding mechanism
- 2017 Schedule of Events, including Canada’s hosting of this Fall Meeting
- Decision to delay two other workshops (ReThinking Regulations, Next Generation Leaders) until funding sorted
- Commitments to Blog, share information, meet in between as opportunities present
III. Outcomes, cont: this year’s meeting

- Feedback on strategic plan after first year and new funding mechanism
- 2018 Schedule of Events, including Sweden’s possible hosting of next year’s meeting.
- Reviewing other workshop opportunities? (ReThinking Regulations, Next Generation Leaders, others?)
- Commitments to Blog, share information, meet in between as opportunities present
Thank you!