

## FUNDING REQUEST FOR PROPOSED COVERAGE OF UNFF 12

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IISD Reporting Services' mission is to:

*increase transparency and accountability of intergovernmental  
sustainable development decision-making.*

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For more than two decades, IISD Reporting Services has provided transparency and accountability to international policy-making at the United Nations. Via our flagship publication – the *Earth Negotiations Bulletin* (ENB) – our team of experts has provided real-time information to decision-makers in a publicly accessible format using the latest in information technologies, thus promoting transparency in multilateral policy-making.

IISD Reporting Services is seeking the remaining funding to support the writing and publishing of the *Earth Negotiations Bulletin* (ENB) at the 12th session of the UN Forum on Forests (UNFF12), scheduled to take place 1-5 May 2017 in New York.

The budget for the production of the *Earth Negotiations Bulletin* from UNFF 12 is estimated at approximately USD 48,519. Of this amount, we have secured partial funding and are currently seeking to fill the funding gap of USD 27,753. Detailed outputs and budget information can be found on page 5.

**If you have any questions or would like to make a donation in support of IISD Reporting Services' coverage of UNFF meetings in 2017, please contact [kimo@iisd.org](mailto:kimo@iisd.org) or [jennifer@iisd.org](mailto:jennifer@iisd.org)**

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## About the International Institute for Sustainable Development

The International Institute for Sustainable Development's mission is to promote human development and environmental sustainability through innovative research, communication and partnerships. Established in 1990, IISD is an independent, non-profit organization that provides practical solutions to the challenge of integrating environmental and social priorities with economic development. IISD reports on international negotiations, conducts rigorous research, and engages citizens, businesses and policy-makers on the shared goal of developing sustainably. The institute has offices in Canada, Switzerland and the United States, and operates in over 70 countries around the world. As a registered charitable organization in Canada, IISD has 501 (c) (3) status in the U.S. For more information on IISD, visit [www.iisd.org](http://www.iisd.org).



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## About IISD Reporting Services



For decades, IISD Reporting Services (RS) is the division of IISD that has been inside the global environment and sustainable development negotiations, armed with laptops, tracking, filtering and reporting on key meetings. IISD RS provides clarity when the volume of information can be overwhelming and bridges the information deficit of developing countries, thereby contributing to environmental justice.

**Who is IISD RS:** IISD RS is based in New York City, USA near the United Nations. Our staff and consultants are a group of professionals with experience in international environment and sustainable development negotiations, the majority of which are either Ph.D. candidates, lawyers or Ph.Ds. To learn more about IISD RS and our team, visit: [www.iisd.ca](http://www.iisd.ca) and [www.iisd.ca/about/team/](http://www.iisd.ca/about/team/).

**IISD RS ENB Archives, (1994-present):** IISD RS' *Earth Negotiations Bulletin* (ENB) is a balanced, timely, and independent report and record of negotiations across a full range of environmental and sustainable development issues. Visit the ENB Archives at [www.iisd.ca/enb/](http://www.iisd.ca/enb/) for a complete list of all bulletins.

In addition to the production of the ENB, IISD Reporting Services also provides:

#### **ENB+:**

Our "for hire" conference and meeting reporting service available to clients who wish to hire IISD RS to provide customized reporting from their event.

#### **Community Listservs:**

Moderated community announcement email listservs for policy-makers and practitioners involved with environment and sustainable development issues.

#### **Side Events Coverage (ENBOTS):**

ENB on the Side, our companion product to the ENB, communicates the key messages from side events held at large meetings, such as COPs.

#### **Video Services:**

A companion product to the ENB and ENBOTS that provides video summaries and daily wrap videos from meetings and events.

#### **Knowledge Management of the SDGs:**

Freely searchable databases that track and report on important meetings and publications emerging between the key negotiations of intergovernmental agreements.

## IISD Reporting Services and the ENB: the issue and its importance

Representation and participation in decision-making requires access to information about the issues under discussion as well as knowledge about the process and context in which decisions are made. Informed decision-making contributes to better outcomes, and transparency builds in accountability and better implementation. Those involved in multilateral negotiations on environment and sustainable development issues need to access

and analyze the information required to inform and influence decision-making processes. This is particularly challenging for both developed and developing countries in the rapidly evolving and expanding number of activities related to such negotiations. Trusted curators of knowledge are therefore increasingly important.

Since the 1992 Rio Earth Summit, IISD RS's *Earth Negotiations Bulletin* (ENB) has filled this critical need by increasing transparency and providing objective and comprehensive reporting on multilateral negotiations on environment and sustainable development issues, thus enabling government delegations and other stakeholders to engage more fully in the decision-making process. In particular, the ENB benefits developing countries, some of whom face severe financial constraints in sending delegates to meetings, by providing a neutral and trusted source of information and analysis so that they are able to engage and participate effectively in the decision-making process.

We distribute our daily reports in hard copy at meeting venues, on our website, by email, on Facebook and via Twitter (@IISDRS). At the conclusion of each meeting, ENB publishes a 10,000–30,000-word summary and analysis of the meeting.

Many UN delegates, ministers and other governmental officials, non-governmental organizations, the business community, the academic community, the media and UN staff who track environment and sustainable development negotiations consider the ENB to be essential reading. The ENB has received high praise for its objective and comprehensive presentation of the facts.



Bonn Climate Change Conference. August 2015

## History of IISD Reporting Services Coverage of the Forest Process

IISD Reporting Services has been following international forest policy processes since the 1990s, and has consistently provided coverage and analysis of all previous sessions of the UNFF, including negotiations of the four global objectives on forests, the NLBI and discussions leading up to the adoption of a decision on means of implementation for sustainable forest management. IISD RS has also covered several ad hoc expert group meetings in support of the UNFF, as well as country-led initiatives, such as the workshop on Forest Governance, Decentralization and REDD+ in Latin America and the Caribbean.

In follow up from UNFF 11, ECOSOC called for the establishment of an Ad Hoc Expert Group (AHEG) and a Working Group to meet during 2016 and 2017. These intersessional groups were tasked to develop a concise strategic plan for 2017-2030, to be presented to participants at UNFF 12. Participants at the AHEG 1 explored the required strategic approaches and actions to achieve the International Arrangement on Forests (IAF) objectives, the roles of IAF components, and the organizational structure of the Strategic Plan. They also provided suggestions for the Quadrennial Programme of Work (4POW) for 2017-2020; possible elements for the “framework for reviewing implementation” of the Strategic Plan; and planned follow-up activities leading to AHEG2.

The back-to-back meetings of the UNFF Working Group and Special Session are due to negotiate and endorse the UNFF Strategic Plan for 2017-2030 and the Quadrennial Programme of Work for 2017-2020, based on recommendations submitted by the AHEG on the International Arrangement on Forests Strategic Plan. The 12th UNFF Session is tentatively set for 1 -5 May 2017 in New York.

Having provided an accurate reflection, as well as an analysis of the proceedings on such politically sensitive negotiations, IISD Reporting Services have contributed to the transparency of the negotiations and to awareness regarding international forestry issues, and would wish to continue contributing towards that direction through coverage of all future sessions of the UNFF and related expert meetings.

To view the outputs from IISD RS’ past coverage of the forest process, visit [www.iisd.ca/enb/vol13/](http://www.iisd.ca/enb/vol13/). To view outputs from IISD RS’ past coverage of related processes, visit [www.iisd.ca/enb/](http://www.iisd.ca/enb/).

## Purpose of this Funding Request

IISD RS wishes to continue covering the negotiations of the Forest Process and providing a balanced, timely and objective reporting service from this important meeting.

This reporting service will:

- ✓ raise awareness within the international policy community and media of the outcomes from this meeting;
- ✓ create a level information playing-field at the meeting;
- ✓ contribute to transparency in international negotiations;
- ✓ provide useful information to policy-makers and those interested in contributing to the policy development process;
- ✓ disseminate information on the activities of governments, NGOs and the United Nations at this international meeting;
- ✓ provide real-time information to environment and development decision-makers using new and emerging information technologies;
- ✓ contribute to the academic body of knowledge about this meeting; *and*
- ✓ maintain a trusted information flow to policy-makers on the activities of related negotiating processes.



UNFCCC COP 21 Leaders, November 2015

## Budget, Funding Status and Proposed Outputs

The budget for the production of the *Earth Negotiations Bulletin* from UNFF 12 is estimated at USD 48,519 and presented in the below table. This meeting budget includes the following items: daily fees for each team member; travel to and from the meeting, and food and lodging (DSA); publishing and distribution costs of the hard copy and online daily and summary issues; office and production supplies; communication costs; and allocated costs.

| <b>UNFF 12</b>                               |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| <b>Summary &amp; Analysis</b>                | <b>Amount (USD)</b> |
| Professional Fees                            | 30,099              |
| Consultants Travel/DSA                       | 18,250              |
| Communications & Other                       | 170                 |
| <b>Balance for UNFF 12</b>                   | <b>USD 48,519</b>   |
| <i>less European Commission Contribution</i> | <i>20,766</i>       |
| <b>total unfunded balance</b>                | <b>USD 27,753</b>   |

**THE EARTH NEGOTIATIONS BULLETIN (daily & summary written reporting):** ENB is a one-page, double-sided publication that is published and distributed to participants at selected UN environment and sustainable development negotiations and also disseminated via email, our website ([www.iisd.ca](http://www.iisd.ca)), Facebook and Twitter. The readership of ENB is estimated at 125,000 people worldwide.

IISD RS proposes to publish daily reports and a summary issue of the ENB from these meetings. The summary issues will synthesize the outcomes of the meeting and be published within 48 hours of its conclusion, and also posted and archived on our website and delivered through our email lists, Facebook and Twitter.

If IISD RS receives funding for a Digital Editor, the *Earth Negotiations Bulletin* team will provide digital coverage of this meeting on our website, including digital photos and links to official documents and other related websites.

## Support IISD Reporting Services Coverage of Forest Meetings in 2016 & 2017

Over the last twenty years, IISD RS has raised funds from more than forty donors. Initial funding in 1992 came from the Ford Foundation, Compton Foundation, W. Alton Jones Foundation, the Mott Foundation, the Swedish Ministry of the Environment, the Norwegian Ministry of the Environment, the World Bank, GREENWIRE, the Jenifer Altman Foundation, the Canadian Purple Martin Fund and WWF. Since 1994, IISD RS has been funded by government ministries and agencies, United Nations agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as private foundations and industry.

IISD Reporting Services has three donor categories:

**SUSTAINING DONOR (USD 150,000 or more per year in a continuing relationship):** The minimum donor level to be listed as a Sustaining Donor in the *Earth Negotiations Bulletin* masthead of each daily and summary issue is USD 150,000 per year. Sustaining Donors allow us to perform long-term planning for the sustainable future of this publication.

**GENERAL DONOR (USD50,000 to USD 150,000 per year):** The minimum donation at this level is USD 50,000. General Donors are listed in the ENB masthead of each daily and summary issue.

**SPECIFIC DONOR:** This level includes donations supporting coverage of individual meetings. Specific Donors are listed in the ENB masthead of each daily and summary issue from that meeting.

## For further information on donor agreements, forms of payment, invoicing for coverage activities, financial reporting, etc., contact:

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## Earth Negotiations Bulletin Funding - IISD recognizes and thanks our 2016 contributors

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DG Environment and DG Climate Action

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Food and Agricultural Organization of the UN

### Private Foundations, Industry and Non-Governmental Organizations

Prince Albert II Foundation (Monaco), Tokyo Institute for Technology (Japan), International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD, Canada)

### **French Translations:** IISD recognizes and thanks our 2016 contributors who support the French version of the ENB:

The Government of France, the Wallonia, Québec & International Organization of La Francophonie/Institute for Sustainable Development of La Francophonie (IOF/IFDD).

