



International Family Forestry Alliance IFFA

History

IFFA as an independent civil society organization was founded in 2002 and incorporated in Washington DC in 2006 due to the fact that an increasing number of policy issues affect family forestry on international level.

At this time on the UN level no international forest owner organization has existed advocating family working forestry but in contrary 84 international environmental organizations like WWF, Greenpeace, EDF, FERN etc. covered forestry in lobbying.

The International Family Forestry Alliance is the global voice of family forest owners who own 20 % of the world forests.

Vision and Mission Statement

Vision

- IFFA is the independent representative of all family forest owners worldwide and make their voice heard globally;
- IFFA is an independent advocacy for supporting national and regional producer organizations;

Mission

- Communicate the values and challenges of family forestry;
- Promote family forestry and its important contribution to sustainable forest management, rural livelihoods, forest cover, and the availability of a wide range of forest products, ecosystem services and its positive effect on the World's climate;
- Advocate ownership and tenure rights, freedom in decision making with in legislation and the right of free market access;
- Increase political and economic influence in order to ensure the economic, social and environmental viability of family forestry;

Objectives

Family forest owners recognise the importance of sustainable forest management and respect the need to balance economic, social, ecological and cultural aspects of forestry.

The IFFA's objectives are to

- Function as an informal alliance between family forest owners' organisations worldwide;
- Communicate common values of family forest owners;
- Provide information and recommendations to international forest policy processes;
- Be recognised as important stakeholder and be consulted by policy-making bodies;
- Promote the existence, development and advantage of family forestry and advocate supportive policies;
- Provide a forum for the exchange of experience, ideas and information;
- Communicate legal tenure rights and ownership rights of land and their strong connection to local communities;
- Communicate freedom in decision making within legislation;
- Communicate the right of free access to markets;
- Highlight forests as a natural, renewable and recyclable resource with significant contribution to the environment and quality of life;

Family forest ownership characteristics

- Small scale management;
- Owners having a variety of ownership goals and facing a variety of circumstances;
- Families, including all ages and genders, deriving income from their forests;
- Strong stewardship values - multiple-use forest management;
- Owners having a strong attachment to their forests - ownership for several generations;
- Owners providing multiple forest products and benefits to society;
- Long-term perspective - investments for future generations;
- Local ownership contributing to economic and social sustainability of communities;

Faces behind IFFA

Chairman designated :	Antti Sahi	former Secretary General of MTK Finland
Vice Chairman:	Charles Nyanjui	President of FF-SPARK Kenya
Treasurer:	Lorenz Klein von Wisenberg	Member of AGDW Germany
MoB:	Satu Marja Tenhiälä	Policy Advisor of MTK Finland
MoB:	Felix Montecuccoli	President of Land-Forstbetriebe Austria
MoB:	Lennart Ackzell	Policy Advisor of LRA Sweden
MoB:	Jog Raj Giri	President of AFFON Nepal
MoB:	Antonio Manuel García González	President of CONOSIL Mexico
MoB:	Marc-Andre Cote	MoB of Canadian Federation of Woodlot Owners CFWO

Collaboration

IFFA is in a close collaboration with the 3 Rights Holders Group as locally controlled forestry group:

- International Family Forestry Organization (IFFA)
- Global Alliance of Community Forestry (GACF)
- The International Alliance of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples of the Tropical Forests (IAITPTF)

Hierarchy of forestland owner organizations worldwide

IFFA	International level
CEPF	European level
Umbrella organizations	National level
Sub organisations	Regional level
producer organizations	Sub regional level

Working fields

International Negotiations Participant	Board or Steering Committees, member of International Organisation	IFFA's own initiative with partners	On stage in collaboration with partners
UNFCCC COP	UN Major Groups (Civil Society Groups)	Forest and Farm Producers Organisation's meetings	IIED Rio +12
UNFF	TFD The Forest Dialogue	Africa : Tanzania, Kenya	EU dev. days, Agricord, FFD
FAO COFO	PEFC International	America: Mexico	COFO with FFF/ IUCN
World Forest Congress	FAO FFF Farm Forest Facility	Asia: Thailand, Nepal Africa: Kenya	WFC Durban with PEFC International
	RRI Right & Resources Initiative	Workshop Climate Finance for Forest and Farm Producer Organizations, Kenya	UNFF with Countries Sweden, China
FAO ACSFI	FAO ACSFI		

UNFCCC:	United Nation Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFF:	United Nation Forum on Forestry
FAO ACSFI:	Advisory Committee on sustainable based industries for COFO
COFO:	Committee on Forestry -the highest FAO Forestry statutory body

Mengkofen, 01-28-2020

Klein von Wisenberg