

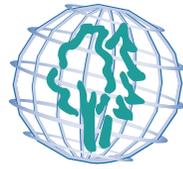
What is a Model Forest?

A Model Forest is a large-scale, forest-based landscape that encompasses a variety of land uses and values, resource management administrations, and land ownership.

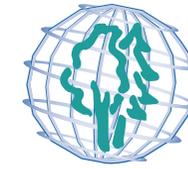
Collaboration and Partnerships are Fundamental

In creating a Model Forest, individuals and groups supporting a wide range of forest values (social, cultural, economic and environmental concerns) agree to collaborate to devise and demonstrate ways to manage forest-based landscapes and natural resources, using approaches that are both locally acceptable and nationally relevant. They also develop a shared understanding of sustainable development and of how to put this new knowledge into practice through collaborative Model Forest activities.

For nearly 20 years, forest-dependent stakeholders around the world have been voluntarily translating sustainable natural resource management priorities and policies into action on the ground through the Model Forest approach.



The IMFN Secretariat, based in Ottawa, Canada at Natural Resources Canada — Canadian Forest Service provides the day-to-day coordination of support and development services to the Network and works to strengthen and expand the Network.



International Model Forest Network



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This brochure was produced with the aid of a grant from the International Development Research Centre, Ottawa, Canada.



This brochure has been published with the support of the Government of Canada.

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The International Model Forest Network

The IMFN was established with the vision of supporting, through Model Forests, the management of the world's forest resources in a sustainable manner, reflecting environmental and socio-economic issues from the perspective of local needs and global concerns.

The primary goal of the IMFN is to establish a global learning network of Model Forests that will represent most of the major forest ecosystems of the world.

The Network strives to ensure that all partners, regardless of political or economic status, can contribute to, and share in, the benefits of the Network as they work toward the sustainable management of forest-based landscapes.

The IMFN works closely with International Organizations

The IMFN works with international organizations to foster cooperation and the exchange of ideas on the sustainable management of natural resources, as well as forest science and social science that works towards creating new models of forest and landscape management, and sustainable development.



Over 55 Model Forests in 24 countries form the IMFN. Most Model Forests are associated with a regional network:

- **Canadian Model Forest Network**
- **Ibero-American Model Forest Network**
- **Regional Model Forest Network – Asia**
- **African Model Forest Network**
- **Mediterranean Model Forest Network**

New and encouraging activity is also being registered in Model Forests in Russia and Sweden, and with other neighbouring countries, to explore the potential of Model Forests to address sustainability issues in the boreal and temperate forest landscapes of the Baltic region

Please see www.imfn.net for up-to-date details on current Model Forests