



Federal Ministry
for Economic Cooperation
and Development



TROPENWALDSYMPOSIUM
TROPICAL FOREST SYMPOSIUM
8 September 2021, Berlin

INVITATION TO THE TROPICAL FOREST SYMPOSIUM

Wednesday, 8 September 2021 | 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The event will take place in German, English and French.
Simultaneous interpretation will be provided.

The link for virtual participation is tropical-forest-symposium.de/en/



Our ONE WORLD depends on forests! Forests regulate and stabilize the global climate. Forests protect biological diversity. Forests are the source of livelihood for millions of people, particularly in the tropics. And yet every 1.7 seconds, an area of forest the size of a soccer field is lost to logging. Eleven per cent of global carbon emissions are caused by deforestation. Tropical rainforests are more important than any other ecosystem for our fight against the greatest global challenges of our times .

It is high time for us to take internationally coordinated action. At the upcoming COPs in Kunming and Glasgow, the conservation of tropical forests must become a focus of political attention. An appropriate share of climate and biodiversity funding must be dedicated to forests, as they are important carbon sinks. This requires a fair deal between tropical forest countries and the international community.

In preparation of the upcoming UN conferences I, together with key stakeholders of international forest policy, would like to present and discuss effective approaches to forest protection.

You are therefore warmly invited to the

Tropical Forest Symposium
on 8 September 2021
tropical-forest-symposium.de/en/

During a Q&A session, you will have the opportunity to virtually participate in the discussion.

I look forward to our exchange of ideas.

Dr. Gerd Müller

Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development



PROGRAM

Wednesday, 8 September 2021

- 10:00 a.m. **Words of welcome and opening of the event**
Dr. Gerd Müller, *Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development*
- 10:15 a.m. **Introductory presentation on current status, trends, causes and environmental and economic consequences of tropical forest loss**
Professor Matthew Hansen, *University of Maryland*
- 10:30 a.m. **“Setting the stage”**
Dr. Maria Flachsbarth, *Parliamentary State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development*
With Representatives of other Federal Ministries
- 10:50 a.m. **Round Table: We Need a Fair Deal**
Participants: Representatives of European institutions, the private sector, civil society, the forest and land policy sector, and nature conservation institutions, and stakeholders from China (host of COP15) and the UK (host of COP26)
- 11:40 a.m. **Q&A session**
- 12:00 p.m. **High-level segment (Part I)**
Speakers from Norway, France and the United States
- 12:25 p.m. **High-level segment (Part II)**
Minister Jules Doret Ndongo, *President of the Central African Forests Commission (COMIFAC)*
- 12:35 p.m. **High-level segment (Part III)**
Keynote speech: BMZ activities for forest conservation
Dr. Gerd Müller, *Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development*
- 1:00 p.m. **End of the event**