



## Forest Conservation Measurement and International Development

Guest Editors:

**Dr. Anupam Anand**

Independent Evaluation Office,  
Global Environment Facility,  
Washington, DC, USA

**Dr. Hao Tang**

Department of Geographical  
Sciences, University of Maryland,  
College Park, MD, USA

**Dr. Radhika Dave**

Nature, Climate and Energy,  
Bureau for Policy and  
Programme Support/Global  
Policy Network, United Nations  
Development Programme, New  
York, NY, USA

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### Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Forests are crucial to supporting life on our planet. More broadly, the forest sector plays a vital role in global economics, with an estimated 20% of the global population who depend on forests for their livelihoods. Forest ecosystems also play a critical role in regulating global carbon and hydrological cycles—an integral part of nature-based solutions to addressing needs such as adapting to and mitigating impacts from global climate change, and supporting 80% of all biodiversity on land.

The contribution of forest ecosystems and forest resource management to poverty alleviation has been increasingly emphasized in international policy under the domain of conservation and development. The three international instruments—the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the UN Strategic Plan for Forests, and the Paris Agreement—provide an interconnected structure for international cooperation to conserve forests, ...

Dr. Anupam Anand  
Dr. Hao Tang  
Dr. Radhika Dave  
*Guest Editors*





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### **Prof. Dr. Steve W. Lyon**

School of Environment and  
Natural Resources, Ohio State  
University, Columbus, OH 43210,  
USA

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*Sustainability* Editorial Office  
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5  
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