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Packard Foundation

Global Climate Initiative Overview

Introduction

Achieving a safer climate future is a top priority for the Packard Foundation. To successfully limit climate change within the global target of two degrees Celsius, we support leaders and organizations working to halt tropical deforestation. If tropical deforestation were a country, it would rank as the third largest source of carbon emissions after China and the United States. Forest loss threatens millions of people's livelihoods – especially Indigenous and forest communities. And when forests are cleared, countless animal and plant species are impacted, and forests release and can no longer store carbon dioxide – which speeds up climate change.

For the past 15 years, we have focused on ending tropical deforestation and supporting communities who live within forests. We are continuing this commitment by joining several foundations and hundreds of civil society organizations in the [Forests, People, Climate](#) (FPC) collaborative, which is hosted by the Climate and Land Use Alliance (CLUA). **FPC plays a catalytic role in mobilizing and aligning philanthropy, NGOs, and diverse strategies in line with government commitments to end and reverse deforestation by 2030.** FPC prioritizes solutions in three tropical forest areas where most carbon emissions associated with deforestation occur – the Congo Basin, Indonesia, and the Brazilian Amazon—and within six thematic areas.

Aligned with FPC, Packard Foundation's Global Climate Initiative (GCI) grantmaking primarily supports solutions in the Congo Basin and Indonesia, with limited investment in the Brazilian Amazon. We are building on our history of grantmaking in the Congo Basin and Indonesia, and exploring how to add value to the funding landscape of the Brazilian Amazon, which is a relatively new geography for the Packard Foundation. GCI grantmaking also focuses on supporting the FPC Enabling Conditions strategy ([learn more about the FPC strategies here](#)).





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Global Climate Initiative (GCI)

Forests, People, Climate (FPC)

FPC is a global collaborative* that aims to halt and reverse tropical deforestation while supporting just and sustainable development.

Priority Geographies

Together with FPC, our grantmaking prioritizes solutions in Indonesia, the Congo Basin, and the Brazilian Amazon.

FPC Strategy Alignment

GCI grantmaking supports the 9 FPC strategies, specifically Enabling Conditions and the Geographic Strategies.



* The Packard Foundation, through GCI, is one of many donors, civil society, and community-based organizations that contribute to FPC.

Enabling Conditions ensures funding reaches under-resourced organizations; leaders, organizations, and movements are resilient; and civic space is protected.

Enabling Conditions

The success of the FPC global collaborative depends on strong 'Enabling Conditions' — resources, capacity, and collaboration of leaders, organizations, and networks in tropical forest countries— to scale just and sustainable solutions.

GCI invests in each of FPC's three Enabling Conditions pillars:

Pillar 1: Optimizing the Resource Ecosystem

Our grantee partners are working together to deliver on FPC goals, but they are under- resourced, especially local actors in tropical forest countries. We are supporting FPC to ensure that financial and technological infrastructure is in place to deliver resources to these key stakeholders. One way we are doing this is by supporting the creation of local, Indigenous, and community-led regranting funds –



such as the Nusantara Fund in Indonesia – to help make sure more resources flow to local geographies.

GCI aims to ensure that FPC partners have sufficient resources to:

- Operate as a collaborative
- Scale funding to civil society actors in tropical forest countries
- Coordinate to implement the FPC strategies

The Packard Foundation also uses its relationships with governments and bilateral institutions to advocate for increased climate finance and other resources aligned with FPC outcomes.

Pillar 2: Strengthening the Fabric of Community Collaboration

Once organizations and networks receive increased funding, they often need technical assistance to strengthen their ability to have an impact. To help key leaders, organizations, and movements working towards FPC goals, we provide grants to support capacity strengthening and networking. GCI focuses on three portfolios where we have grantmaking experience, topical expertise, and networks:

- **Networks and Movements of Tropical Forest Stewards:** Many tropical forest stewards have historically been denied access to global capital and power. GCI provides resources for forest communities, Indigenous Peoples, community-based and civil society organizations, smallholder farmers, and others to sustainably manage their forests, maintain healthy lives, and advocate for their priorities. We focus on forest steward networks in Indonesia and the Congo Basin and prioritize equity in our grantmaking.
- **Green and Just Rural Development:** GCI partners are making the case for governments, policymakers, and businesses to support green and just economic growth that keep forests standing and communities healthy. We support their efforts, including strengthening the ecosystem of institutions that develop relevant research and policy analysis and key sustainable and inclusive economic models. Our work here focuses at the national and sub-national levels in the Congo Basin and Indonesia.
- **Energy and Forests:** Our partners have asked for more funding and coordination to address drivers of deforestation and human rights abuses associated with the energy and transportation sectors. We are responding with grants for capacity strengthening for local actors working at the intersection of forests and energy in the Congo Basin and Indonesia. We also support their collaboration with international organizations working on research, policy advocacy, campaigns, and strategic communications.

All of this grantmaking builds on the Packard Foundation's previous work to improve farmer livelihoods while conserving natural resources, halt deforestation from palm oil expansion, and ensure that any increase in the use of bioenergy is not harmful to the climate or local communities.



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Pillar 3: Safeguarding Space for Civil Society Action

To be effective, FPC partners need to operate in a thriving civic space. In partnership with the Foundation's Civil Society and Leadership Initiative (CSLI), GCI supports civil society organizations protecting and expanding freedom of association, expression, and assembly in tropical forest geographies. We also support regional and international networks and coalitions connecting local actors to broader efforts to advocate for and protect these key freedoms. This includes urgent support for the safety and security of land and forest defenders.

