



# Unfinished agendas for forests and climate change:

Local communities and smallholders and their organizations  
as the enabling actors to address climate change

**Wednesday 20 July, 09:00-16:30**  
**World Forest Week, FAO HQ, Rome**  
**Iran Room (next to the Atrium, Flag Hall)**

**FOREST AND FARM FACILITY**, the FAO Forestry Department and partners are organizing a day long event to refocus our attention on the primary role that smallholder farmers and their organizations can play in the sustainable management of the world's forests, particularly within the context of climate change. With the right enabling conditions local communities have shown enormous potential to preserve forest landscapes and to generate economic and social development benefits. Although their full potential remains largely unrealized, their actions can be scaled up to meet climate change mitigation and adaptation targets. A third of global forests are under some form of management by families, smallholders, local communities and indigenous people. These forests represent some of the most important carbon stocks in the world. Secure and enforced rights for these groups can help to ensure mitigation, improve adaptation and develop resilience.

**Learn more about the challenges to put local people at the centre of climate change strategies and what can be done to address them.**

**09:00 Opening speakers:**

- **Victoria Tauli-Corpuz**, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples
- **Victor Lopez**, Executive manager of Utz Che' Association of Guatemalan Forest Communities
- **Terje Halleland**, State Secretary at the Norwegian Ministry of Agriculture and Food

**10:00 Country panel presentations:** learning from successful national partnerships

**11:30 Talk show:** outstanding issues and challenges for climate change projects

**14:30 Expert working groups:** key messages for the 23rd session of the COFO

**16:00 Open discussions:** from planning to implementation

