Annual Statement of Business & Affairs
Rights and Resources Group
2008

Annual Statement of Business & Affairs of the Rights and Resources Group, 2008

Prepared by the Rights and Resources Group
March 2009

Business Status

The Rights and Resources Group is the coordination mechanism of the Rights and Resources Initiative, a global coalition formed to advance forest tenure, policy and market reforms. Rights and Resources Group is a 501 c (3) non-profit organization based in Washington, D.C. Rights and Resources Group was formally created in 2005.

As of December 2008, eleven partner organizations compose the Rights and Resources Initiative:

Organization	Headquarters	Date of joining RRI
CIFOR – Center for International Forestry Research	Bogor, Indonesia	2005
IUCN – World Conservation Union	Gland, Switzerland	2005
RECOFTC – Regional Community Forestry Training Center for Asia and the Pacific	Bangkok, Thailand	2005
Forest Trends	Washington, DC	2005
ACICAFOC – Central American Indigenous and Peasant Coordination Association for Community Agroforestry	San José, Costa Rica	2005
FPCD – Foundation for People and Community Development	Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea	2005
FPP – Forest Peoples Programme	London, United Kingdom	2006
Intercooperation	Bern, Switzerland	2006
ICRAF – World Agroforestry Center	Nairobi, Kenya	2006
Civic Response	Accra, Ghana	2007
FECOFUN – Federation of Community Forest Users, Nepal	Kathmandu, Nepal	2008

Location of Business

The Rights and Resources Group is currently located in Suite 204 at 1238 Wisconsin Avenue in Washington D.C., United States. The office space is leased on a 10-year lease, which was signed in 2005 and will expire June 30, 2016. The mailing address is:

1238 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Suite 204
Washington, DC 20007, USA

Governance

The Rights and Resources Group is governed by its Board of Directors. As of December 31, 2008 members of the Board of Directors are:

1) Doris Capistrano, *Chair*
   Senior Fellow, Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA)
   Manila, Philippines
2) Marcus Colchester, *Secretary*
   Forest Peoples Programme
   Moreton-in-Marsh, United Kingdom
3) Don Roberts, *Treasurer*
   CIBC World Markets
   Ottawa, Canada
4) Kyeretwie Opoku, *Executive Committee Member*
   Civic Response
   Accra, Ghana
5) Jürgen Blaser
   Intercooperation
   Berne, Switzerland
6) Yati Bun
   Foundation for People and Community Development (FPCD)
   Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea
7) Alberto Chinchilla
   Coordinating Association of Indigenous and Agroforestry Communities of Central America (ACICAFOC)
   San José, Costa Rica
8) Michael Jenkins
   Forest Trends
   Washington D.C., United States
9) Stewart Maginnis
   World Conservation Union (IUCN)
   Gland, Switzerland
10) Yam Malla
    Regional Community Forestry Training Centre (RECOFTC)
    Bangkok, Thailand
11) Andy White
    Rights and Resources Group
    Washington D.C., United States

Staff

As of December 31, 2008, the Rights and Resources Group has 14 employees, including experts in forest economics, community development, forest poverty and sustainable forest management. Staff persons originate from 3 countries (India, Senegal, and the United States). Five of fourteen are female.

<u>Leadership</u>

Andy White, President

Arvind Khare, Director of Finance and Policy

Augusta Molnar, Director of Communities and Markets

Deborah Barry, Director of Country Programs

<u>Staff</u>

Solange Bandiaky, Program Coordinator for Africa

Michael DeVito, Finance and Administration Assistant
Jeffrey Hatcher, Policy Analyst
Brooke Kennedy, Program Coordinator for Asia
Megan Liddle, Manager of Coalition Coordination and Communications
James-Christopher Miller, Manager of Finance and Administration
William Sunderlin, Senior Researcher

Part-time staff and interns

Lucas Bailey, Policy Analysis Intern
Andrew Davis, Latin America Program Intern
Lopaka Purdy, Communications and Research Intern

Financial and Operations Status

Audited Statements for 2008

Audited statements for 2008 are currently under preparation and will be posted to the RRI website (www.rightsandresources.org) upon completion.

Conflict of Interest Statements for 2008

The Conflict of Interest statement is signed every year by members of the Governing Board and RRG senior staff members. This statement was signed at the RRI Governance Meetings held January 14-16 in Osprey Point, Maryland.

Program Status of the Rights and Resources Initiative

In 2008 the Rights and Resources Group (RRG) coordinated with RRI Partners to orchestrate collaborative efforts advancing forest tenure, policy and market reforms around the world.

Table 1: Key RRI Outcomes and Products in 2008

Overarching Accomplishments	
1. Raised profile of forest tenure among global development actors and catalyzed new synergies among organizations on forest tenure and rights reform; 2. Instigated new thinking and mobilization in Central and Western Africa; and *3.* Scaled-up RRI delivery under framework funding and consolidated RRG support functions	
Program Outcomes	**Key Products**
Country/Regional Initiatives	
• **Established strategic planning teams** among Partners and Collaborators in China, Nepal, Cameroon, Liberia, Ghana, Guatemala, Bolivia, and Mali/Burkina Faso; and regionally in Asia, Africa, Latin America • **Made significant contributions to new tenure legislation and policy** in Liberia, Nepal and Honduras; and upcoming reforms in Cameroon, Ghana, China, Brazil and Bolivia • **Strengthened national public dialogues and/or mobilization** of key constituencies in Liberia, China, Nepal, Cameroon, Guatemala and Bolivia	**Africa** o 5 National-level conferences/workshops (Cameroon, Liberia, Ghana, Mali, Burkina Faso) o 12 new analytical products (papers, briefs, cases) focused on national legal and policy reforms o 6 catalytic investments supporting pilots or implementation (Cameroon, Burkina Faso, Mali, Liberia) **Asia** o 4 national-level conferences/workshops (China, Nepal) o 5 new analyses focused on national reforms (China, Nepal) o 9 catalytic investments in pilots or implementation (China, Lao, Nepal) **Latin America** o 3 national-level conferences/workshops (Guatemala, Bolivia, Brazil) o 5 new analyses/reports on national-level reforms o 5 catalytic projects supporting pilots or implementation reforms (Bolivia, Guatemala, Suriname, Central America, Amazonia)
Network Support	
• **Raised awareness in strategic constituencies** of the importance of tenure reforms and advanced understanding of implementation of reforms	• **MegaFlorestais:** Meeting of 9 forest agency leaders hosted by Brazil reviewed progress on governance and tenure reforms. Invitations for follow-on meetings in China and Canada • **ITTO-Civil Society Advisory Group:** Conducted two events (Ghana, Yokohama): Successfully lobbied for Community Forestry Thematic Program and adoption of CSAG

• **Consolidated regular collaboration** with key global institutions and networks (CAPRi, FAO, International Land Coalition, IFAD, ITTO, Parties to UNFCCC, UNPFII, World Bank)	recommendations for ITTO bi-annual work plan • **Global Alliance of Community Forestry:** RRI supported 3 regional learning exchanges (Africa, Asia, Latin America) • Established new **Climate Change Civil Society Advisory Group** and agreed on structure and activities
Strategic Analysis	
• **Raised global development community awareness of forest tenure** importance, threats and status of reforms; particularly in UK and Norwegian development arena • **Stimulated new, critical understanding of forest tenure and climate change issues** and disseminated latest knowledge on issues and implementation to governments in Central America and to parties to UNFCCC and REDD Contact Group	• **2 new global analyses: *From Exclusion to Ownership?* and *Seeing People Through the Trees*** o Media release resulted in 120 articles in 30 countries and 15 languages o *From Exclusion*: 1,300+ downloads, 970+ print o *Seeing People:* 1,700+ downloads, 860+ print • **High-level policy event in House of Commons**, London to launch new global analyses • **International conference on Rights, Forests and Climate Change** in Oslo; focusing on implementation issues • **Catalyzed new, forward looking thinking** on "last great global land grab"; "who owns the carbon"; "regulatory takings and zoning"; need to "rethink" forest management regulations • **Produced ATEMS analyses and engaged policy makers with options**: catalyzing critical reflection on forest concessions and viable alternative tenure and enterprise models in Cameroon, Ghana and Liberia • **Produced 13 global and regional reports on forest tenure and governance in relation to pressing issues:** climate change and REDD, forest and commons-based conflict, conservation, social movements, and community forestry • **Conducted private advisory session** on forest rights with governments party to UNFCCC and members of the REDD Contact Group and recommended agreement text
Global Communication/Outreach	
• **Increased commitment** and effort on forest rights and tenure by key international institutions • **Provided key numbers and narratives** for community-based organizations seeking to advance reforms • **Established world-class website** on forest tenure and rights reform	• **IUCN, CIFOR, ICRAF, ITTO, FAO, World Bank, ILC strengthened work on forest rights and tenure** in their work programs • **Website: 2600+ visits per month from 169 different countries** Established as an information hub on forest rights and tenure reform with an extensive library of publications, RRI activities and news on rights and tenure around the world • **Quarterly email update reaches 1500+ readers in 3 languages,** proactively communicating new analyses, research findings and RRI activities with policy leaders and RRI supporters around the world

Coordination/Operations	
• RRI coalition functioning effectively, identifying strategic activities, promoting synergies, and improved impact • RRG administrative systems strong, responding to strategic opportunities and servicing Partners and Collaborators	• **Effective RRI planning and governance meetings** held in January (DC) and July (UK) • **Completed long-term funding agreements** with DFID and Sida • **Hired Independent Monitor** to implement the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) system • **Regular management and donor reports** for informed management decisions: compliance with donor requests; clean financial audit for '07

Additional detailed information about the activities and key accomplishments of the RRI in 2008 is available in the 2008 Integrated Report to RRI Framework Donors.