



GLOBAL FOREST WATCH 2.0 A NEW FOREST MONITORING INITIATIVE FROM WRI AND PARTNERS

WRI, Google, UNEP, University of Maryland and partners are developing a new forest monitoring system that will unite technology, transparency, and human networks to mobilize faster, more effective forest conservation and sustainable forest management. It combines a novel near-real-time deforestation alert system, complementary satellite data and systems, and partner maps, and mobile technology. This project will give government agencies, companies, communities and civil society access to up-to-date information on the status of protected areas, enable detection of illegal logging, support integrated land use planning and coordination between agencies.

[Global Forest Watch 2.0](#) will be launched and freely available to all in May 2013, with pre-launch announcements in April.

Some of its features

- Automated near-real-time deforestation alert maps showing the location of new clearing every 16 days
- Alerts going out via Facebook, Twitter, text messaging, and other means
- Seamlessly accessible and zoomable satellite images and forest change data via Google Earth Engine
- Capacity for uploading crowd-sourced, GPS-tagged photos using smart phones
- Boundaries of parks, indigenous territories, as well as logging, mining, and agro-industry concessions
- Forest carbon maps with carbon emission estimates where clearing occurs
- Smartphone version
- Easy-to-use graphical interface in multiple languages, designed for non-technical end users
- Pan-tropical geographic focus, later expanding to global coverage

Target users and applications

- NGOs can identify deforestation hotspots as they arise and quickly mobilize action
- Governments can better enforce forest protection laws
- Media can quickly highlight hotspots and trigger responses
- Indigenous communities can rapidly “ring the alarm bell” when forest encroachment occurs
- Suppliers of sustainable commodities can demonstrate their supply chains are “deforestation free”
- Buyers of commodities such as certified palm oil, soy, timber, and beef can monitor supplier commitments
- Citizens everywhere can become an army of global and local “forest watchers”



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To read more, please visit <http://www.wri.org/gfw2>.