

“CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT: PRIORITIES AND PATHWAYS TO DEVELOP LEADERS FOR FOREST LANDSCAPE RESTORATION”

Organizers:

- Karin Bucht, Environmental Leadership & Training Initiative at Yale University
- Eva Garen, Environmental Leadership & Training Initiative at Yale University

Expected participant: 30-35

Duration: Two hours

Abstract

Forest landscape restoration provides an opportunity to transform degraded and deforested land into landscapes that produce numerous ecological, economic, and social benefits. Many countries have committed to restore millions of hectares under the Bonn Challenge. Achieving these commitments, however, requires that stakeholders address diverse ecological, socio-political, and economic factors impacting restoration at different scales. Integrated efforts to achieve successful forest landscape restoration will demand empowered individuals with in-depth knowledge on diverse topics and strong collaboration between sectors and stakeholders. Capacity development, or the building of skills and knowledge-base of individuals and organizations, offers a pathway to cultivate leaders, facilitate peer-to-peer learning and networking, and promote interdisciplinary understanding of complex topics. Capacity development is also crucial for transforming science into practice by connecting the newest scientific research with practitioners who conduct conservation activities on-the-ground. Given the importance of developing skilled, knowledgeable leaders able to take action using holistic knowledge, it is equally important to identify pathways to ensure that activities are undertaken to build individual and organizational capacity at different scales in all sectors. Led by the Environmental Leadership & Training Initiative, a capacity development initiative of Yale University with over 12 years of experience training leaders on forest landscape restoration, this workshop will provide an overview of what capacity development is and why it is important. Participants will explore capacity development needs, audiences, tools and challenges relevant to their own sector and geography and undertake a collective dialogue to strategize future collaboration.

