



GCF

task force

Rio Branco - Acre | 2025

WORKING SESSIONS

Thursday, May 22, 2025

UFAC Convention Center

Afternoon Sessions (14:30 to 18:00)

"Supporting a sustainable transition for small and large producers: leveraging technology, territorial planning and community participation."

Facilitators:

Maria Teresa Vargas and Bruno Paladines

1. Background and Justification

Our panel addresses an urgent and strategic transformation: the transition to a new forest economy. This is not only a technical or environmental challenge, but a long-term structural challenge for the subnational governments that make up the GCFTF. Overcoming the short-term extractivist logic, this new economy recognizes the value of the standing forest, promotes the bioeconomy, innovation and sustainability, and positions the private and community sectors as key actors in territorial development.

This transition is already taking shape in countries such as Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, Mexico and Brazil. In Bolivia, departments such as Santa Cruz and Pando are adopting innovative approaches that reconnect economic development with forest conservation. Santa Cruz is promoting deforestation-free soybean production traceability systems that respond to international market demands and strengthen territorial management. In Pando, the articulation between public, private and community actors around non-timber Amazonian products boosts local economies through sustainable use of the forest. At the same time, various initiatives promote green seals, sustainable production standards and recognition mechanisms that validate value chains compatible with national climate commitments (NDCs).

In Ecuador, there is progress and a planned roadmap between the subnational and national state to work on the production and export of deforestation-free coffee and cocoa in the Amazon, and a focus on ancestral production systems between Amazonian indigenous communities and cooperation organizations within the framework of public policy and land use planning led by subnational governments. All this within the framework of the national program and jurisdictional REDD+ plans that are already under an articulated implementation.

In Yucatan, Mexico, the efforts that have been made to build local capacities for the recovery and development of an activity with a very high biocultural and economic subsistence value and increasingly generating more income are well known.

management of native bees; with similar experiences that are beginning to become visible in other countries as well.

This new forest economy must be resilient: able to adapt to climate uncertainty, create decent jobs and consolidate territorial and intercultural governance. To achieve this, the following are needed:

- Public and private investment in innovation and improved production practices;
- Incentive mechanisms that recognize sustainability and traceability;
- Strengthening of local, community and institutional capacities in environmental matters.
- A cooperation aligned with policy articulation and public intervention in favor of the new forest economy.

This panel brings together concrete experiences to share progress, identify common obstacles and provide inputs for the design of proposals to accelerate this transition towards a fairer, more sustainable economic model rooted in the territory. Such a transformation will only be possible if it emerges from the territories and is built together with those who produce in them.

2. Panel Objectives

- Analyze successful models for linking technology, territorial planning and the community in sustainable production chains.
- Identify barriers and bottlenecks to scale up to sustainable practices from small, medium and large producers.
- Design practical recommendations for public policies and financing mechanisms, with a focus on public-private partnerships and South-South cooperation.
- Establish concrete opportunities for collaboration and exchange of experiences to work on pilot initiatives among the different GCFTF member jurisdictions.

3. Expected Results

- Recommendations document with at least three priority lines of action.
- Collaboration network between regions and partners, with identification of two pilot projects for 2025-2026.

4. Topics and guest panelists

Sustainable Livestock	(WWF Peru)
Pastaza	(Ecuador)
Plantet Lab	(Brazil)
Indigenous governance	(Bolivia)
Native Bees	(Yucatan Mexico)
Deforestation-free coffee	(Ecuador)
ARA Incentives	(Bolivia)
Sustainable Biovalue Chains	(Bolivia)
Amazon Subnational Fund	(Ecuador)

5. Structure and Schedule

Block	Duration	Activity
Session I (1h30)		
Welcome and introduction	5 min	The moderator presents objectives, agenda and dynamics.
2. Thematic exhibitions	50 min	5 panelists× 10 min.
3. Moderated Q&A panel	25 min	The moderator asks 3 key questions to the speakers
4. Quick summary and challenges for the second session	10 min	Recap of findings from the session with panelists – Formation of groups – Questions for the session of the afternoon
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5. Work tables	25 min	4 parallel thematic tables, facilitated.
6. Presentation by representatives of the working groups	25 min	4 short reports (5 min each) from each table
7. Commitments and closing	10 min	Moderator summarizes the main conclusions of the panel, integrating results of the survey (panel polling)

5.1 Dynamics of open participatory dialogue

- Moderator poses key questions to each block.
- Use of "panel polling" to prioritize challenges and solutions in real time.
- Q&A moderated for panelists and open to the public

5.2 Dynamics of the working tables

The objective is to identify concrete proposals to overcome challenges and take advantage of opportunities in the sustainable transition, based on the experience of the territories and key actors of the GCFTF.

Each table Each table has:

- 1 facilitator (preferably someone from the organizing team or a key partner).
- 1 rapporteur (a panelist is proposed to deepen the presentation of Session I).
- Flip charts and markers to systematize.

Guiding questions for each table:

- What is the main challenge preventing progress in this area?
- What specific experience do you know of or have you experienced that shows an effective solution?
- What priority action should be implemented in the short term (1-2 years)?
- Which actor or alliance would be key to lead that

action? With a specific focus on:

Roundtable 1: Accessible technological innovation

What technologies can be adapted by small and large producers? How to scale their adoption?

Roundtable 2: Participatory territorial planning

How to integrate productive, ecological and social planning from the local level?

Roundtable 3: Governance and community participation

What institutional conditions strengthen the real inclusion of communities?

Roundtable 4: Sustainable financing and incentives

What financial mechanisms and market-based instruments can accelerate sustainable transition?