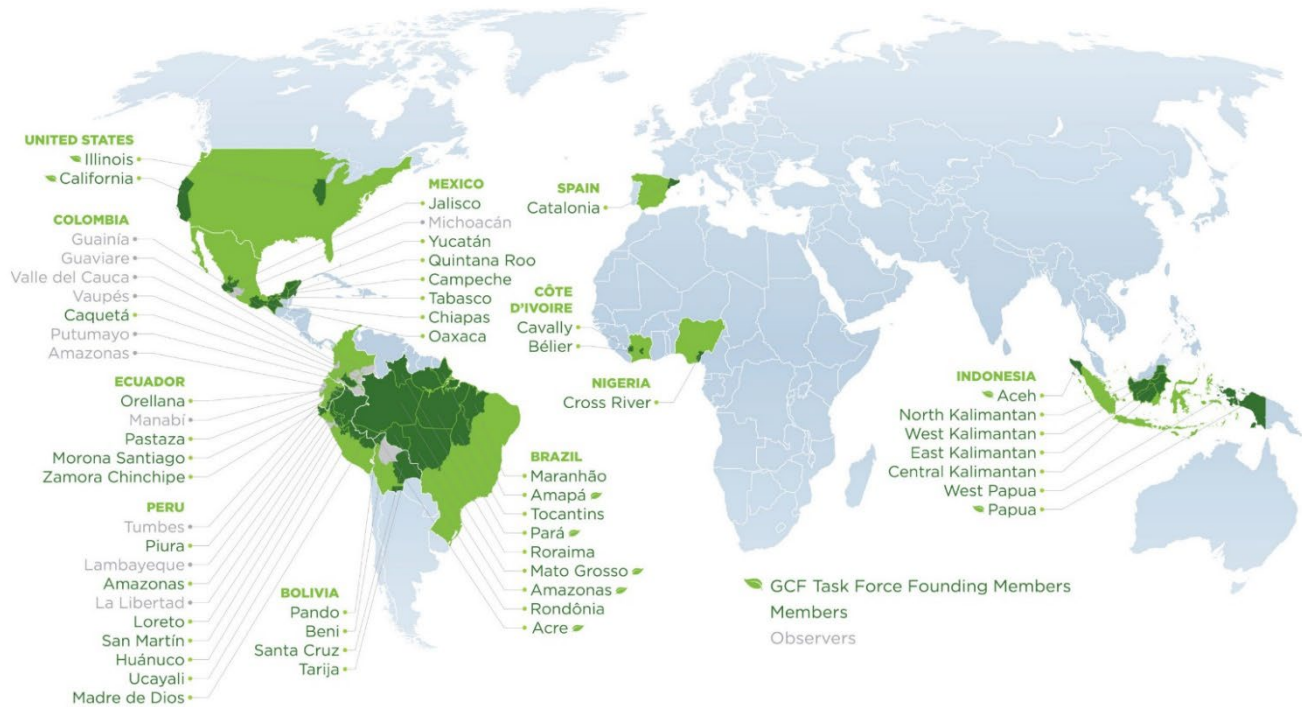


Carta de Acre:

TFFF Success Depends Upon Subnational Action and Leadership

Rio Branco, Brazil || May 23, 2025



We, the members of the Governors' Climate & Forests Task Force (GCF Task Force), have gathered in Rio Branco in the state of Acre, Brazil for our 2025 Annual Meeting to advance our ongoing efforts to build New Forest Economies across our jurisdictions – economies that protect intact forests, restore degraded lands, and create jobs and economic opportunities for the millions of people who live in these forests.

We are the world's only subnational governmental network dedicated to protecting forests, reducing emissions, and enhancing livelihoods across the tropics. Today, our network includes 45 states and provinces from 11 countries that encompass more than one-third of the world's tropical forests— including all of Brazil's Legal Amazon, more than 85% of the Peruvian Amazon, more than 75% of the Bolivian Amazon, 65% of Mexico's tropical forests, and over 60% of Indonesia's forests. Over the last 15 years, we have played a key role in building jurisdictional programs to reduce emissions from deforestation and land use, partnering with indigenous and local communities, and promoting new forest economies.

As we convene here in Acre, the birthplace of Chico Mendes and the heart of the Amazon basin, we applaud the leadership of the Government of Brazil together with other national governments to design and launch the innovative Tropical Forest Forever Facility (TFFF) at COP30 in Belem. The TFFF could be a game changer for tropical forests by establishing long-term pay-for performance financing at the scale necessary to protect intact tropical forests, accelerate restoration of degraded lands, and build durable new forest economies across the tropics.

We also applaud the consideration given to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) as forest stewards, including a proposed minimum allocation of forest payments from the TFFF. For much of the last

decade, we have worked closely with our IPLC partners as evidenced by our adoption in 2018 of the [Guiding Principles for Collaboration and Partnership between Subnational Governments and IPLCs](#), ongoing collaboration with IPLCs at regional and global levels, and our efforts to co-design jurisdictional strategies and investment plans with our IPLC partners. We understand very well that forest protection will not happen without IPLCs.

The subnational governments of the GCF Task Force are ready to engage actively in the design of innovative proposals such as the TFFF, just as they have played and will continue to play a key role in the design and implementation of jurisdictional programs for forest protection and sustainable land use, as well as in the advancement of new forest economies. While we recognize that the precise role of subnational governments varies among countries and that the ultimate distribution of forest payments within countries is an internal and sovereign matter that will need to be discussed in due course, we must take into account the significant and ongoing work that subnational governments are already doing to advance our common goal of protecting the world's remaining tropical forests.

Together with our IPLC communities, we are on the front lines in the battle against deforestation and climate change. We are already doing much of the hard work on climate change mitigation and adaptation and we provide critical laboratories for policy experimentation and learning. For more than fifteen years, we have mobilized political leadership to advance the global forests and climate agenda; adopted innovative laws, policies, and programs to establish multi-sectoral jurisdiction-wide approaches to forest protection; and developed innovative partnerships with IPLCs, civil society, the private sector, and governments at all levels to build new forest economies.

As articulated in our 2022 [Manaus Action Plan for a New Forest Economy](#) and elaborated further in our 2024 [Blueprint for a New Forest Economy](#) we have identified the essential design elements, building blocks, and funding mechanisms that we need to advance our work, including promoting bioeconomy, protecting natural infrastructure, accelerating restoration, and transitioning to sustainable commodity production.

However, we would like to highlight that we understand that we currently face major challenges in consolidating the mechanisms that have already been tested in recent years, such as the Subnational Jurisdictional REDD+ programs, but that they still require expressions of support from national governments, integration into national REDD+ strategies, regulation, increased financial resources, and understanding from control and judicial bodies so that we can effectively receive resources capable of achieving the much-desired change in land use methods and consequently reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

We view the lessons learned from this work as complementary and essential to the success of the TFFF and urge our respective national governments and international partners to work with us to further advance our collective efforts to conserve tropical forests by establishing new mechanisms and repurposing existing facilities to support our efforts. Simply put, your success depends on our success, and we stand ready to partner with you.

We appreciate that representatives from the TFFF working group have joined us here in Rio Branco and that we were able to engage on the TFFF. We call on you to continue that dialogue and to work with the GCF Task Force to ensure that the TFFF recognizes and supports the critical role of subnational action and leadership on forests and climate.

For our forests, our people, and the climate, we look forward to working with you in the lead-up to COP30 in Belem do Para and beyond.