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## **CATIE JOINS THE ALLIANCE FOR RESPONSIBLE FOREST MANAGEMENT: LEAD TECHNICAL PARTNER FOR LATIN AMERICA**

Climate Forestry Limited, Tropical Forest Foundation and the Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE) enter into a technical agreement to implement the Alliance for Responsible Forest Management (ARFM).

**The Alliance for Responsible Forest Management (ARFM)** is an international not-for-profit, non-governmental organisation with the goal to accelerate the implementation of responsible forest management across the tropical world and reduce greenhouse gas emissions from entering the atmosphere from the forest sector. By applying over 30 years of peer-reviewed research, applied knowledge and international stakeholder review processes, the ARFM aims to have an effective knowledge management system, integrating **regionally-appropriate best practice manuals**, classroom-based (virtual and/or in-person), and on-site practical training in **regional training centres** in Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America. In addition, ARFM trainers can travel to forest concessions to provide licensee-specific training. The ARFM concentrates on best practice in commercial tropical forestry applications in natural forest, planted forest, conservation forest and rehabilitation of degraded forest. ARFM adopts a Member and Supporter business model to complement income from training modules.

CATIE has joined the ARFM as a lead technical partner for Latin America and will join the ARFM Executive Board and Technical Training Council to support and ensure operations and programmes are implemented with the utmost transparency and ethical behaviour across the ARFM system. CATIE shall support the implementation of policies for strengthening organisations and extension services related to developing regional training modules, establish and facilitate the training centres in Latin America for forest managers and practitioners, Certification Bodies (CBs), auditors, government agencies and private sector forest organisations.

The best practice manuals shall incorporate quantifiable research metrics for statistical analyses and gap identification to support reviews and updates at regular intervals to incorporate changes in policies, regulatory framework, technologies, and practices. All manuals will be translated into in major languages used in each region and in the field, such as Bahasa Indonesia, Bahasa Melayu, English, French, Mandarin, Portuguese and Spanish.

**Call to action:**

This programme shall deliver a significant contribution to remove the current barriers of practicing responsible forest management. All reasonable efforts should be undertaken to raise awareness and seek the active support of all stakeholders. The ARFM encourages all interested individuals, companies, governments and non-governmental organisations to join our call to action and support the improvement of tropical forest practices, globally. Please get in touch to learn about our programmes of work.

**About:**

**Climate Forestry Limited** is a specialist professional forestry company with programmes of work to optimise operational forest management, support forest certification and timber legality assurance, develop and implement sustainable financial strategies, and support organisations to meet the requirements of International Conventions and Environmental Agreements. Climate Forestry co-hosts the interim Secretariat of the ARFM.

**Tropical Forest Foundation Indonesia** is an international organisation dedicated to promoting tropical forest conservation and management through education and training specialising on responsible commercial timber extraction in the tropics. The Organisation aims to foster dialogue and alliances between industry groups, improve tropical forest management, and enhance the economic value of tropical forests. Tropical Forest Foundation co-hosts the interim Secretariat of the ARFM.

**CATIE** is an international organisation working with a mission to promote Inclusive Green Development and with more than 45 years of experience working on sustainable forest management. Its mission is achieved through the generation of scientific knowledge and the training of new leaders. CATIE has an integrated research programme with higher education and training programmes to strengthen the capacities for sustainable forest management in Latin America. CATIE also has a network of cooperation, including the Global Model Forest program and cooperation with Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) and the World Agroforestry Program, Rainforest Alliance, National Institute of Forest Science, Republic of Korea (NIFOS) and International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO). In addition, CATIE has offices in many of the countries in Latin America and has established cooperation with national forest institutes to implement policies and strategies on sustainable forest management.

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