

CSFEP Theory of Change

Problem Statement: Today, the forest ecosystems in the Global South most affected by climate change remain critically underfunded—leaving the communities that depend on them without resources for adaptation. While regional forest products industries could generate this needed revenue (while also providing climate mitigation benefits), many regions are missing opportunities to develop these industries in ways that could sustainably fund forest adaptation, strengthen local economies, and maximize climate mitigation opportunities.

Vision: People understand climate smart forest economies and have the tools and resources to realize them in ways that benefit the planet, forest ecosystems, and local prosperity.

WHAT WE DO► OUTPUTS► OUTCOMES► IMPACT

GLOBAL ◀ LOCAL

WE BUILD LOCAL COALITIONS BY:

- Bringing together actors from across the forest products value chain, including communities and representatives from policy and finance
- Raising awareness about climate smart forest economies, their benefits, and pathways to achieve them
- Catalyzing funding, resources, and support for climate smart forest economies

Create space to listen, learn, and act together

WE BUILD A GLOBAL MOVEMENT BY:

- Convening diverse global actors to share scientific research and practical experiences in climate smart forest economies
- Sharing tools and resources to support actors in achieving a climate smart forest economy

LOCAL COALITIONS AND FOREST ECONOMIES MATURE:

- Coalitions establish relationships and trust; governance; and resources for long-term stability
- Connected businesses across the value chain secure technical, financial, and government support to build one coordinated, trusted market
- Regions establish pathways for climate adaptation of forests, using the sale of forest products to fund the transition

Deep trust and relationships power collaborative action

A GLOBAL MOVEMENT DEVELOPS:

- Consensus emerges around forest economy best practices, based on insights from local coalitions and the global community
- With better tools and resources, practitioners increasingly understand the impact of their choices on forest ecosystems, local economies, and climate

LOCAL CHANGE: Cross-sector partners create balanced regional climate smart forest economies, driving positive change in local economies, forest ecosystems, and climate resilience.

- Local actors transform emerging, often extractive, forest economies into holistic, integrated ones, capable of capitalizing on both mitigation and adaptation opportunities
- Local ownership and decision-making within value chains ensures forest product industries serve the best interests of local businesses, communities, and forest ecosystems
- Well-resourced local forest economies fund climate adaptation of forests

GLOBAL CHANGE: Actors understand the benefits of climate-smart forest economies and utilize available tools and resources to achieve them.

- Shifts in mindset lead to shifts in decision-making for forest economy actors
- Increased engagement in learning spaces and widespread adoption of tools will catalyse climate smart activity in forest economies worldwide

RESILIENT FORESTS: Regions are adapting local forests in response to climate change, including improved forest management, restoration, and reforestation

HEALTHY GREEN ECONOMIES:

Local forest economies, and the many green business ventures with them, are thriving, supporting local communities and livelihoods