

IRF features at Bali talks on climate change

Governments, NGOs, leading intergovernmental institutions and media gathered beginning of December in Bali for the 13th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 13) to discuss a possible successor to the Kyoto Protocol.



Indonesia Minister of Environment

Susanna Zammataro from IRF Geneva Programme Centre presented the IRF Greenhouse Gas Calculator for the Road sector at the **Green Renaissance** seminar organised by the Borneo Tropical Rainforest Foundation (BTRF) in the margins of COP 13. The aim of the event was to promote new partnerships between conservation and capital capable of implementing dynamic long-term responses to the environmental challenges facing the planet. More than two hundred people attended the seminar to discuss the implementation of the Voluntary Carbon Market through three case studies (Indonesia, Malaysia and Amazon region of Brazil). While addressing this exceptional international

audience from public and private sector, the Minister of Environment and the Minister of Forestry of Indonesia underlined the necessity to value forests in a way that it will be more attractive for a country to keep it standing rather than cutting it down. They also recognised the need for big flows of finance for this to happen.

The audience and the panelists welcomed the IRF initiative on the Carbon Calculator as a leading example of an innovative voluntary sector engagement.

In Bali, Susanna attended also the **Tri Hita Karana** Global Business Day jointly organised by the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) and the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC). The event brought together some 350 decision makers from companies, governments, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations and sent a strong message that business wants governments to set clear policy frameworks and long-term strategies for reducing global carbon and greenhouse gas emissions. It also demonstrated the capacities and commitments of leading companies and business sectors to provide solutions to the climate challenge and highlighted the financing requirements that will enable companies and markets to successfully develop and implement an ambitious global mitigation plan.

Summing-up the one-day discussions, Dr Gro Harlem Brundtland – UN Special Envoy on Climate Change – said that forests have been largely ignored in climate change debates so far but they can't anymore since they are a fast, ready-made and efficient way of addressing the problem. Deforestation is in fact the second biggest source of greenhouse gas emissions after power generation.



Dr Gro Harlem Brundtland