

GLOSSARY

Abiotic	Non-living.
Afrotropical	The biogeographical region covering the whole of the African continent south of the Sahara.
Albertine Rift	The western rift valley and associated mountains and lakes, running through western Uganda.
Biodiversity	The total variety of life on earth.
Biogeography	The study of distribution patterns of life on earth.
Biological Diversity	The total variety of life on earth.
Biological Inventory	A quantitative or semi-quantitative survey of plants and/or animals.
Biomass	Live weight.
Biome	A large-scale ecosystem type, defined on the basis of vegetation.
Biosphere	The thin portion of the planet, between the earth's crust and upper atmosphere, that can sustain life.
Biosphere Reserve	A protected area designated by UNESCO, whose management objectives include not only preservation but also some degree of human use, usually in defined zones.
Biotic	Living.
Bryophyte	Lower, non-flowering, plants including mosses and liverworts.
Buffer Area	A loosely-defined area outside a protected area, where it is intended that management will be influenced to favour the conservation of the protected area.
Buffer Zone	A zone within a protected area, protecting particularly sensitive areas such as strict nature reserves, from undue human pressure that may exist outside the protected area, usually by allowing some limited and controlled human use within the buffer.
Carnivore	A meat-eater.
Clear-felling	Felling the mature trees in a forest all at one time.
Climax community	The end-point of a succession.
Climax Species	Plant species that are adapted to live and reproduce in a climax community.
Community	A group of co-existing plants and animals.
Complementarity	Degree of overlap.
Conservation	Management of human use of organisms or ecosystems so that it may yield the greatest sustainable benefit to present generations, while maintaining its potential to meet the needs and aspirations of future generations.
Consumer	An organism that gets its nutrients and energy through eating others.
Consumptive Use Value	The economic value derived from using a resource and changing it in the process.
Corridor	A physical link connecting two otherwise separated areas.
Cost Benefit Analysis	A process whereby economic costs and benefits for a given situation or proposal are compared, so that the net values associated with these can be compared on a level footing.
Dbh	Diameter at breast height.
Deciduous	Loosing its leaves at certain times of the year, such as the dry or cold season.
Decomposer	An organism that gets its nutrition and energy by eating the remains of other organisms.
Deforestation	The process of replacement of forest by other land-use or vegetation types.
Degradation	The process of forest or ecosystem deterioration through inappropriate use.
Development	The process of change in human societies that is supposed to result in greater prosperity and productivity.
Discount Rate	The degree to which societies or individuals value the present over the future.
Diversity	Comprises a measure of richness (e.g. number of species) with a measure of evenness (e.g. how many individuals of species A there are compared to species B, C. etc.).
Ecology	The study of the processes and interactions between organisms and their environment.
Ecosystem	A functioning, interacting system composed of one or more living organisms and their effective environment.
Ecotone	A gradation between two ecosystems or vegetation types.
Ecotourism	A form of special-interest tourism that aims to be environmentally sustainable.
Ecotourist	A tourist who seeks pleasure from experiencing the natural environment at close quarters, without changing it significantly.
Endangered	So rare and declining that extinction is inevitable if the factors causing the decline continue to operate.
Endemic	Restricted to a certain area or geographical areas.

Endemism	The phenomenon whereby some species are found only in certain geographical areas.
Enrichment Planting	Improving the timber potential of a natural forest by underplanting it with selected seedlings of timber trees.
Environmental Conservation	The design and protection of productive and sustainable land-use systems.
Environmental Economics	Economics that seeks to incorporate many of the real economic values relating to the environment and its human use, which would otherwise be ignored.
Environmental Impact Assessment	A formal process of examining the possible impacts that a project may have on the environment, allowing the project to be modified to reduce harmful impacts or increase benefits, or scrapped altogether if necessary.
Epiphyte	An organism, usually a plant, that grows on another plant.
Equilibrium	An active balance between two states of being.
Evaporation	Loss of water (or other liquids) to the atmosphere by diffusion.
Evergreen	Plants that retain living leaves throughout the year.
Ex situ Conservation	Conservation that is carried out away from the natural environment of the species concerned, such as in a zoo or botanical garden.
Existence Value	The economic value derived from something's existence, regardless of whether it has a use to humanity or not.
Exotic	Not native to a given area.
Extant	Still existing.
Externality	An economic attribute of a system that is not normally included in an economic analysis of that system.
Extinct	No longer in existence.
Faunal Collapse	The process of extinction of animal species associated with an ecosystem that is no longer large enough to support all the extant species.
Feral	Gone back to the wild having escaped or been released from captivity, and able to establish a breeding population there.
Flowering Plant	Taxonomic group of higher plants comprising those orders whose members produce true flowers.
Food Chain	Organisms connected in series through their feeding relationships, in that each feeds on the organism forming the previous link in the chain.
Food Web	A group of organisms forming a common pool, various members of which are connected to others in the pool through their feeding relationships, in that each feeds on or is fed on by others in the same pool.
Forest Reserve	A government land designation the purpose of which is to retain that land as forest or other natural vegetation, or to encourage its conversion to forest.
Forest Stewardship	Looking after forest in a way that is environmentally sustainable over the long term.
Forestry	The science and art of managing forests and trees.
Fragmentation	The process of breaking up large and contiguous units into smaller, separated ones.
Fuelwood	Any wood whose ultimate use is for burning, whether as wood or charcoal.
Fundamental Niche	The niche of an organism whose limits are defined by the organism's responses to various attributes of its abiotic environment.
Game	Animals (including mammals, reptiles, birds and fish) which are, or have the potential to be, quarry species.
Game Reserve	A government-protected area designed to control human use of game animals.
Gap-phase Dynamics	The process of forest renewal through the natural processes of the forest cycle, especially the phase when a treefall gap appears in the canopy, allowing other tree seedling species to compete and ultimately close the gap.
GEF	Global Environment Facility, a World Bank-based mechanism for funding environmental projects in developing countries, especially in the areas of biodiversity conservation and pollution control.
Generalist	An organism that can survive and reproduce under a wide range of environmental conditions.
Genetic diversity	The degree of variation that exists at the level of genes within any species.
Global Warming	The process of gradual warming of the world's climate, brought about by human-induced changes to the biosphere, especially increased carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.
Greenhouse Effect	The heating effect associated with a rise in the level of carbon dioxide, methane and other so-called greenhouse gases in the lower atmosphere, brought about by human use of the biosphere, especially the burning of fossil fuels and the clearance of forests.
Grid Trail	A regular system of paths running at right angles to each other such that they intersect at standard intervals, hence forming a regular grid.
Guild	A group of organisms related by behaviour, or niche, rather than by evolution.

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Gymnosperm	A group of higher plants including the conifers and cycads but not including most other flowering plants.
Habitat	The place or environment where an organism lives.
Herbivore	An animal that gets its nutrition and energy by eating plants.
In situ Conservation	Conservation of a species in its natural environment.
Incidental Loss	Loss of, or damage to, non-target trees in the process of extracting other trees for timber or other uses.
Indicator Group	A group of species whose presence or absence, either jointly or singly, provides information about the ecological status of the area sampled or recorded.
Integrated Forest Management	Management which maintains indefinitely, without unacceptable impairment, the productive and renewal capacities as well as the species and ecological diversity of forest ecosystems.
Interspecific	Between species.
Intraspecific	Within a single species.
Introduced	Not native to a given area, and brought there, intentionally or otherwise, by humans.
Invasive Exotic	A species that is not native to a given area and which, once established in that area, has the potential to increase out of all proportion to its abundance in its own native area, often in the process excluding species native to the area in which it is invasive.
Inventory	A quantitative or semi-quantitative survey.
Invertebrate	Any species of animal that does not have a backbone.
Island Biogeography	The theory that the species complement in any area is dynamic, and maintained by an equilibrium between immigration and local extinction. The theory states that large blocks of single ecosystem types will tend to support more species than smaller blocks, and that isolated areas will tend to have fewer species than contiguous areas of the same size.
ITTO	International Tropical Timber Organisation.
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature: The World Conservation Union.
Joint Forest Management	Management of forest reserves that is shared between the government body (such as the Forest Department) and the local community living near the forest reserve, to the benefit of both stakeholders.
Light-demander	A tree species whose seeds can only germinate in gaps in which full sunlight impinges at ground level for at least part of the day.
Logging	The process of felling forest trees and removing them as logs rather than converting them on site.
Loop Trail	A path system comprising one or more paths that start and finish in the same place, forming a loop.
Mammal	The group of backboned animals whose members have fur and suckle their young.
Management Plan	A document outlining the management proposed for a given area, and also including other sections, such as background information, that are relevant to that area's management.
Mass Tourism	Tourism that is aimed at, and appeals to, large numbers of relatively indiscriminating tourists.
Mechanical Logging	The process of extraction and primary conversion of timber trees using machines.
Microhabitat	The place where a small (to the human eye) organism lives, especially the very small details that distinguish that place from others where that organism does not live.
Minimum Viable Population	The smallest population of a species which can survive on its own at its present size in the long term.
Monitoring	Checking progress periodically.
Monocyclic	A form of natural forest silviculture whereby the forest is only entered to carry out fellings once over the time that it takes for trees of the target species to grow from sapling to commercial maturity.
Montane	Referring to, or coming from, a mountain environment, where conditions differ markedly from those in the lowlands.
Mosaic	A patchwork of two or more clearly-defined vegetation types.
National Park	A government designation of protected area, established normally for the conservation of biodiversity or wilderness, often with no or little human use.
Native	Belongs in an area and natural to it.
Natural forest	Forest that has not been extensively modified by humans, and owes its general appearance and species composition to natural processes.
Naturalised	A species that is exotic to an area, but has successfully colonised it without necessarily displacing too many native species in the process.

Nature	All the plants, animals and other organisms that exist on earth, plus the natural processes acting on the earth and its inhabitants.
Nature conservation	Measures taken by humans to ensure the long-term survival of plants, animals and other organisms.
Nature Reserve	A designation applied to land so that its management is designed to ensure the survival of the plants, animals and other organisms that live there.
Niche	The role of an organism in its community; its relationship with other organisms and with the non-living components of the ecosystem.
Non-consumptive Use Value	An economic attribute which is determined on the basis of its value to humanity for uses that do not destroy or change that attribute.
Occult Precipitation	Condensation derived from fog or clouds as air currents cause them to make contact with branches and other objects on which water can condense.
Opportunity Cost	The value of benefits foregone by not carrying out a specific action.
Option Value	The value associated with retaining the option to carry out a specific action in the future, even if it transpires that the action is never actually carried out.
Organism	A living individual.
Orographic Rainfall	Rainfall brought about when moist air is forced to rise over land-masses (such as mountains), cooling as it does so and thereby causing water to condense out of it.
Parasite	An organism that gets its nutrients and energy by feeding on the living tissue of another organism, and not necessarily killing it in the process.
Parasitoid	An organism that gets its nutrients and energy by feeding within or on the living tissue of another, invariably ultimately killing the host in the process.
Permanent Sample Plot	A small area marked out in a forest, and studied intensively at intervals over a number of years to assess and quantify any changes in the structure or species composition brought about by management or by natural processes.
Pest	Any organism that is living where humans do not want it to live, and causing a nuisance to humans in the process.
Photosynthesis	The process whereby plants assimilate the energy in sunlight by fixing it into chemical energy in sugars.
Phytochoria	Large-scale plant communities that are distinguished on the basis of high endemism, that is, few of the species contained in one of them are also found in adjacent ones.
Pioneer Species	Species that are adapted to colonising disturbed areas, and which generally cannot survive in an area without disturbance.
Pit Sawing	The process of cutting timber trees and converting them to planks in the forest, involving at least two people operating a large manual saw. The log is rolled onto a frame over a pit; for cross-cutting, one sawyer operates one end of the saw from within the pit below the log while the other operates the other end from on top.
Plantation	A crop, normally of woody plants, where all the plants to be harvested have been deliberately planted and have not arisen through natural regeneration.
Pleistocene Ice Age	A period covering tens of thousands of years, ending about ten thousand years ago, during which global temperatures were a few degrees cooler than today's, resulting in the spread of ice outwards from the poles, and the contraction of tropical forests to small pockets as rainfall declined.
Policy	The framework in which an institution's activities are carried out. Often formulated into a written document.
Polycyclic	A form of natural forest silviculture whereby the forest is entered to carry out fellings more than once over the time that it takes for trees of the target species to grow from sapling to commercial maturity, so that mature trees of a relatively standard size are harvested frequently but in small numbers.
Population	Any group of individuals of a given species that exist together in a given area and can interbreed, yet are isolated from other similar groups of the same species.
Predator	An animal that gets its nutrition and energy by feeding on other animals.
Preservation	Protection without any form of human use.
Prey	An organism that is eaten by another.
Primary Forest	Forest that is thought to be in its natural form, unchanged by humans, and mature enough to be composed of a climax vegetation type.
Producer	An organism that gets its nutrition and energy from sources other than consuming other organisms. Plants are the main producers, fixing energy from the sun and nutrients from the soil.
Production Forest	Forest designated for use in producing timber or other forest products.
Production Zone	A zone within a forest designated for use in producing timber or other forest products.
Protected area	A general term for any area officially designated to protect the natural or semi-

	natural features that exist there.
Protection Forest	Forest designated to serve non-exploitative functions, such as protection of watersheds, climate amelioration, or nature conservation.
Ranking	The process of ordering a series according to predefined criteria.
Rarity	The degree to which a species or population is comprised of relatively few individuals.
Realised Niche	The extent of an organism's niche in the presence of the influence of other organisms competing with, predated on, or otherwise living in the same environment as, the organism in question.
Refugium/a	A hypothetical geographical area/areas where environmental conditions are such that, due to climate or other environmental change, they provide the only suitable living area/areas for a given species that once occupied a much wider area when environmental conditions were more favourable for it.
Regeneration	The process of renewal and recolonisation of an area by organisms.
Renewable Resource	A resource that, if used wisely, can go on providing indefinitely because it is not finite.
Residual Stand	The trees remaining standing after logging or other forms of silviculture.
Richness	How many species live in an area.
Saproxylic	Species which are dependent, during some part of their life cycle, upon the dead or dying wood of moribund or dead trees (standing or fallen), or upon the presence of other saproxylics.
Savannah	Tropical grassland ecosystem, with or without trees.
Sawnwood	Wood that has been converted into planks or other products through sawing.
Secondary Forest	Forest that has regenerated or recolonised following a recent period when the area was not substantially forested.
Selective Logging	Logging whereby only a few trees are selected for felling at any one time.
Semi-deciduous	Forest in which a proportion of the trees shed their leaves during the dry or cold season; or trees that shed a proportion of their leaves during the dry or cold season.
Shade-bearer	Tree species whose seeds can germinate under forest shade and whose seedlings can establish and survive in shade at least for a year or two.
Shade-intolerant	Tree species whose seeds can only germinate in gaps in which full sunlight impinges at ground level for at least part of the day.
Shade-tolerant	Tree species whose seeds can germinate under forest shade and whose seedlings can establish and survive in shade at least for a year or two.
Shadow Pricing	The process of determining the value of something by extrapolation from something else whose value is thought to be comparable but is easier to measure.
Silviculture	The science and art of growing and managing trees.
Skid Trail	The rough track along which mechanical skidders (or draft animals) haul out logs from a forest to a loading area, for onward transport to the sawmill.
Specialist	One who can only survive under a relatively limited set of environmental conditions, under which it flourishes.
Strict Nature Reserve	A designation applied to land of high nature conservation value so that it can be managed to ensure the survival of the species that live there with minimal disturbance from humans.
Succession	The non-seasonal, directional and continuous pattern of colonisation and extinction on a site.
Sustainable development	Development that meets the needs and aspirations of people today without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
Sustainable use	Using renewable resources at rates within their capacity for renewal.
Synconium	The flower-head and fruiting body of a fig plant which consists of an inrolled inflorescence so that the individual flowers line the inside of a chamber, whose only connection with the outside world is a small pore called the ostiole.
Tenure	Rights associated with land, ranging from outright ownership to rights of use.
Threatened	A general term for any organism whose future survival is in jeopardy because of human activities, regardless of the degree of threat.
Tourism	The practice of travelling for pleasure, together with the business of providing services for such travellers.
Tourist	A voluntary, temporary traveller, travelling in the expectation of pleasure for the novelty and change experienced on a relatively large and non-recurrent round-trip.
Transition	Gradual change from one state to another.
Transpiration	The process whereby water evaporates from the pores in the leaves of plants, and in so doing allows the plant to take up more water and nutrients from the soil.
Tropical forest	A general term for vegetation types dominated by trees and growing in the tropics.

Tropical moist forest	Tropical forest that receives sufficient rainfall (total and spread) to support semi-deciduous or evergreen trees.
Tropical rainforest	Tropical forest that receives sufficient rainfall (total and spread) to be dominated by evergreen trees.
Ubiquitous	So widespread as to be found almost anywhere.
UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 1992.
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme.
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme.
UNESCO	United Nations Education and Science Organisation
Vascular Plant	A broad category of higher plants, comprising all plants that possess a vascular system for transport of water, from ferns to flowering plants.
Vertebrate	Animals with backbones.
Vulnerable	Threatened with extinction, not imminently, but to such an extent that if the causal factors continue to operate, the species will become endangered.
Wildlife	All plants, animals and other organisms.
Woody Plant	A category that includes all plants which use lignin to strengthen their tissues, such as trees, shrubs and woody climbers.
Working Plan	Another name for the type of management plan that has a long history of use in forest departments.
WWF	World Wildlife Fund/Worldwide Fund for Nature.
Zoning	The process of dividing up a protected area geographically into different management categories, so that different parts of that area can serve different functions and conflict can be minimised.