# The GEF CEO Forum on Innovation partnership

**Application of Information and Communication Technologies**

# December 18, 2013

Institute for Electronic Government Briefing Center,  
600 14th Street NW, 2nd Floor  
Washington, DC 20005

The GEF CEO Forum on Application of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) aims to solicit expert perspectives on enhancing the Global Environmental Facility’s (GEF) role in facilitating the use of ICT to address global environmental challenges. The Forum is part of the GEF CEO Innovation Partnership series, convened by the GEF CEO and Chairperson, to explore innovative ways to address global environmental challenges through partnerships. The CEO Forum is organized by the GEF with support of the GEF Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP).The one-day workshop is hosted by the International Business Machines Corporation (IBM).

During the CEO Forum, inputs will be sought from the participants on the following key questions:

* What ICT options can be utilized to characterize drivers of environmental degradation, to devise robust approaches to monitor and address them?
* Who can build effective partnerships with the GEF to advance the use of ICT and how can such partnerships be developed?
* How can ICT help measuring short term results and long term impacts? What ICT tools can guide priority setting processes?

Expected outcomes include the following:

* Improved understanding of usefulness of ICT in facilitating the achievement of GEF’s overall goals and operations.
* Relevant ICT related interventions that may advance GEF-6 strategies and related goals identified.
* Suitable ideas formulated and potential partners identified to introduce ICT into GEF vision and operations.
* Communities of practice begin to form for relevant topics to further the discussion and ensure integration of ICT into the GEF programs.

# **Provisional Agenda** (as of 16 December 2013)

| **Time** | **Agenda Item** |
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| 8:30-9:15 | **Breakfast** |
| 9:15-10:00 | **Introduction of Participants and Opening Remarks**   * Naoko Ishii, CEO and Chairperson, GEF\* * Rosina Bierbaum, Chair, STAP\* |
| 10:00-10:15 | **Presidential Open Data Initiatives**   * Nicholas Sinai, United States Deputy Chief Technology Officer, White House Office of Science and Technology Policy\*   This session will introduce the President’s Open Data Initiative and its role in encouraging innovation in private sector. |
| 10:15-11:30 | **Introduction by Private Sector on the Potential Role of ICT in the Work of the GEF: An Overview**   * Moderator and Speaker: Peter Williams, Chief Technology Officer, Big Green Innovations, IBM\* * John Garrity, Technology Policy Lead, Cisco Systems\* * Kazuo Noguchi, Senior Manager, Hitachi Ltd.\* * Joshua Yacknowitz, Associate Principal, Arup\* * Avinash Srivastava, Technical Director for Sustainability, AECOM Environment Business\*   In this session, ICT will be defined in context of the forum, and the participants will provide an overview of ICT applications and their potential in smarter cities, food and agriculture, forests and land use, and use of data in institutional decision-making and foresight. |
| 11:30-11:45 | **Coffee break** |
| 11:45-13:15 | **Case Studies and Panel Discussion on Innovations in Private Sector: Role of Partnerships and Consortia**   * Moderator: Rosina Bierbaum, STAP\* * Nigel Sizer, Director, Global Forest Initiative, World Resources Institute\* * Chris Hankin, Executive Director, Digital Energy and Sustainability Solutions Campaign\* * Ana Bucher, Climate Change Specialist, World Bank\*   Participants will present and discuss how ICT is being used to promote innovation, highlighting roles of partnerships and consortia. |
| 13:15-14:15 | **Lunch** |
| 14:15-16:00 | **Breakout sessions**  Each breakout group will be co-chaired by a GEF Secretariat staff and a private sector representative. The breakout sessions are organized for participants to engage in in-depth discussions on the following topics:   1. Smarter cities: Chizuru Aoki\* and Franck Jesus\*, GEF Secretariat, and Scot Horst\*, President, Green Building Council 2. Food and agriculture: Mohamed Bakarr\*, GEF Secretariat, and Alex De Pinto\*, Senior Research Fellow, International Food Policy Research Institute 3. Forests and land use: Ian Munro Gray\* and Junu Shrestha\*, GEF Secretariat, and Michael McFetridge\*, Director of Funds Management, Global Forest Partnership 4. Data for institutional decision-making: Ramesh Ramankutty\*, GEF Secretariat, and Peter Williams\*, IBM   The breakout sessions will provide inputs on the key questions of the Forum, role of ICT in characterizing drivers, building effective partnerships for the use of ICT, and use of ICT in measuring short term results and long term impacts. |
| 16:00-16:45 | **Report Back to Plenary: Summary of Breakout Sessions**   * Moderator: Tom Hammond, STAP Secretary\*   The four groups will provide feedback from their breakout sessions. |
| 16:45-17:15 | **Discussion of Major Implications and Next Steps**   * Moderator: Representative, GEF Secretariat   The discussion points from the morning session and group sessions will be summarized. The next steps to enhance partnerships and to promote ICT by and with the GEF will be discussed. |
| 17:15 | **Closing** |

* Asterisk (\*) notes that the speaker/participant has been confirmed.