

UN-REDD Programme – Civil Society Representative Nomination Form

Please limit response length to two pages. Nominations must be submitted to csoselection@un-redd.org by Friday,

11 September 2009. Self-nominations are accepted.

1. Name of the candidate: Erika Vohman
 2. Name of organization or network: The Equilibrium Fund
 3. Title (if applicable): Executive Director
 4. Country: U.S.
 6. Language(s) spoken: English, Spanish
7. Please describe the primary interests and functions of the organization and community/constituency that the candidate represents and what countries the organization is active in.
- The Equilibrium Fund works with women in Central America, Mexico and the Caribbean to “find balance between people, food and forests” by educating rural and indigenous women and girls about the Maya Nut (*Brosimum alicastrum*) a native rainforest tree which produces a nutritious, delicious and abundant nut which can be processed by rural women for food and income.
8. Describe briefly the organization’s experience gathering and representing the diverse viewpoints- of a range of communities or organizations, and disseminating and coordinating information and communications among a network of communities or organizations.
- Since 2003 we have worked in more than 650 rural communities and with more than 70 partner organizations in Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Mexico, Costa Rica, Haiti and Cuba disseminating information about the Maya Nut.
 - We work with more than 70 partner organizations, including NGO’s, private businesses, local and national government, rural women’s producer groups, schools and universities to inform about the Maya Nut. We have an extensive and diverse network of support in each of the countries where we work.
9. Describe briefly your organization’s background and experience with multilateral agency programs, social and environmental issues related to forests, and the role of forests in response to climate change, including REDD.

- The Equilibrium Fund is currently coordinating activities with CarbonFootprint.com, the Ministry of Agriculture of Guatemala, Rainforest Alliance, and others to sell reforestation carbon offsets on the voluntary carbon market. We have participated in the COP-9 meeting in Barcelona, Spain, 2008 where we attended several meetings about REDD and presented a paper on REDD benefits for communities.

10. Describe the financial, technical and/or advisory arrangements your organization has with the UN-REDD Programme, as well as the governments of the UN-REDD pilot countries, NGOs, or private sector organizations as they pertain to the UN-REDD process.

- None

Please send completed form to csoselection@un-redd.org