

ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP AND TRAINING INITIATIVE

In April 2006 the Environmental Leadership and Training Initiative (ELTI) – <http://elti.yale.edu> – was launched, thanks to a generous grant from the Arcadia Fund, a charitable fund of Lisbet Rausing and Peter Baldwin. For the execution of the project, YSE has partnered with more than twenty organizations, including universities, research institutes, government ministries, NGOs, and community organizations, in tropical countries around the globe. ELTI's mission is to train and support people from all sectors and backgrounds to restore and conserve tropical forest landscapes using strategies that support biodiversity and livelihoods. Through complementary, applied, and action-oriented training and leadership support, ELTI strives to accelerate on-the-ground conservation and restoration results with the people who manage and influence tropical forest landscapes.

ELTI was created to strengthen the conservation and restoration of tropical forest landscapes by offering field-based, online, and blended courses to policy makers, natural resource practitioners, community members, and other key actors who manage and influence these regions. ELTI's primary field programs that include training landscapes established with local partners are located in Brazil, Colombia, Panama, Indonesia, and the Philippines. The online program is global in reach, with several courses occurring in African countries. The program's goal is to provide participants with the knowledge, tools, skills, and networking opportunities to advance the conservation and restoration of forests and biodiversity. Alumni of ELTI's training events can participate in ELTI's Leadership Program, which supports their efforts to share and apply what they learn during an ELTI course. ELTI involves faculty, staff, and students from YSE in various aspects of the program, as well as scientists, practitioners, and land managers in the countries where ELTI works.