The mission of the Rainforest Foundation is to support indigenous peoples and traditional populations of the world’s rainforests in their efforts to protect their environment and fulfil their rights by assisting them in:

- Securing and controlling the natural resources necessary for their long term well being and managing these resources in ways which do not harm their environment, violate their culture or compromise their future.

- Developing means to protect their individual and collective rights and obtain, shape and control basic services from the state.
Our work...

Around the world, there are millions of people living in rainforests whose livelihoods and cultures depend on their natural environment. In many cases, the basic rights of these people are threatened or undermined by forest destruction, land theft and resource exploitation. The Rainforest Foundation believes that the long-term protection of rainforests and the rights of indigenous communities to land, life and livelihoods, are inextricably linked.

We focus on initiatives which assist indigenous forest peoples in fulfilling their own needs. These can range from projects that promote their legal land rights, to programmes supporting community forestry, agricultural self-sufficiency or teacher training.

Much of our work consists of raising funds for the work of local partner non-governmental or community-based organisations. However, we also provide our local partners with support and advice on design and management, as well as technical and managerial training, access to information, and international advocacy support. All the projects supported by the Foundation aim to strengthen the ability of local partners to sustain their activities independently in the longer term.

The Foundation is a registered charity in the UK, and has official consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council. Where appropriate, we work collaboratively with organisations such as the Forest Peoples’ Programme, Forests Monitor, and the International Alliance of Tribal Peoples of the Tropical Forests.

A worldwide organisation...

This report details the activities of the Rainforest Foundation UK (RF UK) during 2002 and 2003.

In addition to the UK, there are also Foundation’s in the USA, Norway, and Japan. Our work collectively spans all major tropical forest regions, and includes projects in 16 countries. The RF US focuses its work in Brazil and the Guyana Shield region, whilst the RF Norway supports numerous initiatives in Malaysia, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea, as well as Brazil.

Each organisation is autonomous, but we work together to achieve the common objectives set out in our mission statement. Increasingly, the Foundation is developing and supporting collaborative programmes and projects, thus making maximum use of each group’s special areas of expertise.
The Congo Basin

Empowering communities in the face of forest destruction and displacement

The Central African rainforests are the second largest after Amazonia, covering more than one million square kilometres, an area twice the size of France. However, these forests are rapidly diminishing because of logging, mining, clearance for agriculture and settler colonisation. More than 100,000 square kilometres of the Congo Basin forest, an area equivalent to the size of Scotland and Wales, were destroyed between 1980 and 1990.

The Rainforest Foundation's programme in the Congo Basin aims to empower local forest communities to tackle these problems themselves, and to gain equitable access and rights to forest land and resources.

Helping civil society tackle illegal logging

Together with the UK-based group, Forests Monitor, the Foundation is helping civil society organisations in the Congo Basin to play an active role in tackling the critical problem of illegal exploitation of forests. The project, which was part-financed by the UK Department for International Development, provided training for key local environmentalists and forest peoples' representatives, as well as a series of local investigations into illegal forestry activities. In October 2003, the Foundation's local partners in this project presented their research and recommendations for action on illegal logging to a major inter-governmental summit on 'Forest Law Enforcement and Governance' in Africa.

La Fundación está ayudando a organizaciones de la sociedad civil en la cuenca del Congo a abordar el problema de explotación ilegal de los bosques. Junto con la realización de actividades de formación y capacitación, el proyecto ha coordinado y apoyado actividades de investigación local de varios estudios de caso en la región que sirvieron para informar a la conferencia intergubernamental sobre 'Observación de la Ley Forestal y la Gobernabilidad en África'.

Mientras tanto, con la ayuda de otros donantes, la Fundación financia proyectos esenciales de menor envergadura otorgando así mayor capacitación y apoyo a las organizaciones en la región de la cuenca del Congo.

La fondation aide les organisations de la société civile du bassin du Congo à aborder le problème de l'exploitation illégale des forêts. Le projet a non seulement offert de la formation mais également organisé et appuyé la recherche locale pour une série d'études de cas dans toute la région qui ont fourni de l'information pour une importante conférence intergouvernementale ayant pour thème "Processus d'amélioration de la gouvernance et l’application des lois dans le secteur forestier en Afrique ".

Pendant ce temps, grâce au soutien d'autres donateurs, la fondation finance des petits projets essentiels fournissant ainsi une plus grande capacité et un plus grand soutien aux organisations du bassin du Congo.

law & policy capacity building territorial mapping and security advocacy
Africapacity

Africapacity is a long-term programme, started in 2000, that aims to increase the organisational capacity of local human rights/forest conservation non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in the Congo Basin region. To date, it has worked with around 30 organisations in Cameroon, Gabon, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), and Congo-Brazzaville. The project is a joint initiative with the Cameroonian organisation Centre for Environment and Development, and is coordinated from the Rainforest Foundation office in Yaounde, Cameroon.

During its first phase (2000-2002), which was part-funded by the European Commission, the programme helped a number of organisations to draw up plans for organisational strengthening and training. Specialist training and ‘mentoring’ support was provided for key organisational staff on a wide range of issues, including public education and awareness programmes, policy advocacy activities, and fundraising, as well as on technical and managerial subjects.

As a result of the project, a number of key NGOs in the Congo Basin have been successful in starting new projects and advocacy campaigns, and strengthening existing work. These groups are increasingly sharing their skills and knowledge through a new informal network.

A second programme phase, which commenced in October 2002, is focusing specifically on supporting forest peoples’ organisations and NGOs in Cameroon and Democratic Republic of Congo. It is supported by the Rainforest Foundation Fund and Comic Relief.

Funding essential small projects

With the financial help of the Body Shop Foundation and Ajahama Charitable Trust, the Rainforest Foundation continues, through its Small Project Fund, to provide essential short-term support for work by local organisations in the Congo Basin. Small grants are used to purchase essential equipment (such as solar-power units or bicycles for village-based workers), or for training and urgent travel expenses.
The traditionally nomadic Baka and Bagyeli 'pygmies' live in extreme poverty and their rights are often ignored by local and national authorities. Very few Baka have any 'legal identity', and are often denied access to healthcare and education. Most 'pygmy' communities hold no legal right to the forest land on which they reside and rely on Bantu farmers for their subsistence. Overcoming these problems will be a long and challenging task.

The Rainforest Foundation is supporting two innovative projects in Cameroon - one in the area of Djoum, the other around the eastern town of Lomie - to assist local Baka communities gain greater official recognition of their basic legal rights. Both projects have helped the communities to undertake a census, and enabled Baka people to obtain official documentation such as birth certificates and national identity cards - important first steps in the process of gaining enhanced legal rights over their ancestral lands. In Djoum, the project has successfully trained Baka people to map their local forests, enabling them to demonstrate how the forest used by them for hunting, fishing and farming is being exploited by logging companies.

The project in Djoum is implemented by the Yaounde-based non-governmental organisation, Centre for Environment and Development (CED), with the financial support of Comic Relief. The project in Lomie is implemented by a local NGO, the Centre International d'Appui au Developpement Durable (CIAD).
Community Legal Field Workers

This project, which is also run by the Centre for Environment and Development (CED), aims to improve the use of the Cameroonian legal system to reduce poverty and increase civil rights for forest communities.

This is being done by the establishment of a team of 'Community Legal Field Workers' - young Cameroonian law graduates - who have been specially trained in human rights and forest/environmental law. These 'para-legal' workers are posted with non-governmental organisations and community groups working in eight districts in southern Cameroon with Bantu farmers and Baka communities.

The Community Legal Field Workers are providing advice and training to forest communities on issues such as the prevention of illegal logging, establishing community forests, and ensuring that revenues from forest exploitation are returned to communities by logging companies and spent on village development projects.

The project is part-funded by the UK Department for International Development (DFID).

Community Hunting Zone, Djaposten

Illegal poaching can have a major impact on wildlife species such as gorillas, chimpanzees and elephants, as well as on the wider forest ecosystem. One of the most threatened areas in Cameroon is the eastern part of the Dja Biosphere Reserve, which is believed to be one of the most diverse ecosystems anywhere in Africa.

This innovative initiative, which is carried out by the Centre International d’Appui au Développement Durable (CIAD), will establish a controlled hunting zone outside the Dja Reserve’s eastern boundary, working with the community of Djaposten. It aims to ensure the sustainable management by local people of the wildlife of the eastern part of the reserve and neighbouring areas.
Madagascar

Community development and natural resources management in Ambelimalamasina-Ikongo, south-eastern Madagascar

Madagascar's forests have already been reduced by at least 75%, endangering not only many unique species of wildlife, but also reducing supplies of water for farming and causing serious erosion of soil.

This project, run by local organisation CCD Namana, is located in the country's eastern rainforest corridor, an area suffering acute poverty and facing rapid environmental degradation. It is assisting approximately 24,000 Betsileo and Tanala people, with the overall aim of developing protected Community Forests and encouraging sustainable agricultural and income generation initiatives in the farmlands adjacent to the forest. The project will enable communities to boost their income from the local forests whilst ensuring their long-term protection.

The project has already been successful in increasing many farmers' production of rice, and has established community granaries in more than a dozen villages, thus enabling communities to better manage their crop surpluses. By August 2003, the project had gained the designation of four community forests, among the first such forests anywhere in Madagascar. Members of new village-based Community Forest management groups are being trained in forest management techniques.
Land security for the Asháninka people, River Tambo District

Our largest programme to date, the Rainforest Foundation has, since 1998, been working with local partner, Asociacion para la Conservacion del Patrimonio del Cutiverini (ACPC), assisting the Asháninka people in Peru's eastern Amazon rainforest lowlands.

The project is located in an area emerging from a decade of violent conflict between the Sendero Luminoso revolutionary guerrilla movement and the Peruvian authorities. This conflict has caused the death or disappearance of several thousand people in the River Ene valley alone, mostly of the region’s native inhabitants, the Asháninka people. During the conflict, official documents such as land titles and censuses of Asháninka lands and communities were systematically destroyed, or became lost. The area is now threatened by migration of settlers from the Andes.

Following a successful three-year project to help the Asháninka people of the Ene river valley to re-establish their communities, this new project is focused on the adjacent Tambo river valley. As with the earlier project, it will help secure legal land tenure for the Asháninka, as a basis for sustainable development and social peace. Specifically, the project is working with the Asháninka to map and define the boundaries of their territories, and ensuring that official land registry records are properly updated. It is also helping to resolve conflicts between Asháninka communities and new settlers over land usage, and starting the process of developing an integrated land management plan for the entire region.

In 2002, the project received a boost with the formal designation by the Peruvian government of a major new protected area, the Otishi National Park, along with two large indigenous communal reserves between the Ene, Tambo and Urubamba rivers. These should offer greater long-term security for the Asháninka and forest ecosystems, but also raise challenges in ensuring that the areas’ indigenous people are properly involved in the management of the new protected areas.

Supported by:

"For many years our peoples territory and survival were threatened by conflict. Thanks to ACPC and The Rainforest Foundation, we are not only receiving expert support, our own people are becoming qualified for the future. Thus, ensuring the survival of our children and our culture."
José Del Aguila Díaz - President of the Asháninka community organisation, CART

Este proyecto trabaja con la organización local ACPC para asegurar las tierras del pueblo Asháninka, y resolver los conflictos con los ‘colonos’ en el distrito de los valles del río Ene y Tambo. La organización asociada de la Fundación contribuyó en 2003 al establecimiento oficial de un nuevo gran Parque Nacional y dos reservas indígenas grandes en la región, y continúa trabajando para asegurar que las comunidades indígenas sean integradas adecuadamente en el manejo de estas áreas.

Ce projet très important travaille en collaboration avec l’organisation locale ACPC pour la protection des territoires du peuple Asháninka et pour la résolution du conflit avec les communautés “colons” dans les vallées des rivières Ene et Tambo. L’organisation partenaire de la fondation a contribué, en 2003, à la déclaration officielle d’un nouveau parc national majeur et de deux grandes réserves indigènes dans la région, et elle continue ses efforts pour assurer une participation correcte des communautés indigènes dans la gestion de ces régions.

law & policy   capacity building   territorial mapping and security   advocacy
Securing territorial rights for the Yekuana and Sanema peoples

This project is a long term initiative, which is carried out in the field by the indigenous peoples’ organisation Kuyujani, with support from staff of the University of Guayana. The overall objective is to secure legal land tenure for the Yekuana and Sanema indigenous peoples of the Upper Caura region, and to develop a sustainable, community-based, forest management plan.

In 1998-99, the Rainforest Foundation supported the community mapping of Sanema and Yekuana land use and occupancy over an area of approximately 34,000 square kilometers. A second phase has carried out preliminary legal work necessary for securing legal title over the territory. It has also helped the communities to start developing an 'Indigenous Peoples’ Habitat Management Plan', using both indigenous and non-indigenous concepts of land use planning and resource management.

A third phase of the project will attempt to complete the process of obtaining official land title for the Yekuana and Sanema peoples, and will commence implementation of the 'Habitat Management Plan'.
Advocacy

Strengthening the rights of pygmy people in Cameroon and DRC

This ambitious and innovative new advocacy project, which is supported by a grant from the Baring Foundation, started in October 2003. Its overall aim is to encourage the adoption of new policies, and the better use of existing legal provisions, in order to promote the well being of pygmy communities in Cameroon and Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Specifically, it will work to increase the ability of local organisations to undertake advocacy programmes in favour of pygmy people, especially those suffering from displacement. The project builds on our work through the Africapacity Programme, and forms an important 'policy link' between Africapacity and other field projects supported by the Rainforest Foundation in the Congo Basin countries.

The initiative will work at the local, national and international level. At the local level, key obstacles to the exercise of stronger rights by pygmy people will be identified. This will be used to inform work at the national level in the two countries, which will seek policy and administrative changes that address these obstacles. At the international level, the project will draw on relevant international agreements and standards, and will encourage the proper implementation of these in Cameroon and DRC. Specialists in indigenous peoples’ rights and policy analysis, based in London, Yaounde and Kinshasa will support the project.

Reform of the Forest Stewardship Council

The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) has come to be seen as one of the most important initiatives to promote the conservation and better management of the world's forests. It aims to do this by setting standards for the independent auditing of forestry operations and companies, and allowing its logo to be used as a 'seal of approval' on wood and paper products that come from 'certified' forests. The public is led to believe that products labelled with the FSC logo are from "environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial and economically viable" sources.

However, investigations undertaken by local researchers in several countries, coordinated by the Rainforest Foundation, has shown that there are have been serious flaws in certifications carried out in FSC's name. As a result, the public cannot be assured that a wood or paper product carrying FSC's logo actually comes from a well-managed forest. In particular, the Foundation believes that the rights and interests of communities living in tropical forest areas have often not been properly acknowledged during certification assessments of logging companies.

In November 2002, the Foundation published the findings of its research, in a report entitled 'Trading in Credibility; the Myth and Reality of the FSC'. The report has prompted wide debate about the
problems of forest certification. Internal reviews undertaken by the FSC have subsequently indicated that many of the concerns raised by the Foundation are well justified. The Foundation also supported ground-breaking work which has identified the difficulties and opportunities for the implementation of the FSC's programme in Indonesia.

The Foundation believes that urgent and fundamental reform is essential if FSC is to survive as a credible mechanism for the certification of forestry operations. We continue to monitor the activities of the FSC, encourage and participate in ‘multi-stakeholder dialogue’, and to press for action to address the problems already identified.

Trading in Credibility; the Myth and Reality of the FSC

Since 1998, the Foundation has been advocating improvements in the European Union’s Development Programme, to ensure that ‘aid’ projects do not have adverse impacts on the environment and peoples in tropical countries.

In 2002, the Foundation co-organised, with the European Commission and the International Alliance of Tribal Peoples of the Tropical Forest, a major conference in Brussels to discuss the implementation of the EU’s policy on indigenous peoples. The event, which was supported financially by the European Commission, and entitled ‘Speaking Out: indigenous views of development’, brought together more than 50 indigenous representatives from over 20 countries, along with senior EC officials, NGOs and experts.

The conference provided a platform for indigenous peoples to communicate how EC-funded projects have impacted their communities. Also speaking at the conference, the Commissioner for Development, Poul Nielsen, announced important new measures to ensure that European aid programmes help support, rather than harm, indigenous people in developing countries. Following this event, both the Council for Europe and the European Parliament also reaffirmed their commitment to respect the rights of indigenous peoples in the Commission's overseas activities.

The Foundation continues to monitor the environmental and social impacts of the European Commission Development Programme.
Total income grew between 2000 and 2001, and remained constant in 2002. The Foundation is successfully developing new sources of income, especially through events and individual supporters.

Events - highlights

The Foundation’s Run for the Rainforest initiative encourages people to put on their trainers and run to help raise money towards our work. Participants can choose from our annual 10 kilometre ‘fun run’, the London Marathon, or one of 11 overseas marathons, including the Thai Marathon, New York Marathon and Himalayan Marathon. Visit our micro-website (www.runfortherainforest.org) for more information.

“...amazing experience, and the support from both the organisers and the other competitors was great. Raising money has never been so much fun and with my medal, of which I am very proud, I know I will do it again.” - Richard Gordon, who ran the Thailand Marathon to raise money for the Foundation.

October 2002 saw our inaugural bi-annual wildlife art exhibition and sale, ‘Friends of the Rainforest’. The event was organised with the help of Bill and Kim Brooks and supported by 37 international wildlife artists who donated an original piece of their art. The event raised over £85,000 for the Foundation’s work.

We would also like to thank the following artists for their generous support:

Gean Abrie
Harry Curieux Adamson
Robert Bateman
Greg Beecham
Craig Bone
Carel Brest van Kemp
Kim Brooks
Carolleanea Carrington
DJ Cleland-Hura
Mark Coreth
Simon Gudgeon
Shirley Greene
Vic Guhrs
Grant Hacking
Spencer Hodge
Michael Jackson
Brian Jarvi
Stan Kaminski
Stephen Koury
Bob Kuhn
Kobus Möller
Larry Norton
Gamini Ratnavira
Diane Reuter-Twining
Adrian Rigby
Lindsay-Scott
Richard Sloan
Daniel Smith
Gareth Swift
James Tandi
Ralph Waterhouse
Steve Winterburn

‘Dawn Patrol’ by Kim Brooks - one of the many works of art donated for the Foundation’s 2002 wildlife art exhibition.
Corporate - highlights

2002 saw the start of a new licensing agreement with French wine producer Comte Cathare. Four delicious wines, named after medicinal plants from the rainforest (Una de Gato, Dioscorea, Catharanthus Roseus and Cinchona) are being sold through Oddbin’s 255 nationwide stores. Fifty pence from the sale of each bottle is donated to the Foundation.

The fifth and final year of our licensing partnership with Yoplait Dairy Crest brought the total raised through the Sainsbury own brand ‘Rainforest’ fromage frais yoghurt to more than £175,000.

Supporters

From £1 to £50,000, without the generous gifts of our supporters, none of the work we have achieved over the past two years would have been possible. We thank them for their generous contributions.

We would like to specifically thank the following:

**Over £100,000**
- Rainforest Foundation Fund
- The Baring Foundation Community Fund
- European Commission

**£50,000-£99,999**
- Sting & Trudie Styler Danida
- Charles Stewart Mott Foundation

**£10,000-£49,999**
- B & K Brooks
- D. Hobson
- Amazon Public Relations
- Ciaoweb S.P.A
- Comic Relief
- Department for International Development
- Rainforest Foundation Norway
- The Ajahma Charitable Trust
- The Body Shop Foundation
- Yoplait Dairy Crest

**£5,000-£9,999**
- M. Gruhn
- R & M Hobson
- L. Rudd
- Chivas Brothers
- Hilden Charitable Trust
- Westminster Foundation for Democracy

**£1,000-£4,999**
- H.C. Adamson
- I. Boswall
- C. Burrey
- E. Doyle
- Lord Eden
- C. Hennessy
- P.A. Hewitt
- G. Jefferies
- R. Knight
- M. Mackenzie
- J.B. Mars
- A. Pickering
- C. Polet
- A. Turner

**£500-£999**
- L. Drain
- S. Duby
- W.H. Ernest
- D. Handforth
- R. Jimenez de G. Lewis
- C. Prickett
- I & J. Richardson
- P.M. Rounce
- G. Rousseau
- M. Wolfman
- Comte Cathare
- Godwin Junior School
- Happy Computers
- Ipalco Enterprises
- Kilverstone Wildlife Trust
- Lexmark International
- Midland Hotel
- Paperchase Products
- The Accenture Foundation
- The Allachy Trust
- The Bromley Trust
- The Ericson Trust
- The Piccolo Trust

**£250-£499**
- A. Akram
- S.J. Campbell
- J. Colchester
- P. Hinder
- K. Lund
- J. Richardson
- H. Strawson
- B. Ventris
- Allied Care Ltd
- BA Plc
- Devoran School
- TASIS
- Upstaging Inc
Financial Activity

Statement of financial activities (Jan-Dec 2001 & 2002)

Income (£)

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<tr>
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<th>2001</th>
<th>2002</th>
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<tr>
<td>Donations &amp; other income</td>
<td>534,229</td>
<td>543,216</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investment income</td>
<td>18,062</td>
<td>6,221</td>
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<tr>
<td>Profit on currency exchange</td>
<td>1,227</td>
<td>2,535</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td><strong>553,518</strong></td>
<td><strong>551,972</strong></td>
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Expenditure (£)

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>2001</th>
<th>2002</th>
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<tr>
<td>Direct charitable expenditure</td>
<td>387,348</td>
<td>653,550</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising &amp; publicity</td>
<td>55,571</td>
<td>84,015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Management &amp; admin</td>
<td>60,263</td>
<td>61,761</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenditure</strong></td>
<td><strong>503,182</strong></td>
<td><strong>799,326</strong></td>
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Expenditure breakdown - 2002

- **Charitable expenditure** 81%
- Fundraising & publicity 11%
- Management & admin 8%
- Statutory 24%
- Trust & Foundations 49%
- Mechanics 4%
- Events 15%
- Individuals 5%
- Other 4%

Sources of income - 2002

- Trust & Foundations 49%
- Statutory 24%
- Corporate 4%
- Events 15%
- Individuals 5%
- Other 4%

Who's who...

Founding Patrons: Sting & Trudie Styler

Board of Trustees:

- Chair: Dr Marcus Colchester
- Treasurer: Mr Richard Reoch
- Secretary: Mr John Paul Davidson
- Ms Joji Carino
- Dr John Hemming
- Prof. Sir Gillian Prance

Staff:

- Director: Simon Counsell
- Fundraising Manager: Rob Daly
- Fundraising Assistant: Ambika Sahay
- Projects Manager: Cath Long
- Office Manager: Patrice Fevre
- Coordinator SAfricapacity Project: Simon Waters

Rainforest Foundation international network

The Rainforest Foundation US
270 Lafayette Street
Suite 1107
New York, NY10012, USA
Tel: + 1 212 431 9098
Fax: + 1 212 431 9197
rffny@rffny.org
www.savetherest.org

The Rainforest Foundation Norway
(Regnskogsfondet)
Postboks 2113, Gronerlokka
0505 Oslo, Norway
Tel: + 47 2204 4700
Fax: + 47 2204 4701
rainforest@rainforest.no
www.rainforest.no

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