

## NEWS

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### **ENDOWMENT ELECTS TAMAR DATAN TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities, Greenville, SC**

For IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 21, 2011

What do Amazon rainforests and the U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities (the Endowment) have in common? Tamar Datan.

Datan, Executive Vice President of the Virginia-based Amazon Conservation Team, has been unanimously elected to a position on the Endowment's Board of Directors effective April 1, 2011.

"We couldn't be more pleased that someone with Tamar's diverse and rich set of skills and experiences has agreed to serve on the Endowment's Board," said Mack Hogans, Chairman of the Board. "She brings much to our important work."

Datan is being elected to an unexpired term for a position being vacated by Dr. David Thorud of Seattle, Washington. Thorud, a charter member of the Endowment's Board of Directors and Chairman of the Governance and Nominating Committee, announced his plans to retire from what the Endowment's Board agrees is distinguished service effective, April 1, 2011.

"I am excited about joining the Endowment in its efforts to advance healthy working forests and the needs of rural forest-reliant communities across America," said Datan. "While my work in recent years has focused on the Amazon, I continue to live in the U.S. and I have long held an abiding passion for all things rural. I especially appreciate the Endowment's approach to seek solutions that engage the public, private and philanthropic sectors in addressing the complex challenges facing rural America."

Datan, who lives in northern Virginia, is former Vice President of The Nature Conservancy's Compatible Venture Group -- dedicated to creating market-based strategies for accomplishing conservation results -- and was Venture Fund Officer for the Pew Charitable Trusts. During her tenure with Pew, she was responsible for several major investments in rural development, including the creation of the Enterprise Corporation of the Delta and the launch of Rural LISC. She holds a Bachelors of Arts from Swarthmore College and a Masters of Education from Harvard.

“The Endowment’s Governance and Nominating Committee has been at work for months developing a process to identify, vet, and interview potential candidates for the Board,” said Endowment President & CEO Carlton Owen. “The Committee continues to solicit nominations as part of an on-going process to identify the best candidates to help guide the organization as we seek to advance well-managed forests and family supporting jobs in rural forest rich environments,” he continued.

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**The U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities** (the Endowment) is a not-for-profit public charity working collaborative with partners in the public and private sectors to advance systemic, transformative, and sustainable change for the health and vitality of the nation’s working forests and forest-reliant communities -- [www.usendowment.org](http://www.usendowment.org).