

Earthwatch Institute

Earthwatch is the world's largest environmental volunteer nonprofit organization. Its mission is to engage people worldwide in scientific field research and education to promote the understanding and action necessary for a sustainable environment.

In 2010, Earthwatch will sponsor 50 research projects in 24 countries and 9 US states. Earthwatch focuses its research efforts on four areas: climate change, oceans, sustainable cultures, and sustainable resources.

Earthwatch was founded in 1971, and has international offices near Boston, Massachusetts and Oxford, England. Affiliate offices are based in Australia, and Japan.

www.earthwatch.org/hsbc

Climate champions head to work in the beautiful grounds of the SERC facility.



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**HSBC
Climate
Partnership**

**North America Regional
Climate Center**



**What Can YOU do about
Climate Change?**



HSBC Climate Partnership



International \$100 million partnership.

Formed in 2007, the HSBC Climate Partnership brings together HSBC, The Climate Group, Earthwatch Institute, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute and WWF to tackle the urgent threat of climate change on people, water, forests and cities. For more information visit www.hsbc.com/committochange*

Earthwatch has teamed with HSBC, one of the world's largest banks, in the largest known employee engagement programs on climate change at sites in five unique forest ecosystems across the globe. (They are located in North America, Brazil, UK, China and India.)

Earthwatch immerses HSBC bank employees in an unparalleled learning journey. The aggressive learning model is a powerful blend of online learning, face-to-face interactions and hands-on field experiences that empower employees to act immediately in the face of climate change.

The Earthwatch model involves real people in real research, speeding up the knowledge required to reduce the impacts of climate change on forests—and the transfer of that knowledge to policy-makers and conservation managers.

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North America Regional Climate Center

Groundbreaking partnership. The North America Regional Climate Center, located at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC) in Edgewater, MD, is the premiere location for immersion learning about the effects of climate change through field research and facilitated learning. After a successful pilot test program, the center launched in early 2008, and aims to build on local resources and facilitate the implementation of sustainable solutions to climate change.

Forest Research near the Chesapeake Bay

Defining issue of our time. Climate change poses a serious threat to forest ecosystems. The main research goal is to determine the best ways to manage forests that are changing in response to climate change. Earthwatch is collaborating with two research arms within the internationally renowned Smithsonian Institution: SERC and STRI, which already holds more than 40 years of forest research data.

The study aims to reveal:

- which tree species are becoming more common
- which trees are being lost
- how much carbon is incorporated into the trees
- how neighboring trees interact with each other over time.



HSBC Climate Champions from spring 2008.



Our Research Partner

Top-notch research. The SERC facility is located within a 3000-acre swath of the Eastern Deciduous Forest, which has been greatly influenced by human activity. The trees vary greatly in age, many having only recently regenerated from agricultural land that was poorly managed. Our research investigates the impacts of climate change on carbon storage under different forest management techniques.

Outcomes and Environmental Impacts

Action, not apathy. In the HSBC Climate Partnership, “climate champions” create real action plans to embed sustainable practices into the heart of the way HSBC does business. The “climate champions” create a “ripple effect,” inspiring others in their offices, homes and communities to engage in sustainable, environment-friendly practices.

While many in the world—including some next door in the US capital—are stalled in debate over the best way to move forward in the face of climate change, Earthwatch is helping people spearhead real action plans toward a sustainable environment.

What can YOU do about climate change?