



Sandy J. Andelman

Chief Scientist and Senior Vice President, Conservation International

Sandy Andelman is chief scientist and senior vice president for Conservation International (CI), where she is responsible for providing science vision, strategy and thought leadership for the organization and for helping to implement science-based conservation throughout the organization and for creating strategic alliances with partners. Sandy also serves as executive director of the Vital Signs monitoring system, which fills a critical unmet need for integrative, diagnostic data on agriculture, natural capital and human well-being. She is a member of the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on Food Security.

Sandy joined CI in 2005 after serving for eight years as deputy director of the U.S. National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis (NCEAS), one of the world's top ecological research institutes. She led the design and implementation of the Tropical Ecology, Assessment and Monitoring (TEAM) Network, a global system to understand how climate change is affecting biodiversity in humid tropical forests worldwide.

Through her leadership of Vital Signs and the TEAM Network, Sandy has pioneered the creation of global monitoring and forecasting systems for climate change, environmental change and agricultural outcomes – early warning systems – to recognize and predict thresholds of environmental degradation in time to prevent them and to promote resilient human societies. Sandy wants to help create a new culture of environmental science that is relevant to our increasingly connected world. She envisions dynamic, diverse networks of scientists and policy makers that transcend organizational and national boundaries, collaborating across the globe. Using unified methods and innovative informatics and mobile technologies, she aims to create global public data resources and problem-solving tools to tackle important environmental problems.

Sandy's scientific expertise includes tropical ecosystems, biodiversity, climate change and interactions between the environment and human well-being, as well as the design of monitoring systems and systematic conservation planning.

Sandy received her doctorate degree in behavioral ecology from the University of Washington.