



Mallorie A. Bruns

mbruns@merid.org • Mobile +1.970.368.0231

Loveland, Colorado, 80538, United States

Summary

A Senior Mediator and Program Manager at Meridian Institute with 15 years of facilitation experience for local, national, and international policy dialogues, as well as strategy development, consensus building, problem-solving processes, public deliberation, and community building. Expertise in the areas of sustainable forest policy and management, deforestation-free agricultural commodity supply chains, sustainable land use, sustainable fisheries management, green growth and sustainable development, climate change adaptation and mitigation, agriculture and food security, Internet governance, and ocean and coastal planning. Experienced working with governments, civil society, the private sector, and academicians at the local, national, and global levels. Holds a B.A. and M.A. from Colorado State University (CSU) in Communication Studies and is certified through the Peace and Reconciliation Studies Interdisciplinary Program in CSU's Office of International Programs.

Meridian Experience

Meridian Institute

2010–Present

Meridian Institute designs and facilitates collaborative processes that help diverse parties identify critical issues, build relationships and trust, construct innovative solutions, and implement durable decisions. These collaborative processes address challenges at the local, state, national, and international levels, and involve leaders from government agencies, industry, nongovernmental organizations, and international institutions. Meridian also assists organizations in conducting strategy development and planning.

Senior Mediator and Program Manager

Manages and facilitates multi-stakeholder, consensus-building processes, policy dialogues, negotiations, and strategy development to address complex problems. Conducts convening assessments, designs collaborative processes, plans and facilitates meetings, helps participants develop consensus documents, and conducts implementation activities.

Selected highlights are summarized below:

- Manages a Meridian team collaborating with external organizations to provide technical support to cocoa and chocolate companies with commitments to the Cocoa & Forests Initiative (CFI). The CFI is a joint public-private initiative involving the Governments of Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire and the private sector, which are working in parallel to end deforestation and land degradation associated with the cocoa sector

in the two countries, while also improving smallholder farmers' livelihoods.

- Project Manager for the Meridian team providing facilitation support to the Tropical Forest Alliance 2020 (TFA 2020) Secretariat, Regional Directors, and partners. TFA 2020 is a global public–private partnership in which Partners from consumer goods and commodity production companies, governments, and civil society organizations take voluntary actions— individually and in combination—to reduce tropical deforestation associated with the sourcing of commodities such as palm oil, soy, beef, paper, and pulp.
- Facilitated and managed a collaborative process designed to build consensus among seven West and Central African nations to secure their public endorsement of the *TFA 2020 Marrakesh Declaration for Sustainable Development of the Oil Palm Sector in Africa* at the 22nd Conference of Parties for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Marrakesh, Morocco in November 2016. The Declaration sends an important signal that these signatory countries are open for business, but will only welcome oil palm investments that comply with the principles of sustainability, transparency and the protection of human rights set out in the Declaration.
- Co-facilitating and managing an independent review of the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN). The ccNSO is responsible for developing and recommending global policies relating to country code top-level domains (ccTLD) to the ICANN leadership and community.
- Facilitated the Indonesia Marine Funders Collaboration, an effort among marine funders that share a vision of restoring and protecting coastal and marine resources in Indonesia, while enhancing the fisheries management that supports local communities. This collaboration helps each of the constituent funders work more effectively, and to provide a platform for potential collective action. Active funders include the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, the Walton Family Foundation, the Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies, and the Government of the United States (Agency for International Development).
- Former member of the Meridian team working on a suite of projects for the Government of Norway's International Climate and Forest Initiative (NICFI). Activities for this project focus on providing strategic support to NICFI; facilitating dialogues and partnerships with other governments and stakeholders; and conducting technical and policy analyses. Meridian facilitates active practice problem-solving approaches on a broad range of issues related to Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD), including the conservation and sustainable management of forests and the enhancement of carbon stocks (REDD+) for NICFI. Many of these projects are connected to the international-level negotiations occurring under the UNFCCC.
- Please see <http://merid.org/Content/Staff/MBruns> for a full list of projects completed.

Previous Experience

Colorado State University, Department of Communication Studies

Fort Collins, Colorado 2008–2010

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Researcher

Developed lecture content and taught Public Speaking courses. Assisted with teaching and grading responsibilities for Political and Intercultural Communication courses. Conducted master's thesis research evaluating the Peace Circles community building program's effectiveness in two northern Colorado high schools, through the administration of quantitative and qualitative pre- and post-process surveys.

Colorado State University, Peace and Reconciliation Interdisciplinary Studies Certificate Program

Fort Collins, Colorado 2008–2010

Board Member

Attended board meetings and advised and deliberated with committee members on course offerings, research, and student curriculum petitions. Contributed to two publications: *147 Practical Tips for Teaching Peace and Reconciliation* and *From Battleground to Common Ground: Stories of Conflict, Reconciliation, Renewal, and Place*.

Colorado State University, Center for Public Deliberation

Fort Collins, Colorado 2007–2010

Graduate Assistant (2009–2010)

Researched, designed, facilitated, and reported on deliberative forums and public conversations with diverse stakeholders on local community issues. Conducted trainings for student and community associates at training workshops and in two CSU courses: Applied Deliberative Techniques and Practicum.

Student Associate (2007–2008)

Facilitated deliberative forums and public conversations with diverse stakeholders on Colorado graduation rates, energy policy, poverty in Larimer County, health care reform, and the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) curriculum in public high schools, among other issues. Designed, convened, and facilitated a Peace Circles Community Building dialogue event with CSU staff and students and northern Colorado community members.

Education

Colorado State University
M.A., Communication Studies
Certificate: Peace and Reconciliation
Interdisciplinary Studies

2010

B.A., Speech Communication
Minor: Spanish
2008

Publications

Bruns, M.A. (2010). *Talking Peace: An Evaluation of Peace Circle Community-Building Events in Secondary Education*. Unpublished master's thesis, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado.

Bruns, M.A. (2010). "Turning the Tides to Peace." In Timpson, W.M., Valdez, N., & Giffey, D. (Eds.). *From Battleground to Common Ground: Stories of Conflict, Reconciliation, Renewal and Place*. Madison, WI: Atwood.

Book Contributions

Timpson, W.M., Brantmeier, E., Kees, N., Cavanagh, T., McClynn, C., & Ndura-Quedraogo, E. (2009). *147 Practical Tips for Teaching Peace and Reconciliation*. Madison, WI: Atwood.