



Andrew W. Mitchell

Andrew W. Mitchell is a leading authority on forest canopies and related climate change issues. He has extensive field experience in Asia, Africa and Latin America, combined with a thirty year career spanning research, journalism, broadcasting, policy and global project management. In 2001, he founded the Global Canopy Programme (GCP), an international network linking 38 leading scientific institutions in 19 countries engaged in research, conservation and education, investigating the impact of climate change on biodiversity and ecosystem services in forest canopies.

In his capacity as Founder and Director, Andrew has coordinated the growth of GCP into an influential alliance, using networks developed within the international science community to offer a global perspective on forest canopies. GCP's 2003 '20:20 Vision for Canopy Science' proposed a network of 'Whole Forest Observatories', and was approved by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) along with the Governments of Brazil, Ghana, Madagascar, India and Malaysia.

Andrew is a Research Associate of the Zoology Department University of Oxford, and is a former Rufford Research Fellow in Environmental Understanding, at Green College. He is the author of seven books including the *Enchanted Canopy*, and many articles for newspapers and magazines. His work has been translated into six languages.

Andrew's remarkable career as a researcher, environmental campaigner and policy adviser has led to major advances in conservation, Corporate Social Responsibility and the understanding of the effects of global climate change on forest canopies. Andrew is co-founder of the UK Corporate Environment Responsibility Group, which now incorporates over 30 blue-chip companies. He has advised on environmental policy and marketing strategy for companies including McDonalds, Barclays and British Airways, and has actively lobbied governments throughout the world, as well as the United Nations Conventions on Biological Diversity and Climate Change, on climate mitigation and adaptation policy.

In 1985 with Brian Rosborough, he established Earthwatch Europe in the UK as an affiliate of the international science foundation Earthwatch Institute, based in Boston; he became its Deputy Director in 1989. In 1996 he was appointed Vice President of Earthwatch Institute at its Boston headquarters and served there for four years. With Earthwatch President Roger Bergen, he helped to re-structure the organization into one of the world's largest Non-Governmental funders of professional field research, distributing \$3 million in grants annually, plus equipment and skilled volunteer field assistant teams to over 140 projects in 50 countries each year.

Andrew is a well-known and recognisable media figure and has appeared regularly on TV and radio news programmes such as Today; in addition to his numerous production credits, he has presented series on both TV and radio including Channel 4's thirteen-part *Odyssey* in 1987, and

hosted the first ever live television-based direct internet link from rainforests to computers in schools across the USA.

As well as establishing a network of 5 Conservation Research Centres with local partners in Brazil, USA, Australia, Kenya and Botswana, he has co-ordinated numerous biological, medical and archaeological field programmes with Operations Drake and Raleigh in 4 continents, pioneering the use of light weight portable aerial walkways for the study of the tropical rainforest canopy. Studying the forest canopy environment has remained an interest throughout his life.

Andrew is a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society and was a founding UK Trustee of Conservation International and The Orangutan Foundation. As well as being the Chairman of the Cheetah Conservation Fund, he is the Deputy Chairman of the Scientific Exploration Society and is on the board of the International Canopy Network.

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For more information on the Global Canopy Programme please do not hesitate to contact Daniel Byrne on 0870 240 5536 or Daniel@redheadpr.co.uk