



## Mallorie A. Bruns

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### Summary

A Mediator and Program Manager at Meridian Institute with more than nine years of experience facilitating local, national, and international policy dialogues, as well as strategy development, consensus building, problem-solving processes, and public deliberation. 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, and ocean and coastal planning. Experienced working with governments, civil society, the private sector, and researchers 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.

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### 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.

#### Mediator and Program Manager

Manages and facilitates policy dialogues, negotiations, and strategy development projects involving teams of facilitators. Conducts convening assessments, designs collaborative processes, plans and facilitates meetings, helps participants develop consensus documents, and conducts implementation activities. Selected highlights are summarized below:

- Member of the Meridian team working closely with and supporting the Secretariat for the Tropical Forest Alliance 2020 (TFA 2020). Specifically, serves as lead facilitator for TFA 2020's regional work in Africa and Southeast Asia. TFA 2020 is a 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. Meridian Institute provides facilitation support working in close coordination with TFA 2020 Regional Coordinators who direct the regional work streams, through which Partners tackle the challenges associated with implementing national- and regional-level activities in locations where the social, political, and economic realities evolve rapidly.

- 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 22<sup>nd</sup> Conference of Parties for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Marrakesh, Morocco in November 2016. The Declaration sends an important signal that these signatory countries — representing over 66% of Africa’s tropical forest — 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.
- Member of the Meridian team supporting collaboration among international and Indonesia-based partners working to acceleration the transition to sustainable fisheries management in Indonesia and the region. Meridian is the lead facilitator for this effort that involves partners providing leadership such as the Economist Intelligence Unit, the Indonesian Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, and the Walton Family Foundation. Meridian supported and coordinated these teams’ preparations for the Economist’s *World Ocean Summit* in Bali, Indonesia in February 2017.
- Facilitates the Indonesia Marine Funders Collaboration, an effort among U.S.-based foundations 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 foundations work more effectively, and to provide a platform for potential collective action. Constituent foundations include foundations such as the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, the Walton Family Foundation, the Margaret A. Cargill Foundation, MacArthur Foundation, the Government of the United States (Agency for International Development), and the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation.
- 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

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## 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.