



MEGAN EPLER WOOD – FOUNDER & PRESIDENT



Megan Epler Wood founded The International Ecotourism Society (TIES) in 1990, the first NGO in the world dedicated to the development of tourism as a sustainable development tool. She was its CEO from 1990-2002 leading an international effort to define, manage, and guide the development of ecotourism development with businesses, communities, governments, and international organizations. She won the Lifetime Achievement Award from TIES in 2013 for her work as a pioneer in sustainable tourism.

Since 2003, she has led the international consulting practice EplerWood International fostering sustainable tourism development in Africa, Asia and Latin America working for USAID, the World Bank group and the Inter-American Development Bank. She was the Executive Director of the Planeterra Foundation, of G Adventures, from 2010-2012 where she designed the foundation's collaboration with the Inter-American Development Bank.

In 2014, Epler Wood was named the Director of the new International Sustainable Tourism Initiative at the Center for Health and the Global Environment, at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health which is launching an international technical assistance and research program in collaboration with other Harvard schools to address the global sustainability consequences of rapid tourism growth worldwide.

Epler Wood is a Senior Associate at the Cornell Center for Sustainable Global Enterprise in the Samuel Curtis Johnson School of Management leading research on the management of tourism for sustainability at the micro, small and medium enterprise levels in collaboration with other Cornell schools.

She is a lead instructor at Harvard Extension School where she teaches in a global digital classroom at the graduate school of Sustainability and Environmental Management.