

Special Project: World Forests, Society and Environment

Coordinator Pia Katila

www.iufro.org/science/special/wfse

*This is the **Newsletter of IUFRO's Special Project World Forests, Society and Environment (IUFRO WFSE)**. It is meant for sharing the latest news and information about the special project's current activities with IUFRO officeholders, member organizations, WFSE partners, donors and the members of the WFSE-network from research organizations and universities around the world.*

New call for papers on the theme

“Shifting global development discourses: Implications for forests and livelihoods”

Sustainable development objectives and discourse have dominated environmental and development policies and practice for the past three decades. During the last decade new narratives have emerged within these discourses with catchphrases like: “Green Economy”, “Inclusive Green Growth”, “Low Carbon Development”, “Climate-Smart Agriculture” and “Sustainable Intensification”. There is no universal consensus about the meaning of these concepts; instead they are interpreted in different ways by different actors and in various contexts. The myriad of understandings of e.g. “low carbon development”, “green growth” and “green economy” cover a spectrum from narrow concerns about climate change and clean energy supply at one extreme to calls for more extensive transformative change in the global economic system for more efficient resource use at the other, including more sustainable and inclusive commodity supply with improved equity in benefit sharing.

Although their scope and horizon vary and are still unknown, these narratives suggest new rationalities and approaches to sustainable development. The roles of forests and forestry in these narratives and their implications on forests and livelihoods have received very little scholarly attention. This call invites authors to concentrate on the role of forests in these narratives, related strategies, agendas and practice and corresponding implications for forests and livelihoods.

The background document to this call for papers with guiding research questions and practical information, including the time schedule, can be accessed [here](#).

Interested authors are invited to submit **by 30th April 2015** an extended abstract (1000-1500 words) of an article with maximum length of about 8000 words to WFSE coordinator Pia Katila (pia.katila@metla.fi). A selection of appropriate abstracts will be made by the IUFRO WFSE editors, Pia Katila, Glenn Galloway, Pablo Pacheco and Wil de Jong.

An academic journal will be approached to publish a subset or complete collection of the papers. In this negotiation open access of all contributions will be assured. If it is not possible to publish all contributions under the journal format, a complementary volume will be published in the IUFRO World Series. These publications will generate new knowledge, guidelines and instruments to inform forest policy dialogue and formulation and associated practice for both public agencies and business sectors.

News on latest events and meetings

WFSE Technical Session in the IUFRO World Congress

In the IUFRO World Congress in Salt Lake City, October 2014, WFSE organised the Technical Session ***Forest under pressure: Prerequisite conditions for forest-related sustainable development***. The session introduced the new WFSE book and Issue Brief and presented the main results of the large collaborative effort that involved 144 authors. Glenn Galloway moderated the session that included seven presentations:

Program:

- Introduction to the WFSE-project and the New Book “Forests under Pressure - Local Responses to Global Issues” – Pia Katila
- Community-Based Forest Management in Quintana Roo, Mexico – Jose Antonio Sierra Huelsz
- Forest Citizenship in Acre, Brazil – Marianne Schmink

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- Khasi Responses to Forest Pressures: A Community REDD+ Project from Northeast India – Mark Poffenberger
- Community Rights and Participation in the Face of New Global Interests in Forests and Lands – the Case of Mozambique – Almeida Siteo
- Prerequisite Conditions for Sustainable Forest Management: Synthesis of the Case Studies – Glenn Galloway
- Forests under Pressure: Possible Future Pathways – Wil de Jong
- Discussion

was viewed by over 400 people during the first 24 hours after posting. All posts are made with a reference and link to the original contribution that is available at the WFSE web-page.

WFSE Steering Committee meeting

The Steering Committee (SC) meeting convened 10th October 2014 in Salt Lake City. Glenn Galloway (University of Florida) chaired the meeting that focused on the current and future activities of the project. The other SC members present were Sven Günter (vTI), Wil de Jong (CIAS, Kyoto University), Pia Katila (IUFRO WFSE coordinator), Robert Mavsar (EFI), Pablo Pacheco (CIFOR), Plinio Sist (CIRAD), Sinikka Västilä (Metla). The central topic of the discussion was the thematic focus for WFSE for 2015-2018.

New www-pages

In connection of the IUFRO World Congress, IUFRO launched new web-pages. Also the WFSE now has a new, more user-friendly and attractive web-pages. All WFSE publications are available for download at the web-page: <http://www.iufro.org/science/special/wfse>

IUFRO Facebook-pages

IUFRO has lifted its profile in the social media with more active presence in several Facebook pages and Twitter. Posts related to WFSE activities and publications are regularly posted to these sites. These posts reach a considerable audience. E.g. the most recent post "Land grabbing and forest conflict in Cambodia"



*Thank you for your valuable support to the WFSE-project during the past year.
We look forward to continuing our fruitful collaboration in 2015.*

Pia and Sinikka

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