

## Forest Day 2: IUFRO Puts Spotlight on Adaptation of Forests to Climate Change

By Alexander Buck, IUFRO Deputy Executive Director

Forest Day 2 was held on 6 December 2008 in parallel with the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Poznan, Poland, to discuss key issues that link forests with climate change. IUFRO co-hosted the Forest Day 2 and organized a cross-cutting session on adaptation of forests to climate change.

Forests are part of the climate change problem due to emissions from deforestation. The international deliberations about forests and climate change have therefore focused primarily on how to reduce emissions from deforestation. However, even under the most optimistic climate scenarios, forest ecosystems and the services provided by them will be impacted by climate change. Land managers and policy makers – inside and outside the forest sector – need to take measures to minimize negative climate change impacts and reduce vulnerabilities of forest-dependent people. But what are the most suitable management and policy options? This question has so far received only insufficient attention in international negotiations.

During Forest Day 2 IUFRO, therefore, put the spotlight on forest adaptation. It organized a cross-cutting session on "Adaptation of forests to climate change – Bridging the gap between knowledge and action" together with CIFOR, ICRAF and the World Bank. Five internationally renowned experts offered their views about the projected climate change impacts on forests and the people depending on them, and how effective adaptation strategies can be formulated in responding to these impacts. Also the participants in the audience posed numerous critical questions and provided thought-provoking comments. The outcomes of the discussion have been included in the [Forest Day Summary](#) which calls for giving equal consideration to adaptation and mitigation.

IUFRO was represented in the cross-cutting session by Dr. Balgis Osman-Elasha, a Coordinating Lead Author of the Global Expert Panel on Adaptation of Forests to Climate Change. Dr. Osman-Elasha gave an insight into the preliminary findings of the assessment report on adaptation of forests to climate change that will be published in April



Deadline for session proposals  
extended to 1 February 2009



WFC 2009  
18 - 25 OCTOBER 2009  
Buenos Aires | Argentina



Forest Day 2 Closing Plenary (from left to right):  
Frances Seymour, CIFOR; Yvo de Boer, UNFCCC Secretariat; Don Koo Lee, IUFRO; Dennis Garrity, ICRAF; Warren Evans, World Bank; Jan McAlpine, UNFF Secretariat. (Photo: Yani Saloh, CIFOR)

2009. This global assessment led by IUFRO is the most comprehensive effort to date to systematically assess information about the impacts of climate change on forests, related vulnerabilities and the options for adaptation, and to provide a basis for political decision making.

IUFRO President Don Koo Lee had been invited to address the audience in the closing plenary. In his remarks he underlined the importance of bringing the expertise of the forest science community and the broader forest sector to the attention of the climate negotiations. "The forest community has a long lasting experience with taking decisions under conditions of uncertainty. With sustainable forest management we do have a concept at hand which is likely to perform well across a wide range of potential future climate conditions", said Professor Lee.

Another Forest Day will be convened in December 2009 on the occasion of the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen.

## Forestry Extension and Technology Transfer - Meeting Needs of People and Forests

Guy Smith, Natural Resources Canada, Symposium Chair

Excerpts from a report from the 9th Extension Working Party Symposium of IUFRO [6.06.02](#) and [6.06.01](#) on "Evolving Challenges and Changing Expectations for Forestry Extension and Technology Transfer - Meeting needs of people and forests around the globe" in Mattawa and Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, 21-26 September 2008. [Full summary.](#) <http://www.iufroextension.org> (Meeting website)

Forests are supporting a range of non-timber needs such as conservation of soil and water resources. Thousands of small communities that are economically dependent on forests are facing new challenges brought by globalization. Forest communities desire greater participation in planning and decision-making about forest land use. Consequently, there is increased need for information and educational resources to enable local people to become engaged. Extension programs are helping to meet this demand and are working to help build the capacity for incorporating local knowledge into plans and management actions.

To be relevant to human needs, the transfer of knowledge should help connect policy interests to public interests, which again relates to increased interest for participation at the local level. Sharing of information is aimed at taking advocacy positions to influence the policy process. Extension specialists are playing the role of policy educator, helping people to appreciate policy options and consequences. Connecting policy interests to land ownership interests places emphasis on helping to engage forest owners, and encouraging the sharing of information across boundaries.

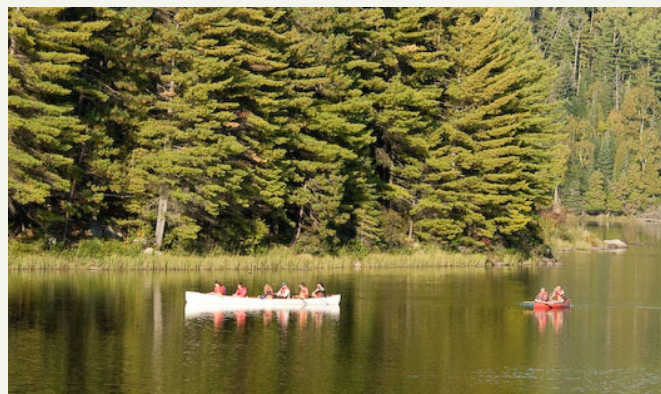


Photo source: <http://www.iufroextension.org/gallery>

The event, over two years in the making, positioned Canada as a leader in promoting and demonstrating innovative approaches to putting science and technology into practice. Nationally and internationally, knowledge exchange professionals continue to benefit from the sharing of best practices that was promoted at the symposium.

The conference was sponsored by Natural Resources Canada, Canadian Ecology Centre, International Union of Forest Research Organization, CSREES, United States Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Canadian Institute of Forestry, FP Innovations, Eastern Ontario Model Forest, Forest Research Partnership, Sustainable Forest Management Network, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Slovenia Forest Service and Network of Centres of Excellence.

## 5-Needle Pine Research – Restoration of Key Species

Excerpts from a report from the Working Party [2.02.15](#) 'The Breeding and Genetic Resources of Five-Needle Pines' Conference in Yangyang, Korea, 22-26 September 2008, by JN King (BC Ministry of Forests, Victoria, BC Canada), R Snieszko (USDA Forest Service Dorena Genetic Resource Center), and EW Noh (Korean Forest Research Institute).

### [Scientific Summary.](#)



Photo by Ned Klopfenstein: Participants viewing *Pinus strobus* (Eastern white pine) provenance trial

The conference in Korea highlighted work related to quantitative and molecular genetics, resistance to diseases and pests, hybridization, selection and improvement, genecology and conservation genetics in all five-needle pines. Underlying this work is the threat that this species group faces from climate change and disease, especially white pine blister rust.

This conference was the first time this group met in East Asia. Participants were grateful to our Korean hosts for their generosity and for providing a very well run and informative conference. The Russian delegation offered to host the next meeting in Tomsk in Siberia and there are plans to coordinate this with the IUFRO World Congress to be held in Seoul, Korea in 2010.

The following organizations sponsored the Conference: The Korean Forest Research Institute, The Korean Pine Society, and IUFRO.



## Announcements

### **IUFRO-SPDC Training Workshop on Working Effectively at the Interface of Forest Science and Forest Policy**

The need of sound scientific information and latest research results in the development of public forest policies at local, national and international levels has grown significantly in recent years. So too has the need for such information within the private forest sector and among non-governmental organizations, whose role in the development, sustainable management, and conservation of forest resources in all regions of the world is steadily increasing in importance. In order to generate value for society, research results should be used by someone, notably policy-makers, forestry practitioners, land owners, investors, educators and researchers of other scientific specialisations. However, as experience has shown, successfully informing policy and linking scientific knowledge with policy-decisions is a difficult task that requires considerable expertise and investment.

In order to enhance the necessary capacity of the forest science community particularly in developing countries in support of effective science-policy interfacing, IUFRO's Special Programme for Developing Countries (IUFRO-SPDC) offers training workshops on science-policy interfacing. The next workshop supported by the Austrian Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management will be **organized in cooperation with the Panjab University, Chandigarh, India from 14 to 15 March 2009**. During the two-day training event participants will learn about concepts and methods on how to plan, conduct, and organize research activities so that results can more quickly and easily be transformed into usable information for problem-solving and policy-making.

The training is based on the work of IUFRO's Task Force on Science-Policy Interface. International experts from around the world convened in this Task Force have compiled guidelines of best practices for science-policy interfacing which are used in the training. In addition, resource persons from various national and international expert institutions are presenting a wide spectrum of case studies. In the forthcoming training event in India, examples of science-policy interactions within national forest programmes in Asia-Pacific as well as climate change mitigation initiatives will be presented and discussed.

The training workshop will be organized as pre-conference event in conjunction with the **IUFRO Meeting on "Plant Invasion and Forest Ecology: Concerns and Solutions"** taking place at the same venue in Chandigarh, India. For more details about registration for the conference and training workshop please visit the conference homepage at: <http://www.iufro.org/science/divisions/division-8/80000/80200/80204/activities/>

### **Special Sessions on Forests at the Copenhagen Climate Congress, 10-12 March 2009**

IARU, the International Alliance of 10 of the world's leading research universities, comprising the University of Copenhagen, Australian National University, ETH Zürich, National University of Singapore, Peking University, University of California- Berkeley, University of Cambridge, University of Oxford, the University of Tokyo and Yale University, are organizing an international congress on **"Climate Change: Global Risks, Challenges and Decisions"** in **Copenhagen, Denmark, 10-12 March 2009**. The congress precedes the COP15 of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, which will take place at the end of 2009, also in Copenhagen.

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of the congress is to try and capture some of the enormous research energy currently being devoted to the elucidation, mitigation and adaptation to climate change. An executive summary with the main findings from the congress will, after agreement with the Danish Government, which is hosting the COP15, be handed over to policy makers at the COP15.

#### **Programme**

The tentative programme can be downloaded from: <http://www.climatecongress.ku.dk/programme>.

In addition to plenum sessions, there are a total of 57 parallel sessions planned at the moment; many are highly relevant for forests and forestry issues. **Two of the sessions target forests and climate issues in particular:**

#### **The role of forests in climate change mitigation**

**Session 25.** This session will be chaired by Frances Seymour, Director General of the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR). The purpose of this session is to highlight the policy implications of research findings related to the role of forests in the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions.

#### **Adapting forests to climate change**

**Session 38.** This session is chaired by Niels Elers Koch, Vice President of the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO). The session aims at presenting adaptation strategies, policies and measures for forests to climate change that are based on the best knowledge available. By developing suitable responses to adaptation, harmful effects of climate change on forests and trees can be moderated and beneficial opportunities for people and nature can be exploited. At the session, preliminary results of the global assessment report on adaptation of forests and people to climate change that is being prepared by the first **CPF Global Forest Expert Panel** led and coordinated by IUFRO shall be presented.

Congress web site: <http://www.climatecongress.ku.dk>

## Congratulations



**Niels E. Koch** has been appointed Honorary Doctor in Forest Science at the Swedish University of Agriculture. One of the many reasons for his appointment mentioned is also that "He has been engaged in IUFRO for a long time and currently serves as IUFRO Vice President".

## Schweighofer Prize 2009

The Schweighofer Prize awards innovative ideas, technologies, products and services concerning the whole value chain in order to strengthen the competitiveness of the European Forest Based Sector.

Deadline for submissions: February 2, 2009

Note: The postmark is considered the mailing date.

<http://www.schweighofer-prize.org/index.en.html>

## Obituary

We are sad to inform you that **Dr. Werner Baltensweiler** of Switzerland died December 7th of 2008.

Dr. Baltensweiler, born in 1926, was probably the most influential forest entomologist of the 20th century. He devoted his career to studying a single insect species, the larch budmoth (*Zieraphera diniana*), which episodically defoliates portions of the European Alps.

Baltensweiler also played an important role in fostering international cooperation among forest entomologists around the world. In 1967, he and George Varley formed the first IUFRO Working Party focusing on forest insects. These and subsequent efforts with IUFRO led to important advances in the development of basic theory on the population dynamics of forest insects. It also initiated important new forums for international scientific communication. In 1992 he received the IUFRO Distinguished Service Award, and in 2007 he received the George Varley Award for Achievement in Forest Insect Ecology.

For those of us who knew Werner as a friend, his passing leaves a huge void. This was a man who was so enthusiastically committed to science that he continued to collect data, attend conferences and write papers even into his 80's. We express our sincere sympathy with his family, friends and colleagues.

**Note:** Sandy Liebhold, Coordinator of IUFRO 7.03.00, has prepared a special newsletter in memory of Dr. Werner Baltensweiler, and the above text is an excerpt thereof. See: <http://www.fs.fed.us/ne/morgantown/iufro/obit.pdf>



Photo: Werner Baltensweiler measuring larch needle length near Zuoz, Switzerland, September, 2002

## Submit Your Views on CBD Strategic Plan Update

At their tenth meeting to be held in Nagoya in October 2010, the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) will discuss and adopt the Strategic Plan (SP) for the Convention for the period beyond 2010. The SP is an essential tool that should guide any activity planned or to be carried out that will affect biodiversity directly or indirectly.

Because biodiversity is important to each one of us, and because our activities affect biodiversity in many ways, everyone has been invited to submit views concerning the revision and updating of the SP. To make the Strategic Plan relevant to everyone dealing with the CBD and other biodiversity-related Conventions, and to all other sectors that use or affect biodiversity, you are invited to access the electronic forum at:

<http://www.cbd.int/sp/post2010forum/>

You can, of course, submit your views as an independent researcher but also as a member of an IUFRO Unit, or even anonymously. The e-forum can be accessed also in French and Spanish. It was launched in November 2008 and will close on 31 March 2009.

## Publications

### Proceedings

Zadnik Stim, L. (Ed., 2008) Emerging Needs of Society from Forest Ecosystems: Towards the Opportunities and Dilemmas in Forest Managerial Economics and Accounting. [Proceedings of the IUFRO Symposium in Ljubljana, Slovenia](#), 22 - 24 May 2008; 228 pp. ISBN 978-961-6020-51-0. Orders should be directed to the Biotechnical Faculty, Department of Forestry and Renewable Natural Resources, University of Ljubljana, Vecna pot 83, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia.

### Coping Amidst Chaos

*Studies on Adaptive Collaborative Management from Zimbabwe*

Edited by: Alois Mandondo, Ravi Prabhu and Frank Matose  
ISBN: 978-979-14-1264-3. For copies, please contact:  
Rahayu Koesnadi, r.koesnadi(at)cgiair.org

### Environmental Technologies Research Newsletter

This newsletter is free of charge, published bi-monthly, and delivered to the subscribers by e-mail. Subscription can be made at the [http://ec.europa.eu/research/mailling\\_en.cfm](http://ec.europa.eu/research/mailling_en.cfm) homepage through the "Registration page". The next issue is scheduled to be published in February.

Contact the editor: Laszlo Szendrodi, National Expert, European Commission DG Research I/3: Environmental Technologies, Laszlo.Szendrodi(at)ec.europa.eu

### Online Nicaraguan Encyclopedia of Watersheds

This online encyclopedia is an academic initiative of the FOCUENCAS II program of CATIE (Tropical Agricultural Research and Education Center) and the National Agrarian University (UNA) and was financed by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA). Visit:

<http://www.geolatina.net/cuencasnicaragua>

(from CATIE newsletter no. 34, Nov-Dec 2008.

## IUFRO Meetings

**NOTE: The following list of meetings is not complete!**

For a full list of IUFRO events, please visit our [online calendar](#). Find more details on the [homepages](#) of IUFRO Units involved.

Also search for forest-related events at: <http://www.gfis.net>

12-14 March 2009

**Innovation and New Horizons in Tree Nursery Stock Production and Forest Restoration – From Research to Business**  
Rome, Italy

EU FP6 Research Programme, Pre-Forest Project

IUFRO [3.02.00](#), [3.02.01](#), [3.02.02](#)

**Contact:** Lorenzo Ciccarese, [lorenzo.ciccarese@apat.it](mailto:lorenzo.ciccarese@apat.it)  
<http://www.vivaitorsanlorenzo.it>

16-18 March 2009

**Plant Invasion & Forest Ecology: Concerns & Solutions**  
Panjab University, Chandigarh, India

Co-sponsored by IUFRO [8.02.04](#) and [4.02.02](#)

2-day IUFRO-SPDC sponsored pre-conference training workshop (see page 3)

**Contact:** Ravinder Kohli, [rkkohli45@yahoo.com](mailto:rkkohli45@yahoo.com)

11-12 May 2009

**10<sup>th</sup> Int'l Conference on Wood and Biofiber Plastic Composites**

Madison, Wisconsin, USA

IUFRO [5.05.00](#)

**Contact:** Jerrold E. Winandy, [jwinandy@forestprod.org](mailto:jwinandy@forestprod.org)  
<http://www.forestprod.org/confcomposites09.html>

13-15 May 2009

**11th International Symposium on Legal Aspects of European Forest Sustainable Development**

Zvolen, Slovakia

IUFRO [6.13.00](#)

**Contact:** Peter Herbst, [HP@net4you.at](mailto:HP@net4you.at)

2-5 June 2009

**International Cooperation in Forest Sector: Balancing Education, Science and Industry**

Yoshkar-Ola, Russia

IUFRO [6.14.00](#), Mari State Technical University

**Contact:** Cecil Konijnendijk, [cecil@woodscape-consult.com](mailto:cecil@woodscape-consult.com); Eldar Kurbanov, [eldar@marstu.net](mailto:eldar@marstu.net)  
<http://tempus.marstu.net/conference/eng/main.html>

15-18 June 2009

**2nd Gender and Forestry Conference: Making a Difference in Theory and Practice**

Umeå, Sweden

IUFRO [6.08.01](#)

**Contact:** Gun Lidestav, [Gun.Lidestav@srh.slu.se](mailto:Gun.Lidestav@srh.slu.se)  
[http://www.sfak.slu.se/ShowPage.cfm?OrgenhetSida\\_ID=10300](http://www.sfak.slu.se/ShowPage.cfm?OrgenhetSida_ID=10300)

17-18 June 2009

**Workshop on Forestry Utilization in Mediterranean Countries Particularly with Respect to Sloping Areas**  
Reggio Calabria, Italy

IUFRO [3.06.00](#)

**Contact:** Raffaele Cavalli, [raffaele.cavalli@unipd.it](mailto:raffaele.cavalli@unipd.it)  
<http://www.ciosta.unirc.it/>

21-24 June 2009

**Change in Governance as Collective Learning Process: Management, Politics and Ethics in Forestry**

Nancy, France

IUFRO [6.05.00](#), [6.12.00](#), IDDRI

**Contact:** Gérard Buttoud, [buttoud@engref.fr](mailto:buttoud@engref.fr)

19-21 August 2009

**First Global Forum on Ecological Economics in Forestry, "Building a Harmonious Future for Human Well-being"**

Nanjing, China

IUFRO [6.11.05](#)

**Contact:** Zuomin Wen, [zmwen@njfu.edu.cn](mailto:zmwen@njfu.edu.cn)  
<http://www.gfeef.org/>

8-11 September 2009

**Seed Orchards and the Link to Long-term Tree Breeding in Response to Climate Change**

Jeju Island, Republic of Korea

IUFRO [2.09.01](#)

**Contact:** Kyu-Suk Kang, [kangks@forest.go.kr](mailto:kangks@forest.go.kr)  
<http://www.genfys.slu.se/staff/dagl/Korea09/>

28-31 October 2009

**3rd International Faustmann Symposium: Forest Economics in a Dynamic and Changing World**

The Hunting Castle of Kranichstein, Darmstadt, Germany

IUFRO [4.05.00](#), [4.05.01](#)

**Contact:** Bernhard Möhring, [bmoe@gwgd.de](mailto:bmoe@gwgd.de)  
<http://www.faustmann-conference.de/>

## Other meetings

12-13 February 2009

**BioPower Generation Conference**

Brussels, Belgium

Part of the [European Sustainable Energy Week](#) (9-13 Feb)

**Contact:** [info@greenpowerconferences.com](mailto:info@greenpowerconferences.com)

April 2009

**10-day INBAR Bamboo & NTFPs Tour**

China, Zhejiang and Sichuan provinces

**Contact:** FU Jinhe, [jfu@inbar.int](mailto:jfu@inbar.int)

13-17 April 2009

**DEFORS 2009**

La Habana, Cuba

Instituto de Investigaciones Forestales de Cuba,

**Contact:** Martha González Izquierdo, [mgonzalez@forestales.co.cu](mailto:mgonzalez@forestales.co.cu)

16-19 September 2009

**VIII World Bamboo Congress**

Bangkok, Thailand

World Bamboo Organization

**Contact:** FU Jinhe, [jfu@inbar.int](mailto:jfu@inbar.int)  
<http://www.worldbamboocongress.org>

18-25 October 2009

**XIII World Forestry Congress-** <http://www.wfc2009.org/>  
Buenos Aires, Argentina

**Session on Forestry Information at the WFC:**

**Contact:** Vanda Ferreira dos Santos, [vanda.ferreira@fao.org](mailto:vanda.ferreira@fao.org); Roger Mills (IUFRO [6.03.00](#)), [roger.mills@ouls.ox.ac.uk](mailto:roger.mills@ouls.ox.ac.uk)