

COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Besides the regular programme and project management activities much time during 2002 has been spent on designing and coordinating the development of new elements for the IUFRO-SPDC training programme. For this purpose, the Coordinator over the last three months travelled to several countries such as China, France, South Korea and the United Kingdom in order to discuss priority areas for training and to lobby for support from development assistance and funding agencies.

In China, the Coordinator participated in a three-day training workshop on "Auditing systems for sustainable forest management" in Fujian Province. This course was organised by FORSPA (FAO), The Forestry Research Programme for Asia and Pacific, in cooperation with the Chinese Academy of Forestry and the Fujian Forestry Department. Experience from this type of courses dealing with criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management and forest certification will be used to develop similar training modules for Latin America and Africa. Recently, CATIE, CIFOR, FAO and IUFRO-SPDC have formed a technical committee to organise an expert meeting on the subject at CATIE in Costa Rica in 2003). It is intended to subsequently implement such training in Latin America.

NEWS FROM ASIA

The 11th International Workshop of BIO-REFOR

The 11th International Workshop of BIO-REFOR (Biotechnology-assisted Reforestation Project) was held for the first time in Korea last October 8 to 12, 2002, on the theme "Restoration for Sustainable Forest Ecosystems".

I. Workshop (8 – 9 October)

This Workshop is being held every year in the host country, not only in Asia. It is an undertaking of IUFRO-SPDC which assists developing countries in the tropical parts of Asia and Pacific regions for the development of improved methods of rehabilitation. The objectives of this Workshop were to

Another training module on "The use of modern information technology tools in forestry research" is currently being developed in close cooperation with the GFIS Special Programme and CAB International. In this course forest scientists will be introduced to modern information management tools such as the Global Information Service, the Forestry Compendium and other CD-ROM- or internet-based systems. The Coordinator attended a meeting of the Forestry Compendium Development Consortium at CABI to discuss closer cooperation between CABI and IUFRO on training for the dissemination and promotion of information management tools in developing countries. The visits to France and South Korea were also used to get in touch with potential partners in setting up joint training activities.

The existing training module on "Preparing and writing of research proposals" continues to be a "best seller". During late 2002 IUFRO-SPDC supplied over hundred copies of the English and French versions of the handbook to various training courses organised by the International Foundation of Science (IFS) in Western and Southern Africa.

Recent developments in the GFIS Africa Project include the completion of

two consultancies, one by Eric Landis (USA) on the compilation of a comprehensive GFIS documentation that is also online available on the Internet at <http://www.iufro-gfis.net/handbook/> and another one by Anne Handley (U.K.) on metadata quality. The issue of editorial standards will further be pursued through work on editorial guidelines for metadata formulation and training of metadata entry and editing personnel. An extension of the GFIS Africa Project until end of June 2003 has been approved by the European Commission, providing additional time for the completion of many project activities.

In this issue Professor Don Koo Lee, IUFRO Vice-President Policy, reports on the 11th BIO-REFOR International Workshop that was held at the Seoul National University, South Korea in October 2002. As announced in the last IUFRO-SPDC News, this issue presents the key elements of the IUFRO-SPDC Strategic Plan 2002–2005 that has recently been published.

Michael Kleine
Coordinator of IUFRO-SPDC



promote technological development of reforestation by exchanging technological information and to create close partnership among young researchers of Asia-Pacific regions. This year, the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALS), Seoul National University (SNU) and Biotechnology-assisted Reforestation Project (BIO-REFOR) hosted the said Workshop. It received great supports from Japan's ODA (Official Development Assistance of Japan) and IUFRO's Special Programme for Developing Countries (IUFRO-SPDC). The sponsors from Korea were the Korea Forest Service, Korea Forest Research Institute (KFRI), Korean For-

estry Society, Yuhan-Kimberly Co., and the National Instrumentation Center for Environmental Management (NICEM).

There were about 114 participants who attended the Workshop from 15 countries (Austria, Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand, United Kingdom, Vietnam and Korea) mostly in Asia. During the first two days (October 8 and 9) various approaches to restoration were discussed such as ecological, physiological, socio-economic, silvicultural and genetic aspects as well as strategies and/or techniques for successful restora-

tion practices for sustainable forest ecosystem. The workshop was held in the Convention Hall (Hoam Faculty House), Seoul National University. The registration started at 8:30 in the morning during the first day, followed by the Opening ceremony with Professor Chin Sung Chang as the master of the ceremony. The Opening remark was given by Professor Don Koo Lee, Chair of the Workshop Organizing Committee. The congratulatory addresses were delivered by some distinguished guests such as Dr. Bum Il Kim, Chief of Korea Forest Service (Mr. Jong Soo Choi, Deputy Chief of KFS, read his message on behalf of him), Dr. Sung Cheon Hong, President of the Korean Forestry Society, Dr. Michael Kleine, Coordinator of IUFRO-SPDC, and Dr. Kazuo Suzuki, Coordinator of BIO-REFOR and Professor of the University of Tokyo. After that, Professor Jeffery Burley, Director of the Oxford Forestry Institute, Dr. Soekiman Atmosoedaryo, Founding Board Member of ICRAF, and Dr. Satohiko Sasaki, Chair of BIO-REFOR and Professor in Nihon University gave their keynote speeches. The first part of the Session started at 1:30 in the afternoon with six papers presented. The moderator for this session entitled 'Ecological and Silvicultural Approaches of Restoration for Sustainable Forest Ecosystem' was Professor Jung Oh Hyun. The second part of that same session consisting of six papers as well followed then with Professor Su Young Woo as the moderator. The Korea Forest Service hosted the welcome dinner in Crystal Hall of the Hoam Faculty House providing sumptuous and luscious foods which most of the participants enjoyed.

On the second day, the keynote speeches were given by Dr. Joo Rhin Kwak, Director of International Cooperation at Korea Forest Service and Dr. Jeong Soo Oh, Assistant Director General of KFRI. It was followed by the Session II entitled 'Genetics and Physiological Approaches of Restoration for Sustainable Forest Ecosystem'. Professor Kyung Joon Lee served as the moderator for the six papers presented. The poster presentation was conducted in the afternoon before the start

of the next session. This poster presentation was unique in that all of the presentors have to explain their own posters not in a usual way. All of the participants were there to listen to their explanation and see their posters. The Session III proceeded on the theme 'Socio-economic Approaches of Restoration for Sustainable Forest Ecosystem'. Only two papers were presented with Professor Yeo Chang Youn as the moderator. The last session (Session IV) was also moderated by him the theme was 'Strategies and/ or Techniques for Successful Restoration Practices' and consisted of six papers. All



of the oral and poster presentations were excellent and interesting and created well-participated discussions.

The two-day affair closing ceremony was facilitated by Professor Portia G. Lapitan. She gave the recap of the different scientific sessions through the comments of each moderator. Professor Jeffery Burley gave his general comments for the Workshop. He cited that the Workshop was indeed an outstanding success. It provided good opportunity for the participants to learn about Korean forestry, especially the great progress in restoration and reforestation. There were opportunities to hear about a wide range of other countries, problems, species, environments, objectives, techniques, presentation methods and languages. The entire

Workshop demonstrated biodiversity at its best. He also mentioned some of the key points that might be considered by the Board of BIO-REFOR for its future endeavor like the use of many values and research networks to pursue the aims of BIO-REFOR and IUFRO, more work on micro-organisms for their importance in restoration/reforestation and biodiversity conservation, approaches to follow-up meetings and activities/dissemination/management of new activities, and how to encourage scientists and forest managers to question their own motives and results, and others. Then he gave ac-

knowledgements to the Japanese Government, the Korean Government, the Seoul National University, Professor Don Lee's staff and students for the support and resources provided, and of course to Professor Don Lee as the principal organizer of the Workshop for his continuous dedication to forest research, globally not just nationally. Finally, he announced that this Workshop in Korea was his last public engagement as Director of the Oxford Forestry Institute as he would retire in the following week. He offered his present to Professor Don Lee to remind him always that trees and forests are international and his constant efforts will be needed. Professor Kazuo Suzuki, Coordinator of BIO-REFOR, gave also his comments about the Workshop. Few words were given by Prof. Don

Lee in response to Prof. Burley's and Prof. Suzuki's comments and thanked again for the support of various people involved in the success of this Workshop. He considered this BIO-REFOR as a family with love and hopes to be valued forever. The award for the best poster presentation was given to Dr. Yolina T. Castañeto and her co-author Dr. Minda Follosco-Edmiston both from the Philippines with the title "Biofertilization of *Tectona philippinensis* for Upland Rehabilitation". There was tight competition among the posters presented before the best one was chosen. Next year's BIO-REFOR workshop will be held in Indonesia under the chairmanship of Professor Suhardi. He gave a few statements as a sign of his acceptance for the next BIO-REFOR Workshop. He was deeply honored to be the host and he invited all of the participants to be a part of it next year. Final comment was given by Prof. Don Lee and he presented a special gift as well to Prof. Jeffery Burley for his retirement from Oxford Forestry Institute. All of the participants moved to Korea House in Seoul for the farewell dinner hosted by KFRI and witnessed the Korean traditional folk, music and performances. The fascinating performances depicting the Korean culture and traditions were enjoyed by the participants plus the souvenir items given to them.

II. Field Excursion (10 – 12 October)

During the last three days, the participants had the opportunity to learn not only the various accomplishments of forest rehabilitation in Korea with natural pines and hardwoods but also the Korean culture. On the first day of the excursion, the participants visited Gyeongju as the capital of the Silla Kingdom from 57 BC to 935 AD. They enjoyed seeing so many kinds of historical artifacts at Gyeongju National Museum as well as in the Bulguksa Temple as one of the World's Cultural Heritages which was established by UNESCO on December 6, 1995. On the second day, the participants moved to Yeongil area where erosion control works were successfully conducted on 4,538ha of severely devastated area. It was really difficult to rehabilitate this area since it consisted of special geology such as mudstone layers. However, Korean people overcame this with their firm spirits of greenifying these lands at that time. The participants visited also the Gyerim Forest, which is the oldest sacred forest in Korea. And then they moved to Danyang where there was plenty of limestone as a parent rock. This has been developed as a mining area for cement factories from 30 years ago. The mining area was re-

stored by planting *Lespedeza* species, *Robinia pseudo-acacia*, *Thuja orientalis*, and so on. On the third day, the participants last visited the Icheon Pottery Village and enjoyed the unique ceramic culture.

During the field excursion, all of the participants were fascinated by the colorful and attractive scenery in the Korean Mountains this autumn season. The field excursion covered not only various restoration forests (plantation of exotic tree species, forest rehabilitated with erosion control, restoration forest after burning, and artificially recovered ridge forest) but cultural heritages as well as the oldest sacred forest in Korea.

This Workshop had truly proven a successful one based on the number of participants who attended, the preparations being done, the proceedings, the field excursions, and others. One of the best things about this BIO-REFOR is that the organizing committee was able to produce good proceedings even though the Workshop has not yet been finished. Many participants were glad to have their own copy of the proceedings while attending the Workshop. This made them understand much better and easier the topics being discussed. Despite some corrections, further revision of the proceedings still needs to be done to get an excellent product. Through the help of the sponsors and participants and through the exerted great efforts of the organizing committee this Workshop became possible. According to Professor Burley, the organization was superb, the social, cultural events were excellent, and the hospitality of the organizer to everyone was outstanding. We hope that the next BIO-REFOR will have the same outcome and that more partnerships and collaborations will be established in the future through this Workshop to attain the sustainable forest ecosystems.

Don K. LEE
IUFRO Vice-President Policy



IUFRO-SPDC's Strategic Plan 2002 -2005

Rationale

The last strategic plan for IUFRO's Special Programme for Developing Countries (IUFRO-SPDC) was drawn up in 1997 providing directions for programme activities covering the period 1997 to 2000. Since then, some important changes have taken place with regard to the global policy environment on forests and the assistance to developing countries. Some of the key factors include:

- Recent advances in information and communication technologies have significantly changed the way developing country institutions accomplish their missions.
- Trends in networking and global co-operation provide new opportunities for IUFRO-SPDC to support developing and economically disadvantaged countries.
- Demands are growing for advice on policies for the sustainable management of the world's forest resources.
- Funding mechanisms are changing for projects and programmes to support development processes.

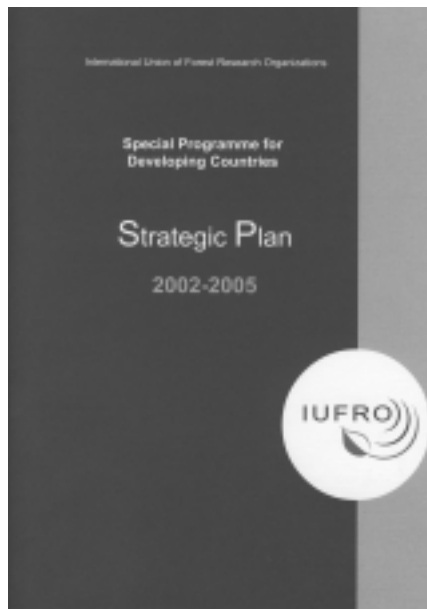
Since its establishment, IUFRO-SPDC has received its funding exclusively from national or international development assistance budgets through various donor agencies. It is to be expected that in future significant alternative funding sources will not be available; thus, donor policies remain central to IUFRO-SPDC. Most importantly, changes in funding mechanisms took place and include:

- Donor agencies today increasingly face financial constraints and therefore prefer to exercise greater control over funds provided to other organisations. As a consequence, financial support is provided within the framework of projects with defined objectives, results and budgets, rather than giving out core funds not earmarked for special purposes and leaving the decisions about their use to the recipients only.
- Because of this changing donor policy IUFRO-SPDC could not replenish its base of available un-

marked funds. As a consequence, in 2000 the discretionary travel grant programme was discontinued.

- With regard to financing the participation of scientists in conferences and meetings it appears that donor agencies also desire to support this type of activity using their own criteria rather than leaving the selection of participants to a third party.

Overall, the gap between developing and developed country forestry research institutions identified in the early 1980s is still valid today. Progress has



been made resulting in the significant upgrade of some key research institutions in the developing world. The activities of IUFRO-SPDC in terms of training courses and support for scientific exchange have helped certain developing country institutions in their upgrading efforts. However, many of the institutions are still under-privileged in terms of human resource capacity, infrastructure, and operational research funds. With regard to IUFRO's contribution to alleviate this situation, a Review Panel evaluating IUFRO-SPDC operations in 1999 arrived at the following conclusion: "In spite of the significant gains, the IUFRO-SPDC's contribution to IUFRO's objectives in the developing world is still relatively small. The Programme has not fully capitalised on the full potential of available opportunities."

Considering the overall changes in underlying conditions and the recommendations of the IUFRO Review Panel, the IUFRO Management Committee, in its meeting in 2001, decided that a new strategic plan for the period 2002 to 2005 should be developed and presented to the IUFRO Board for approval.

The present strategic plan builds on earlier IUFRO-SPDC planning documents and experiences with programme implementation. The plan has been developed with strong participation and input from the members of the IUFRO-SPDC Advisory Group representing key clients in developing countries. The main purposes of the plan are:

- To define IUFRO-SPDC's role in the context of development assistance to developing and economically disadvantaged countries,
- To determine the scope of the programme and identify priority areas for training and networking activities,
- To provide realistic targets and indicators for programme implementation and monitoring of impacts,
- To provide direction for expanding partnership and strategic alliances, and
- To outline strategies for financing and fundraising.

Overall, the present strategic plan is also intended to make IUFRO-SPDC more visible among the client communities and development assistance organisations. Considering the increasing need for networking and international co-operation to address the diverse problems of capacity building in forest-related research, SPDC can play an even greater role to improve forest-related research and its delivery in developing and economically disadvantaged countries.

Mission and Objectives

Development Goal

The management of forests in developing and economically disadvantaged countries is improved and contributes to poverty alleviation and sustainable development.

Many countries in the developing world today continue to be confronted with serious problems associated with poverty, food insecurity, unemployment, inequitable access to resources, lack of health care and education and also environmental degradation. Similar unfavourable framework conditions led IUFRO to establish IUFRO-SPDC twenty years ago. The programme aimed to address the needs of forest research institutions in developing countries. This was a response by IUFRO to concerns mainly over deforestation, declining forest health, and under-supported and under-staffed forestry research organisations. Widespread failure to generate and apply new knowledge so that forests could make their full contributions to rural development and environmental protection created the need for more international/regional co-ordinated scientific co-operation.

With the above development goal IUFRO-SPDC intends to clearly stress its commitment to make contributions to development processes through assistance to forestry research organisations. Supporting forest research capacity with the view of achieving overall sustainable development provides a strong justification for IUFRO-SPDC's existence and will also enable IUFRO-SPDC to find partners within the development assistance community, and thus attract the necessary funding to implement its programme.

Mission

As an integral part of IUFRO, IUFRO-SPDC will contribute to IUFRO's mission *"To promote the co-ordination of and the international co-operation in scientific studies embracing the whole field of research related to forests and trees."*

For many years, IUFRO-SPDC has focused on capacity building activities for scientists and institutions in developing countries. It is envisaged that training will continue to be a priority in the years to come. Therefore, the mission statement, initially formulated in the Strategic Plan 1997-2000, will remain unchanged. IUFRO-SPDC will continue

to expand and foster forest research capacity in developing and economically disadvantaged countries.

Building capacity is a broad concept within the specialisation of human resources development and may include a wide range of different measures and activities. To be more specific, the following programme objective has been formulated.

Programme Objective

The ability of IUFRO member institutions in developing and economically disadvantaged countries to generate and deliver scientific information and advisory services on forests and trees and their sustainable utilisation is enhanced.

In order to achieve this objective the Programme will concentrate on training of scientists in the area of research management and technology transfer,

promote collaborative research networking activities and support scientists to attend regional and international conferences and meetings organised by IUFRO. For the purpose of defining, in more concrete terms, the priorities of the Programme and the scope of work to be accomplished, a logical framework as outlined in the following section has been developed.

The IUFRO-SPDC Logical Framework

The logical framework presented here provides a synthesis of key planning parameters such as programme objective, results, indicators and risks. These parameters form the basis for implementation of the activities and allow for systematic monitoring and evaluation. Further strategic considerations for each result are detailed in Chapter 3.

Development Goal	
The management of forests in developing and economically disadvantaged countries is improved and contributes to poverty alleviation and sustainable development.	
Mission	
To expand and foster forest research capacity in developing and economically disadvantaged countries.	
Programme Objective:	
The ability of IUFRO member institutions in developing and economically disadvantaged countries to generate and deliver scientific information and advisory services on forests and trees and their sustainable utilisation is enhanced.	
<i>Indicator 1:</i>	Knowledge taught in IUFRO-SPDC courses is applied in day-to-day research work
<i>Indicator 2:</i>	IUFRO member institutions provide training to forest scientists and managers on a regular basis
<i>Indicator 3:</i>	The number of scientists involved in co-operation projects between IUFRO member institutions and forest practitioners (e.g. policy makers, forest managers, rural communities) has increased
<i>Indicator 4:</i>	There is evidence that scientific results have been successfully translated into practice
Results:	
<i>Results 1:</i>	Training programme in forest research management and technology transfer implemented
<i>Indicators:</i>	1.1 Themes covered in the courses reflect the needs of the research community 1.2 Training courses implemented in Asia, Africa, Latin America and Eastern Europe 1.3 Training courses fill a niche in the overall capacity building efforts in developing countries

Results 2: Training material produced

- Indicators:**
- 2.1 For each identified training course, training manuals, handbooks etc. are prepared, published and made available as hard copy, CD-ROM or on-line document
 - 2.2 Training material distributed to trainees and others interested in the subject
 - 2.3 Training material appreciated by clients and new knowledge applied in practice

Results 3: Participation of development country scientists in collaborative research networking activities supported

- Indicators:**
- 3.1 At least 3 thematic networking projects developed and externally funded by end of 2003
 - 3.2 As the results of networking activities, at least 3 scientific syntheses or state-of-knowledge reports produced by end of 2005
 - 3.3 Co-operation between members of regional and international scientific networks strengthened

Results 4: Forest scientists supported to attend IUFRO conferences and meetings

- Indicators:**
- 4.1 Travel grants awarded according to available funding from external sources
 - 4.2 At least 25 scientists from developing countries supported by IUFRO-SPDC to participate in the IUFRO World Congress in Brisbane/Australia in 2005

Risks

The results described above are achievable under the following set of assumptions:

- Appropriate candidates for training and networking activities are identified by participating institutions
- Partner organisations promote/support/join IUFRO-SPDC activities
- Funds are available from the international development assistance community and private sponsors.

As shown in the logical framework, IUFRO-SPDC's activities are grouped under four results. Results 1 and 2 refer to the implementation of training programmes including the production of training material. In Result 3 collaborative research networking is pursued seeking to improve the participation of forest scientists from developing countries in international networking activities.

From its beginning in 1983 IUFRO-SPDC organised the so called scientist assistance programme which provides travel support to forest scientists from developing countries to attend international scientific conference, meetings and seminars held under the auspices of IUFRO. Depending on the availability of external funding, this programme will be implemented under Result 4.

Besides these programme components the strategic plan document also describes the various current and potential partners of IUFRO-SPDC necessary to achieve its objectives, programme management and financing requirements.

The full Strategic Plan Document is also available on the IUFRO-SPDC Website at <http://iufro.boku.ac.at/iufro/spdc/index.htm>.

Michael Kleine
Coordinator of IUFRO-SPDC

Please note

Hard copies of the IUFRO-SPDC Textbook Project No.3 *Producción Forestal para América Tropical* by Frank. H. Wadsworth are available **completely free of charge** (except costs for postage or handling!) **for IUFRO members in developing countries !**

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