





IUFRO WFSE Newsletter 1/2017

International Union of Forest Research Organizations' Special Project World Forests, Society and Environment

www.iufro.org/science/special/wfse

NEWS

WFSE Side Event at UNFF12

Harnessing the potential of community and smallholder forestry for sustainable development goals

WFSE organized a side event in the UNFF 12 on Tuesday 2 May, 2017. The event focused on the significant interlinkages between community and smallholder forestry and the sustainable development goals (SDGs) and launched the related WFSE Policy brief *Building on synergies: Harnessing community and smallholder forestry for sustainable development goals.*

Forests are relevant for almost all of the SDGs and make important contributions to the attainment of these goals.

POLICY BRIEF
Building on synergies:
Harnessing community and smallholder
forestry for Sustainable Development Goals

These contributions can be further strengthened. Indigenous and local communities and smallholders, who use and manage a considerable share of the world forests, have a crucial role in harnessing this potential in rural areas. Many SDGs and their targets align with the condit-

ions that have been found to support community and smallholder forest management and related livelihoods. Meaningful progress in these specific SDGs can generate positive feedback loops that will support community and smallholder forestry and further boost progress towards the SDGs.

Efforts to attain the SDGs can lead to synergies among the goals, but they can also lead to trade-offs that can undermine the achievement of livelihood and conservation goals to which community and smallholder forestry can contribute. To realize the potential that the close interlinkages among community and smallholder forestry and the SDGs provide, it is necessary to address the inherent trade-offs among the SDGs and build on the synergies among them.

Presentations:

Community Forestry - From ethnography to SDGs *Prof.* Wil de Jong, Kyoto University

Contributions and potential of community forestry to achieve SDGs *Dr. Steven Lawry, Center for International Forestry Research*

Enabling environment for community and smallholder forestry and the SDGs *Dr. Glenn Galloway, University of Flori*da

Linking community and smallholder forestry to SDGs *Dr. Pia Katila, Natural Resources Institute, Finland*

The presentations and the policy brief are available at http://www.iufro.org/science/special/wfse/wfse-news/



WFSE Panel at UNFF 12: John Parrotta, Wil de Jong, Steven Lawry, Glenn Galloway, Pia Katila

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

Special Issue Shifting global development discourses: Implications for forests and live-lihoods

Most of the articles in this special issue are already available as fast track articles at http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/cfa/ifr

Potential impacts of the sustainable development goals on forests and the goods and services they provide

The potential contributions of forests to achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were explored before the SDGs were formally adopted. Continuing efforts are directed to gain a more thorough understanding of these contributions and to identify strategies to enhance them. However, little attention has yet been focused on the possible and likely impacts that efforts undertaken by different sectors to advance towards the 17 SDGs will have on forests, forest ecosystem services, forest-related livelihoods and human wellbeing. This is the topic that WFSE will focus on in 2017-2019.

WFSE has initiated a comprehensive assessment of potential and anticipated impacts of efforts towards attaining the different SDGs on forests and forest-related livelihoods and development. The interdisciplinary assessment will focus on forest-related ecological, social and economic impacts of the SDGs. It will place special attention on interactions among the goals and their impacts on forests, forests use and forest-related livelihoods and policies and governance. In other words, the analysis will explore the synergies and trade-offs between the SDGs from the point of view of how they impact forest-related development in different contexts.

Understanding the potential impacts of SDGs on forests and forest-related livelihoods and development as well as the related trade-offs and synergies is crucial for the efforts undertaken to reach these goals. It is especially important for reducing potential negative impacts and to leverage opportunities to create synergies that will ultimately determine whether comprehensive progress towards the SDGs will be made.

The editors:

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COMING EVENTS

In connection of the **IUFRO 125**th **Anniversary Congress** in Freiburg, Germany, 18-22 September, WFSE will organize a session *Forests for sustainable development: Shifting approaches and discourses*.

WFSE Steering Committee meeting 2017 will convene in connection with the IUFRO 125th Anniversary Congress in September 2017 in Freiburg.

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