

IUFRO WFSE

Special Project: World Forests, Society and Environment

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This is the first **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 organisations and universities around the world.

The current activities of the project focus especially on the development of the new book ***Forests under pressure: Local responses to global issues***. The book will be launched at the IUFRO World Congress 2014 in Salt Lake City, United States.

The underlying goal of this book is to **identify what appear to be the most important "conditions" that foster meaningful progress towards forest-related sustainable development and sustainable forest management (SFM)**.

We are curious about the individual effects of different conditions and in how they interact to contribute to the processes of interest.

We are also interested in how the different conditions and their combinations have changed, during the past 20 years, and how they have affected sustainable forest-related local development and SFM as an essential element of that development.

Another important goal is to understand how the conditions have come to exist in some places, but not in others. This focuses our interest to the pathways through which the conditions and the changes in the conditions have come about and the mechanisms that have given rise to these changes. The role of international regimes and other types of normative, ideological and coercive pressures that emanated from beyond the local community will also be explored.

The book builds on about 30 local/regional level case studies from different parts of the world.

Workshop in Helsinki 25-27 April 2012

The workshop brought together the Editors and Convening lead authors of the case study chapters of the new book. It provided an opportunity to discuss the main aims and orientation of the book, the framework for analysing the case studies, and most importantly the proposed case studies. During two and a half days we heard a presentation of each case study. The presentations covered the different cases that focused on important themes including e.g. community forestry, land and resource rights, certification, illegal logging, conflicts, restoration, microfinance and ecosystem services. The workshop participants totalled 41. Altogether about 150 authors from research organizations and universities from around the world are involved in developing the case study analyses.



Participants of the IUFRO WFSE Workshop in Helsinki April 2012. Photo Pablo Quiñones/Metla

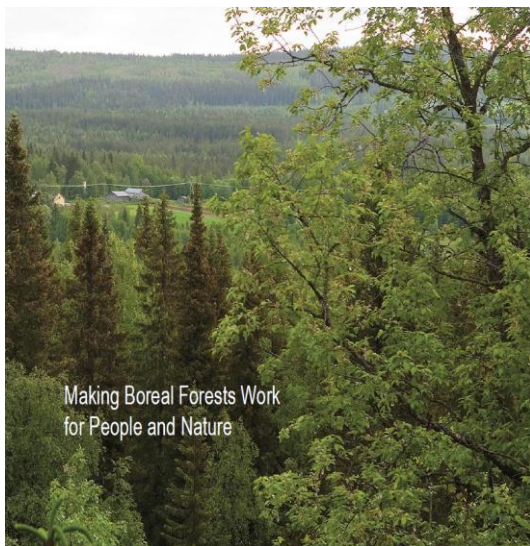
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Publications

The policy brief Making Boreal Forests Work for People and Nature was published early 2012. This brief completes the series of regional policy briefs published by WFSE. All WFSE publications are available at: www.iufro.org/wfse.



the 30 local and regional level case studies that form the major part of the new book.

December: In the last part of the book, an effort will be made to apply the findings of the book to derive contrasting future pathways visualizing the broader implementation of the 'more successful' approaches to sustainable forest management on one hand and the failure to expand the utilization of these approaches on the other. A group of authors will meet at FAO, Rome, to initiate the development of this future oriented part of the book.

Conferences

In May 22 - 24, 2012 the WFSE project participated in the 1st IUFRO Conference on Forest for People in Alpbach, Tyrol/Austria. We organized the Parallel Session Making Forests Work for People and Nature.

Upcoming activities

October: A group of authors will convene at the University of Florida in Gainesville, Florida, late October 2012 to discuss the development of the synthesis and results part of the new book. This part will analyse and synthesise information from

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