

IUFRO WFSE

Special Project: World Forests, Society and Environment

Coordinator Gerardo Mery | Deputy Coordinator Pia Katila | www.iufro.org/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.*

Current activities

The current activities of the project focus 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, October 2014, in Salt Lake City, United States.

The book will consist of four Parts and the development of all Parts is well underway.

We are currently focusing on finalizing the 30 local and regional level case studies that will form an important part of this new book (Part II). All chapters are subjected to peer-review to ensure high scientific standard.

Parallel with this, we are also analyzing the case studies to shed light on what seem to be the important "prerequisite" conditions that foster meaningful progress towards forest-related sustainable development and sustainable forest management (SFM) as an essential part of that process. We focus on the individual effects of different conditions and on how they interact to contribute to the processes of interest.

The authors of this synthesis part of the book (Part III) met at University of Florida last October

to initiate the development of this Part. The second meeting of the authors of Part III was held at Tropenbos International, in Wageningen, the Netherlands, in April 2013.



The authors of the Part III of the book "Forests under pressure: Local responses to global issue": René Alfaro, Glenn Galloway, Pia Katila, Wil de Jong and Pablo Pacheco. Photo: Gerardo Mery.

In December 2012, six lead authors met at FAO, Rome, to discuss and agree about the approach and contents of the future oriented, last Part of the book (Part IV). The final drafts of the different chapters of Part IV will be discussed in the next lead authors' meeting in late September 2013.

New partners

University of Florida

The Memorandum of Understanding to strengthen collaboration between IUFRO WFSE and University of Florida (UoF) was signed in October 2012 in Gainesville, Florida.

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David Sammons, the Director of the International Center of the University of Florida and Pia Katila representing WFSE signing the Memorandum of Understanding between University of Florida and IUFRO WFSE. Photo: Glenn Galloway.

Center for Integrated Area Studies, Kyoto University

The memorandum of Understanding between Center for Integrated Area Studies (CIAS), Kyoto University and WFSE was signed in January 2013.

With the new partners IUFRO WFSE now has ten active partner organizations: CATIE, CIAS, CIFOR, CIRAD, EFI, FAO, Metla, UoF, VITRI, and vTI.

Important events

The **Seminar on Cooperation between IUFRO and Finnish Governmental Agencies** was organized in Helsinki 13 May. WFSE was responsible for organizing this seminar, which was chaired by the Director General of Finnish Forest Research Institute (Metla) Hannu Raitio. The seminar brought together distinguished representatives of IUFRO, Metla, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland,

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and Ministry for Employment and the Economy.

The seminar focused on presenting the current collaboration between IUFRO, Metla and Ministry for Foreign Affairs, IUFRO research strategy and IUFRO's programmatic contributions. An important topic was to present and discuss contributions of IUFRO to addressing priorities of Finland in international forest policy and development cooperation. The seminar aimed to identify thematic priorities and future research needs of Finnish governmental agencies and to give guidance on how IUFRO can better respond to the current and future research needs of the decision-makers.

Upcoming events

The annual **IUFRO WFSE Steering Committee meeting** will be held in San Jose, Costa Rica 10 June 2013.

WFSE will organize a **technical session** in the IUFROLAT Congress in San Jose 12-15 June 2013. The session - **Forests under pressure** - will present five case studies from Latin America. These case studies will be included in the new book we are currently working on and they focus on Bolivia, Mexico (Quintana Ro), Brazil (Acre), sustainable management in the Amazon, and exemplary cases of sustainable forest management in various parts of Latin America.

CONTACT

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