Forests are essential to our future and are essential to human well-being. More than 1.6 billion people, i.e. 25% of the global population, depend on them. Forests are strongly affected by climate change and air pollution, two significant interacting stressors. Climate change is one of the most challenging issues for global forests at present.

Sustainable forest management (policies and practices) is essential to maintain healthy forests and also contribute to economic growth, poverty alleviation, food security, climate resilience and biodiversity conservation. New forest policy strategies will lead to improved mitigation of impacts.

The IUFRO Task Force on Climate Change and Forest Health\(^1\) organizes this side event to transfer relevant Task Force results to policy-makers and stakeholders.

The Task Force is improving our understanding of the multi-faceted aspects of forest degradation and of the processes regulating the interactions between forests and climate.

The side event will discuss novel emergencies and global challenges, e.g. air pollution and climate change impacts, and solutions, e.g. forest supersites and sustainable harvesting, and how to make forests more resilient against climate change, halt forest degradation and achieve healthy and functional forests.

The Task Force outputs facilitate the development of science-based strategies for policy-makers and managers to enable the protection of forests against air pollution and climate change and serve as a decision-support tool for national, European and international authorities.

---

1. [http://www.iufro.org/science/task-forces/climate-change-forest-health/]
Organized by

ARCHES-Conseils
International Union of Forest Research Organizations - Research Group 7.01

Financial support

The side event organization was made possible with the financial support of the Regional Council “Provence-Alpes-Côte-d’Azur” in France (DDSC-SECA) and the LIFE15 ENV/IT/000183 project MOTTLES of the European Union.

UNFF12 side event

Healthy forests for a prosperous environment: the multi-faceted aspects of forest degradation

Monday 1st May, 2017
Trusteeship Chamber
1:15-2:45 pm

United Nations headquarters
New York, USA