

IUFRO Spotlight is an initiative of the International Union of Forest Research Organizations. Its aim is to introduce, in a timely fashion, significant findings in forest research from IUFRO officeholders and member organizations to a worldwide network of decision makers, policy makers and researchers.

IUFRO will encapsulate, and distribute in plain language, brief, topical and policy-relevant highlights of those findings, along with information on where/how to access the full documents. The **IUFRO Spotlight** findings will be distributed in a periodic series of emails as well as blog postings.

Forest research matters.

All of us under the IUFRO umbrella know that. Research is what we, in our member organizations, do. It is who we are.

*By Niels Elers Koch, President, IUFRO
(Copenhagen University, Denmark)*

In addition to increasing our **understanding** of the world in which we live, there can be – and often are – important policy implications for our research findings. And we know very well that good sustainable forest management decisions can only be made based on sound science.

For that reason, IUFRO is embarking on a new initiative called **IUFRO Spotlight** to introduce timely, significant forest research findings from our member organizations to a worldwide network of policy makers, other decision makers and researchers.

Brief, topical and policy-relevant highlights of findings from our member organizations, along with information on where/how to access full reports will be distributed by IUFRO through a periodic series of emails as well as blog postings.

These excerpted, plain language articles will give more immediate exposure to our member organizations' important findings to those who would be in positions to use the information to implement new and improved policies, as well as reaching our more traditional research audience.

IUFRO will act only as a conduit in presenting the findings. Quality and accuracy will be the responsibility of the authors and the member organizations.

The first in the series of **IUFRO Spotlights** will be coming to you on Wednesday, 23 November 2011. So stay tuned. We look forward to your feedback on the initiative.

ABOUT IUFRO

IUFRO is a non-profit, non-governmental international network of forest scientists, which promotes global cooperation in forest-related research and enhances the understanding of the ecological, economic and social aspects of forests and trees.

The findings reported in **IUFRO Spotlight** are submitted by IUFRO officeholders and member organizations. IUFRO is pleased to highlight and circulate these findings to a broad audience.

Suggestions for reports and findings that could be promoted through IUFRO Spotlight are encouraged. Please send them to: Gerda Wolfrum, wolfrum(at)iufro.org. To be considered, reports should be fresh, have policy implications and be applicable to more than one country.

The International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) is the only worldwide organization devoted to forest research and related sciences. Its members are research institutions, universities, and individual scientists as well as decision-making authorities and other stakeholders with a focus on forests and trees. Visit: <http://www.iufro.org/>

*IUFRO Spotlight #1, published in November 2011
by IUFRO Headquarters, Vienna, Austria.*

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