The IUFRO Tree Biotechnology Conference is held every two years and is the official meeting of the IUFRO Working Group 2.04.06 (Molecular biology of forest trees). The year 2015 is the thirtieth anniversary of its initial gathering in 1985 in the U.S. (Avon Lake, Ohio), and for the first time organized in Italy, returning to Europe after 8 years. It is estimated that approximately 300 delegates from 50 countries will participate the Tree Biotechnology Conference being the major international forum to present and discuss new developments and ideas related to the current state and future of research in genetics, genomics and biotechnology in the forestry. This conference brings together academics, scientists, public and private institutions of international, national and regional, governmental and non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders to discuss all aspects of biotechnology and bio-safety of forest trees.

Therefore the "IUFRO Tree Biotechnology" offers a unique opportunity to share information and experiences, and to engage in an open and meaningful dialogue on the state of research in the field.

The main theme of the conference is "Forests: the importance to the planet and society" and how to preserve it in the light of global climate change to meet the growing demands of society for sustainable resources, renewable energy and biomass production. There is a growing worldwide demand for wood and biomass in response to the needs of the society (paper, energy, etc.), and therefore we are witnessing an increase in forest plantations of high productivity (e.g. poplar and eucalyptus). The latest developments in biotechnology applications will contribute to meeting the global demands of the society by helping to preserve the natural forests and reducing deforestation of large forest areas important for the ecosystem preservation. This conference is a unique and timely opportunity focusing on the current social and environmental issues and knowledge gaps related to the status of research, and to the development of new technologies. This implies a dynamic discussion on the intersection of science, regulatory and policy guidelines and society, which will be an innovative session of the Congress in which socio-economic studies related to biotechnology and regulatory issues are reported and discussed.

**Main topics**

- **Tree Genomics and Climate Change**
- **Tree ecosystem, biodiversity and conservation**
- **Tree Biotechnology: molecular understanding of tree growth and development and applications for tree improvement**
- **Biosafety: environmental risk assessment, monitoring and management, and socio-economic implications**

**Important deadlines**

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**Organizing secretary**

Scaramuzzi Team
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Registration and abstract submissions open on 21 November 2014
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