COORDINATORS’ REPORT

IUFRO-SPDC in its 15th Year: New Challenges

The 1997-2000 programme of IUFRO’s SPDC was approved at the EB meeting in Rome. Further to our announcement in the winter issue of IUFRO News, the SPDC team in this insert provides a comprehensive description of the current programme, including detailed information regarding mandate, goals and recent activities of IUFRO’s Special Programme for Developing Countries.

New challenges

IUFRO’s Special Programme for Developing Countries was created in 1983 as a follow-up initiative of the XVII IUFRO World Congress in Kyoto, Japan, where IUFRO was formally requested to undertake activity in “...strengthening research related to forest resources in developing countries”. Meanwhile, SPDC’s mission was extended to include not only developing countries but also the Eastern European countries in transition.

With evolving world needs and the establishment of the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) and the incorporation of the International Center for Research on Agroforestry (ICRAF) within the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), as well as the creation of the Forestry Research Support Programme for Asia and the Pacific (FORSPA), the challenges facing IUFRO-SPDC have changed. IUFRO-SPDC remains committed to addressing the concerns that originally resulted in its establishment, but, as a result of the above initiatives, has re-evaluated its programmes in order to more effectively meet its mandate.

In addition to core funding, 1994 marked the first disbursements of the earnings from the IUFRO Development Fund for travel grants. Accordingly, IUFRO-SPDC works to attain the following goals:

Enhance research capacity through scientist assistance and training - IUFRO-SPDC promotes interactions among scientists and disciplines as well as across international borders. Such interactions are vital to the intellectual growth of research scientists and to capacity-building in developing countries. Every year, IUFRO-SPDC allocates a portion of its core funds to assist some 50 scientists from almost as many developing countries with travel grants for training or to attend IUFRO-sponsored meetings.

Support regional forestry research development and networking - Support is needed to promote forestry research development, to assist in the transfer of results and technologies so that more use is made of research findings, to improve networking, and to improve the global governance of forests. It is recognized that research programmes, even when successful, will have limited impact without appropriate regional and local participation. Thus, building support for forestry research development and improving regional and international forestry research networks with wider participation remains an important target for IUFRO-SPDC. The Carpathian Mountain Project has been a very successful step towards the implementation of this goal. (For detailed Project information, please see SPDC “Perspective” on p.14.)

Develop research capacity through production and distribution of training manuals and courses - IUFRO-SPDC produces and markets products such as “FORSTAT: a self-learning course in basic statistics for forestry researchers” and “A Self-learning Course: Planning and Managing Forestry Research”, designed to train scientists in forestry research methods, research management, and writing and marketing of research grant proposals. These tools are valuable resources for both beginning and experienced forestry research managers. IUFRO-SPDC will continue its training programmes by developing courses on grant and proposal writing, socioeconomic analyses, and decision-support systems.

Facilitate and strengthen information flows to developing country forest scientists and decision-makers - Lack of basic reference materials and limited access to current information seriously handicap research programmes in many countries. IUFRO-SPDC therefore continues its efforts to develop and promote information networks both on a regional and global basis. To meet the need for access to current information, IUFRO-SPDC publishes inserts in the quarterly IUFRO News and, from 1998 onward, is compiling special issues of IUFRO Occasional Papers on current forestry-related topics. It also promotes the electronic distribution of all its products and serves as a resource center and whenever possible provides publications and references upon request. IUFRO-SPDC solicits regional input and support for joint-venture projects for the development and production of regionally focused and affordable textbooks on forestry-related topics for Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

Establish and strengthen partnerships between developing and developed country institutions - Twinning, networking, and other forms of cooperative research greatly enhance forestry research and development in emerging economies. Regular interchange between developed country institutions and their developing country counterparts is not uncommon but has untapped potential. IUFRO-SPDC promotes bilateral “twinning” arrangements as well as the participation of target institutions in established networks for research collaboration. These have proven useful for joint research planning to identify critical problems, information gaps, funding sources, and training and equipment needs.

Implementation and evaluation

Each goal of IUFRO-SPDC is designed to emphasize and support key IUFRO themes and encompasses low- and high-technology transfer activities for
the delivery of its products and other educational activities. IUFRO-SPDC itself does not implement projects but acts primarily as a catalyst to initiate, promote and foster ideas and working relationships. Its goals are revised and updated based on an evaluation process that relies heavily on feedback from cooperators and clients. Cooperation with other organizations is essential because there is simply too great a need for strengthening forestry research in developing and disadvantaged countries for any one organization to attempt to do it alone.

**SPDC MEETING REPORT(S)**

**6th ANNUAL BIO-REFOR WORKSHOP**

Queensland, Australia, 2-9 December 1997

The Sixth Annual International Workshop of the BIOrTechnology assisted REFORestation project was held 2-9 December 1997 in Queensland, Australia. This series of workshops continues to receive the generous sponsorship of Japan’s Official Development Assistance Program. This year, AusAID sponsored the participation of several additional participants and scientists involved in projects of the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) were able to interact with others in the region. The workshop was hosted by the University of Queensland and the Queensland Forestry Research Institute and superbly arranged by the Local Organizing Committee chaired by Jiro Kikkawa. The workshop was designed to exchange information about a variety of topics relevant to tropical forest rehabilitation in the Asia-Pacific Region and to examine relevant tropical forestry practices throughout Queensland. This year’s BIO-REFOR workshop went beyond the scope of earlier workshops to also include biodiversity and forest protection. Themes included the following:

A) **man-made forests**, encompassing general aspects of tropical forest plantations, their establishment and sustainable management;

B) **propagation techniques**, including tissue culture, vegetative propagation and nursery techniques;

C) **soil conditions and mycorrhiza**, concerning nutrients, water relations and mycorrhizal fungi;

D) **genetics and biodiversity**, examining tree breeding, genetic resources and biodiversity conservation in plantation forests;

E) **ecological processes in forest rehabilitation**, addressing successional aspects of forest rehabilitation and including natural forest management; and

F) **forest protection**, including the question of plantation protection from weeds, insects, browsing animals and pathogens.

Given current global concerns about forests, the results from this workshop will provide important technical information usable as the basis for discussion at many upcoming global fora on forests. These include the Inter-governmental Forum on Forests (resulting from the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests and the deliberations of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific, Technical and Technical Advice (SBSTTA) of the Biodiversity Convention. At the next SBSTTA meeting, one of the main agenda items will be the Draft Programme of work for Forest Biological Diversity that was recently posted on the Secretariat’s web site. The Secretariat has proposed a series of regional technical workshops on “best practices” that conserve forest biodiversity. The proceedings of the BIO-REFOR workshop will help provide those workshops with a strong unbiased scientific basis.

There were more than 90 participants from 18 countries, who attended the two-day workshop, which was followed by a two-day field presentation of forest plantations, natural forests, and local nature parks. A smaller group of fewer than 20 also participated in the three-day study tour of forest rehabilitation in North Queensland. The highlights of this tour, which started in Cairns, included forest plantations in the Atherton Tablelands and Daintree World Heritage National Park. Keynote addresses included: (1) The implications of natural disturbance regimes in forest management (Tohru Nakashizuka, University of Kyoto, Japan); (2) The role of clonal propagation in tropical forest rehabilitation (Cesar Nuevo, Provident Tree Farms, Philippines); (3) The significance of mycorrhiza in South East Asian tropical forestry (Lee Su Lee, Forest Research Institute, Malaysia); (4) Planting tropical trees for biodiversity conservation and profit (Nigel E. Stork, Cooperative Research Centre for Tropical Rainforest Ecology and Management, Australia); (5) Ecological processes in tropical forest rehabilitation (Alan P.N. House, Queensland Forestry Research Institute, Australia); and (6) Management of insect pests in tropical forest plantations (Chaweewan Hutacharern, Royal Forest Department, Thailand).

IUFRO Past President Salleh gave a provocative and stimulating Plenary Address entitled, “Forest Plantations: A Panacea for All Forestry Ills?” He delivered several challenges to both those in the developed and developing worlds including one to both Japan and the United States to champion a massive reforestation programme to “green” at least 75% of the world’s degraded lands by the year 2020. He also emphasized the need to switch from exploitative forestry to production forestry in the tropics. Salleh’s usual good sense of humor came through with his vision for the “ideal” tree (biotechnologically enhanced perhaps?) that would solve all our problems for food, fiber, energy, visual beauty, medicine, fertilizer and the atmosphere.
ETFRN STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

Amsterdam, 30-31 January 1998

Background and objectives

Deputy Coordinator Wade Bowers represented IUFRO-SPDC at the Second Steering Committee Meeting of the European Tropical Forest Research Network (ETFRN), which was held on January 29-31, 1998, in Amsterdam and hosted by The Tropenbos Foundation, the ETFRN National Node for The Netherlands.

The primary objective of the meeting was to develop strategic input to the fifth Framework Plan for research and technological development of the European Commission. For IUFRO-SPDC, the visit provided an opportunity to contribute to this process and to contact and foster working relations with members of ETFRN.

Input to fifth Framework Plan

A mini-workshop was held during the meeting to further discuss the possible ETFRN contribution on tropical forest research priorities for this Framework Plan. A paper compiled by the Chairman of the ETFRN Steering Committee, François Grison, served as a basis for discussion within the ETFRN network on research priorities for tropical forest research. This paper, identifying 15 priority research themes, was based on both the report of the special Intergovernmental Panel on Forests (IPF), presented to the Commission for Sustainable Development, and on the conclusions and recommendations of the 11th World Forestry Congress.

Charles Kessler of the European Commission’s DG XII further elaborated on criteria that the European Commission considers relevant for prioritizing research areas for funding.

Common perspectives

The Amsterdam meeting is the third in a series of meetings between IUFRO-SPDC and ETFRN. W. Brinkman (CU)

ETFRN Coordination Unit. The next Steering Committee meeting is planned for 5-6 February 1999 and will be hosted by the European Finnish Institute, Finland.

The ETFRN Annual Report is on file also at IUFRO-SPDC (see Networks ETFRN). Principal items discussed in the report include the primary activities of the ETFRN Coordination Unit.

Robert C. Szaro, Coordinator
Wade W. Bowers, Deputy Coordinator

Effects of Forest Health on Biodiversity with Emphasis on Air Pollution in the Carpathian Mountains

Since 1993, SPDC’s mission has been extended to include the Eastern European countries in transition. Further to reports on sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America, the SPDC-team highlights some of its initiatives in IUFRO’s Region Eastern Europe in this issue of IUFRO News. The following in-depth article provides current information about the Carpathian Mountains Project, one of SPDC’s key activities in the Region. Project work includes investigations on biodiversity, ozone, air-pollution impacts, bark beetles, genetics and forest health, and will start collecting data this summer. The Carpathian Mountains Project is funded by the Scientific Cooperation Program of the USDA Foreign Agricultural Service.

Cooperators

USDA Forest Service, Northeastern Center for Forest Health Research, Hanwood, CT, USA; Michigan Technological University, Houghton, MI, USA; USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station, Riverside, CA, USA; Institute of Botany, Polish Academy of Sciences, Krakow, Poland; Central Botanical Garden, National Academy of Sciences, Kiev, Ukraine; Ukrainian Scientific Research Institute of Forestry and Forest Melioration, Kharkiv, Ukraine; The Ukrainian Mountain Forestry Research Institute, Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine; Institute for Forest Ecosystem Research (IFER), Jilove u Prahy, the Czech Republic; Forest and Game Management Research Institute, Praha, the Czech Republic; Institute of Geodesy and Cartography, Warsaw, Poland; Forest Research Institute Warsaw/Cracow, Poland; Institute for Ecology of the Industrial Areas, Katowice, Poland; Forest Research Institute (FRI), Zvolen, Slovakia; Technická univerzita, Lesnícka fakulta, Zvolen, Slovakia; Institute of Landscape Ecology, Bratislava, Slovakia; Institutul de Cercetari si Amenajari Silvice (ICAS), Bucuresti, Romania; Geosystems Romania SRL, Bucuresti, Romania.

Background

Biodiversity is declining throughout the world in response to anthropogenic stresses such as habitat modifications and the release of toxic chemicals into air, water and soil. During the past one-half century, an unprecedented amount of forest area in Eastern and Central Europe has come under the adverse influence of air pollutants, particularly at high elevation coniferous sites. This has had a dramatic effect on forest sustainability and yet to be determined effects on biodiversity. The effects of environmental change on biodiversity including air pollution effects have to be recognized as a high priority thrust for future research.

The effects of air pollution on biota may be subtle and elusive because of their interactions with natural stresses. For
example, very little is known about the possible effects of air pollution-plant-insect interactions. However, there is a growing body of evidence suggesting that coniferous species that are weakened by stresses from air and other pollutants are susceptible to invasion by many species of primary and secondary bark beetles. This interaction may be exacerbated by the effect of air pollutants on the susceptibility of root systems of conifers to invasion by species of root fungi. Years may be required before ecological change/damage within ecosystems resulting from continuous or episodic exposure to toxic airborne contaminants becomes evident.

The Carpathians contain some of the most beautiful areas in the Region. The potential for tourism and economic utilization of forest resources in these mountains is enormous. In addition, the Carpathian forests represent unique reservoirs of many endemic, rare and unusual plant and animal species. Forests in the Carpathian Mountains have been impacted by humans for many centuries. However, until recently most of this impact has been quite local in nature. Pollution-mediated changes in these areas would have disastrous consequences for the biodiversity and health of these important natural areas. The establishment of several national parks within the territories of Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Ukraine, and the Eastern Carpathian Biosphere Reserve situated in Poland, Slovakia and Ukraine can serve as examples of the special attention given by these nations to the importance of biological conservation. Protection against the deleterious effects of ozone and other air pollutants should become an essential component of a proper preservation policy in the Carpathian Mountains.

IUFRO-SPDC is linking U.S. forestry researchers working on pollution-related issues in the US with those in economically emerging countries along the Carpathian Mountain range in Eastern Europe. The express purpose of such linkage is the development of cooperative research programs designed to build scientific expertise and capability in the Czech Republic, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, and Ukraine and, at the same time, enhance the ability of the United States to incorporate consideration of the effects of air pollutants into the management of its forests. In April 1997, SPDC Coordinator Dr. Robert Szaro was successful in obtaining support from the USDA Foreign Agricultural Service, under the terms of which a cooperative three-year research program has been initiated that addresses the effects of air pollutants on biodiversity conservation, ecosystem management and sustainability criteria in the management of Carpathian forests. The approach of the Carpathian Mountains Project corresponds with the belief of IUFRO-SPDC that the building of scientific expertise and capability, with a focus on improving regional capacities, means vital support for developing countries and countries in transition.

Goal and study objectives

The Cooperators of the Project formulated their goal to evaluate the effects of air pollution on biodiversity and forest health on a network of biological monitoring sites along the West-Southeast pollution gradient in selected ecologically similar locations in the Carpathian Mountains. The study objectives are as follows:

1. Establish a network of biological monitoring sites along the West-Southeast pollution gradient in selected ecologically similar locations in the Carpathian Mountains
2. Evaluate the response of bark beetle populations to disturbance interactions related to environmental stresses with emphasis on air pollution
3. Determine the impacts of long-term pollution loading on genetic diversity of mountain forest ecosystems
4. Examine the effects of environmental stresses on selected plant and animal indicators
5. Use GIS to relate indicators of biodiversity along a geographical gradient of environmental stress.
6. To conduct dendro-chronological analyses on all sites to identify causes and extent of potential declines in tree growth.

Project scope and methodology

The study will start in the summer of 1998 at 26 sites located on the West-Southeast transect of the Carpathian Mountains in the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland, Ukraine, and Romania. Two research sites are located in the Czech Republic, six sites each in Poland, Slovakia, Ukraine and Romania. All sites are located in the conifer forest zone at elevations of 800–1000 m. If additional funding is obtained, four points in Romania will be added to the transect to balance the geographic distribution of points and to add additional information on these clean-air sites.

Planning and organizational workshop in Smolenice, Slovakia

The Institute of Landscape Ecology, Slovakia and IUFRO-SPDC hosted a Research Planning Workshop on 4–7 November, 1997, in Smolenice, Slovakia. During the workshop participants developed a detailed work plan and assigned specific research tasks to the project cooperating scientists. In order to make use of previous equipment purchases and data, the Carpathian Mountains Project (“biodiversity project”) was linked to the USDA IDC sponsored research “Evaluation of Ozone Air Pollution and Its Phytotoxic Potential in the Carpathian Forests – a Cooperative Study Between the Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia, Ukraine and the United States”.

A meeting of this companion project took place at the same time in Slovakia and as a result of the discussions and presentations at the workshop it was agreed that a complete integration of the air pollution monitoring sites of the “ozone project” with the “biodiversity project” sites would be mutually beneficial.

The following subcomponents of the Carpathian Mountains Project were discussed and advanced during the workshop in Smolenice:

- **Structural effects of air pollution on epicuticular waxes of forest trees** - At each monitoring site, foliage will be collected for chemical analysis and scanning electron microscopy (SEM) evaluation of surface injury symptoms. Total and inorganic S, total N, and Ca, K, Mg, Fe, Cu, Al concentrations will be determined in order to evaluate nutritional status of trees and their

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contamination by sulfuric environmental pollution. Lead person: Dr. Blanka Mankovska, Forest Research Institute, Zvolen, Slovakia, E-mail: Mankov@fris.sk.

- **Biodiversity** - It was agreed the Braun-Banquet methodology would be used for evaluation of vegetation diversity. This methodology is commonly used among ecologists and botanists of the Carpathian countries. The participants decided that at each of the 26 ozone monitoring sites biodiversity of species will be evaluated three times during the vegetative season (beginning, middle and end of the season) in 1998. Coordinator: Prof. Krystyna Grodzinska, Institute of Botany, Polish Academy of Sciences, Krakow, Poland, E-mail: grodzin@ib-pan.krakow.pl.

- **Bark beetles** - Plots for bark beetle investigations will be located within a 10 km radius from the ozone monitoring sites. Investigations will be done in high-and low-pollution sites for each country. The plots will encompass 50-60 ha, and will be located at 600-1000 m elevation, in about 60-yr. old stands. Preparation of detailed methodological protocol is in progress. Coordinator: Dr. Michael McManus, USDA Forest Service, Northeastern Center for Forest Health Research, Hamden, CT, USA, E-mail: fswa/s=M.Mcmanus/ou1=s24L07a@mhs.atmail.com.

- **Impacts of long-term pollution loading on genetic diversity of mountain forest ecosystems** - Beech, spruce and fir trees will be investigated in three locations (High Tatra Mountains in Poland as a northern site, Slovak Carpathians as a middle-range location, and Romanian Carpathians as the southern location). Healthy and symptomatic trees will be sampled using the pair-wise German collection methodology. Detailed methodological protocols are to be prepared. Coordinator: Dr. David Karnosky, Michigan Technological University, Houghton, MI, USA, E-mail: karnosky@mtu.edu.

- **GIS activities to relate indicators of biodiversity along a geographical gradient of environmental stress** - Integration of GIS activities will be accomplished in close cooperation with IFER (Czech Republic), Geosystems Romania, and the Ukrainian Scientific Research Institute of Forestry and Forest Melioration. Digital topographic maps for the entire Carpathian range will be prepared by the IFER group. Leading scientist: Dr. Andrzej Bytnowski, USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station, Riverside, California, USA, E-mail: andrzej@deltanet.com.

- **US research on tree-ring analysis** Using dendrochronology and geostatistics we intend to identify historical patterns of growth declines and to associate these with pollutant levels. Quantitative assessment of atmospheric deposition will be conducted by collaborators under a proposal currently funded through the USDA Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS). In the study proposed here, collection of tree cores and dendrochronological analysis will provide a means of evaluating long term declines and stand dynamics of forests in the region and enable us to determine the importance of atmospheric pollutants relative to other disturbance factors such as wind, climate and pest outbreaks. Understanding linkages between tree growth and disturbance factors represents a critical but often missing component in global forestry. By virtue of its cultural, social and disturbance history, Carpathian Mountain forests provide an ideal location to establish baseline techniques to understand these linkages and to extend such knowledge to other parts of the world. Coordinators: Andrew Liebhold and Rose-Marie Muzika, USDA Forest Service, Northeastern Forest Experiment Station, Forestry Sciences Laboratory, 180 Canfield St., Morgantown, West Virginia 26505, USA, E-mail: sandy@gypsy.fsl.wvnet.edu.

**Project perspectives**

In the last year of the Project (2001), a IUFRO-SPDC sponsored synthesis workshop will be held where research accomplishments will be presented and discussed. Presentations from the workshop will be peer-reviewed and published in a special issue of a scientific journal or a book.

**References**


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**Capacity Building in Forestry Research (CBFR) Program in Africa**

The African Academy of Sciences launched in 1991 a pioneering competitive grant system called Capacity Building in Forestry Research (CBFR). This programme, funded since 1991 by SIDA-SAREC, has so far awarded 100 research grants to young African scientists to initiate research in relevant areas of forestry research in Africa. Similarly, hundreds of African forest experts and forestry research organizations and institutions have been associated with the CBFR programme as supervisors, peer reviewers, scientific advisors, and resource persons.

The CBFR is now marching into the 21st century, with the launching of its third phase (1998-2000). During this three-year period, emphasis will be on consolidation of the Young Scientists Fellowship Program and initiating the development of a Network of Senior Scientists on priority research areas for sustainable forest development in Africa.

The scope and other details about this programme are as follows:
Young Scientist Fellowship Program

Scope - Through its Capacity Building in Forestry Research (CBFR) programme, the African Academy of Sciences seeks to encourage and support the creation of a viable and sustainable scientific community whose work can make a substantial and direct contribution to the management of the continent's environment, particularly its forest resources, and natural resources for sustainable development. This project supports research in all aspects of forest science, including agricultural, industrial, energy, environmental and conservation subjects. It covers the following areas usually studied in forest sciences: forest engineering, management, protection, mensuration, silviculture, wood utilization, forest practice and forest modeling, among others. New and emerging fields of basic research as applied to forestry which are likely to lead to a long-term understanding and management of Africa's forest resources as well as socio-economic aspects are also encouraged. Increased knowledge in these areas would contribute to the Academy's efforts in instituting a long-range approach to Sustainable Forest Development in Africa.

This project is innovative and unique in setting out a priority to train researchers who will not only acquire the requisite scientific and technical knowledge and skills, but also the organizational and managerial capacity to put such knowledge to practical and effective use for the benefit of Africa.

Eligibility - The CBFR grants are open to all proven and promising African scientists who have shown potential to undertake imaginative and innovative research in forestry in Africa, either individually or in collaboration with teams. These will include any of the following:
(a) Active researchers in forestry research
(b) Post-doctoral or graduate researchers who wish to undertake further research in a forestry-related area; including post-graduate students registered abroad, but with intent to undertake field research in Africa.
(c) Graduates seeking to do research leading to higher professional qualifications. In this case, the award of a grant is contingent upon admission to a relevant institution.
(d) Applicants to the Young Scientists Fellowship Program should not be over 35 years old at the time of application.

Institutions - The CBFR grants are tenable at institutions of training and/ or research in Africa.

Duration - Grants are awarded initially for one year. Renewals for up to two additional years will be considered.

Budget - The Academy seeks to support research projects of varying magnitude, but on average, each grant will be in the range of US$ 5,000-15,000/year. An institutional support amounting to 15% of the total value of the approved grant is paid to the host institution of the applicant after conclusion of the project and after the applicant's Executive Final Report has been approved by the Academy's Forestry Board.

Senior Scientists Fellowship Program

This programme is open to all middle career African scientists and AAS, International Foundation for Science former grantees, who have shown great potential to inventive, innovative, integrated or multi-disciplinary research of national, sub-regional or regional significance. As the AAS provides equal opportunities to women, they are specifically encouraged to apply to the Senior Scientists Fellowship Program.

How to Apply

For Young Scientists, formal grant application forms are available at the address shown below. In addition to the formal application form, a research proposal is submitted together with the following documents:
(a) Applicant's full C.V., a current health certificate, letters from three referees and a letter(s) from a supervisor(s) or collaborator(s) as applicable; as well as from the head of institution.
(b) Project overview: A concise and brief description of the project (maximum 3 pages) covering the scope, purpose, methodology, time-bound workplan, expected outcome, and collaborators/ supervisors.
(c) Budget page summarizing request from AAS and costs that would be borne from other sources.

For Senior Scientists, it is advisable to submit a 2 to 3 page brief or concept paper highlighting areas of research interest. Successful applicants will be informed on current and emerging program priorities, guidelines and budget bracket.

Selection Process

The CBFR grants are selective and competitive. Overall selection includes:
(a) an internal review of applicants and proposals for completeness,
(b) peer review for assessment of relevance and innovativeness of proposals,
(c) final review by the AAS Forestry Board.

The closing dates for submission of applications and proposals are 1 February and 31 July each year. Address requests for application forms or letters of interest to:
The Program Officer, Capacity Building in Forestry Research Program, African Academy of Sciences, P.O. Box 14798, Nairobi, Kenya. Fax: +254-2-884406. E-mail: aas@africonline.co.ke

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