International Union of Forest Research Organizations
Union Internationale des Instituts de Recherches Forestières
Internationaler Verband Forstlicher Forschungsanstalten
Unión Internacional de Organizaciones de Investigación Forestal
The World’s Network of Forest Science
Foreword

By Niels Elers Koch, IUFRO President

The year 2012 was an extraordinary one for IUFRO. It marked mid-term in an unusually short Board term period of only four years which is mainly a consequence of the wish to avoid a collision of dates between the next IUFRO World Congress in Salt Lake City, USA, in 2014 and the next FAO World Forestry Congress in 2015.

Throughout the year an exceptionally high activity level could be noticed in the IUFRO Units which is particularly reflected by the total of 88 meetings co-sponsored by IUFRO, an all-time peak in the number of scientific conferences with IUFRO involvement.

In addition, IUFRO has been highly visible in international forest policy fora such as Forest Day 6 during the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) meeting in Doha, Qatar, and REDD+ Day, during the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) meeting in Hyderabad, India.

In the following, let me only pick out a few highlights because any effort to fully capture this wealth of IUFRO’s research networking and knowledge dissemination activities in a short preface is simply bound to fail.

Among the IUFRO conferences in 2012 there were also two highly successful all-Division meetings, one of Division 5 Forest Products, held in Estoril, Portugal, and one of the young Division 9 Forest Policy and Economics, in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, which extensively showcased IUFRO research and networking activities.

The Division 5 meeting brought together more than 500 researchers from all over the world. It did not only focus on its core topics such as wood quality and processing or wood in construction, but also embraced the overarching strategic themes of IUFRO such as forests for people, forest bioenergy, and forests and climate change.

The Division 9 conference demonstrated impressively how important the social dimension of forests and forestry has become and how IUFRO has successfully addressed the need to improve scientific exchange and knowledge generation at a global scale in the fields of forest policy and economics.

Back to back with the all-Division 9 conference Sarajevo also hosted the “Directors’ Forum on Governance of Forest Research and Education – Innovations in Participatory Management”, which brought together heads of forest research and education institutions from around the world. It provided an excellent platform for the vivid exchange of information and experiences and allowed IUFRO to get immediate feedback from member organizations on the needs and trends in forest research and education management, which will also be most useful to guide us in our future strategy.

Another milestone in 2012 - also with respect to our strategic orientation in the coming years - was undoubtedly the first IUFRO-FORNESSA (Forestry Research Network of Sub-Saharan Africa) Regional Congress held in Nairobi, Kenya.

By bringing top quality forest science meetings into the regions, particularly into regions that may have been underserved so far, IUFRO aims to offer a platform for scientists to present their findings in a more local and regional context. This makes it easier for the researchers to relate their work to the topics discussed and return home with new knowledge that can be directly applied in their corresponding research environments.

The African regional congress was a major success in all respects and, following this example, another regional Congress will be held in June 2013 in Latin America. IUFRO and the Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE) will jointly organize the Third IUFRO Latin American Congress in San José, Costa Rica, from 12 to 15 June 2013.

In 2012 IUFRO also started actively to prepare the next Strategy for the years after the 2014 IUFRO World Congress. As a first step in this process, IUFRO Members and Officeholders were invited in mid-2012 to express their views on IUFRO’s thematic priorities and working modalities in an IUFRO Survey. An Independent Review Panel was then convened to look into the organization and evaluate strengths and weaknesses and make suggestions for the future orientation of IUFRO.

On the basis of this valuable input and together with all the experience gathered from our network, a new Strategy will be drafted and discussed in 2013 and 2014 to guide IUFRO in its important role of promoting global cooperation in forest-related research and spreading the message and disseminating scientific knowledge to the relevant stakeholders and decision-makers in order to meet the challenges of changing paradigms in forest science worldwide.

Let me extend my sincere thanks to all of you in IUFRO, from officeholders to members, donors and friends, and IUFRO Headquarters, as you all have a significant share in making IUFRO truly the “World’s Network of Forest Science”.

Photo by Mike Muzurakis, IISD.
IUFRO President Niels Elers Koch planting a tree during in-Congress tour to Karura Forest, Nairobi, Kenya.
Table of Contents

Foreword
By Niels Elers Koch, IUFRO President 1

IUFRO Highlights in 2012 3

IUFRO Divisions
Division 1 - Silviculture 4
Division 2 - Physiology and Genetics 5
Division 3 - Forest Operations 6
Division 4 - Forest Assessment, Modelling and Management 7
Division 5 - Forest Products 8
Division 6 - Social Aspects of Forests and Forestry 9
Division 7 - Forest Health 10
Division 8 - Forest Environment 11
Division 9 - Forest Policy and Economics 12

IUFRO Task Forces 13

Forest Bioenergy 13
Resources for the Future 14
Forests for People 14
Forests and Human Health 15
International Forest Governance 15
Education in Forest Science 16

Programmes, Initiatives, Projects 16

World Forests, Society and Environment (IUFRO-WFSE) 16
IUFRO-led Global Forest Expert Panel Initiative (GFEP) 17
Global Forest Information Service (GFIS) 17
Special Programme for Developing Countries (IUFRO-SPDC) 18

Outlook
By Mike Wingfield, IUFRO Vice-President Divisions 19

Organizational Information 19

IUFRO Structure 20
New Members 2012 21
Finances 22
Sponsorships (Grants and In-kind Contributions to IUFRO in 2012) 23
IUFRO Awards 24
HQ Publications 2012 24
IUFRO Board Members 24
Editorial 24

Note:
All texts in this Annual Report have either been provided by IUFRO officeholders or have been taken from IUFRO conference information web sites and reports or IUFRO News.

Please note that in the IUFRO context the term “to sponsor” a meeting does not imply any financial assistance. It means that IUFRO officeholders are prominently involved in the meeting and that IUFRO supports the promotion of the event in its media.
IUFRO Highlights in 2012

Forests and Trees: Serving the People of Africa and the World

Under this theme, the First IUFRO-FORNESSA (Forestry Research Network of Sub-Saharan Africa) Regional Congress was held from 25-29 June 2012, including the International Tropical Timber Association (ITTO)/African Forest Forum (AFF) Forest Policy Day on 28 June. Some 350 forest scientists and policy makers from about 45 countries, 32 of them in Africa, came together in the Kenyan capital of Nairobi to participate in this unique event that was jointly hosted by the World Agroforestry Center (ICRAF) and the Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI).

The main focus of the Congress was on the impact of forest science on the conservation and sustainable management and use of forest and tree resources primarily in Sub-Saharan Africa with the scientific program being arranged around the following six themes: forests and climate change; forests and water; forest policy, governance and trade; forest biodiversity and conservation; agroforestry, energy and food security; and education training and institutional capacity building.

Austrian Ministry Confirms Commitment to International Forest Science Cooperation

On 14 November 2012, Nikolaus Berlakovich, Austrian Federal Minister for Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management (Lebensministerium) and Niels Elers Koch, President of the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) signed an agreement in Vienna, Austria, that reaffirms Austria’s continued support to IUFRO.

Austria has hosted IUFRO Headquarters since 1973. The renewed agreement governs the future provision of office space and staff to IUFRO Headquarters. In early 2013, the IUFRO Headquarters team will move into their new offices at Marxergasse on the premises of the Austrian "Lebensministerium".

IUFRO Review Panel

In June of 2012, at the 51st Meeting of the IUFRO Board, it was agreed that an independent panel should be established to “assess IUFRO’s modus operandi and scientific structure, to identify, reconfirm and adapt thematic challenges and opportunities, and to provide guidance on how to adjust and position IUFRO in the future”. In this context, the current IUFRO Strategy 2010-2014 served as a starting point, with a purpose to carefully analyze where IUFRO can build on previous key achievements towards a new Strategy.

The Independent Review Panel consisted of six invited members from Africa, Asia, Europe, North America and South America, coming from diverse backgrounds, and brought extensive experience in forest research, management, and policy: Eduardo Rojas-Briales (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Italy, and Panel Chair), Alfred Oteng-Yeboah (Forestry Research Institute of Ghana), Tomás Schlichter (The National Institute of Agriculture and Technology, Argentina), Yurdi Yasmi (The Center for People and Forests - RECOFTC, Thailand), Jennifer Hayes (US Forest Service, United States of America and Secretary of the Panel), and Lisa Sennerby-Forsse (Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Sweden). Five of the six members met on 14-15 November 2012 in Vienna, Austria.

The Panel agreed that IUFRO continues to be well-positioned as the premier global network for forest science. Changing global dynamics (social, economic, and ecological) require the organization to be nimble and responsive. By engaging its existing forest science network and looking to collaborate with scientists in related and fringe disciplines, IUFRO can be a global convener, bringing people together to address the complex natural resource challenges facing the planet and its people.
### Silviculture – Division 1

**Coordinator:** Björn Hånell, Sweden

**Deputy Coordinators:**
- Isabel Cañellas, Spain
- Jens Peter Skovsgaard, United States
- Kevin L. O’Hara, Sweden

Division 1 includes the study of forest and ecosystem management; stand establishment and stand treatment (including fertilization); agroforestry; wood biomass for bioenergy; restoration of degraded sites; mountain zone and arid zone silviculture; tropical, boreal and temperate zone silviculture; and silvicultural systems.

Division 1 has 7 Research Groups and 18 Working Parties with a total number of 78 Officeholders.

In 2012, work in Division 1 focused on a broad range of topics and addressed two major challenges in contemporary research:

1. **the adaptation of forests and forestry to a changing climate, with particular respect to meeting both timber and ecosystem services, and**

2. **the development of more flexible and adaptive agroforestry systems.**

Special attention was given to planted forests, in the temperate climate zone and in the tropics.

How knowledge about forest resources and societal demands could be combined to develop effective methods for providing ecosystem services in the face of changing climate conditions was a key matter in the conference Managing forests for ecosystem services: can spruce forests show the way? held in Edinburgh, Scotland. One strength of the meeting was the number of operational case studies that were presented to illustrate how forest managers were adapting their silvicultural regimes to sustain or enhance the provision of particular ecosystem services.

With the obvious aim to develop and disseminate new knowledge on more flexible agroforestry systems the Division 1 Research Group 1.04.00 Agroforestry sponsored four international agroforestry meetings - one workshop, two national congresses, and one regional congress in Chile, Argentina, Colombia, and Brazil, respectively.

Planted pine forests in the Colombian tropics were the focus of the 5th Simposio Nacional Forestal: Bosques plantados y bosques naturales, in Medellin. The three main topics of the symposium were the hydrological impacts of the planted forests, the national forest inventories as research and management tools, and risks and profitability of investments in planted forests. It was concluded that planted forests, especially pinewoods, are a good land use option in the Colombian tropics but more research is needed to reach adequate management orientation for pine plantations there.

**Meetings**

**January 23-24, Concepción, Chile**
  - IUFRO 1.04.00

**May 9-11, Santiago del Estero, Argentina**
  - IUFRO 1.04.00

**June 6-8, Saint Petersburg, Russia**
- International Conference: Renewable Wood and Plant Resources: innovative development in the forestry sector.
  - IUFRO 1.00.00, 4.00.00, 5.00.00

**June 17-20, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada**
- International Conference “Boreal Mixedwoods 2012 – Ecology and Management for Multiple Values”.
  - IUFRO 1.01.04

**June 25-26, Nairobi, Kenya**
- IUFRO Meliaceae Meeting.
  - IUFRO 1.02.04

**July 31-August 1, Plaza Mayor, Medellín, Colombia**
- 2nd Colombian Congress and 1st International Seminar on Silvopasturing.
  - IUFRO 1.04.00

**September 12-14, Kastamonu, Turkey**
- 14th International Fir Symposium.
  - IUFRO 1.01.09, 2.02.09, 2.02.13

**October 8-11, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK**
- International Conference “Managing forests for ecosystem services: can spruce forests show the way?”
  - IUFRO 1.01.08

**October 11-12, Medellín, Colombia**
  - IUFRO 1.01.10

**November 8-10, Belém Do Pará, Brazil**
- VII Congresso Latinoamericano de Sistemas Agroflorestais para a Produção Pecuária Sustentável/VII Latin America Congress on Agroforestry for Sustainable Animal Production.
  - IUFRO 1.04.00

**November 12-16, Christchurch, New Zealand**
- 8th IUFRO International conference on uneven-aged silviculture: “Uneven-aged silviculture: optimizing timber production, ecosystem services and resilience to climate change”.
  - IUFRO 1.05.00
**Physiology and Genetics – Division 2**

**Coordinator:**
Yousry A. El-Kassaby, Canada

**Deputy Coordinators:**
Santiago C. Gonzalez-Martinez, Spain  
Robert D. Guy, Canada  
Meng-Zhu Lu, China

Division 2 includes research on the physiology of forest trees as a whole and more specifically on xylem, stem, canopy and roots; on sexual and vegetative reproduction; on breeding and genetic resources of conifers and hardwoods in virtually all regions of the world; on quantitative and biological genetics of trees and tree populations, including molecular and cellular genetics; and finally on seed physiology and technology.

Division 2 has 5 Research Groups and 28 Working Parties with a total number of 89 Officeholders.

The Division restructuring is still ongoing and several initiatives are underway to foster inter-divisional collaboration for the 2014 IUFRO World Congress.

Division 2 hosted 8 meetings during 2012 with the main focus on:

1) Genetic aspects of adaptation and mitigation  
2) Seed orchards and breeding  
2) Vegetative propagation technologies

Pests and diseases are responsible for large productivity reductions in the temperate forests. Frequency and severity of pests and diseases will possibly change as climate is changing and the change of climate is in itself also a challenge for the forest trees with regard to adaptation.

The meeting on Genetic Aspects of Adaptation and Mitigation: Forest Health, Wood Quality and Biomass Production in Latvia was intended to promote the exchange of, discussion on, and dissemination of knowledge among researchers that are in resistance breeding and in research concerning adaptation to climate change. The meeting focused on four key issues:

a) Mechanisms of resistance to pests and diseases,  
b) Genetic variation of resistance to pests and diseases,  
c) Genetic material for a future climate, and  
d) Breeding for quality and biomass production.

The main aim of the conference was to draw attention to the magnitude of damage caused by pests and diseases leading to the death of vast forest areas.

**Publications:**


Several new scientific findings in the area of genetics of Fagaceae and Nothofagaceae were presented at the Genetics of Fagaceae conference held in France. The meeting focused on adaptation in the context of global climate changes and covered wide subjects ranging from genes to species and their associated species. It was a joint event co-organized by different research partners: IUFRO, INRA, University of Bordeaux and EFIATLANTIC (The Atlantic European Regional Office of the European Forest Institute).

The 2nd International Conference on Somatic Embryogenesis and other Vegetative Propagation Technologies was held in the Czech Republic under the theme of “Integrating vegetative propagation, biotechnologies and genetic improvement for tree production and sustainable forest management.” About 100 researchers participated in the conference.

**Meetings**

**January 15, San Diego, CA, United States**

Forest Tree Workshop. Annual meeting at Plant and Animal Genome XX meeting (PAG XX).  
IUFRO 2.04.10

**May 21-25, Egirdir, Turkey**

International Conference about Seed Orchards and Breeding Theory.  
IUFRO 2.02.13, 2.04.02, 2.09.01

**June 25-28, Brno, Czech Republic**

Second International Conference on Somatic Embryogenesis and other Vegetative Propagation Technologies.  
IUFRO 2.09.02

**11-14 September, Hallormsstad National Forest, Iceland**

LARIX 2012.  
IUFRO 2.02.07

Participants of LARIX 2012, Hallormsstad National Forest, Iceland.  
Photo from conference web site.
Forest Operations Engineering and Management - Division 3

Coordinator:
Hans R. Heinimann, Switzerland

Deputy Coordinators:
Woodam Chung, United States
Jean-François Gingras, Canada
Hideo Sakai, Japan

Following the IUFRO 2010-2014 strategy, one goal is to strengthen research by contributing to the six overarching thematic areas of which “forest bioenergy”, and “resources for the future” are of special interest for Division 3.

Division 3 has 8 Research Groups and 5 Working Parties with a total number of 47 Officeholders.

The ultimate “forest bioenergy” research goal is to identify a portfolio of production systems and technologies that are (1) biophysically effective, (2) economically viable, (3) ecologically efficient, (4) institutionally compliant, and (5) socially acceptable.

A considerable part of worldwide research has been addressing the operational efficiency of production systems, such as the COST initiative to improve forest biomass operations for energy use, to which many Division 3 members have contributed. However, only little work has been done on “eco-efficiency”, or on resource competition between the various decoupled streams of forest use: (1) use for fiber, (2) for energy, (3) for carbon storage, (4) for biodiversity, and (5) for “wilderness”.

A report on “Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) in Forestry – State and Perspectives” was prepared and published, showing that biomass-based cogeneration of heat and power (CHP) ecologically outperforms ligno-cellulosic biofuels, and that biomass chains based on residues and waste have a higher eco-efficiency than chains based on dedicated crops. Additionally, the study demonstrated that there are only very few forest-related life cycle assessment studies, and that there is a strong need for LCA capacity building within the forestry community.

“Resources for the future” is the second overarching topic, to which Division 3 can contribute. “Precision Land-Use Engineering” is an emerging concept that could contribute to a more efficient resource use, considering that environmental changes and disruptions require adaptive management approaches.

Division 3 developed and enrolled a summer school on “Precision Forestry”, which was held in Warsaw under the patronage of IUFRO’s Task Force on Forest Education.

Division 3’s efforts to concentrate international activities, to create momentum, and to improve visibility continued. The Croatian Journal of Forest Engineering, being still the only discipline-specific ISI-ranked scientific journal, has become an important channel of knowledge dissemination.

The FORMEC conference, being somewhat the “home event” of 3.06.00, continued to develop its international significance with more than 150 participants in 2012. Additionally, 3.03.00, “forest ergonomics” continued to maintain a high degree of activity, as did 3.08.00 “small-scale forestry”.

Forests biomass for energy use has continued to attract a lot of research activities, triggered by public funding programs rather than by problems. However, the big challenge is still “how to design and coordinate a biomass energy supply network that is competitive with other renewable energy supply systems?”

Therefore, more research should be done on supply chain configuration and coordination instead of studying single harvesting systems or even machines. The IEA 2012 technology roadmap “bioenergy for heat and power” identified a number of key actions for the next 10 years, among which “to replace traditional biomass use through more efficient stoves and clean fuels (e.g. biogas) by the creation of viable supply chains for advanced biomass cook stoves and household biogas systems” is of importance for forestry.

The development of bioenergy supply systems will always be driven from “downstream plants”, which should be large-scale (>50 MW) to guarantee high efficiency at low cost.
Unfortunately, the trend of losing forest operations engineering and management capacity is going to continue worldwide. The challenge to develop joint activities to get young talented people committed to spend their career in forest operations engineering and management is still valid.

Meetings

March 29, Utsunomiya, Japan
International Symposium on Supply Chain Management for Forest Sector and Its Contribution to Local Economy.
IUFRO 3.04.00

September 9-12, New Bern NC, United States
COFE 2012 Annual Meeting.
IUFRO 3.01.00

September 24-27, Amherst, MA, United States
2012 IUFRO Small-Scale Forestry Conference.
IUFRO 3.08.00

Forest Assessment, Modelling and Management - Division 4

Coordinator:
Margarida Tomé, Portugal

Deputy Coordinators:
Ron McRoberts, United States
Arne Pommerening, Switzerland
Jerry Vanclay, Australia

This Division includes: studies of growth and yield (including mensuration); forest resource inventory (collection and analysis of resource data); forest management planning and managerial economics; remote sensing; management sciences of forest enterprises; statistical methods, mathematics and computer technology.

Division 4 has 5 Research Groups and 24 Working Parties with a total number of 88 Officeholders.

During the year 2012, Division 4 gave continuity to the activities that were established at the business meeting in Seoul:

Restructuring of the Division

Organization and planning of conferences

Definition of IUFRO symbols for use in Forest Resources Inventory, Modelling and Management

Worldwide extension of the forest models database FORMODELS

Discussion about the creation of a web site to share code for the development of statistical forest models

Starting the planning of the discussions to be held at the next business meeting (during the 2014 IUFRO World Congress)

The 1st Brazilian Meeting on Forest Mensuration (MENSUF-LOR) was held on 9-10 August 2012 at the Federal University of Jequitinhonha and Mucuri Valleys/UFVJM, which was organized by professors and students at the Forest Management of the Forest Engineering Department, under the general coordination of Professor Gilciano Saraiva Nogueira.

The main objective of the event was to promote the interchange, discussion and dissemination of scientific and practical knowledge among professionals in the area of forest mensuration, linked to the various educational, research and extension institutions in Brazil.

Silvilaser 2012 took place in Vancouver, Canada on 16-19 September 2012. It was the twelfth international conference of its kind and focused on applications of laser systems for forestry and forest landscapes. Previous conferences were held in Canada, Australia, Sweden, Germany, USA, UK, Japan, and Finland. The conference brought together research scientists and practitioners from around the world who shared their experience in the development and application of LiDAR for forest and vegetated environments.

Meetings

March 1-2, Pierrotton (Bordeaux), France
COST FP0603 Final meeting: Forest models for research and decision support in sustainable forest management.
IUFRO 4.00.00

March 27-28, Mt. Gambier, South Australia
IUFRO 4.01.05
Portugal was a perfect conference venue not only in terms of excellent logistics and a beautiful setting. It is also a country where forest and forest products research is strongly developed and anchored in universities and R&D centers.

The main message of the opening ceremony that was reflected throughout the entire conference referred to the need of research to meet rapidly increasing demands for a variety of forest products while maintaining forests as a source of such products and a resource that also offers social, economic and environmental benefits.

The city of Belém, capital of the state of Pará in the equatorial north of Brazil, hosted the 12th International IUFRO Wood Drying Conference (WDC 2012) from July 30 to August 3, 2012. This was the first WDC in South America, and offered a great opportunity to learn about tropical rainforest species and visit the exuberant Amazon forest.
There is growing concern around the world, and especially in Brazil, about the sustainable use of natural resources from tropical forest, and wood drying is an important factor for adding value to that wood. Amongst other things, drying experts at the conference proposed methods to reduce drying losses, moisture content variability, energy consumption, and emission of volatile organic compounds. Special importance was given to explain government programs that promote a sustainable use of the Brazilian rainforest.

Meetings

April 25-26, Kuchl/Salzburg, Austria
1st Workshop on Basics for Chemistry of Wood Surface Modification. 
IUFRO 5.04.00, 5.05.00

May 6-12, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
IUFRO 5.03.00

June 6-8, Saint Petersburg, Russia
Renewable Wood and Plant Resources: innovative development in forestry. 
IUFRO 1.00.00, 4.00.00, 5.00.00

July 8-13, Estoril, Portugal
2012 IUFRO All-Division 5 Conference. 
IUFRO 5.00.00

July 30-August 3, Belem, Brazil
12th International IUFRO Wood Drying Conference. 
IUFRO 5.04.06

August 27-31, Beijing, China
SWST Annual Meeting: Sustainable Development of Wood and Biomass in our New Global Economy. 
IUFRO 5.10.01

September 1-4, Lin’an City, Zhejiang Province, China
IUFRO 5.00.00, 5.10.01

September 16-18, Ljubljana, Slovenia
Sixth European Conference on Wood Modification ECWM6. 
IUFRO 5.04.00

October 21-23, Changsha, China
Seventh Joint Seminar of China-Korea-Japan on Wood Quality and Utilization of Domestic Species “Challenge from traditional products to new materials”. 
IUFRO 5.06.00

October 21-23, Changsha, China
IUFRO 5.01.00, 5.02.00

November 15-16, Yundola, Bulgaria
Innovations in Forest Industry and Engineering Design. 
IUFRO 5.00.00

November 16, Nanning City, Guangxi, China
IUFRO 5.00.00, 5.10.01

November 16-18, Nanning, Guangxi, China
2012 International Live Wood Carving Show and Competition. 
IUFRO 5.00.00, 5.10.01

November 26-28, Concepción, Chile
III Congreso Iberoamericano de Protección de la Madera. 
IUFRO 5.03.00

November 27-30, Shizuoka-City, Japan
11th Pacific Rim Bio-Based Composites Symposium (BIOCOMP2012). 
IUFRO 5.05.00

Social Aspects of Forests and Forestry - Division 6

Coordinator:
Tuija Sievänen, Finland

Deputy Coordinators:
Dorothy H. Anderson, United States
Taiichi Ito, Japan
Cecil C. Konijnendijk van den Bosch, Denmark

Today, issues related to social aspects of forestry are visible in governmental forestry programs and discussions of forest policy in many countries. The most visible topics concerned urban forests and environmental (including climate change) and social (including ageing populations and more diverse ethnicity of societies) impacts, and forests and human health. At the moment, the most common research topics are related to urban forestry and urban-rural linkages, visitor monitoring in urban woodlands and protected areas, and effects on urban green areas on human health.

Division 6 has 10 Research Groups and 2 Working Parties with a total number of 34 Officeholders.

Human health benefits provided by green environment and, particularly, forests nearby urban areas, are one of the most important research issues. These forest and health topics require multidisciplinary research, which is done in cooperation with forest scientists and scientists from the medical sector.

Great steps have been taken towards a better understanding of the mechanisms of how green environment improves the quality of people’s lives and what kind of health benefits are gained. There is a lot of work going on about the relationship between the quality of green environment and well-being experiences, the results of which will improve the management goals for urban forests and other green areas.

The ‘Urban Forestry Conference 2012 – Forests and Parks: Communicating Messages for Sustainability’, held in Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia, provided opportunities for collaboration and information sharing on urban forest and park development and management towards sustainability.

Gender issues in forestry are of particular interest in developing countries. There are projects and processes to better involve women in the decision-making on the use of forest resources, and to include them into the governance of forests. The key topics of forestry education such as e-learning are also of high interest in developing countries.

Group exercise at Urban Forestry Conference. Photo: Matilda Annerstedt.
The 3rd Gender and Forestry Conference was organized by IUFRO Research Group 6.08 “Gender and Forestry” in cooperation with the Faculty of Forest Sciences, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Wondo Genet Forestry College, Ethiopia, and the project: Gender and REDD - Global Instruments and Changing Forest Governance. It took place at Wondo Genet Forestry College in November 2012.

The theme “Environmental governance and four decades of gender research: Where do we stand?” was discussed by fifty researchers and students from Canada, Ethiopia, Germany, India, the Philippines, Poland, South Korea, Sweden, Tanzania and Uganda.

Sustainability and management of forests for recreation and tourism is an on-going topic. The focus is now on monitoring of sustainable management and in the need of good social indicators. In Europe there are on-going processes in order to improve social indicators in forestry (see below). Climate change issues are increasing in importance in all social research of forestry. Research topics of adaptation and vulnerability to climate change are topics of research related to nature-based recreation and tourism.

Meetings

May 8-12, Leipzig, Germany
IUFRO 6.07.00

May 22-24, Alpbach/Tyrol, Austria
Forests for People – International experiences and the vital role for the future.
IUFRO 6.00.00

September 27-28, Zagreb, Croatia
Forests for Cities, Forests for People – perspectives on urban forest governance.
IUFRO 6.07.00

October 2-6, Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia
IUFRO 6.07.00

November 22-17, Wondo Genet Forestry College, Ethiopia
Gender and Forestry Conference: Environmental governance and four decades of gender research: Where do we stand?
IUFRO 6.08.00

Forest Health - Division 7

Coordinator:
Eckehard Brockerhoff, New Zealand

Deputy Coordinators:
Andrzej Bytnerowicz, United States
Andrew Liebhold, United States
Jolanda Roux, South Africa

Division 7 addresses threats to forest health caused by air pollution and climate change, pathogens, and insect pests. These threats can seriously damage forests, alone or in combination through direct and indirect interactions.

Division 7 has 3 Research Groups and 30 Working Parties with a total number of 95 Officeholders.

Recent pest outbreaks such as that of the mountain pine beetle in western North America have demonstrated that such events can have profound region-wide impacts on the ecology and sustainability of forests, forest industry, and on society.

In addition to recurring outbreaks of native forest pests, the arrival of new pests and diseases, facilitated by globalized trade, is continuing seemingly unabated despite international efforts to implement phytosanitary measures aimed at reducing the movement and establishment of biological invaders.

Recent work assessing the risks associated with international trade in live plants, mainly ornamentals, indicated that several serious pathogens were probably introduced by this pathway, with particularly grave consequences. A phytosanitary standard is being developed to address this issue but many forest pathologists and entomologists feel that this issue needs more attention.

Air pollution and climate change, spatial and temporal dynamics of environmental pollution, and interactive effects of abiotic, biotic and management stressors on forest health and productivity, carbon sequestration, nutrient cycling, hydrology, biodiversity, and risks of wildland fires were the main topics of the biannual meeting of Research Group 7.01 “Impacts of air pollution and climate change on forest ecosystems” which took place in Kaunas, Lithuania, in May 2012.

This major event was co-organized with five other European and North American organizations and research groups, bringing together a large network of specialists not only from IUFRO.

The organizers concluded that despite excellent recent scientific progress, many knowledge gaps remain in our understanding of impacts of air pollution and climate change on forest health but that the effective international exchange of information and the establishment of multinational and interdisciplinary scientific studies can greatly assist with closing such gaps.

Participants of the 25th biannual meeting for specialists in air pollution effects on forest ecosystems (RG 7.01) in Kaunas, Lithuania on 18 – 26 May 2012 during a field trip to the Curonian Spit National Park.

Photo by A. Bytnerowicz.
The organizers and Division 7 coordinators suggest that this conference was a particularly successful example of IUFRO's ability to provide such opportunities through its worldwide network of forestry scientists and its promotion and facilitation of conferences.

**Meetings**

April 22-27, Vienna, Austria  
European Geosciences Union General Assembly 2012: Session ERE1.8  
Aspects of Biomass Utilization from Forests and Other Resources.  
IUFRO 7.01.03, Task Force on Forest Bioenergy

May 17-20, Hammamet, Tunisia  
MEDINSECT 3.  
IUFRO 7.03.14

May 18-27, Kaunas, Lithuania  
Biological Reaction of Forests to Climate and Air Pollution.  
IUFRO 7.01.00

June 10-16, Tokyo, Japan  
Alien invasive species and international trade.  
IUFRO 7.03.12

August 18-31, Cork, Ireland  
Second International Conference on Biodiversity in Forest Ecosystems and Landscapes.  
IUFRO 8.02.00, 7.00.00, Task Force on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

September 3-6, Kahramanmaras, Turkey  
Forest-Water Interactions with Respect to Air Pollution and Climate Change.  
IUFRO 7.01.08

September 9-14, Córdoba, Spain  
6th Meeting of the IUFRO Working Party 7.02.09 Phytophthora in Forests and Natural Ecosystems.  
IUFRO 7.02.09

September 10-14, Palanga, Lithuania  
Joint 7.03.10 and 7.03.06 Working Party Meeting.  
IUFRO 7.03.06, 7.03.10

September 17-20, Vilnius, Lithuania  
Joint 7.03.01 and 7.03.04 Working Party Meeting.  
IUFRO 7.03.01, 7.03.04

September 17-20, Kaunas, Lithuania  
Joint 7.03.10 and 7.03.06 Working Party Meeting.  
IUFRO 7.03.06, 7.03.10

October 8-10, Yogyakarta, Indonesia  
The Impacts of Climate Change to Forest Pests and Diseases in the Tropics - 7.02.07 Working Party Conference.  
IUFRO 7.02.07

Forest Environment - Division 8

**Coordinator:**  
Jean-Michel Carnus, France

**Deputy Coordinators:**  
Robert Jandl, Austria  
Alex Mosseler, Canada  
John Parrotta, United States

Division 8 concerns the study of forest ecosystems and landscapes, forest biodiversity, natural hazards and risk management. In 2012, Division 8 was actively involved in 9 main conferences including 2 inter-divisional events, in 9 countries and 4 continents, and contributed to a high-level conference in Japan on mitigation of natural disasters. Major research domains that were addressed concern forest biodiversity management, ecosystem services in changing landscapes, and mitigation of natural risks.

**Division 8 has 3 Research Groups and 20 Working Parties with a total number of 53 Officeholders.**

The International Conference on **Biodiversity in Forest Ecosystems and Landscapes** highlighted the need for greater integration of approaches at larger scales (landscapes or watersheds) with those at the stand and smaller scales. This can be achieved by a better understanding of ecological processes and functional relationships between species.

Some of the key topics discussed included maintenance of biodiversity under global changes, aquatic biodiversity and forests, conservation management for invertebrates, forest and birds conservation, biodiversity indicators and restoration of biodiversity in managed forests.

Moving forward, future research should aim to improve integration of approaches across spatial scales and explore the link between biodiversity and ecosystem services. Proceedings will be published in the Forest Ecology and Management journal and contribute to the IUFRO Task Force on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services.

Landscapes, forests and people: they are more closely connected than it looks. This was one of the main conclusions generated from the Biennial Conference of the IUFRO Landscape Ecology WP 8.01.02, titled Sustaining humans and forests in changing landscapes: forests, society and global change that was held in Concepción, Chile. WP 8.01.02 counts 640 members and seeks to promote and facilitate the application of landscape ecology concepts in the policies and practices of forested landscapes worldwide.

It had previously gathered every two years in 7 places across the world (Slovenia, United States, Canada, Japan, Italy, China, and Portugal) and in 2012, for the first time, the WP gathered in Latin America. The region offers new challenges to forest landscape ecology due to its tremendous heterogeneity of ecosystems and diverse socioeconomic conditions. Conference proceedings will be published in the special edition “Ecosystem Services in Changing Landscapes” of the journal Landscape Ecology.

During the 3rd International Conference on the **Use of Vegetation to Improve Slope Stability** current problems in slope stability and how to address those problems using soil bio- and eco-engineering techniques were discussed.
Over the last 50 years, alterations in land-use coupled with climate change impacts have led to severe degradation of mountainous and hilly regions around the world; with a population reaching 9 billion by 2040, agricultural soils are precious and hillslope stability and restoration of degraded slopes are of high priority.

In response to the need for better mitigation strategies, major advances in research have been made in the last decade. This also includes applications for using vegetation and trees to improve slope stability as a result of the development of techniques and models for the study of root-soil interactions at different scales.

These advances were discussed in sessions focussing on root-soil mechanics, vegetation on slopes over time and space, vegetation for reversing soil degradation and soil bioengineering case studies. Proceedings will be published in special editions of the international journals Plant and Soil and Ecological Engineering.

Division 8 contributed to the work of the IUFRO-led Global Forest Expert Panel (GFEP) on Biodiversity, Forest Management and REDD+ through two Division 8 officeholders (John Parrotta, Chair of the Panel, and Kimiko Okabe, Deputy Coordinator 8.02.02, Chair of the Panel).

Meetings

February 2012, Sendai, Japan
Role of Forests in Mitigating Natural Disasters.
Forestry Agency, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan (MAFF), contribution of IUFRO 8.03.00

May 21-23, Dresden, Germany
RegioResources 21. Sustainable development of regional resources.
IUFRO 8.01.02

May 21-24, Tours, France
Tackling climate change: The contribution of forest scientific knowledge.
IUFRO 8.00.00, 4.00.00

June 17-22, Yoshkar-Ola, Mari El, Russian Federation
NASA Science Meeting, GOFC-GOLD Workshop and Regional Conference „Impacts of extreme weather on natural, socio-economic, and land-use systems: Focus on the 2010 summer anomaly in the Volga region”.
IUFRO 8.01.06

July 23-27, Vancouver, Canada
3rd International Conference on Soil Bio- and Eco-Engineering - The Use of Vegetation to Improve Slope Stability.
IUFRO 8.03.00

August 12-19, Sweden
IUFRO 8.01.06

August 28-31, Cork, Ireland
Second International Conference on Biodiversity in Forest Ecosystems and Landscapes.
IUFRO 8.02.00, 8.02.01, 8.02.06

September 30-October 5, Columbus, Ohio, United States
IUFRO Symposium organized in cooperation with ELI (European Land Institute) & IALE: “Structure matters – the potential of land-use pattern to contribute to ecosystem services provision”. 4th International ECO-SUMMIT.
IUFRO 8.01.02

November 5-12, Concepción, Chile
IUFRO 8.01.02

Forest Policy and Economics - Division 9

Coordinator: Daniela Kleinschmit, Sweden
Deputy Coordinators: Margaret A. Shannon, Croatia
Konstantin von Teuffel, Germany

The Division includes: information services and knowledge organization; management of forest research; forest and woodland history; forest sector analysis; social and economic aspects of forestry; forest policy and governance; forest law and environmental legislation.

Division 9 has 7 Research Groups and 21 Working Parties with a total number of 81 Officeholders.

One of the major events in 2012 was the first All-Division 9 Conference held back to back with the Directors’ Forum (9.02.00) in Sarajevo. The successful conference with its 170 participants from 52 countries all over the world was hosted by the Faculty of Forestry at the University of Sarajevo in Bosnia and Herzegovina and supported by the Forest Policy and Economics Education and Research (FOPER) project, the IUFRO Special Programme for Developing Countries (IUFRO-SPDC) and the US Forest Service.

The conference covered the diversity of social science perspectives of Division 9. It included activities of the majority of the seven Research Groups and 21 Working Parties. The coverage of not only pure sciences but also of related perspectives of practitioners by focusing on communication and legal aspects, for example, has been identified as a major strength of Division 9.

Besides the All-Division 9 conference, Division 9 units also had other important meetings in 2012 such as the “Trees Beyond the Wood: an exploration of concepts of woods, forests and trees” conference held in Sheffield, September 2012. It considered the historic context and implications of medieval ‘woods’ in relation to other wooded landscapes, and the status and importance of ancient or veteran ‘worked’ and culturally modified trees (now mostly ‘retired’) in countryside outside woods and forests. Importantly though, the aim was to take the understanding developed in a global context over the last 20 years and to apply it to guide practitioner applications in the field.

Beyond the traditional interests of IUFRO 9.06.00, the 14th International Symposium on Legal Aspects of European Forest

IUFRO Division 9 Conference excursion to Mt. Igman. Photo by John Innes.
Sustainable Development in Minsk, Republic of Belarus had a particular focus on public-private partnerships in forestry and the forest sector as a whole, models of public forest administration, and trends in the development of the forest sector and forest policy in the present conditions in Europe. This included in-depth discussions based on the group’s involvement in the ongoing procedures towards a legally binding agreement on forests in Europe.

Furthermore Division 9 units were actively involved in the preparation of publications, in supporting IUFRO’s internal and external communication work and in contributing to other international activities such as initiatives focusing on evidence-based forestry.

Meetings

May 7-8, Sarajevo, Bosnia Herzegovina
Directors’ Forum: Governance of Forest Research and Education – Innovations in Participatory Management.
IUFRO 9.02.00

May 8-10, Sarajevo, Bosnia & Herzegovina
IUFRO 9.03.00 meeting “Cultural values and traditional knowledge in the context of global change” during the IUFRO Division 9 Conference.
IUFRO 9.03.00

May 9-11, Sarajevo, Bosnia & Herzegovina
International Seminar “Assessing Forest Governance in a Context of Change”. IUFRO 9.05.00

May 9-11, Sarajevo, Bosnia Herzegovina
All-Division 9 Conference.
IUFRO 9.00.00

June 26-30, Zurich, Switzerland
International Conference on New Frontiers of Forest Economics.
IUFRO 9.04.00

September 5-7, Sheffield, United Kingdom
Trees Beyond the Wood - An exploration of concepts of woods, forests and trees. IUFRO 9.03.00, 9.03.01

September 19-21, Minsk, Republic of Belarus
14th International Symposium on “Legal Aspects of European Forest Sustainable Development”.
IUFRO 9.06.00

November 3-11, Florence, Italy
Florens 2012 - Cultura, qualità della vita.
IUFRO 9.03.00

November 5-8, Yangling, China
International Conference on Traditional Forest-Related Knowledge and Culture for Green Economy. IUFRO 9.03.05

November 12-14, Quito, Ecuador
V Congreso Andino Amazonico de Derecho Forestal y Ambiental: “Las Iniciativas de REDD+ y la Aplicación del Derecho Forestal y Ambiental”. IUFRO 9.06.01

Task Force on Forest Bioenergy

Coordinator: Rolf Björheden, Sweden

Deputy Coordinator: Elspeth MacRae, New Zealand

The purpose of the Task Force on Forest Bioenergy is to disseminate state-of-the-art knowledge to and to increase the dialogue between the various actors and stakeholders in this growing field. The identified target group includes the scientific community, the industry, NGOs and governmental agencies, policy makers, research funders and other stakeholders. The term of the Task Force is 2011-2014.

Forest biomass is a major source of renewable energy with a potential for mitigating climate change, but in most parts of the world it is underutilized or used in very suboptimal ways. Efficient, large-scale utilization is still in the beginning in most countries. Competition for raw materials with the traditional forest industries may become pronounced. Increased demand for forest biomass may put an increased strain on the forest ecosystem. It must, thus, be carried out with regard to social, ecological and economical sustainability.

To ensure social and economic sustainability, procurement systems and technologies must be highly efficient while providing attractive employment opportunities, acceptable to local traditions. Further, the operations must be performed under the constraints of a sensitive environment with no or low impact on soil, water and any growing forest stand.

Main activities 2012

The Task Force was engaged in organizing a bioenergy session at the Agricultural Biotechnology International Conference (ABIC) in Rotorua, New Zealand, 3-6 September 2012. Among the presenters from over 30 countries there were researchers who had been introduced to the TF network during the 2011 IUFRO/COST/ESF high level conference in Vienna, Austria.

In 2012, the collaboration with COST/ESF and IEA continued, with a joint conference, 18-20 September in Lisbon, Portugal, dealing with ‘Operational Research and Assessment Procedures for Sustainable Forest Biomass Supply’, focusing on the multidisciplinary issues involved in achieving economically sustainable forest bioenergy supply chains from a regional to an international scale. Several Task Force members attended, giving special attention to the conference subtopic dealing with case studies on how to improve the economic sustainability of supply chains.

Photoshop montage from case study at Hedemora, Sweden, left to right: degraded land at a mine tailing pond; spreading biofuel ash and sludge and seeding; restored land before tree establishment. Background: naturally regenerated forest on previous tailings. Photos Staffan Berg.
The Task Force also assisted in hosting the KBBE Forum meeting between Australia, Canada, NZ and the EU on 6-7 September 2012, with a strong emphasis on trees as a feedstock for energy and chemicals.

In Sweden and Finland, two especially designed case studies were carried out with the purpose of showing how successful bioenergy supply chains can be designed and adopted to local conditions and needs. The Swedish case study draws from the experiences of the small town Hedemora in the Swedish Mining District. Using the novel evaluation tool ToSIA (http://tosia.efi.int) it shows how locally produced bioenergy can provide valuable work opportunities while simplifying both waste water treatment and restoration of degraded sites around the active mines. The publication of the cases was scheduled for October 2012 but had been delayed until April 2013.

Task Force on Resources for the Future

Coordinator: John Innes, Canada  
Deputy Coordinator: Jung-Hwan Park, Korea (Rep)

During 2012, the primary activity of the Task Force was to start preparation for a conference to be held in Vancouver on 27-29 August 2013. The conference will be divided into the following sessions:

Globalization and its implications for forests  
Plantations as a future resource  
Bioproducts and advanced building systems  
Forest ecosystem services

These four themes were developed through consultations with Divisional representatives and Task Force members, and at the 2012 Board Meeting in Nairobi. The themes represent four critical issues for forests. The first deals with the changes in the world that are leading to changes in demands for goods and services from forests. The second deals with the future supply of forest products. The third examines the changing demand for those products, and the last theme looks at the future services expected from forests.

Speakers for each session were identified with the help of Divisional representatives, invited and confirmed. Logistic details are now being resolved prior to a general announcement and the launch of the registration page. The conference aims to bring together researchers, industry specialists and investment specialists, and will concentrate on evaluating the likely future use of forests around the world.

The presentations will form the basis for a report that will be published as a book, and we hope to be able to present both the book and the main results of the Task Force at the 2014 IUFRO World Congress.

Task Force on Forests for People

Coordinator: Ulrike Pröbstl, Austria  
Deputy Coordinator: Perry J. Brown, United States

In line with the current IUFRO Strategy, the Task Force initiated the international conference “Forests for People” held in Alpbach/Tyrol, Austria, 22-24 May 2012. The highly successful meeting was organized by the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU), Vienna, with the Austrian Federal Forest Service (ÖStAG) offering the well-attended post-conference tours.

The conference drew some 200 participants including forest managers, scientists, science administrators, policy makers and also an interested public audience, representing nearly 40 countries from all continents. This extraordinary international participation underlines the importance of IUFRO’s new strategic interdisciplinary approach.

The conference program was arranged around four leading themes:

Livelihoods – issues of agroforestry, food security, fuels, poverty alleviation, and human dislocation.  
Health, Recreation and Tourism – issues of human health, recreation and nature-based tourism.  
Urban and Rural Landscapes – issues of ecosystem services, economic benefits and development, spaces and places for living.  
Culture and Education – issues of perceptions of forests, spiritual character, education, historical tradition and practice, communication and governance.

The conference certainly underlined the need for social science in forestry. It also showed the increasing relevance of interdisciplinary research to address various new societal needs such as research concerning matters of health and well-being, the development of new non-timber forest products and the improvement of livelihoods in developing countries.

Keynote speaker Prof. J. Alavalapati, Virginia Tech, USA, discussed emerging trends in the forest-people interface
Task Force on Forests and Human Health, ForHealth

Coordinator: Hannu Raitio, Finland
Deputy Coordinator: Tytti Saryala, Finland

In the year 2012, the activities of the Task Force on Forest and Human Health, ForHealth, focused on dissemination activities to the public and policy makers as well as on arranging research seminars aiming at collaborative international research work in the future.

Future prospects of the forest-derived raw materials and compounds for health-related products are promising and contacts between forest researchers and companies in this sector have increased. ForHealth has actively supported this communication by delivering information notes to companies, by personal contacts (e.g. Astra Zeneca, Santen) and by inviting representatives from companies to management groups of health-related research projects.

ForHealth has strengthened the dialogue between different sectors and disciplines by inviting experts and stakeholders from forestry, biodiversity, medicine, public health science, social sector, and economic actors to promote research coordination and collaboration at the interface of forest ecosystems and public health in COST Action “FOR4Health”, which has been prepared and proposed in 2012.

The ForHealth Task Force published one Newsletter in 2012, which introduces recent research activities related to forests and human health, recreation and well-being in different parts of the world and at the same time emphasizes the role of international collaboration and networking between experts of this topic.

Seminars, sessions and events
Session „Nature and well-being” in the IUFRO Conference Forests for People. Alpbach, Tyrol/Austria. (co-organizer)

UWE Conference (University Women of Europe), Workshop Forests and Human Health and Well-being. Helsinki, Finland (co-organizer)

Task Force on International Forest Governance

Coordinator: Benjamin Cashore, United States
Deputy Coordinator: Daniela Kleinschmit, Sweden

Twenty-five academic and practitioner members of the IUFRO Task Force on Forest Governance met in December 2012 in Copenhagen to link scholarship and practice to lessons learned from the preceding conference on illegal logging, a major concern of current scholarship on international forest governance.

Situated between Task Force meetings in Southeast Asia and Latin America, the meeting in Copenhagen highlighted the role of Europe and the U.S. in forest governance worldwide. This meeting followed through on an initiative to produce “living” Issues and Options Papers that will make scholarship accessible to practitioners.

The Task Force debated the form of these documents and selected initial topics for draft papers to be written and presented to practitioners at the next Task Force on Forest Governance meeting early June 2013 in Costa Rica in connection with IUFRO’s Regional Congress for Latin America.
Task Force on Education in Forest Science

Coordinator: Piotr Paschalis-Jakubowicz, Poland

Deputy Coordinator: Siegfried Lewark, Germany

The second year of the IUFRO TF Education in Forest Sciences was mainly devoted to building the innovative education tool IUFRO Learning Initiatives (LI) that was tested. Another important action included a survey among institutions that employ forestry graduates.

Strong emphasis was put on international collaboration especially with IFSA and SilvaNetwork. Members of IFSA were included in consultation and preparation of IUFRO LI 2012.

Conferences

9th Biennial Conference University Education in Natural Resources. Colorado University, United States.

Paschalis-Jakubowicz P. - Analysis of principles and contents of university curricula carried out at the Faculties of Forestry in Poland.

Lewark S. - Focus group discussion

SilvaNetwork Annual Conference 22-25 listopada, Lleida, Hiszpania). Bijak Sz.; Summer schools - a tool to improve skills and knowledge of the graduates.

World Forests, Society and Environment (IUFRO-WFSE)

Coordinator: Gerardo Mery, Finland

WFSE is a global collaborative network of scientists and experts steered by ten international research organizations and coordinated in the Finnish Forest Research Institute. Mainly on the basis of existing knowledge, the network looks for innovative solutions to support and advance the formulation and implementation of forest-related policies that promote sustainable development and human well-being. The WFSE partner institutions are CATIE, the Center for Latin American Studies (University of Florida), CIAS (University of Kyoto), CIFOR, CIRAD, EFI, FAO, Metla, VITRI (University of Helsinki), and VTI.

The policy brief “Making boreal forests work for people and nature” was published in early 2012. This policy brief was the last brief in a series of five regional policy briefs, which included policy briefs on Europe, Latin America, Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa. All WFSE publications are available at: www.iufro.org/wfse.

The Steering Committee of WFSE convened in Helsinki, Finland, 24 April, to plan and agree on the project activities for 2012. The activities of 2012 concentrated on the development of the contents of the new book that will be launched at the IUFRO World Congress in 2014. The working title of this book is: “Forests under pressure: Local responses to global issues”.

At the beginning of 2012, the authors of Part I of the book established and composed the methodological framework of the forthcoming publication.

The editorial workshop for presenting and discussing about thirty case studies proposed for the new book (Part II) was organized in Helsinki in April. The workshop brought together about fifty scientists and experts from different parts of the world (see photo by Pablo Quiñones below).

In October the authors of the synthesis part of the book (Part III) met in Gainesville, Florida, to discuss the approach and methods to develop this part of the book. Later in December the authors of the future-oriented, last part of the book (Part IV) met at FAO in Rome to discuss on the contents of this part and decide about the division of work between the authors.

In May, as a part of the program of the IUFRO conference “Forests for People” in Austria, WFSE organized a technical session, Making Forests Work for People and Nature, that consisted of four presentations.

Another significant task implemented by IUFRO-WFSE in 2012 was to reinforce the global partnership which steers the WFSE project.

New partnership agreements were signed with The Center for Latin American Studies / African Studies of University of Florida (USA) and The Center for Integrated Area Studies of Kyoto University (Japan), making these organization official partners of WFSE.

In 2012 WFSE had two trainees from the University of Helsinki practicing with us for five months: Dora Samaniego from Peru, and Tuuli Mietinen from Finland.

Photo of Helsinki workshop participants. By Pablo Quiñones.
IUFRO-led Global Forest Expert Panel Initiative (GFEP)

Coordinator: Christoph Wildburger, Austria

The IUFRO-led Global Forest Expert Panel Initiative (GFEP) of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) provides a mechanism for effectively linking the information requirements of intergovernmental processes related to forests with existing scientific expertise. GFEP produces interdisciplinary scientific assessment reports on key issues emerging from international policy debates. The reports are prepared by thematic Expert Panels consisting of internationally recognized scientific experts in their field. All reports undergo rigorous peer review.

Following the successful completion of thematic reports on forest adaptation, and the international forest regime, GFEP established an Expert Panel on Biodiversity, Forest Management, and REDD+. In 2012, the Panel carried out its assessment of the linkages between biodiversity, carbon and forest management in the context of REDD+, chaired by John Parrotta, US Forest Service. The Panel Members met in Rome, Italy, in February and in Belem, Brazil, in August and the Coordinating Lead Authors convened in additional meetings in May and August.

In October, the preliminary outcomes of the Panel’s assessment were presented at the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in Hyderabad. The Panel’s work contributed to the discussions on REDD+ and was acknowledged in CBD decision XI/19. The Panel’s assessment report “Understanding Relationships between Biodiversity, Carbon, Forests and People: The Key to Achieving REDD+ Objectives” was published by IUFRO HQ in December 2012.

The report’s interlinked chapters examine the relationship between biodiversity, carbon and ecosystem services in forests and related impacts of deforestation and degradation; analyze the impacts of various management approaches and specific actions that are likely to be employed to achieve REDD+ objectives; explore social and economic considerations related to REDD+; and investigate forest governance in the context of REDD+.

Together with the corresponding policy brief “REDD+, Biodiversity and People: Opportunities and Risks”, the publication was launched at Forest Day 6 in the framework of the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. More than 500 participants joined the Panel Chair’s presentation. The report received considerable media attention and substantially contributed to the discussions at the Climate Conference.

At UNFF10 in Istanbul in April 2013 GFEP will present an overview of the report and specifically outline its socio-economic conclusions as a contribution to discussions on the session’s main topic, forests and economic development. Furthermore, potential new themes for a next GFEP assessment will be discussed in informal consultations with stakeholders and decision-makers.

Global Forest Information Service (GFIS)

Coordinator: Eero Mikkola, Finland

GFIS recorded another productive year in 2012 building on its 2011 successes. The CPF joint initiative led by IUFRO grew to encompass over 400 partners focused on forests who utilize GFIS to help disseminate their information.

The www.gfis.net portal saw consistent traffic throughout 2012 with an average of 18,000 information seekers visiting GFIS each month accounting for 410,000 visits from around the world.

After consultation with partners the GFIS gateway was optimized to enhance accessibility in countries with low-internet bandwidth to ensure that information seekers throughout the world have access to the information of the partners.

The most popular information contributed by partners was news, events, job vacancies, and publications. A markedly large number of publications were added to the gateway by key forest organizations allowing for over 50,000 publications to be searched through GFIS.

During the IUFRO-FORNESSA Regional Congress held in Nairobi, Kenya, in June 2012, GFIS brought together webmasters from regional institutions and provided training and resources needed to digitize and bring online forest data materials. The resources can be accessed though www.fornis.net.

For the year 2013, GFIS is working to strengthen its ability to provide filtered information to its users to further strengthen its dissemination streams and to attract and grow a presence in areas where GFIS sees potential for growth including the Americas, Asia & Oceania.

GFIS is thankful to all of its partner organizations and sponsors and looks forward to another successful year.
Special Programme for Developing Countries (IUFRO-SPDC)

Coordinator: Michael Kleine, Austria
Regional Coordinator for Asia Pacific: Sim Heok-Choh, Malaysia
Regional Coordinator for Latin America and the Caribbean: Bastiaan Louman, Costa Rica

In 2012 IUFRO continued its efforts towards supporting the forest science community in developing countries through IUFRO-SPDC. The focus was clearly on Africa with the implementation of a significant scientist assistance program, mainly directed towards the First IUFRO-FORNESSA Regional Congress, and the coordination of two major donor-funded projects, one in Africa and another one in Latin America.

Scientist Assistance Program 2012

A total of 98 forest scientists received sponsorship to attend IUFRO scientific meetings and conferences. These included the First IUFRO-FORNESSA Regional Congress in Africa (Nairobi, Kenya; 81 sponsored participants from Africa); the Directors’ Forum and All-Division 9 Conference on Forest Policy and Economics (Sarajevo, Bosnia & Herzegovina; 13 sponsored participants); the Adaptation Futures Conference (Tucson, USA; 1 sponsored participant); the IUFRO 3.08.00 Small-scale Forestry Conference (Amherst, USA; 2 sponsored participants); and the VII Latin American Congress on Agroforestry for Sustainable Animal Production (Belem, Brazil; 1 sponsored participant).

In addition, IUFRO-SPDC also continued to provide support to IUFRO Task Forces and sponsored participants from developing countries to attend Task Force meetings and conferences. These meetings included two International Forest Governance Task Force Meetings (Singapore and Copenhagen, Denmark; 2 sponsored participants); and the Forests for People Conference (Alpach, Austria; 6 sponsored participants).

This Scientist Assistance Program would not have been possible without the generous contributions provided by the donor community, specifically the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland; the United States Forest Service; and the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO).

Training Workshops

Two training workshops were held in conjunction with the African Regional Congress, one on preparing research proposals and another on communicating forest science. The workshops on proposal writing aimed at helping early career scientists improve their skills in preparing successful research proposals and thus increase their chances of obtaining funds for their research projects. The workshop on communication provided methods and tools on how to better communicate research results to specific stakeholders and society at large. In total 40 participants from Africa joined the two-day training event taking place at the Kenya Forestry Research Institute, Muguga, near Nairobi, as part of their overall sponsorship to attend the African Regional Congress.

Regional Projects:

IUFRO-FORNESSA-ITTO Project

This project is about supporting ITTO producer countries in Africa in dealing with the challenges of reducing deforestation and enhancing the rehabilitation of degraded tropical forests. In line with ITTO’s objective and Thematic Program on REDDES, the project generates scientific information on specific REDDES pilot areas in Cameroon, Ghana, Liberia and Nigeria, and disseminates this information to policy makers and forest practitioners at the national and regional level through science-policy interactions in close cooperation with the African Forest Forum.

During 2012 REDDES pilot sites were established in the partner countries. Based on stakeholder consultations, major land/forest degradation problems were analyzed by national expert groups composed of scientists of various disciplines including forest science. In a next step possible solutions and the way forward to reduce forest degradation will be developed and further discussed with local policy makers and stakeholders. The two-year project receives support from ITTO at a level of USD 240,000.

ECOADAPT Project

The main concept driving this project is that ecosystem-based management is providing a robust basis for successful adaptation to climate change especially in Latin America which is strongly dependent on natural resources. However, evidence shows that little has been advanced at national and especially at community level so far due to the complexity of adaptation planning related to many factors such as multi-actors contexts, little experience in inter-disciplinary approaches, and tensions in cross-scale interactions among scientists, policy makers and local communities.

The project attempts to address these issues at the local level using pilot sites of the Model Forest Network in Argentina, Bolivia, and Chile. Funded by the European Union (2012 to 2016), the project involves a wide range of partners including IUFRO members such as CATIE, and CIRAD as well as several Latin American forest research institutions, universities and environmental NGOs.

IUFRO-SPDC’s role as a partner is to coordinate several activities related to information procurement and capacity development. During 2012, stakeholder workshops were held in all three Model Forest sites as basis for an in-depth analysis of the problems associated with water-related environmental services. While the entire 4-year project is supported by the European Commission at a level of about EUR 2 million, IUFRO for its involvement receives funding of EUR 208,000.
Outlook

A Message from Mike Wingfield
IUFRO Vice-President Divisions

The year 2012 was a fantastic year for IUFRO with many important milestones and accomplishments. This was for the Union as a whole, but also for many IUFRO Members. Against this background of excellence, let me hasten to look ahead and consider the outlook for the 18 months that lie before us and ahead of our much anticipated World Congress in Salt Lake City.

In just a few months, we will enjoy our third IUFRO Latin American Congress (IUFROLAT) in San José, Costa Rica. Following the outstanding success of our first ever IUFRO African Congress last year, there is no question that IUFROLAT is going to be another stunning event (there are more than 800 proposed presentations so far) and it will surely extend the sincere commitment of IUFRO to deepen its footprint in Latin America.

Against this backdrop, the wheels are seriously in motion towards the organization of our World Congress in 2014. The plenary speakers have been lined up and in just a few weeks proposals for sub-plenary and technical sessions will be evaluated. In this regard, we recognize the significant commitment of the Congress Scientific Committee, led energetically (and for a second time) by John Parrotta.

Towards the end of 2012, IUFRO was subjected to a vigorous external review chaired by Eduardo Rojas-Briales. This excellent review now provides us with the framework to prepare the IUFRO Strategy for the new term post 2014. Key items will be to consider how IUFRO might improve the manner in which it serves its stakeholders, partners and its members. Here special consideration will be given to matters pertaining to communication and, for example, a re-design of the IUFRO Web site. Developing the new IUFRO Strategy will be one of our most important tasks during the coming 18 months and this will begin in earnest at our pre-IUFROLAT Board Meeting in Costa Rica.

IUFRO continues to play an important role informing forest policy and decision making across sectors. This is achieved largely through our active participation in the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) and through our collaboration with FAO, CIFOR, ICRAF and other partners. In this regard, I am looking forward to the "Global Landscapes Forum", which will be convened for the first time in November 2013 in a unique collaboration between the CPF and the Agriculture and Rural Development consortium. We are also strongly energized and directed by our close partnership with the International Forestry Students Association (IFSA) and we benefit greatly from their participation in all of our major events. The recent decision to establish a new junior position at IUFRO Headquarters with the objective to jointly serve both networks will further strengthen this important collaboration with IFSA.

Our San José Board Meeting more or less marks the mid-point of the current IUFRO Management term. It is thus a time to strategize and to plan ahead for the next term. We have many important issues to address. These include deciding on the venue for our next (after Salt Lake City) World Congress and to vote for members of the next IUFRO Board. These and many other exciting challenges lie ahead and I look forward to sharing them with members of the current Board and also further with the many amazing IUFRO members with whom I have the pleasure to engage. As we go about our IUFRO business, it is easy to forget what an incredible network the organization represents. It is one that also rests on an incredible history - one that dates back nearly 125 years. In fact we are already working towards our 125th Anniversary Celebration in 2017 and look forward to sharing this remarkable milestone with you.

IUFRO Officeholders (OF), Member Organizations (MO); and Meetings (MT) per Region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>OF</th>
<th>MO</th>
<th>MT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>284</td>
<td>236</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern America</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin America</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oceania</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>659</td>
<td>640</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IUFRO Structure

International Council

Board

Headquarters

Divisions

Division 1 Silviculture
Division 2 Physiology and Genetics
Division 3 Forest Operations Engineering & Management
Division 4 Forest Assessment, Modelling & Management
Division 5 Forest Products
Division 6 Social Aspects of Forests and Forestry
Division 7 Forest Health
Division 8 Forest Environment
Division 9 Forest Policy and Economics

Task Forces

International Forest Governance
Education in Forest Science
Forest and Water Interactions
Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
Forest Bioenergy

Programmes, Projects and Initiatives

Forests and Human Health
Forests for People
World Forests, Society and Environment IUFRO-WFSE
GFIS - Global Forest Information Service
GFEP - Global Forest Expert Panels
Special Programme for Developing Countries IUFRO-SPDC
IUFRO-WFSE

59 Research Groups

169 Working Parties

Resources for the Future

Boreal mixed wood. Photo by Geoff Roberts.
New Members 2012

Member Organizations

Belgium 0987.00.00
Université de Liège (ULg)
Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech (GxABT)
Laboratoire de toxicologie environnementale

Bosnia-Herzegovina 0983.00.00
Univerziteta u Banjoj Luci
Sumarskog fakulteta

Brazil 0984.00.00
Ministério do Meio Ambiente
Serviço Florestal Brasileiro

Canada 0978.00.00
University of Northern British Columbia
Ecosystem Science & Management (ESM) Program

Germany 0988.00.00
Forest Stewardship Council International Center GmbH (FSC)

Greece 0990.00.00
KTIMATOLOGIO S.A.
Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change

Indonesia 0986.00.00
Group AAA Research and Development
RGE Technology Center

Mongolia 0979.00.00
Forestry Agency
Implementary Agency of the Government of Mongolia

Nepal 0982.00.00
National Water Resource Concern Center
Manmaju VDC, Kathmandu

New Zealand 0989.00.00
Forme Consulting Group Limited

Nicaragua 0991.00.00
Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Nicaragua-León
Centro de Investigación en Ciencias Agrarias y Economía Aplicada

Niger 0314.00.00 (reinstatement)
University of Ibadan
Department of Forest Resources Management

Serbia 0981.00.00
University of Belgrade
Faculty of Forestry

Switzerland 0980.00.00
Hochschule für Agrar-, Forst- und Lebensmittelwissenschaften HAFL
Berner Fachhochschule

Thailand 0985.00.00
RECOFTC - The Center for People and Forests
PO Box 1111, Kasetsart Post Office
Bangkok 10903

Associated Members

Canada 782
Arroyo Mora J. Pablo
McGill University
Department of Geography

France 788
Lachenal Dominique
Grenoble INP-Pagora

Finances

Note: The figures given below are the final figures before auditing.

IUFRO Balance - as per 31 December 2012 in Euro

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Fixed Assets</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. Intangible property</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. Tangible assets</td>
<td>6,453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III. Financial assets</td>
<td>408,958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>415,468</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Current Assets</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. Accounts receivable</td>
<td>39,148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. Other receivables</td>
<td>270,564</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III. Cash on hand and in banks</td>
<td>756,622</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,066,335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Prepaid Expenses</td>
<td>950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL ASSETS</td>
<td>1,482,753</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EQUITY and LIABILITIES</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Equity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. Capital as per 31.12.2011</td>
<td>832,045</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. Profit 2012</td>
<td>14,601</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>846,646</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. Accruals</td>
<td>76,340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Liabilities from contributions not yet used</td>
<td>485,459</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Liabilities</td>
<td>70,288</td>
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<tr>
<td>E. DEFERRED INCOME AND CREDITS</td>
<td>4,020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL LIABILITIES</td>
<td>1,482,753</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IUFRO International Union of Forest Research Organizations - UNION
Profit and Loss - Overview 31 December 2012 in Euro

Capital 31 Dec 2011 | 832,045

INCOME 2012:
- Membership Fees | 283,237
- Publications | 199
- Donations for budget year 2012 | 1,290,764
- Other income / refunds | 8,445
- Interest (bank) | 13,603

TOTAL INCOME | 1,596,249

EXPENDITURE 2012:
- Salaries and contracts | -789,903
- Development Officer | -3,041
- Contributions for third organizations | -4,475
- Office equipment and maintenance | -18,963
- Printing, postage and PR activities | -68,572
- Travel | -62,527
- Organization of meetings, travel support, SAP | -545,452
- Legal expenses, accounting | -47,524
- Equipment, rent utilities, insurances | -23,776
- Bank charges, currency differences | -5,698
- Others | -11,719

TOTAL EXPENDITURE | -1,581,648

Profit/Loss for the year 2012 | 14,601

Capital 31 Dec 2012 | 846,646
Sponsorships

Grants and in-kind contributions to IUFRO in 2012

IUFRO is most grateful to all our donors for their generous contributions!

Sponsor categories:

Gold: EUR 100,000 and above
Silver: from EUR 50,000 to 99,999
Bronze: from EUR 25,000 to 49,999

Note: All figures in the table below are given in Euro. These are the final figures before auditing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DONORS</th>
<th>SPDC</th>
<th>GFIS</th>
<th>WFSE</th>
<th>GFEP</th>
<th>Secretariat</th>
<th>In-kind contributions¹</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Austrian Government</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>14,400</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>352,600</td>
<td>67,769</td>
<td>434,796</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland</td>
<td>90,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>55,000</td>
<td>155,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>300,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finnish Forest Research Institute (METLA)</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>226,634</td>
<td>226,634</td>
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<tr>
<td>Korea Forest Research Institute (KFRI)</td>
<td>38,967</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>142,956</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>181,923</td>
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<tr>
<td>US Forest Service (USA)</td>
<td>112,917</td>
<td>16,944</td>
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<td>49,736</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>179,597</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contribution EU</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>137,970</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contribution ITTO</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>112,983</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contribution GIZ</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>45,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contribution SNV Vietnam</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contribution KFS</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>23,492</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contribution DEISTAF Italy</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ These are all non-cash contributions such as staff time and office facilities.

Photo by Alvaro Sotomayor. Field trip during agroforestry meeting in Colombia (IUFRO 1.04.00).
IUFRO Awards 2012

1 Distinguished Service Award:
Joseph R. Cobbinah

15 Certificates of Appreciation:
Neusa Teixeira, Andreia Silva, Pedro D. Cardoso
Helena Pereira, Jerry Winandy, Jamie Barbour
Pekka Saranpää, Andrew Wong
Tony Simons, Ben Chikamai, Kenya Forestry Research Institute Staff Members
Bruno Maric, Mersudin Avdibegovic, Faruk Mekic

IUFRO Headquarters Publications 2012

IUFRO World Series 30
Asia and the Pacific Workshop
Multinational and Transboundary Conservation of Valuable and Endangered Forest Tree Species

IUFRO World Series Volume 31

IUFRO Occasional Paper 25 - Desafíos de los bosques amazónicos y oportunidades para el manejo forestal comunitario

IUFRO News Vol. 41, issues 1 – 11/12 (2012)
13 Scientific Summaries
8 IUFRO Spotlight issues
IUFRO Annual Report 2011

Editorial:

Annual Report 2012:
Copyright by IUFRO, Vienna, 2012
Edited by Gerda Wolfrum, IUFRO Headquarters
Printed in Austria by:
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Wiener Straße 80, 3580 Horn
Cover photos by:
Top: Mike Muzurakis (IISD). Bottom: Astrid Tippel (IUFRO HQ).

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Michael Wingfield, South Africa
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Division 9: Daniela Kleinschmidt, Sweden

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IUFRO Headquarters Host Country Representative:
Gerhard Mannsberger, Austria

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Richard Guldin, USA
IUFRO Congress Scientific Committee Chair:
John Parrotta, USA

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TF Resources for the Future: John Innes, Canada
TF Forest and Water Interactions: Tony Simons, Kenya
TF Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services: Bryan Finegan, Costa Rica
TF Forest Bioenergy: Rolf Björheden, Sweden
TF Forests for People: Ulrike Pröbst, Austria
TF Forests and Climate Change: Markku Kanninen, Finland
TF Forests and Human Health: Hannu Railio, Finland
TF International Forest Governance: Ben Cashore, USA
TF Education in Forest Science: Piotr Paschalis-Jakubowicz, Poland

Special Programmes, Projects and Initiatives
IUFRO Special Programme for Developing Countries (IUFRO-SPDC) and IUFRO Deputy Executive Director:
Michael Kleine, Austria
IUFRO World Forests, Society and Environment (IUFRO-WFSE): Gerardo Mery, Finland
Global Forest Information Service (GFIS):
Eero Mikkola, Finland
CPF Global Forest Expert Panels (GFEP):
Christoph Wildburger, Austria

Representatives of Observer Organizations
FAO: Eduardo Rojas Briales
IFSA: Javier López Chacón (IUFRO liason officer)
WWF: Gerald Steinlediger
ICRAF: Dennis Gantty
IUCN: Stewart Maginnis
CIFOR: Peter Holmgren

Photo: IUFRO Division 7 - Kranzberg Forest Roof Experiment (KROOF) of Rainer Matyssek, Hans Pretzsch and Jean Charles Munch and teams near Freising /Germany. Photo by K.-H. Häberle.
Mission

IUFRO promotes global cooperation in forest-related research and enhances the understanding of the ecological, economic and social aspects of forests and trees, including wood and non-wood products, goods and services. It disseminates scientific knowledge to stakeholders and decision-makers and contributes to forest policy and on-the-ground forest management.