Symbiosis can be defined as a mutually beneficial relationship. Can there be a symbiotic relationship between forest products and the environment? This question was asked at the IUFRO All-Division 5 Conference held from October 29th to November 3rd, 2007 in Taipei. It reflects the increasing awareness of the role of trees and forests in meeting demands of society.

Multiple benefits of forests
There are several critical contemporary issues related to forest products and the environment. For example, the use of wood to provide energy is a worldwide need, since about half the wood consumed in the world provides energy - from fuel for a wood stove to input for an electric power plant. The use of forest products can also play a role in the storage of carbon to ameliorate climate change and in the reduction of forest fire risk. Finally, the use of wood compared to other raw materials, can have an environmental advantage. This is all well recognized by forest scientists, but the message also needs to be relayed more clearly to politicians and this is greatly aided by public perception. The multiple benefits of forests and hence the importance of sustainable forest management, need to be promoted. Obvious examples include the promotion of wood use for home construction and fittings, but also provision of water, food and energy in some parts of the world.

Science and industry
The conference Keynote Speakers represented a mix of science and industry, all addressing different aspects of dealing with forests and wood products in our daily lives. The topical nature of the conference theme was underlined by presentations on technical issues around conservation values of the diminishing forest resource, and the need to maintain diversity in an increasingly industrialized world. The forest products industries themselves can make major contributions to forest conservation by reducing greenhouse gas emissions by recycling, energy reduction, design efficiency and offsetting by tree planting. The forest industry can also benefit from adopting a global perspective and cooperating to create new innovative products such as nanomaterials with enhanced efficiency and performance.

Recommendations for IUFRO
Recommendations were made to expand the cover of Division 5 to include Pulp and Paper with a focus on tropical as well as temperate woods. Another topic discussed was the need to incorporate activities related to Wood Culture in a new Research Group as this would complement the other activities very well and support the beneficial nature of forestry and wood use around the world.
Amendment to MoU between IUFRO and KFRI

The amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) and the Korea Forest Research Institute (KFRI) was announced last October 31, 2007 in Taipei during the IUFRO All-Division 5 (Forest Products) Conference. Dr. Kwang Soo Chung, Director General of KFRI, and Prof. Don K. Lee, President of IUFRO, agreed on the continuation of the MoU for another five years. The previous MoU between IUFRO and KFRI was signed in 2002 by Dr. Risto Seppälä, former President of IUFRO, and Dr. Seung-jin Suh, former Director General of KFRI.

International Conference

Adaptation of Forests and Forest Management to Changing Climate with Emphasis on Forest Health: A Review of Science, Policies, and Practices


The Conference will focus on the current state of knowledge of ongoing changes in climatic conditions in different regions of the world, and the implications of these changes for forest health, forest management and conservation. Presentations and discussions will emphasize research, policies and practices that are needed to enable us to plan for and manage healthy, productive forests to meet future societal needs for forest products and the full range of forest goods and services. Ongoing research in various fields of forest and forest related sciences will be presented in parallel sessions of the conference.

The co-hosts are FAO, IUFRO and the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) with support from the U.S. Forest Service, Seoul National University, Republic of Korea and The Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry. The first announcement for the Conference can be viewed on: www.forestadaptation2008.net
Water Management through Forest Management

By Yanhui Wang and Michael Bredemeier (co-chair and chair of IUFRO Unit 8.01.04)


The workshop on “Water Management through Forest Management – contributions towards securing water resources and mitigation of floods” was hosted by the Chinese Academy of Forestry (CAF) in Beijing, November 12-16, 2007. It was an activity of IUFRO Division 8.01.04 – Water Supply and Quality, and jointly organized by CAF and the Forest Ecosystems Research Center of Goettingen University, Germany. The meeting was co-sponsored by IUFRO, the UNESCO Office Beijing, FAO, the Natural Science Foundation of Beijing (NSFB), the Chinese Academy of Forestry (CAF), the Beijing Municipal Bureau of Landscape and Forestry (BMBLF), and Beijing Forestry University (BFU).

In total 77 participants from 11 countries (China, Germany, USA, Austria, Australia, Finland, Spain, Croatia, Japan, India and Republic of Korea) and 3 international organizations (IUFRO, UNESCO, FAO) attended this workshop. Presentations and posters were grouped into 5 sessions: 1) Strategy and research for integrated management of forest and water; 2) Forest management for multiple use and water management under changing climate; 3) Application of eco-hydrological models and land use; 4) Soil water and water use; 5) Impact of forest on water quality and quantity.

Processing and Marketing of Teak Wood Products of Planted Forests

ITTO Regional Teak Wood Workshop co-sponsored by IUFRO 5.05.02
Peechi, India; 25-28 September 2007


Over the past decade, at least four international seminars/workshops were held in the Asia Pacific Region to address the issues relating to teak resource management and utilization. However, knowledge of performance and behavior of teak wood products of planted forests/clone trees of shorter rotation including the agroforestry and home garden forestry sectors is still inadequate in the context of sustainable tropical forest management (SFM). Timber trade and SFM are the two key components of globalization and sustainable development of the teakwood sector. The Workshop addressed the major challenges of ‘new age eco-products’ of teak that use innovative technologies for quicker production of quality timber and value addition to the products together with a reduction of wood waste to overcome the limitations of new resources of small dimension.

MCPFE - 5th Ministerial Conference

By Peter Mayer, IUFRO Executive Director

The Fifth Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe under the theme: “Forests for Quality of Life” was held from 5 – 7 November 2007, in Warsaw, Poland. At the conference the Warsaw Declaration as well as Resolutions on “Forests and Water” and “Forests, Wood and Energy” were signed. The planned Pan-European Forest Week from 20-24 October 2008 to be jointly organized by MCPFE, the FAO European Forestry Commission and the Timber Committee of the UNECE was also approved of. Furthermore, the report “State of Europe’s Forests 2007” and a report of the “Implementation of MCPFE Commitments” were presented and a note on forest fires was agreed upon.

At the conference, IUFRO was part of the Stakeholder Group Science (together with EFI, IIASA, UNU and Bioversity International), which had the possibility to give a group statement at the beginning of the Conference in the Multi-stakeholder Dialogue. The statement was read by EFI and highlighted, among other things, IUFRO’s work in the Task Force on Forests and Water Interactions and the IUFRO-led CPF Initiative on Science and Technology. Furthermore, the IUFRO fact sheets on culture, water and fire issues related to forests as well as the recently published IUFRO Occasional Paper No.19 “Guidelines for the Implementation of Social and Cultural Values in Sustainable Forest Management” were promoted as direct scientific contributions to the implementation of MCPFE commitments.

IUFRO Distinguished Service Award

The award was presented to Dr. Jack Sutherland on 13 September 2007 at a symposium on forest protection held on the occasion of Professor Vlastimil Jancarik's 80th birthday in Prague, Czech Republic. Dr. Sutherland received the distinction for his outstanding leadership and support of IUFRO Working Party 7.03.04 Diseases and Insects in Forest Nurseries.
Publications

IUFRO Occasional Paper 19
IUFRO 6.07.00 “Forest and Woodland History”
Editors: Mauro Agnoletti et. al.
Supported by: various institutions, see p. 22
Published 2007; ISSN 1024-414X; Copyright: IUFRO, authors

Forest Ecology and Management – Special Issue on:
Traditional Knowledge, Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Forest Management
Volume 249, Issues 1-2, September 2007, ISSN 0378-1127
Guest editors: John A. Parrotta and Mauro Agnoletti
Selected edited papers from the IUFRO conference on “Cultural heritage and sustainable forest management: the role of traditional knowledge” held at the Italian Academy of Forestry Science in Florence, Italy, 11-15 June 2006.

Transfer of Forest Science Knowledge and Technology
Proceedings of the International Conference on Transfer of Forest Science Knowledge and Technology
Troutdale, OR, USA, May 10–13, 2005

Progress in Research on Phytophthora Diseases of Forest Trees
Proceedings of the Third International IUFRO Working Party 7.02.09 Meeting at Freising, Germany, 11-18 September 2004
Edited by Clive Brasier, Thomas Jung and Wolfgang Oßwald
Forest Research, Farnham, Surrey, UK; ISBN 0 85538 721 1

Cultivated Forests
Proceedings of the International Congress on Cultivated Forests
2-7 October 2006, Bilbao, Spain
Edited by Unión de Selvicultores del Sur de España (USSE), 2007; email: usse(at)usse.es

Scholarships for MSc Programs
There are fifty scholarships available for the two MSc programs SUFONAMA and SUTROFOR, each of EUR 42,000 (EUR 21,000 annually for two years). Application deadline for non-EU students is 25 January 2008, for EU students 17 August 2008.
MSc in Sustainable Tropical Forestry (SUTROFOR): See: www.sutrofor.net
MSc in Sustainable Forest and Nature Management (SUFONAMA): See: www.sufonama.net

IUFRO Meetings

NOTE: The following list of meetings is just a selection! For a full list of IUFRO events, please visit our online calendar, or the homepages of IUFRO Units involved. Non-IUFRO meetings are also announced on the IUFRO Noticeboard on our web site.

10-13 March 2008
Istanbul, Turkey
Contact: Richard Fischer, fischer(at)holz.uni-hamburg.de
http://www.COSTforest2008.org

20-21 March 2008
Forests, Bioenergy and Climate Change
Casablanca, Morocco
SYLVA-WORLD, together with IUFRO Units 4.02.01, 7.01.00, IUFRO Task Force Forests and Carbon Sequestration, and the University Hassan II, Ain Shokh, Casablanca
Contact: Mohammed Elassati, sylva.world(at)yahoo.fr

28 April–3 May 2008
Entomological Research in Mediterranean Forest Ecosystems
Oeiras, Lisboa, Portugal
IUFRO 7.03.00
Contact: Official address, medinsect2008(at)sapo.pt
Edmundo de Sousa, edmundo.sousa(at)efn.com.pt
François Lieutier, francois.lieutier(at)univ-orleans.fr

22-24 May 2008
Emerging Needs of Society from Forest Ecosystems: Towards the Opportunities and Dilemmas in Forest Managerial Economics and Accounting
Ljubljana, Slovenia
IUFRO 4.05.00, 4.05.01, 4.05.02
General Contact: symp(at)iufro405-08.si
Contact: Lidija Zadnik Stirn, lidija.zadnik(at)bf.uni-lj.si
http://www.iufro405-08.si/

28 May – 1 June 2008
Eurodendro 2008: “The long history of wood utilization”
Hallstatt, Austria
IUFRO 6.07.00 and 5.01.07
Contact: Margaret Devall, mdevall(at)fs.fed.us
16-20 June 2008
5th Int’l Symposium on Adventitious Root Formation
Madrid, Spain
IUFRO 2.01.17
Contact: Carmen Diaz-Sala, carmen.diazsala(at)uah.es

23-27 June 2008
Small-scale Rural Forest Use and Management: Global Policies versus Local Knowledge
Gérardmer, France
IUFRO 3.08.00; IUFRO 6.12.01; IUFRO Task Force on Traditional Forest Knowledge; EFI, ENGREF
Contact: Gérard Buttoud, Email: Buttoud(at)engref.fr

14-18 July 2008
2nd Int’l Conference on Ground Bio- and Eco-engineering. The Use of Vegetation to Improve Slope Stability
Beijing, China
IUFRO 8.03.00
Contact: Gernot Fiebiger, zt(at)fiebiger.eu
http://lcagbe2.cirad.fr/

25-28 August 2008
Umeå, Sweden
IUFRO 1.00.00, 8.00.00 and others, SLU, IUFRO, FAO
Contact: Björn Hanell, bjorn.hanell(at)ssko.slu.se
http://www.forestadaptation2008.net

7-12 September 2008
23rd IUFRO Conference for Specialists in Air Pollution Effects on Forest Ecosystems Air Pollution and Climate Change at Contrasting Altitude and Latitude
Murten, Switzerland
IUFRO 7.01.00
Contact: Marcus Schaub, marcus.schaub(at)wsl.ch

15-19 September 2008
Methodology of Forest Insect and Disease Survey in Central Europe
Srbske Pleso, Slovakia
IUFRO 7.03.10
Contact: Andrej Kunca, kunca(at)ncsk.org

16-18 September 2008
Landscape Ecology and Forest Management: Challenges and Solutions
Chengdu, China
IUFRO 6.14.00, 8.01.02, Task Force on Forest and Water
Contact: Shirong Liu, liusr(at)caf.ac.cn, http://research.eeescience.utoledo.edu/lees/IUFRO/2008MTG/

21-26 September 2008
Evolving Challenges and Changing Expectations for Forestry Extension: Meeting needs of people and forests around the globe
Ottawa River Valley, Mattawa and Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
IUFRO 6.06.02

Contact: Jurij Beguš, Email: jurij.begus(at)zgs.gov.si
http://www.iufroextension.org/index.html

22-26 September 2008
Breeding and Genetic Resources of Five-Needle Pines
Yangyang, Korea
IUFRO 2.02.15
Contact: E.W. Noh, Email: ewnoh(at)foa.go.kr
http://iufro.krigene.net/

22-29 September 2008
International Conference on Debris Flows: Disaster, Risk, Forecast, Protection
Pyatigorsk, Russia
IUFRO 8.03.00
Contact: Gernot Fiebiger, zt(at)fiebiger.eu

28 September - 2 October 2008
Pathways to Success: Integrating Human Dimensions into Fisheries and Wildlife Management
Estes Park, Colorado, United States
IUFRO 6.00.00
http://www.hdfwconference.org

10-14 November 2008
Productivity of Tropical Plantations
Porto Seguro, Bahia State, Brazil
IUFRO 2.01.12
Contact: Jose L. Stape, stape(at)esalq.usp.br
http://www.ipef.br/iufro2008/

24-26 November 2008
International Workshop “Figures for Forests”
Freiburg, Germany
IUFRO 3.08.00, FVA
Contact: John Herbohn, john.herbohn(at)uag.uq.edu.au

2009
4-8 August 2009
First World Congress of Environmental History
Copenhagen, Denmark
IUFRO 6.00.00, 6.07.00
General Contact: wcceh2009(at)ruc.dk
http://www.wcceh2009.org/

Other Meetings
18 – 25 October 2009
XIIIth World Forestry Congress
Buenos Aires - Argentina
FAO and Argentina