From 23-28 August 2010, the XXIII IUFRO World Congress drew 2675 participants from 92 countries to the COEX convention centre in Seoul, Republic of Korea. The high number of registrants and the excellent preparation and organization of the top-quality program both from the scientific and the social and cultural perspectives, made this six-day event truly remarkable. Tribute must be paid to the outgoing IUFRO President Don Koo Lee, the Congress Organizing Committee headed by Jung-Hwan Park, the Congress Scientific Committee chaired by John Parrotta, and the countless helpful staff members at all levels that contributed to the great success of this Congress.

The opening ceremony was honoured by the presence of Korean President Lee Myung-Bak who addressed the audience and placed the focus of his speech on the national vision of "low-carbon green growth" and his country’s successful reforestation efforts.

Daily keynote addresses were delivered by prominent personalities including Ko Un (renowned Korean poet), Frances Seymour (Director General of CIFOR), José Joaquin Campos (Director General CATIE), Elinor Ostrom (Indiana University, Nobel Prize Laureate), and Peter Shaw Ashton (Charles Bullard Professor Emeritus of Forestry at Harvard University).

The Congress program comprised technical and poster sessions, business meetings, in-Congress tours, side-events, a trade exhibition, and much more. The Congress abstracts volume is available at: [http://www.iufro.org/events/congresses/world-congress-2010/](http://www.iufro.org/events/congresses/world-congress-2010/)

Right before the event, IUFRO’s Special Programme for Developing Countries (IUFRO-SPDC) in cooperation with the Korea Forest Research Institute organized four training workshops ([http://www.iufro.org/science/special/spdc/actpro/wkspmal07/conws2010/](http://www.iufro.org/science/special/spdc/actpro/wkspmal07/conws2010/)). After the Congress many participants set out on post-Congress tours to destinations in and around Korea.

For all participants the Congress offered an invigorating experience of networking and scientific exchange on a broad scale and blazed the trail for the future of forest-related science in general and IUFRO in particular.

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All photos on this page by courtesy of COC, Korea (online Congress picture gallery)
The Congress Resolution that was presented during the Closing Ceremony outlines the priorities for IUFRO’s future work and institutional commitments. (Translations into French, German and Spanish are available at: http://www.iufro.org/events/congresses/world-congress-2010/#c922)

THE SEOUL RESOLUTION

The XXIII IUFRO World Congress “Forests for the Future: Sustaining Society and the Environment” provided a unique forum for presentation and discussion of the results of current global research related to forests and trees. The Congress explored a broad range of current and emerging issues of great importance for the future of forests and their capacity to provide the environmental, economic, social, cultural, and health benefits that sustain rural and urban societies worldwide.

During this historic International Year of Biodiversity, in anticipation of the upcoming International Year of Forests, and recognizing the vital role that forest science must play in meeting the common challenges we face worldwide, IUFRO commits itself to:

Focusing more on scientific research and international collaboration in six thematic areas: Forests for People; Climate Change and Forestry; Bio-Energy; Forest Biodiversity Conservation; Forests and Water Interactions; and Forest Resources for the Future.

Further, IUFRO commits itself to the following goals:

Improving communication within the IUFRO structure, with other scientists, students, forest professionals, and the public; and increasing visibility and accessibility of research findings;

Expanding and deepening IUFRO’s work at the science-policy interface by enhancing scientific contributions to international processes, conventions, and organizations; responding rapidly to new policy issues; expanding partnerships and collaborating with international organizations and processes through the provision of scientific information and policy options;

Urging member institutions and external stakeholders to renew and strengthen forest monitoring activities and support global monitoring efforts;

Improving IUFRO’s capacity to expand its membership and funding base to provide support for the full range of IUFRO’s activities to benefit the forest researchers belonging to IUFRO’s member organizations; and

Promoting high-quality forest-related research and expanding IUFRO’s capacity for interdisciplinary cooperation; strengthening scientific capacity; relating the work of all IUFRO units to the six thematic areas; broadening IUFRO’s membership base; and identifying emerging issues and changing paradigms.


The Congress is also the time and place where the International Council of IUFRO meets physically to make important decisions. These include the election of the President, two Vice-Presidents, nine Division Coordinators and up to five President’s Nominees (PN). According to the latest revision of IUFRO Statutes, President’s Nominees are selected to strive for a regional, gender and scientific balance and their tasks will be approved by the Board. In addition, the IC also decided on the place and approximate date of the next Congress:

**New President:** Niels Elers Koch, Denmark  
**New Vice President:** Mike Wingfield, South Africa  
**New Vice President:** Su See Lee, Malaysia

**New Division Coordinators:**

- Division 1: Björn Hånell, Sweden
- Division 2: Yousr El-Kassaby, Canada
- Division 3: Hans Heinimann, Switzerland
- Division 4: Margarida Tome, Portugal
- Division 5: Andrew Wong, Malaysia
- Division 6: Tuija Sievänen, Finland
- Division 7: Andrew Liebhold, USA
- Division 8: Jean-Michel Carnus, France
- Division 9: Daniela Kleinschmit, Sweden/Germany*

**President’s Nominees:**

- José Campos, Costa Rica
- Ben Chikamai, Kenya
- Elena Kulikova, Russia
- Shirong Liu, China
- Ulrike Pröbstl, Austria

**XXIV IUFRO World Congress:**

The next IUFRO World Congress will take place in autumn 2014 in Salt Lake City, USA.

* The International Council decided to split Division 6 into two Divisions. Division 6 will focus on Social Aspects of Forests and Forestry, Division 9 on Forest Policy and Economics.
Honours and Awards at the IUFRO World Congress

The winners of the Scientific Achievement Awards (SAA), Outstanding Doctoral Research Awards (ODRA), IUFRO World Congress Host Country Scientific Award and IUFRO Student Awards for Excellence in Forest Science (ISA) were presented in a special issue of IUFRO News prior to the Congress in early August 2010. (http://www.iufro.org/publications/news/electronic-news/io-news-10-special-awards/)

We now proudly introduce to you the new Honorary Members of IUFRO and the winners of the Best Poster Awards who were selected by Division at the Congress.

Honorary Membership:
Risto Seppälä, Finland, former President of IUFRO
Eric Teissier du Cros, France, former Vice-President of IUFRO

Best Poster Awards:
Division 1: Pifeng Lei (University of Freiburg, Germany)
Division 2: Yoshihiro Hosoo (Shinshu University, Japan)
Division 4: Choi Sung-Ho (Korea University, Korea)
Division 5: Lee Su-Yeon (Seoul National University, Korea)
Division 6: Maija Faehnle (Finnish Forest Research Institute, Finland)
Division 7: Takahashi Yukiko (The University of Tokyo, Japan)
Division 8: Ahn Young-Sang (Korea Forest Research Institute, Korea)

A Forest Researcher without Borders

Interview with IUFRO President Niels Elers Koch

At the IUFRO World Congress 2010, Professor Niels Elers Koch, Director General of Forest & Landscape Denmark, a national centre at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark, was elected IUFRO President for the period until the next IUFRO World Congress in 2014. He follows Professor Don Koo Lee, Korea, in this position, recognizing his contributions to the development of IUFRO in the past five years.

Q: Professor Koch, at the beginning of your first speech as IUFRO President at the closing of the XXIII IUFRO World Congress in Seoul, you underlined the importance of IUFRO for your personal career as a forest scientist. What can IUFRO do for a forest scientist today?

K: When I was 25 years old, I participated in my first IUFRO World Congress. It was held in Oslo, Norway, in 1976. That changed the rest of my life – to the better. IUFRO provided me with a global network of the best researchers in the area I studied. I also met with colleagues who became some of my best and everlasting friends. And I got a much better understanding and appreciation of other cultures through IUFRO. I am sure that IUFRO can do the same for forest scientists today. As “the global network for forest-related research” it offers excellent opportunities to exchange knowledge and experience, meet new colleagues and friends from all over the world and, thus, become a true “forest researcher without borders”.

Q: You describe IUFRO as a global network for forest-related research. However, not all scientists all over the world will have equal opportunities to participate.

K: I am aware of the fact that addressing today’s forest challenges requires the effective participation of scientists from truly all regions of the world. Yet, we all
know that the scientific capacity of developed and
developing countries continues to be disproportionate.
As the new IUFRO President, I am committed to
strengthening the scientific capacity where it is needed
and to serve the needs of all forest researchers.

Q: It is one of IUFRO’s goals to strengthen communi-
cation among the scientific community. Does that also
include scientists from other disciplines?

K: It is evident that today’s challenges regarding forests
and trees are highly cross-sectoral and require us to
think outside the "forest box". There is a need to create
links with other sectors and scientific disciplines and to
provide effective platforms for the exchange of
information, deliberation and mutual learning. The
global IUFRO network is uniquely positioned to provide
such a platform and I am firmly committed to build on
this strength of our scientific network and to expand it
where needed.

Q: Finally, IUFRO has over the past few years positioned
itself more closely at the science-policy interface
providing scientific information and assessments to
international processes. Will it continue to do so in the
future?

K: It is part of our new and ambitious vision laid down
in the IUFRO Strategy 2010-2014 that IUFRO shall also
"serve the needs of decision makers." IUFRO plays an
important role as source of high quality scientific
information on issues of global concern at the science-
policy interface which will, of course, also contribute to
increasing the visibility of forest research and science-
Based research findings.

After almost seven years as IUFRO
Executive Director, Dr. Peter
Mayer has now become head of
the Federal Research and Training
Centre for Forests, Natural
Hazards and Landscape (BFW) in
Vienna assuming office on 1
August 2010.

When Peter Mayer, who studied
Forestry at the University of
Natural Resources and Life
Sciences, and Political Science at
the Institute for Advanced Studies, both in Vienna, took
the lead at IUFRO Headquarters in December 2003, he
had a clear vision of the importance of science-based
contributions to the international policy discussion on
forests. He saw a huge potential for IUFRO to play an
important role in the development of scientific forest-
related knowledge and its provision to stakeholders and
decision-makers.

Over the past seven years, IUFRO has certainly turned
into a more active and visible partner in international
policy forums and debates on forests and has thus been
able to assert itself in a competitive environment. Peter
Mayer has a great share in this achievement thanks to
his continuous endeavors to position the organization
more closely at the science-policy interface and to
broaden its scope to address changing research needs.
Of course, all these developments would not have been
possible without the strong core of IUFRO - the
international network of scientists -, nor without the
commitment of all officeholders and dedicated
supporters of IUFRO.

With Peter Mayer, IUFRO Headquarters has further
strengthened its role as a service centre for members
and officeholders alike and has greatly expanded and
constantly updated its channels of communication and
information. The IUFRO Headquarters team must part
with a highly competent colleague whose modern and
cooperative approach to management has been well
received by all of us.

Let us wish Peter the best of success in his new position
and hope that he will reach the goals that he has set
for himself and, of course, stay connected with IUFRO!

IUFRO World Series 9en
Terminology of Forest Management Planning –
in English
2nd revised edition
Equivalent terms in French, German, Hungarian,
Italian, Portuguese, Romanian, Spanish and
Japanese. By Maarten Nieuwenhuis

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Picture: Peter Mayer at the IUFRO World Congress,
courtesy of COC, Korea (online picture gallery)

Note: The position announcement had been widely circulated
and can be found at: http://www.iufro.org/news/article/2010/
09/13/iufro-seeks-new-executive-director/
Sharing Information on Forests in Africa

Information exchange and dissemination is one of the most important components of networking among scientific institutions. One step towards such networking is the establishment of an online Forestry Research Network for Sub-Saharan Africa (FORNESSA) Information Service (FORNIS) which has been launched at http://www.fornis.net.

The FORNESSA network is a non-profit, non-governmental, scientific organization open to forestry and forest-related organizations and individuals. It represents three sub-regional networks: the Association of the Forestry Research Institutions of Eastern Africa (AFREA), the Forest Research Network of the Conférence de responsables de Recherche Agronomique Africains (CORAF), and the Southern African Development Community (SADC).

Post-doctoral recruitment - Welcome II Programme

The Welcome II Programme targets the recruitment of European researchers to join Portuguese research institutions after work in Third Countries. It is administered by FCT, being cofunded under the Marie Curie Action COFUND, a part of the 7th European Union Research Framework Programme. The call is expected to open on October 1st 2010, closing on December 12th 2010, at 5pm Lisbon time.

REDD+ online database

The Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) has launched a REDD+ online database: http://redd-database.iges.or.jp/redd/

The database mainly provides profiles of REDD-plus projects using a common template, but the intention is to also provide country summaries of REDD-plus policies and frameworks. The database is at an early stage of development. Further project profiles and country summaries will be added.

Visit: http://www.un.org/esa/forests/ to download the logo and keep informed about plans and activities related to the International Year of Forests, 2011.

The IYF in 2011 will offer a unique opportunity to raise public awareness of the challenges facing many of the world’s forests and the people who depend on them.

The International Year of Forests, 2011

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Visit: http://www.un.org/esa/forests/ to download the logo and keep informed about plans and activities related to the International Year of Forests, 2011.
New Woodland Carbon Assurance Scheme
The UK Forestry Commission is about to test a new quality assurance scheme for tree planting projects designed to sequester carbon.
Visit http://www.forestry.gov.uk/carboncode for details.

WSL Anniversary Celebrations
In 2010 and in 2011 the Swiss Federal Research Institute WSL and the WSL Institute for Snow and Avalanche Research SLF are celebrating their 125th and 75th birthdays, respectively. At an official celebration in Birmensdorf on 2 September, IUFRO seized the opportunity to congratulate its longstanding member and hand over an anniversary certificate.
http://www.wsl.ch/medien/presse/pm_100902_DE

IUFRO Meetings

Search our online calendar for a full list of meetings.
Find non-IUFRO meetings on the IUFRO Noticeboard.
Also search for forest-related events at:
http://www.gfis.net

5-7 November 2010
Innovations in Forest Industry and Engineering Design
Sofia, Bulgaria
IUFRO 5.00.00
Contact: the organizers: inno_conference(at)abv.bg

11-13 November 2010
First Serbian Forestry Congress: Future with Forests
Belgrade, Serbia
IUFRO 5.05.00
Contact: Marius Barbu, marcat(at)gmx.at
Conference website

5-8 December 2010
2do Congreso Iberoamericano de Protección de la Madera
Ciudad De Mar Del Plata, Argentina
IUFRO 5.00.00
Contact: Osvaldo Encinas, osenbla(at)gmail.com
http://www.ripma.org/

8-10 December 2010
Fourth International Conference on Plant and Environmental Pollution
Lucknow, India
IUFRO 7.01.00
Contact: Conference Secretariat, isebnbriko(at)sify.com; iseemail(at)gmail.com

18-20 May 2011
13th International Symposium on Legal Aspects of European Forest Sustainable Development
Kaunas, Lithuania
IUFRO 9.06.00 (former Unit 6.13.00)
Contact: R. Deltuvas, Romualdas.Deltuvas(at)iuu.lt

Other Meetings

4-8 October 2010
COFO 2010/World Forest Week 2
FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy

6-8 October 2010
International Workshop on „Adaptation of perennial plants to episodic drought: impact on ecosystems“
Göttingen, Germany
http://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/13127.html

11-14 October 2010
UNECE Timber Committee meeting
Geneva, Switzerland
http://timber.unece.org/index.php?id=302

21-22 October 2010
5th European Forest Pedagogy Congress
Lahti, Finland
http://www.forestpedagogics.eu

26-27 November 2010
15th International Forestry and Environment Symposium: “Developments in Forestry and Environment in 2010”
University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka
http://www.environmentlanka.com/sympo/

5 December 2010
Forest Day 4
Cancún, México
http://www.forestclimatechange.org/ForestDay-4.html