

Small-scale Rural Forest Use and Management: Global Policies vs. Local Knowledge

Gerard Buttoud, Coordinator of IUFRO 6.12.01 Analysis and evaluation of forest policies and programmes

The IUFRO International Symposium on "Small-scale Rural Forest Use and Management: Global Policies versus Local Knowledge", held in Gérardmer, France, from June 23 to 27, 2008, explored the important role of local knowledge in managing small-scale rural forests and the impacts or implications of broader 'global' policies on small-scale rural forestry.

Local Knowledge

In many regions of the world, forest activities are carried out by the rural population on collective lands and by individual farmers on agroforestry or farm forestry plots. These types of forest activities play an important role in sustaining rural communities. The management of the related wooded areas is usually based on traditional local knowledge which is particularly adapted to the ecological and socio-economic conditions of the area. The common feature of all these different practices is that they are carried out at a small-scale level, with adaptive management.

Global Policies

The management of forests is, however, also influenced by broader regional, national and international policies, which are almost always developed remote from the local areas in which they are to be implemented. These 'global' policies often present an abstract and even sometimes idealistic vision of the role of the forests in rural development, and may propose means and mechanisms which are not fitting to the real issues faced by rural communities in managing their forests. In addition, despite a rich heritage of traditional or local forest knowledge in many regions, forest administrators, managers and policy makers are often not aware of this knowledge base and do not consider it in their decisions.

During the symposium week, more than 100 specialists from almost 30 countries in the world exchanged their experiences and visions on this complex issue. The papers presented generated a long and rich discussion which gives a clear illustration of the challenges ahead for scientists, managers and policy makers alike.

The symposium was organized by [IUFRO 3.08.00 Small-scale forest management](#), co-ordinated by J. Herbohn, in co-operation with [IUFRO 6.12.01 Analysis and evaluation of forest policies and programmes](#), co-ordinated by G. Buttoud, and the IUFRO Task Force on [Traditional Forest Knowledge](#), co-ordinated by J. Parrotta.

This conference was strongly supported by the Local Government (*Conseil Général*) of the Vosges, which promotes applied research development through a special contract with AgroParisTech-ENGREF Nancy. Assistance was also received by the State Forest Agency (*Office National des Forêts*), the Vosges Agriculture Chamber (*Chambre d'Agriculture*), and the Regional Natural Park of the Central and South-Vosges (*Parc Naturel Régional des Ballons des Vosges*).



Photo of rural landscape in Austria,
by Judith Stoeger, IUFRO Headquarters

As a satellite meeting, a Pre-conference Research Training Workshop devoted to « **Systems Analysis as Applied to Forest Policy and Management Issues** », was organized in Nancy, France, from June 19 to 21, 2008, by AgroParisTech-ENGREF and the University of Queensland, with an additional concrete support from UNESCO and the Regional Government (*Conseil Régional*) of Lorraine. This initiative provides a good example of the relevance of the science-policy interface on concrete topics such as the one addressed by the conference. It also shows the interest to hold inter-division meetings devoted to specific scientific topics, which can enhance multi-disciplinary approaches.

In order to support the discussion during the symposium, specific **Pre-Conference Proceedings** (Buttoud, G., Ed., AgroParisTech-ENGREF, Nancy, 280 p.), including the full papers discussed in plenary sessions, and summaries for the other ones, were made available to participants at the beginning of the meeting.

For further information, please, contact:

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AgroParisTech-ENGREF, Nancy, France
[gerard.buttoud\(at\)agroparistech.fr](mailto:gerard.buttoud(at)agroparistech.fr)

Eurodendro 2008 - The Long History of Wood Utilization

Margaret Devall, Coordinator 5.01.07, Tree Ring Analysis

EuroDendro, the conference of the European Working Group for Dendrochronology, took place from May 28 to June 1, 2008 at Hallstatt, a small village in Upper Austria. The conference was hosted by the Institute of Wood Science and Technology, the University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Vienna, along with IUFRO Units [5.01.07 Tree Ring Analysis](#) and [6.07.00 Forest and Woodland History](#). 175 persons from 36 countries registered for the conference, which included 34 oral presentations and 83 posters. There were four sessions: Forest and wood utilization; Dendroclimatology; Forest growth, dynamics and protection against mass movements; and Wood formation and wood anatomy.

Organizers Michael Grabner and Daniela Geihofer and their team chose Hallstatt for the site of the conference because the Institute of Wood Science and Technology has carried out intensive research at Hallstatt for the last ten years. The village and surrounding area are a world famous archeological site which has been on the UNESCO World Heritage List since 1997. There are mines dating from the Bronze Age as well as from the Early and Late Iron Age. Numerous interesting wooden pieces and structures have been discovered at the prehistoric salt mines.

For more information, please, contact Margaret Devall at [mdevall\(at\)fs.fed.us](mailto:mdevall(at)fs.fed.us)



Reproductions of ancient tools
Photo by Margaret Devall

EuroDendro 2008 also provided Ph.D. students an opportunity to present their work and afforded all the scientists an occasion to interact and to learn about the latest findings of their colleagues, especially on the topic of dendroarcheology. This was a very exciting and interesting conference and one that will be long remembered by all attendees.

Forest Entomologists in South Africa

Andrew Liebhold, Coordinator IUFRO 7.03.00 Entomology

The conference, "Recent Advances in Forest Entomology" was held from 1-6 July, 2008, in Pretoria, South Africa. It was sponsored by IUFRO Unit [7.03.00, "Entomology"](#) and hosted by the Forestry and Agricultural Biotechnology Institute ([FABI](#)) at the University of Pretoria, South Africa.

The conference was organized as a satellite meeting to the International Congress of Entomology that was held the following week in Durban. This was a hugely successful conference that facilitated scientific exchange among a remarkably international selection of delegates, representing 21 countries. In addition to scientific sessions, delegates had the opportunity to view some of the challenging problems facing entomologists in the African continent.

The conference was attended by 63 delegates representing 21 countries. Funding for local travel expenses of 5 young scientists from countries with developing economies was provided by the Korean Forest Research Institute. A total of 37 oral and 10 poster presentations were given, including three keynote presentations: "Forests and forestry in South Africa" by Jolanda Roux, "Recent advances in forest entomology: An international perspective" by Andrew Liebhold and "Forest entomology in South Africa" by Mike Wingfield.

This conference represented the continuation of a tradition in IUFRO Research Group 7.03.00 of holding a satellite

meeting in conjunction with the International Congress of Entomology which is held every four years. As in previous years, the meeting was a chance for forest entomologists to take a little extra time and meet on their own, network and build strong relationships with fellow scientists who share common interests, as well as become acquainted with local entomological problems.

This conference was particularly successful in meeting these goals, in part because of the unique geographical representation of delegates, particularly from countries in Latin America and Africa which typically are under-represented at IUFRO meetings. However, the other important ingredient to the success of this conference was the creativity and hard work of the sponsors from FABI. Their enthusiasm and dedication to science was infectious, resulting in a conference that delegates found to be one of the most stimulating and enjoyable of their careers.

Reports were presented on a variety of research topics. However a common theme among several presentations was the subject of novel associations between tree species and insect pest species, brought about either by invasions of exotic insect species or by host shifts by native insects onto exotic tree species. Later, during the field trip, attendees were able to observe and discuss these novel associations while visiting forest plantations.

For more information, please, contact Andrew Liebhold at [aliebhold\(at\)fs.fed.us](mailto:aliebhold(at)fs.fed.us) or visit the conference homepage: <http://www.fabnet.up.ac.za/iufro703>

Photos from conference:

<http://www.fabnet.up.ac.za/iufro703/photos>

Who is the IUFRO Focal Point in Your Institution?

Many of our Member Organizations have appointed special IUFRO contact persons who are in charge of corresponding with IUFRO and spreading IUFRO information among their colleagues. What about your institution?

Please update us on the name and full contact details of your IUFRO focal point by writing to:
Ms. Sylvia, Fiege, [sylvia \(at\)iufro.org](mailto:sylvia(at)iufro.org)

Publications

IUFRO World Series 20/II Keep Asia Green "Northeast Asia"

Edited by Don Koo Lee
ISBN 978-3-901347-76-4

Contact: [office\(at\)iufro.org](mailto:office(at)iufro.org)

Final report on the World Bank's Proposal for a Global Forest Partnership: Towards a global forest partnership - consultation, assessment and recommendations

Published by the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)

The full report is downloadable (pdf format) at
<http://www.iiedgfpcconsultation.org>

Directory of High-quality Latin American Research Organizations

in relevant fields of cooperation in the 7th European Framework Programme for RTD

The directory is one of the main instruments of LAC ACCESS to bridge high-quality research organizations in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) with those of the European Union

To view the digital version, please visit
<http://www.lac-access.net>, section Database.

For more details, contact:

Barbara Hauer, [barbara.hauer\(at\)lai.at](mailto:barbara.hauer(at)lai.at)

Europeans and Wood

The report "Europeans and Wood: What do Europeans Think about Wood and its Uses? A review of Consumer and Business Surveys in Europe" by Ewald Rametsteiner, Roland Oberwimmer and Ingwald Gschwandtl, has recently been published by the MCPFE (Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe - former Liaison Unit Warsaw) and the UN-FAO/ECE Forest Communicators Network (FCN).

Together with the report "Europeans and their Forests" published by the MCPFE and the FCN in 2003, it constitutes the most comprehensive insight into public perceptions as regards forests and forest-based products.

For more information, contact:

Kristin Dawes, Communications, MCPFE Liaison Unit Oslo, [liaison.unit.oslo\(at\)mcpfe.org](mailto:liaison.unit.oslo(at)mcpfe.org); [kristin.dawes\(at\)mcpfe.org](mailto:kristin.dawes(at)mcpfe.org)

Job Opportunities

Dean of the School of Forestry and Environmental Studies

Yale University's School of Forestry & Environmental Studies (F&ES) seeks outstanding candidates for the Deanship of the School. Applications should be sent to Robert Burger, FES Dean Search Committee, Office of the Provost, Yale University, 1 Hillhouse Ave., P.O. Box 208365, New Haven, CT 06520-8365, USA.

Inquiries can be sent to the committee at

FES.Dean.Search@Yale.edu. Applications received by September 15, 2008 will receive full consideration.

Professor for Departamento de Ciencias Forestales

Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Sede Medellín
Specialized in: *Sistemas de Información Geográfica*

See: <http://168.176.160.49:8082/ordinariospruebas/contenido.aspx?ver=en-profiles>

For more information, please send an e-mail to:

concursoexcelencia@unal.edu.co

Norwegian MCPFE Secretariat starts work with new working program and new visual profile

Climate, energy and water will be the focus areas of Europe's forest co-operation and collaboration process, which Norway is going to chair for the next four years.



The Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (MCPFE) has been important for Europe, where forests now cover more than 40 percent of the land area. Europe's forests also represent 25 per cent of the world's forest resources and are increasing fast. Since the first conference took place in Strasbourg in 1990, the forest area has increased by 13 million hectares - about the area of Greece - and the forest volume by 360 million cubic metres. This corresponds to more than half a billion trees.

The new visual profile makes clear the great economic, environmental and social importance of forest collaboration on the national and international level. MCPFE applies to Europe, but at the same time its political work is connected to the global work of the United Nations for forestry and sustainable development. (Excerpt from a press release of 15 July 2008)

For more detailed information, contact:

MCPFE Liaison Unit Oslo

Kristin Dawes, Communications and Public Affairs,
[kristin.dawes\(at\)mcpfe.org](mailto:kristin.dawes(at)mcpfe.org)

<http://www.mcpfe.org>

20-24 October 2008 European Forest Week 2008

Brussels, Belgium and
Rome, Italy

celebrating the contribution of European forests in mitigating climate change, providing wood and renewable energy, securing the supply of fresh water and protecting our environment.



The European Forest Week will provide an umbrella for forest-related events organized by the public and private sectors as well as civil society throughout Europe. It is organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the Ministerial Conference for the Protection of Forests in Europe (MCPFE) and the European Commission (EC), in close collaboration with the European Union Presidency at the time of the event, France.

Linking in-country forest-related events

Countries are invited to organize events to address forest issues of national relevance, sharing the objectives of the week and explicitly linked with it. These could be conferences or policy forums, public events such as forest fairs, nature walks or exhibits, symbolic events such as tree planting, or media events aimed at improved communication.

For more information on the European Forest Week, write to Kit Prins at [efw\(at\)unece.org](mailto:efw(at)unece.org) or visit the website:

<http://www.EuropeanForestWeek.org>

For more information about linking in-country events, write to Maria Casa at [maria.casa\(at\)fao.org](mailto:maria.casa(at)fao.org)

<http://www.europeanforestweek.org/home/en/>

18 – 25 October 2009 XIII World Forestry Congress Buenos Aires - Argentina



"Forests in development - a vital balance" is the theme of this XIIIth World Forestry Congress and it will be tackled from the social, ecological and economic perspectives. This will provide an opportunity to analyze this natural resource's functions on the local, regional and global scales. The relevance of every type of forest and its contribution to the planet's sustainable development will be stressed.

The **deadline for submission of abstracts** and posters has been extended up to December 31, 2008.

Contact: [info\(at\)cfm2009.org](mailto:info(at)cfm2009.org)

http://www.wfc2009.org/version2/presentation_ingles.asp

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.

11-14 August 2008

VII Latin American Forest and Environmental Law Congress: Forest Law for Sustainability

Curitiba, Paraná, Brazil

[IUFRO 6.13.01](#)

Contact: Paulo de Tarso de Lara Pires, [ptpires\(at\)ufpr.br](mailto:ptpires(at)ufpr.br)
<http://www.direitoflorestal.ufpr.br>

28 August 2008

Asking the right questions of society-forest system adaptation. How can a gender perspective help?

Umeå, Sweden

[IUFRO 6.08.01](#)

Contact: Gun Lidestav, [gun.lidestav\(at\)srh.slu.se](mailto:gun.lidestav(at)srh.slu.se)
<http://www.forestadaptation2008.net/48>

2-4 September 2008

III Encuentro Andino Amazónico de Derecho Forestal Ambiental "Bosques y Biodiversidad"

Iquitos, Perú

[IUFRO 6.13.01](#)

Contact: Mariola Paima, [encuentroforestal2008\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:encuentroforestal2008(at)gmail.com)
<http://www.derechoforestal.org>

22-29 September 2008

Conference on Debris Flows: Disasters, Risk, Forecast, Protection

Pyatigorsk, Russia

[IUFRO 8.03.00](#)

Contact: Gernot Fiebiger, [zt\(at\)fiebiger.eu](mailto:zt(at)fiebiger.eu)
Conference Secretariat, [df08\(at\)mail.ru](mailto:df08(at)mail.ru)
<http://www.df08.narod.ru/en.html>

24-27 September 2008

Sustainable Forest Management in the Context of Kyoto Protocol Implementation in the Region of Central and Eastern Europe

Kyiv, Ukraine

Institute of Forestry and Landscape Architecture of National Agricultural University of Ukraine
Co-organizers: Ministry of Environmental Protection of Ukraine, Ministry of Agrarian Policy of Ukraine, EFI, IUFRO, IIASA, FAO, MCPEF.

Contact: Sergiy Zibtsev, [Sergiy.zibtsev\(at\)nauu.kiev.ua](mailto:Sergiy.zibtsev(at)nauu.kiev.ua)
<http://eng.nauu.kiev.ua/>

28 September - 2 October 2008

Pathways to Success: Integrating Human Dimensions into Fisheries and Wildlife Management

Estes Park, United States

[IUFRO 6.00.00](#)

Contact: Perry Brown, perry.brown@umontana.edu
<http://welcome.warnercnr.colostate.edu/nrrt/hdfw/>

7-9 October 2008

VIII Seminário de Atualização em Sensoriamento Remoto e Sistemas de Informações Geográficas Aplicados à Engenharia Florestal

Curitiba, Brazil

[IUFRO 4.02.05](#)

Contact: Dr. Disperati, disperati(at)avalon.sul.com.br
<http://www.8seminarioflorestal.com.br/home/>

30-31 October 2008

Water and Forests: A Convenient Truth?

Barcelona, Spain

EFI, [IUFRO Task Force](#) Forests and Water Interactions

Contact: Marc Palahi, marc.palahi(at)efi.int
<http://www.efi.int/>

10-12 November 2008

2008 SWST 51st Annual Convention

Concepción, Chile

[IUFRO 5.00.00](#)

Contact: Vicky Herian, vicki(at)swst.org
<http://www.swst.org/meetings/AM08/about.html>

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
Michael G. Ryan, mgryan(at)fs.fed.us
<http://www.ipef.br/iufro2008/>

13-14 November 2008

XV Seminar on Harvesting and Wood Transportation

Curitiba, Brazil

[IUFRO 3.00.00](#)

Contact: Jorge Roberto Malinovski, malinovski(at)ufpr.br
<http://www.colheitademadeira.com.br>

16-19 November 2008

Gender Issues in Natural Resources Management – Perception and Experiences in Different Parts of the World

Dehradun, India

[IUFRO 6.08.02](#)

Contact: Siegfried Lewark, siegfried.lewark@fobawi.uni-freiburg.de
<http://www.iufrogenderindia.info/>

16-20 March 2009

International Forest Biosecurity Conference

Rotorua, New Zealand

[IUFRO 7.03.00](#)

Contact: Andrew Liebhold, aliebhold(at)fs.fed.us
Brian Richardson, Brian.Richardson(at)scionresearch.com
<http://www.ensiv.com/NewsEventsandPublications/EventsandSponsorship/tabid/147/Default.aspx?PageContentID=421>

19-29 July 2009

Symposium on Mountain and Forest Snow Cover: Climatology, Interactions and Processes – MOCA 09

Montreal, Canada

[IUFRO 8.03.02](#)

Contact: Peter Bebi, bebi(at)slf.ch
<http://www.moca-09.org/e/C2.shtml>

9-14 August, 2009

Symposium on the Biology of Gall-forming Arthropods

Serra do Cippo, Brazil

[IUFRO 7.03.02](#)

Contact: Wilson Fernandes, gwilson(at)mono.icb.ufmg.br
<http://www.icb.ufmg.br/big/leeb/galls>

29-30 October 2009

Third Faustmann Symposium: Faustmann in a Dynamic and Changing World

Hunting Castle Kranichstein, Darmstadt, Germany

[IUFRO 4.05.00](#)

Contact: Bernhard Möhring; bmoehri(at)gwdg.de

Other Meetings

27-30 August 2008

Forests, Trees, and Human Health and Well-being

Hamar-Elverum, Norway

Cost Action E39

Contact: Kjell Nilsson, kjni(at)life.ku.dk
and Merete Larsmon, merete(at)skogselskapet.no
http://www.e39.ee/?Conferences:Hamar-Elverum_conference

29 September - 3 October 2008

XXV Sesión de la Comisión Forestal para América Latina y el Caribe

Quito, Ecuador

Contact: Carlos M Carneiro, Carlos.Carneiro(at)fao.org
<http://www.rlc.fao.org/es/comisiones/coflac/2008/default.htm>

3-7 November 2008

FSC General Assembly 2008

including workshop on "Researcher's meeting on FSC's impact", Cape Town, South Africa

Forest Stewardship Council

Contact: Guille Garza, G.Garza(at)fsc.org
<http://www.fsc.org/general-assembly-2008.html>

12 - 13 November 2008

The Third ASEM Symposium on Urban Forestry

Guangzhou, China

Chinese Academy of Forestry; Danish Centre for Forest, Landscape and Planning

Contact: Ms. Su Haiying, shy2007(at)caf.ac.cn
<http://www.lknet.ac.cn/asemUF3.htm>

1-3 April 2009

Recreation and Health in Landscape and Forest

Birmensdorf, Switzerland

FOEN, WSL and others

Contact: Susanne Raschle, events(at)wsl.ch
http://www.wsl.ch/landscapeandhealth/contact/index_EN?-C=&

13-17 April 2009

IV International Meeting on Sustainable Forest Development - DEFORS 2009

Palacio de Convenciones de La Habana, Cuba

Contact: Martha González Izquierdo, gonzalez(at)forestales.co.cu