

THE ONLINE INFORMATION BULLETIN OF THE GLOBAL FOREST SCIENCE NETWORK

Gender Issues in Natural Resources Management

Siegfried Lewark, [6.08.02](#) Education, Gender and Forestry
Gun Lidestav, [6.08.01](#) Gender Research in Forestry

The IUFRO conference on Gender Issues in Natural Resources Management held in Dehradun, India, (fig 1)¹ from 16-19 November 2009 was hosted by the Forest Research Institute (FRI) and its German lecturer Dr. Ernst Kürsten (DAAD)². Presenters from countries in the North and the South explored experiences with gender sensitivity and gender analysis in forest management as well as challenges to the sustainable livelihoods of forest dwellers and users in many countries of the world (fig 2).

Gender issues are not just for women

Research questions and issues included concerns about the perceptions of climate change, the impact of policies on men and women, and the informal ways that forest management affects men and women. Presenters noted progress in relation to the development of self-help and entrepreneurial groups that supported women's and men's economic development. But it was also recognized that there are still many actions that could be taken to ensure equality between men and women. It was suggested that men become more directly involved in actions that benefit women and men; gender issues are not just for women. Also, there is a need for improved gender awareness and education at all levels of organizations that implement forestry policies – from the grassroots to the international agencies.

Improving agricultural yields and reducing the workload of women

After the conference a village visit in the Mussouri hills was facilitated by the Ajeevika project officer (cf. www.ajeevika.org.in) who works with the people in this village.³ The project

has been active in the village since 2006 with main objectives being the improvement of agricultural yields, reducing the workload of women and helping women to form self-help groups to institutionalize group dynamics. During the visit, the women gave examples of how the project has improved their standard of living (e.g. helping them to plant Napier grass on farmland, thereby shortening the distance they have to travel to get fodder; distributing new and improved agricultural tools). The visitors asked the villagers questions concerning agroforestry management, their educational, economic and their social lives, and were in turn asked about life in Europe and Africa.

Helping Himalayan villagers tapping local resources

A second excursion group visited sites of activity of the WISE (Women Initiative for Self Employment) and HESCO projects (fig 3) aimed at helping "Himalayan villagers tap local resources and encouraging activities that open up new avenues to their well-being", as expressed by the well known initiator, Dr. Anil Joshi (cf. www.hesco.in). This trip included an impressive visit to one of the 150 water mills which have been technically upgraded since 1989 in the Garhwal region of Uttaranchal.

¹ More photos, the conference programme, abstracts, presentations and soon also the conference proceedings may be found under <http://www.iufrogenderindia.info>

² The conference was cosponsored by WOCAN (Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture & NRM, cf. <http://www.wocan.org>)

³ From an excursion report by Dr. Victorine Che, Freiburg



Fig 1: A group photo in front of the main building from 1929, styled in Greco Roman Architecture by C.G. Blomfield, a National Heritage, is a must at a conference in Dehradun - taken during the campus walk. (Photo by E. Kürsten)



Fig. 2: The local press took notice of the conference, here with a photo from the main hall during the key note speech of Dr. Fauzia Malik, Intercooperation Pakistan (Photo: "Garhwal Post, Dehradun")



Fig. 3: One of the field trips visited the nurseries and exhibitions of the Himalayan Environmental Studies and Conservation Organization (HESCO) near Dehradun; products from Lantana camara for demonstration to women's self-employment initiatives. (Photo by S. Lewark)

Benefit from IUFRO's Services & Share Information with IUFRO Colleagues

Announce your upcoming IUFRO event in the on-line calendar and newsletters.

Contribute to the IUFRO Proceedings archive at

<http://www.iufro.org/publications/proceedings/>

by sending a PDF and two courtesy hardcopies of proceedings of IUFRO meetings to IUFRO Headquarters.

The IUFRO web pages and publications are at your service to publicize your research activities.

Contact IUFRO HQ at: [office\(at\)iufro\(dot\)org](mailto:office(at)iufro(dot)org) for support.

IUFRO Benefits at a glance: <http://www.iufro.org/membership/benefits/>



Forests for the Future:
Sustaining Society and Environment
23-28 August 2010, Seoul,
Republic of Korea
<http://www.iufro2010.com/>

IUFRO Headquarters Staff News

Brigitte Burger is back from maternity leave and will **from now on** again be your contact person for all issues concerning **web management**. Please, change your contact addresses accordingly: [burger\(at\)iufro.org](mailto:burger(at)iufro.org)

Brigitte will replace **Claudia Goestl**, who has been in charge of the IUFRO web management since autumn 2006 with great success. However, we are happy to say that Claudia Goestl will not leave IUFRO completely but will work with us occasionally on a project-to-project basis.

Publications

Plantation Forests and Biodiversity: Ozymoron or Opportunity?

A special issue of the international journal 'Biodiversity and Conservation' (Volume 17, May 2008) was compiled from the proceedings of three IUFRO conferences or conference sessions that examined the role of plantation forests in biodiversity conservation. These conferences were co-ordinated by several members of Division 8 and Division 1 in collaboration with WWF, IUCN, and other organizations. Eckehard Brockerhoff (8.02.00), Hervé Jactel (8.02.02), John Parrotta (1.00.00 and IEB), Chris Quine (1.01.11) and Jeffrey Sayer (IUCN) served as guest editors for this issue.

For reprints or more information **contact:**

[eckehard.brockerhoff\(at\)scionresearch.com](mailto:eckehard.brockerhoff(at)scionresearch.com)

8th IUFRO International Beech Symposium

Proceedings of the meeting organized by IUFRO 1.01.07 "Ecology and Silviculture of Beech" in Nanae, Hokkaido, Japan, September 8-12, 2008

Contact: Terazawa Kazuhiko,

[terazawa.kazuhiko\(at\)pref.hokkaido.lg.jp](mailto:terazawa.kazuhiko(at)pref.hokkaido.lg.jp)

Proceedings available at the Working Party website at:

<http://www.iufro.org/science/divisions/division-1/10000/10100/10107/activities/>

Gender and Forestry Seminar in 2006

Proceedings of IUFRO 6.08.01 Workshop held in Umeå, Sweden 17-21 August 2006

Now available on: <http://pub-epsilon.slu.se/399/>

New - IUFRO Unit 1.01.10 Newsletter: Ecology and Silviculture of Pine

This newsletter intends to communicate the main research activities on ecology and silviculture of pines.

Contact: Felipe Bravo Oviedo, [fbravo\(at\)pvs.uva.es](mailto:fbravo(at)pvs.uva.es)

<http://www.iufro.org/science/divisions/division-1/10000/10100/10110/newsletters/>

Arboriculture and Urban Forestry

A special issue of the scientific journal Arboriculture and Urban Forestry compiled by IUFRO Urban Forestry deputy coordinator David Nowak, includes papers presented during a special event co-organized by IUFRO at the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) 2008 Congress. For a table of contents, see <http://joa.isa-arbor.com/articles.asp?JournalID=1&VolumeID=34&IssueID=6>.

New Interactive Database on Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management in Europe

UNECE and FAO have released a web-based resource tool designed to access data on Europe's forests and based on the report State of Europe's Forests 2007.

<http://w3.unece.org/pxweb/Dialog/>

Now online: Journal Urban Forestry & Urban Greening, first issue of 2009

<http://www.sciencedirect.com>

This issue includes articles on, for example, a decision support system for urban tree planting programs, a new management regime for public green spaces in the Nordic countries, and on exogenous applications of carbohydrates on the growth and vitality of live oaks.

Announcements



Deadline for applications to organize a **side event** at the WFC: **31 March 2009**

Vacancy for German Junior Professional Officer at CBD Secretariat

Vacancy announcement on forest biodiversity at the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in Montreal, Canada, as part of the German Junior Professional Officer (JPO) Programme 2009, for a duration of one year with possible extension:

Deadline for application is March 16.

Information received from:

Tim.Christophersen(at)cbd.int

http://www.jposc.org/content/programme/current_vacancies-en.html

Appointment of EFI Assistant Director

Dr.Ir. Gert-Jan Nabuurs has been appointed Assistant Director of the European Forest Institute (EFI). He will start his three-year term, with a possibility of extension, on 1 June 2009.

Dr. Nabuurs (41) has a PhD in forest planning and economics and a Msc. in Forestry and Soil Sciences. He has previously worked as Teamleader of Forest Ecosystems Team and as a Senior researcher on European Forest Scenario Studies at the Wageningen University and Research Centre in the Netherlands. Among his many affiliations, are a membership of the expert group for the UN-ECE's 'European Forest Sector Outlook Studies' and deputy chairmanship of the IUFRO group 4.02.07: 'Large scale inventories and scenario studies'.

<http://www.alterra.wur.nl/UK/research/Specialisation+Ecosystem+Studies/Dr.Ir.+G.J.M.M.+Gert-Jan+Nabuurs/>

(Source: EFI Press release, 16 February 2009)

New Executive Director at ICSU

As of 1 February 2009, **Professor Deliang Chen** is the new Executive Director of the International Council for Science (ICSU) and replaces Professor Thomas Rosswall, who is retiring after seven years at the helm. Professor Chen is an internationally renowned climate researcher and is currently Professor of Physical Meteorology and August Röhss Professor of Physical Geography at the University of Gothenburg in Sweden. His research interests include regional climate change and variability in Sweden and China, climate dynamics, air pollution and geostatistics. He is a prolific author with more than 100 peer-reviewed scientific publications, including contributions to the Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and has served as an editor on many leading journals. A full CV for Professor Chen can be viewed at: <http://rcg.gvc.gu.se/dc>

More information: Tish Bahmani Fard, tish(at)icsu.org



Obituary

The wood science community at large is greatly saddened by the recent demise of **Dr. Kanthila Mahabala Bhat**, who was Head of the Wood Science Division and Programme Coordinator for Forest Utilization at the Kerala Forest Research Institute in India.

Dr. K.M. Bhat was born in India on 19 June 1950. He obtained his

B.Sc. and M.Sc. (in Botany) degrees from the University of Mysore in India in 1970 and 1972 respectively, and held a L.Sc. (Licentiate of Science in Wood Technology/Botany) and D.Sc. (in Wood Technology), awarded by the University of Helsinki, Finland in 1981.

Dr. Bhat had a distinguished career as a wood scientist, with numerous publications in peer-reviewed journals, books and monographs, and presentations at international conferences and symposia. He was instrumental in coordinating the work of a range of national and international projects related to wood science and forestry as a principal investigator, such as the wood quality projects administered by the International Tropical Timber Organization. The world forestry community remains indebted to him, particularly for his key initiatives to understand and improve the quality of teak wood. He developed and coordinated many research programmes in this area and was responsible for key conferences and workshops that attracted much international attention and respect.

IUFRO's cause was very dear to Dr. Bhat's heart, and he actively and continually worked towards enhancing the image of this important organization in various capacities. Importantly, he served IUFRO as a member of the Executive Board and Deputy Coordinator of IUFRO Division 5 (Forest Products) as well as its research group on "quality teak timber from plantations". He helped administer the IUFRO Scientist Assistance Programme designed to provide travel assistance to deserving wood scientists from developing countries to present their research work at major IUFRO Forest Products conferences. The huge contributions Dr. Bhat made to the growth of tropical forestry and wood science have been recognized through prestigious honours and awards. In 2000 IUFRO honoured him with the Scientific Achievement Award in Forest Products. Dr. Bhat was elected to the IAWS Board in 2006.

Dr. Bhat's untimely death brings a huge loss to the international forestry, and wood science communities. We extend our deepest sympathies to Dr. Bhat's family and friends.

(edited excerpts from obituary text by Adya Singh, Scion, Rotorua, New Zealand, and Andrew Wong, University of Malaysia-Sarawak)

IUFRO Meetings

NOTE: The following list of meetings is not complete!

For a full list of IUFRO events, please visit our [online calendar](#). Find more details on the [homepages](#) of IUFRO Units involved. Non-IUFRO meetings are also announced on the IUFRO [Noticeboard](#).

Also search for forest-related events at: <http://www.gfis.net>

24-30 May 2009

IX International Conference of Young Scientists

"Eurasian Forests – Polish Forests"

Kórnik, Poland

Moscow State Forest University, IUFRO

Contact: Natalia Khutorova, khutorova(at)mgul.ac.ru

<http://www.mgul.ac.ru>

27-30 May 2009

12th European Forum on Urban Forestry

Arnhem, The Netherlands

IUFRO [6.14.00](#)

Deadline for abstracts: March 11, 2009

Send abstracts to: John Riggers, john.riggers(at)wur.nl

<http://www.efuf.org/>

15-21 June 2009

Forests as a Renewable Source of Vital Values for a Changing World

Saint Petersburg/Moscow, Russia

Annual 2009 IAWS Plenary Meeting and Conference

IUFRO [Div 5](#)

Contact: Alena Kalinina, iaws2009(at)msfu.ru

<http://www.msfu.ru/eng/iaws2009/>

20-23 July, 2009

International Symposium on Pine Wilt Disease

Nanjing, China

IUFRO [7.02.10](#)

Contact: Boguang Zhao, boguangzhao(at)yahoo.com

3-9 August, 2009

The 2nd International Conference on Conservation of Forest Genetic Resources in Siberia (CFGRS-2009)

Novosibirsk, Russia

IUFRO [8.01.07](#)

Contact: Konstantin (Kostya) V. Krutovsky,

k-krutovsky(at)tamu.edu

http://ssga.ru/sibwood/index_en.html

30 August – 9 September 2009

Tree Resistance to Insects

Cortina D'amprezzo, Italy

IUFRO [7.03.11](#)

Contact: Dan Herms: herms.2(at)osu.edu

28 October 2009

Managerial Economics and Accounting

IUFRO Research Group meeting in cooperation with the 3rd Faustmann Symposium (October 28-31)

Darmstadt, Germany

IUFRO [4.05.00](#)

Contact: Martin Moog, moog(at)fw.tum.de

<http://www.faustmann-conference.de>

3-5 November 2009

Logging and Industrial Ecology 2009

Nanjing, China

IUFRO [3.04.00](#)

Contact: Esko Mikkonen, Esko.Mikkonen(at)helsinki.fi

<http://iclie09.njfu.edu.cn/>

22-26 March 2010

4th International Casuarina Meeting

Guangzhou, China

IUFRO [2.08.02](#)

Contact: Antoine Kalinganire, a.kalinganire(at)cgjar.org

Other meetings

16-20 March 2009

COFO 2009 – World Forest Week

Rome, Italy

FAO Committee on Forestry

<http://www.fao.org/forestry/cofo/en>

20 April – 1 May 2009

UNFF-8

New York

The United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat

<http://www.un.org/esa/forests/index.html>

22-29 June 2009

Biodiversity Hotspots in the Mediterranean Area

Cagliari, Italy

SISV (Società Italiana di Scienza della Vegetazione) and

FIP (Fédération Internationale de Phytosociologie)

Contact: Monica Valentini, info(at)biodiversityhotspots.it

<http://www.biodiversityhotspots.it>

5-8 July 2009

15th International Symposium on Society and Resource Management (ISSRM 2009)

Vienna, Austria

BOKU University

Contact: issrm09(at)boku.ac.at

<http://www.issrm09.info>

26 July-9 August 2009

37th Int'l Forestry Students' Symposium

Indonesia

Contact: viko(at)gmail.com

<http://www.ifss09.net>

3-5 August 2009

7th Pacific Regional Wood Anatomy Conference

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

IAWA, UPM

Contact: H'ng Pik San, ngpaiksan(at)putra.upm.edu.my

<http://www.prwac2009.com>

7-11 September 2009

15 Years of Long-term Forest Ecosystem Research

Zurich, Switzerland

WSL - LFW

Contact: Norbert Kräuchi, norbert.kraeuchi(at)wsl.ch

http://www.wsl.ch/lwf/anniversary/second_announcement_EN