

## International Union of Forest Research Organizations

### IUFRO Meeting Report Form

Organizers of IUFRO meetings and IUFRO focal persons at IUFRO co-sponsored meetings, respectively, are kindly requested to fill in and return this form within two weeks after the meeting or by a given deadline by email ([wolfrum@iufro.org](mailto:wolfrum@iufro.org)). This information will be posted at the relevant IUFRO web pages and may be used for IUFRO News and the IUFRO Annual Report.

*(Note: Save this file under a new name and write directly into the form.)*

#### 1) IUFRO focal person/meeting organizer:

*Name: Dr. Michael Kleine /Dr. Dinesh Kumar*

*Function in IUFRO: Deputy Executive Director, IUFRO /Organising Secretary, ICFRE-Forest Research Institute, Dehradun, India (Focal person at host organisation)*

*Email: [kleine@iufro.org](mailto:kleine@iufro.org) /[kumard@icfre.org](mailto:kumard@icfre.org)*

#### 2) Meeting data:

*Full title of the meeting: International Symposium on Intersectoral Cooperation for Resilient Landscapes*

*Date and venue: 29 - 30 March 2023*

*Meeting website: <https://www.fri-iufro2023.in>*

*Number of participants: 225 in person and 72 online*

*Countries represented (in-person participants): 16*

#### 3) Organization of the meeting:

*All IUFRO Units involved: IUFRO Board; IUFRO Divisions on Restoration of degraded sites, Agroforestry and Silviculture; IUFRO Secretariat*

*Host organization(s) and sponsor(s):*

*Host organizations: Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) and ICFRE-Forest Research Institute, Dehradun, India*

*Sponsors: National CAMPA, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India; Madhya Pradesh Forest Department, Bhopal; Department of Forests & Wildlife Preservation, Punjab; JSW Steel Limited, Bengaluru; Haryana Forest Department, Panchkula; Haryana Forest Development Corporation Limited, Panchkula; Department of Environment and Forests, Assam*

*International Sponsors: Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management; Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland; National Institute of Forest Science, Republic of Korea; United States Forest Service.*

*Study tours to:*

*(i) Mussoorie hills in outer Himalayas to see eco-restoration and afforestation work, or*

*(ii) Rajaji National Park in foothills to see native vegetation and fauna (one site was chosen by a participant)*

#### **4) Meeting report** (max. 100 words per paragraph)

##### *a) Background information (meeting context)*

Degradation of forests and lands poses a major challenge to environmental conservation and sustainable development all over the world. A wide range of improved land management practices are now available in various sectors with demonstrated success stories for restoring vital ecosystem functions. The approaches are believed to improve the livelihoods and well-being of local communities. Need has long been felt for information exchange and collective action by various sectors. The symposium was organized to bring together experts and scientists in the fields of forestry, agriculture, nature conservation, water resources management, mining and other related sectors to discuss forest landscape restoration (FLR) issues and share experiences on innovative approaches with a view to prepare strategies and roadmap for future.

##### *b) Key issues discussed/latest findings in the field (bullet points or text)*

The discussion focused on the following themes:

- Biodiversity/nature conservation integration in FLR
- Intersectoral coordination in policy and planning for FLR
- Agriculture, agroforestry & food security
- Governance issues and stakeholder engagement in FLR
- Water resources, soils conservation and mineland restoration
- Enhancing livelihoods, equity, and human well-being in FLR
- Building resilience to climate change and its impacts in FLR
- Integrated/cross-sectoral education and training
- Experiences/case studies of sectoral integration for building resilient landscape

##### *c) Conclusions (if possible, summarize key conclusions across presentations):*

An emphasis was visible on use of nature-based solutions, indigenous species, cross-sectoral cooperation, upstream and down-stream integration and on linking of landscape management with supply chain governance. Inclusion, sustainability, succession, biodiversity conservation, resilience, etc., are the keywords that should be included in the forest landscape restoration process. There was consensus that agroforestry can provide greater returns than conventional agriculture. Policy initiatives, availability of quality planting material and synergy between farmers and industry are needed to support agroforestry. Many speakers stressed on aligning of policies and laws with goals of FLR. Scientific and technical collaboration should be strengthened to guide FLR. Issues of food security and climate change mitigation should be considered and models for payment for ecosystem services should be encouraged during FLR.

Stakeholder engagement, participation of local communities, women empowerment and mutual learning strategy are vital for effective implementation. Equitable benefit sharing should be achieved with recognition of traditional knowledge.

The ideas, prescription, targets and pathways for FLR must be formulated and implemented. Field-based and classroom learning and training should be integrated with guided FLR implementation programmes.

##### *d) Outlook to future activities (proceedings, future meetings, other):*

Papers and abstracts will be published in a special issue of the forestry journal – *the Indian Forester*

#### **4) Photos**

*Caption: (Please see below)*

*Credit (not protected by copyright): ICFRE-Forest Research Institute, Dehradun, India (No copyright)*

#### **5) Other information:**

*a) Communication activities (dissemination of information about the meeting; promotion of IUFRO):*

Livestreaming of the event was done on 29 and 30 March 2023 at website <https://onconf.in/iufro/>

*b) Related publications /websites : None*

*All IUFRO Units involved:* IUFRO Board; IUFRO Divisions on Restoration of degraded sites, Agroforestry and Silviculture; IUFRO Secretariat

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Dr John Parrotta, President, IUFRO addressing the participants during the inaugural session



A view of delegates during the inaugural session



Group photograph of delegates of the Symposium





A view of technical session on Integrated/cross-sectoral education and training



A view of poster session



Interaction with official of Eco Task Force about eco-restoration work in Mussoorie hills



A view of landscape in Rajaji National Park