

Congress Organizing Committee

# Summary Report

# A WARM THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS, EXCURSION HOSTS AND ORGANIZERS

## Nordic & Baltic Host Partners

Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU)  
 University of Helsinki  
 Vilnius Magnus University  
 Luleå University of Life Sciences and Technologies  
 University of Copenhagen  
 SILVA  
 East Manúskóól (EMU)  
 Land and Forest Iceland  
 Agricultural University of Iceland  
 University of Eastern Finland  
 Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU)  
 Linneaus University

The Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry  
 Skogsintärbegret  
 Svensk Fröförskola  
 Agronomy Network – Founded by V Agrotechny  
 Swedish Forest Industries  
 Finnish Forest Industries

## In-Congress Excursions

Aboreal  
 Biometria  
 Drottningholms palace  
 Finnish geospatial research institute  
 Futura foresta  
 Gällå sea camp  
 Gothenburg university  
 Haga palace  
 Holmen forest  
 The Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry  
 Royal Institute of Technology  
 Linköping forest service  
 County Administrative Board of Stockholm  
 The Royal court  
 Ulf 2 blog  
 Umeå university  
 Luleå technical university

## Nordic Partners

SNS (Nordic Forest Research)  
 The Erling-Persson Foundation  
 NEA  
 Foras  
 Sveaskog  
 Swedish Forest Agency  
 Swedish Energy Agency  
 Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management  
 Sida  
 The Nordic Council of Ministers

MISTRA digital forest  
 MISTRA Sports and Outdoor  
 Nordic forest women  
 Novuðull automation  
 The Sami council  
**SITES**  
 Forestry Research Institute of Sweden  
 The Swedish forest historical society  
 Swedish Forest Industries Federation  
 Skogsallskapet  
 The Cluster of Forest Technology  
 The Anthropology Foundation  
 Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences  
 Spårblåsan  
 Stockholm university  
 Stora Enso forest  
 Sveaskog  
 Svebio  
 Swedish Hunters Association  
 Church of Sweden  
 Swedish Orienteering Association  
 Swedish television  
 Södra forest owners  
 National Museum of Science and Technology  
 Treesearch  
 Umeå university

UNITE/ Helsinki university  
 Uppsala university  
 Wallenberg wood science center

## Pre- and Post-Congress Excursions

School for forest management, SLU  
 Sveaskog  
 Hjälmare canal / Steamship Gerda  
 Stora Enso  
 Spilskom  
 Hårdsjö Västgöping association  
 Elnyckpark sculpture walk  
 Yte Healer National park  
 Midgård Viking Center  
 Hyytiälä station sites  
 Kaunuu Harbor / Elias Rönkä  
 Göta Serlachius museum  
 Jämskärs forest drain  
 Västervikens museum  
 Svanåsen Midsummer  
 Abisko Scientific Research Centre  
 Julskanjeri Ice Hotel  
 Valdekevevorna naturå  
 Pallas Meteorological station  
 Environmental area  
 (SITES, ICOS Sweden)  
 Skellefteå municipality

Nordic Hasby farm  
 Arktikum science museum  
 Rovenärens Sami class village  
 Risövede National Park  
 Fåröholm farm  
 Droplagsgårdsår forest farm  
 Kolmårdic forest research  
 Haukadalur National Forest  
 Skatval National park  
 Kolmårdic forest S. Årka  
 Vök geospatial L. Årka  
 Siokhukauatar  
 Kasumu Capitala  
 Oandu Forest re  
 Sagard forest re  
 Järnvedja Exper  
 Amalchena log h  
 UGNLUMS  
 Lailora  
 Latvian State F  
 Estonian Unive  
 Vytautas Maga  
 Research Insti  
 of Life Science  
 univers



This is how we put science to practice for a sustainable future



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The Congress Organizing Committee (COC) consisted of delegates representing IUFRO member organisations from all the Nordic and Baltic countries. With its commitment, international experience, knowledge and broad networks in each country, the COC has been crucial for a successful congress. The committee has had a combined decision-making and advisory role during the bidding and the management process of the congress.

Recurring topics have been strategies for the bidding process and management issues, including financial plans, global trends, partnerships, member recruitment, communication and input to the Stockholm Congress Statement from the Nordic countries. Other topics were ceremonies and not at least pre- and post-excursion tours to the Nordic and Baltic countries. The committee also selected the awardees for the Host Scientific Awards.

The COC held its first meeting already in 2010. Meetings in the years before the congress were held approximately every two months on site in Stockholm and Uppsala, as well as online.



# CONGRESS PROGRAMME

# 02

The IUFRO 2024 Congress program in Stockholm spanned an entire week, running from 23 to 29 June 2024. The congress was preceded by pre-excursion tours and concluded with post-excursion tours in the Nordic and Baltic countries ending the first week of July. The congress was structured into scientific sessions, ceremonies, social events, exhibitions, delegate registration, lunch and coffee breaks as shown in Figure 1.

The week kicked off with a tree planting ceremony at Skansen open-air museum, as well as opening ceremonies at the venue, of Stockholmsmässan Exhibition & Congress Centre.

During the week, the delegates had the chance to explore the latest research, attend in-congress excursions and participate in administrative meetings. There were also networking opportunities for delegates and stakeholders during lunch and coffee breaks, poster sessions and outdoor mingles, culminating in a closing ceremony and additional awards presentations to celebrate scientific achievements.



	SUNDAY June 23	MONDAY June 24	TUESDAY June 25	WEDNESDAY June 26	THURSDAY June 27	FRIDAY June 28	SATURDAY June 29	
07.00		Registration						
08.30–10.30		Opening Ceremony and Awards <small>Congress Host Scientific Awards</small>	Technical Sessions	In-Congress Excursions	Technical Sessions	Technical Sessions	Sub Plenary Sessions <small>(09.00–10.00)</small> Coffee <small>(10.00–10.30)</small>	
10.30–11.00		Networking, Exhibition and Coffee	Networking, Exhibition and Coffee		Networking, Exhibition and Coffee	Networking, Exhibition and Coffee	Plenary Session and Awards <small>(10.30–12.00)</small> <small>Best Poster Awards (BPA)</small>	
11.00–12.30		Plenary Session and Awards <small>Scientific Achievement Awards (SAA)</small>	Plenary Session and Awards <small>Scientific Achievement Awards (SAA)</small>		Plenary Session and Awards <small>Outstanding Doctoral Research Awards (ODRA)</small>	Plenary Session and Awards <small>IUFRO Student Awards for Excellence in Forest Science (ISA)</small>		
12.30–14.30	LUNCH	Poster Sessions, Exhibition and Lunch	Poster Sessions, Exhibition and Lunch		Poster Sessions, Exhibition and Lunch	Poster Sessions, Exhibition and Lunch	Closing Ceremony and Awards <small>(12.15–14.30)</small> <small>Honorary Membership and Distinguished Service Awards (DSA)</small>	
14.30–15.30	Tree Planting Ceremony <small>(14.30–16.00)</small>	Sub Plenary Sessions	Sub Plenary Sessions		Sub Plenary Sessions	Sub Plenary Sessions		
15.30–16.00		Networking, Exhibition and Coffee	Networking, Exhibition and Coffee		Networking, Exhibition and Coffee	Networking, Exhibition and Coffee		
16.00–18.00	Registration	Technical Sessions	Technical Sessions		Technical Sessions	Technical Sessions		
18.00	Administrative Meetings <small>(17.00–19.00)</small>	Opening of the Exhibitions <small>(18.00– )</small>	Welcome Reception <small>(18.00– )</small>		Administrative Meetings <small>(18.00–20.00)</small>	Administrative Meetings of Divisions <small>(18.00–20.00)</small>		
19.00							Congress Outdoor Mingle <small>(19.00– )</small>	

Figure 1. IUFRO World Congress 2024 Week Overview

In total, 4,204 people attended the congress, including invited guests, honorary members, stakeholders from international organizations and the business sector, and political representatives. Delegates from 110 countries attended the congress. Most participants travelled from European and North American countries.

### 3.1 CONGRESS MAIN NUMBERS

The large scope of the congress is reflected in the numbers below.

*Registered participants:* 4,204

*Countries:* 110

*Session organizers:* 200

*Sessions in the scientific programme:* 437

*Oral presentations:* 1,607

*Short oral by poster presentations:* 1,471

*Poster only presentations:* 312

*Pre- and post-excursions:* 5

*In-congress excursions:* 15

*Student volunteers:* 82

*Side events:* 7



### 3.2 PARTICIPANT PROFILE

Table 1 reports the number of registered delegates by category, as well as the total income from registration fees.

Registered delegates per category	Number	Income fees – amount (SEK)
IUFRO member, developed countries	1385	10 652 500
Non member, developed countries	769	7 063 521
IUFRO member Developing countries	402	2 406 600
Non member Developing countries	189	1 351 200
Students	743	2 977 600
Seniors	62	189 500
One-day	170	808 400
Accompanying person	58	373 200
Other	35	105 000
		<b>25 927 521</b>
<b>Non paying/invited delegates</b>		
Speakers/Guests/IFSA	102	
Exhibitors and partners	158	
Press	49	
Others	82	
<b>Total number of registered delegates:</b>	<b>4204</b>	

Of the 4,204 participants at the congress, 43% were women and 54% men (Figure 2). The number of participants for the different age groups by gender is shown in Table 2. The most representative age group was 30–39 with 1,157 participants, followed by 40–49 with 1,085 participants. In the age group 30–39, the distribution between women and men was 50%, whereas the age group 20–29 had the highest ratio of female participants, as shown in Figure 3.

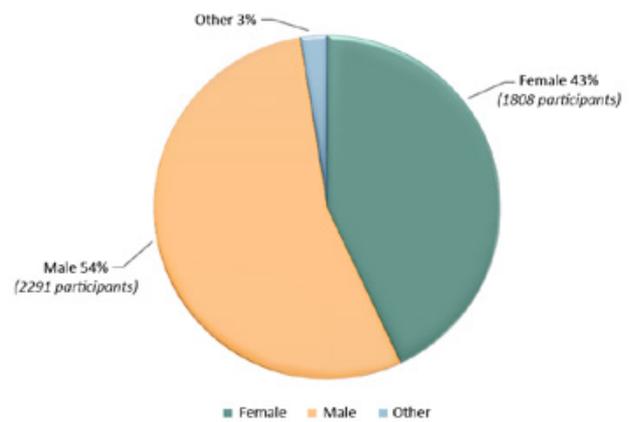


Figure 2. Congress participants – ratio gender

Table 2. The number of delegates in each age group and gender

Age range	Female	Male	Other	Total per age group
< 20 years	3	4		7
20–29 years	337	254	2	593
30–39 years	570	579	8	1157
40–49 years	473	609	3	1085
50–59 years	297	498		795
60–69 years	109	286	1	396
> 70 years	18	61		79
N/A	1		91	92
<b>Total</b>	<b>1808</b>	<b>2291</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>4204</b>

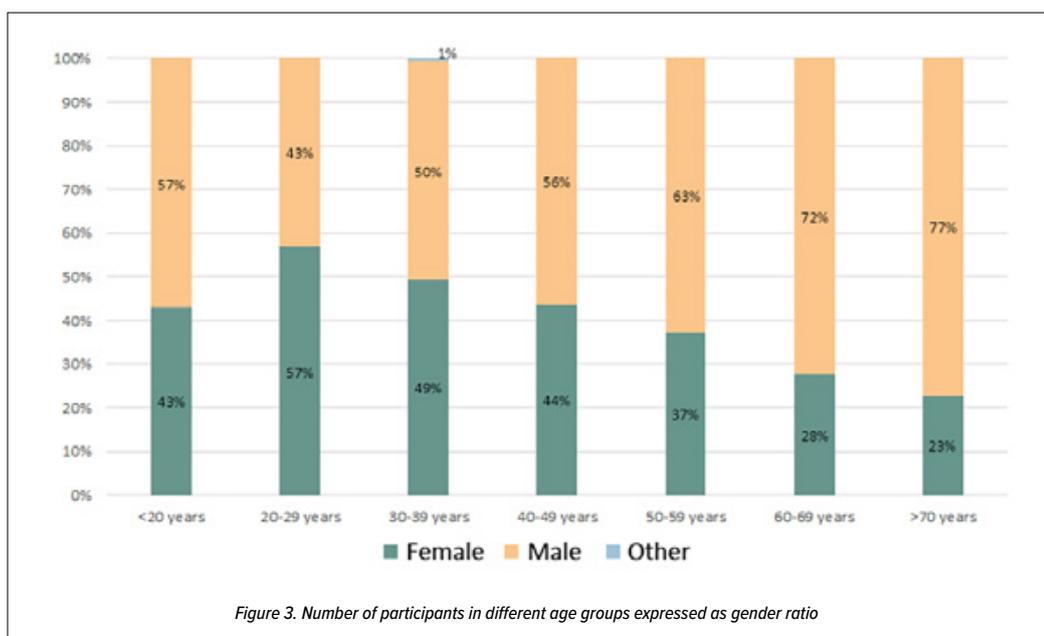
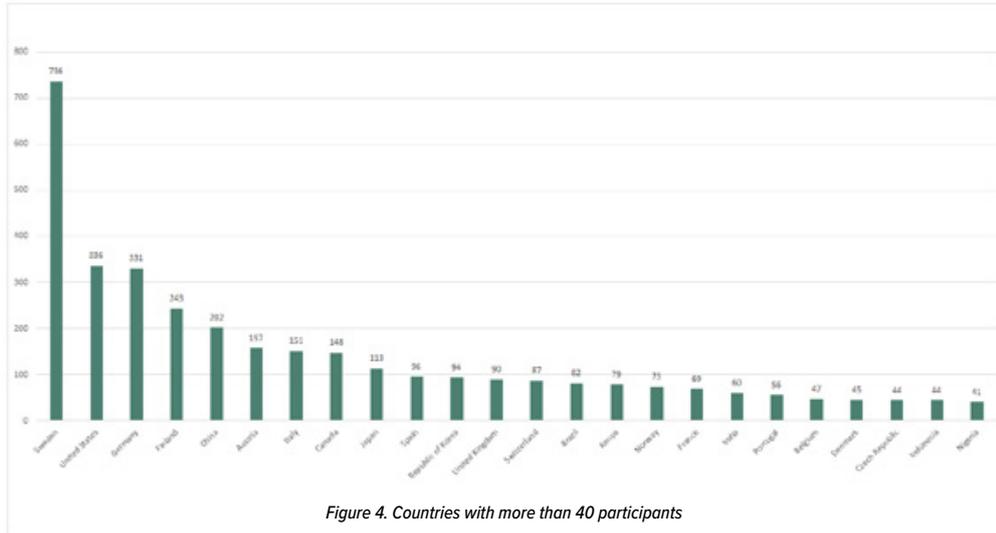


Figure 3. Number of participants in different age groups expressed as gender ratio

### 3.3 COUNTRIES

Figure 4 shows that the majority of the participants came from Europe and North America, with Sweden being the country with the largest number of delegates, followed by United States, Germany, Finland and China.





The congress ceremonies serve as traditional ceremonial elements during the week with frequent awards ceremonies and opportunities for the host countries to present the culture of the region. The opening ceremonies are an opportunity for IUFRO and the host countries to set the scene for the congress week.

The closing ceremony provides an overview of the week, presents the congress statement and hands over the flag to the next congress host country. The 2024 IUFRO World Congress organized the following ceremonies: Tree Planting Ceremony, Opening of the Exhibitions, Opening Ceremony and Awards, and finally Closing Ceremony and Awards.

#### 4.1 TREE PLANTING CEREMONY

The Tree Planting Ceremony served as the inaugural event of the IUFRO World Congress 2024. The ceremony is a longstanding tradition within IUFRO, representing resilience and the connection between generations and continents. It also allows the host country to present the regional culture and traditions related to forest and wood usage. The Tree Planting Ceremony was held on Sunday 23 June 2024 from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Skansen open-air museum in Stockholm.

The programme included a mingle, high-level speeches by the IUFRO President, the Chair of the Congress Organizing Committee, the Dean and students of the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, and representatives from the Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry and Skansen. The Allmänna Sångern academic choir performed throughout the programme. Two oaks were planted during the ceremony, representing resilience and the connection between generations and continents.

Invitations were extended to the congress delegates, media, high-level representatives from IUFRO, partner host countries and congress partners. Approximately 600 guests and delegates participated in the ceremony. The ceremony also included a traditional Midsummer celebration with dancing and entertainment, which offered participants a unique opportunity to experience a cherished Nordic tradition. Two pine trees were planted in the Entrance hall of Stockholmsmässan Exhibition & Congress Centre and after the

congress they were re-planted, for future generations to enjoy, together with the two oaks on the Orsakullen at the open air museum Skansen.





## 4.2 OPENING CEREMONY

The Opening Ceremony was held on Monday 24 June from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. in the Victoria Hall of the Stockholmsmässan Exhibition & Congress Centre. Victoria Hall accommodated 2,000 guests and was fully seated. The event was also streamed to a parallel room.

The master of ceremonies led the programme, which included speeches by the Chair of the Congress Organizing Committee; the IUFRO President; His Majesty the King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden; the Swedish Minister for Rural Affairs; the Vice-Chancellor of the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU); the Austrian Federal Minister for Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management; the President of the International Forestry Students' Association (IFSA); the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); the Chief Executive Officer of CIFOR-ICRAF; and the Director General of ICRAF.

The IUFRO flag was ceremonially raised by SLU students under the supervision of the chairs of the Congress Organizing and Scientific Committee. The Congress Organizing Committee was acknowledged for their work on stage. The Host Country Awards were handed over in a ceremony to three outstanding scientists from the Baltic and Nordic regions and Sweden. The winners were Professor Algirdas Augustaitis, Lithuania; Professor Liisa Tyrväinen, Finland; and Professor Jan Stenlid, Sweden. Swedish folk musicians and Swedish folk dancers performed throughout the programme. Last, members of the audience were given highlights for the congress week ahead.



## 4.3 CLOSING CEREMONY

The Closing Ceremony was held on Saturday 29 June from 12:15 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Victoria Hall of the Stockholmsmässan Exhibition & Congress Centre. The hall was not fully seated. The master of ceremonies led the programme, which included speeches by the Chair of the Congress Organizing Committee and the Secretary General of the Nordic Council of Ministers. Highlights from the congress were shown on the large screen.



The Stockholm Congress Statement was presented by the IUFRO President and the Chair of the Congress Scientific Committee. The IUFRO 2024 Secretariat as well as the Scientific Committee was then acknowledged and invited on stage. The Distinguished Service Award was given to Professor Mauro Agnoletti, Italy; Dr. Elisabeth Johann, Austria; Professor Dr. Max Krott, Germany; and Professor Gun Lidestav, Sweden. Prof. Michael Wingfield and Professor Björn Olof Hånell became IUFRO honorary members and hold honorary speeches. Thereafter, the new IUFRO board members were presented on stage. The new IUFRO President, Professor Daniela Kleinschmidt, was welcomed to her new assignment and gave her speech.

During the flag ceremony, the flag was handed over to the new host country of IUFRO World Congress 2029, Kenya. The flag ceremony was attended by representatives of the Kenyan and Swedish government, as well the outgoing and incoming chairs of the Congress Organizing Committee. The Kenyan Ambassador to Sweden and the incoming Kenyan Chair of the Congress Organizing Committee gave speeches and launched their Congress website. Finally, the Kenyan delegation was welcomed on stage and invited all attendees to Kenya for the 2029 congress. Live performances were held throughout the programme by the Swedish band ABBA the choir.

The IUFRO World Congress 2024 venue was Stockholmsmässan Exhibition & Congress Centre, Sweden's largest convention center. The venue was flexible and modern with the session rooms closely connected to the exhibition area. All services and facilities were on-site, including technical support.

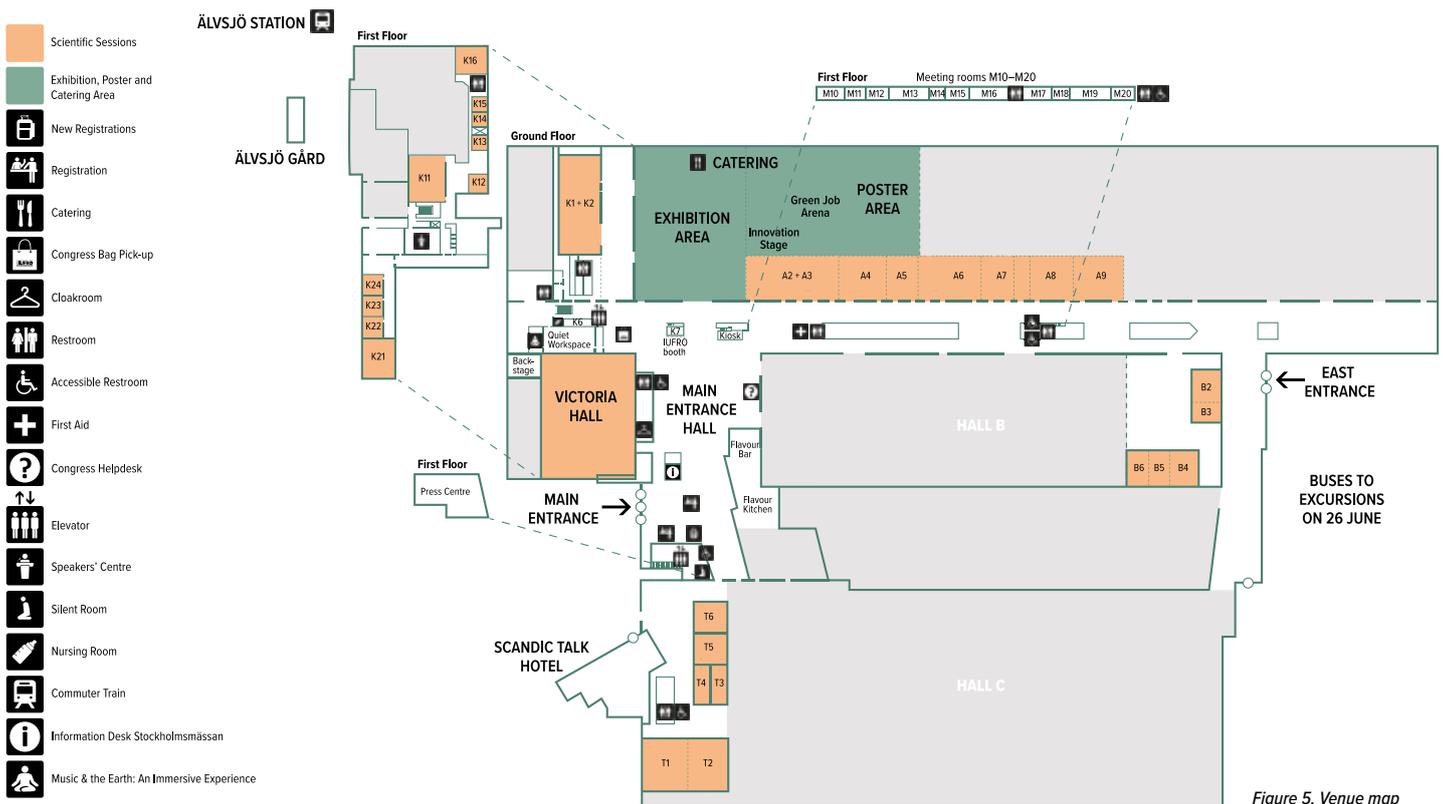


Figure 5. Venue map

## 5.1 ORGANIZATION

The heart of the congress was the main entrance hall and the exhibition area. Plenary sessions, as well as the opening and closing ceremonies, took place in Victoria Hall, which had a seating capacity of 2,000 and was accessible from the main entrance hall. The five sub-plenary sessions were held in rooms accommodating between 430 and 2,000 participants. The 28 technical session rooms varied in size, with capacities ranging from 45 to 850 seats per room.

The opening ceremony was also streamed to a room nearby with 850 seats. From the main entrance hall, it was easy to access the exhibition area, catering services, e-poster displays, the Innovation Stage and the Green Job Arena. Delegates were greeted in

the main entrance, where they could register at one of the 15 check-in counters, pick up their credentials and collect congress materials. The area also featured a congress helpdesk, which was staffed with a team ready to assist delegates with a wide range of inquiries.

The structure of the scientific events at the congress included a daily plenary session and sub-plenary sessions, including nine that focused on science and society. Technical sessions were held both in the mornings and the afternoon, except on the first and last days, resulting in a total of 191 simultaneous technical sessions. Each session room was equipped with a presentation laptop, a fixed podium microphone, preview monitors and slide advancers/presentation

clickers. Technicians were on hand to assist with setup, operation and troubleshooting throughout the event.

The IUFRO's booth was strategically located in the entrance hall, providing an excellent opportunity to share information about the organization's role in global forest research. The location also allowed for the distribution of printed materials, answering of questions and the exchange of ideas with numerous delegates.

## 5.2 TRANSPORT DURING THE CONGRESS

Paying delegates received a seven-day commuter card for Stockholm public transport (metro, bus and commuter train). This was provided as a mobile ticket/voucher. Stockholmsässan, located southwest of the city, was easy to reach by public transport, as it is just ten minutes by commuter train from Stockholm city centre. It was also possible to travel by commuter train all the way from Stockholm Arlanda Airport to Stockholmsmässan.

## 5.3 CONGRESS EXHIBITION

The official opening of the Exhibition was on Sunday 23 June at 6:00 p.m., where the IUFRO President and the Dean of Faculty of Forest Sciences at SLU participated in the ribbon cutting ceremony. The Congress Exhibition complemented the scientific programme under the title *From Science to Practice*. The floor plan for the exhibition was designed to create an open atmosphere, mixing the booths with networking areas to create an inviting space for delegates to mingle and network. The Innovation stage and the Green Job Arena held central positions in the exhibition.

During the Congress, the exhibition hall was open:

Monday 24 June: 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.,

6:00 pm – 7:45 p.m., welcome reception

Tuesday 25 June: 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday 26 June: Closed due to excursions

Thursday 27 June: 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Friday 28 June: 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

## 5.4 INNOVATION STAGE

The Innovation Stage at the IUFRO World Congress 2024 was a platform where invited guest speakers, including entrepreneurs, global companies, NGOs, researchers, and decision-makers, showcased the latest developments in their fields. The stage offered unparalleled exposure and the chance to connect with influential stakeholders. The focus was on forward-thinking solutions aligned with the theme Forest and Society Towards 2050, emphasising sustainability, climate action and innovation. The concept of the Innovation stage, connecting science with practice, was brand new for the IUFRO World Congress.

Each day at the Innovation Stage featured a specific theme to guide discussions and presentations, aligning with the overall focus of the congress week:

- Monday 24 June: *Forests for Sustainable Societies and Future Societies*
- Tuesday 25 June: *Strengthening Forest Resilience and Adaptation to Stress*
- Thursday 27 June: *Towards a Responsible Forest Bioeconomy*
- Friday 28 June: *Forest Biodiversity and its Ecosystem Services*

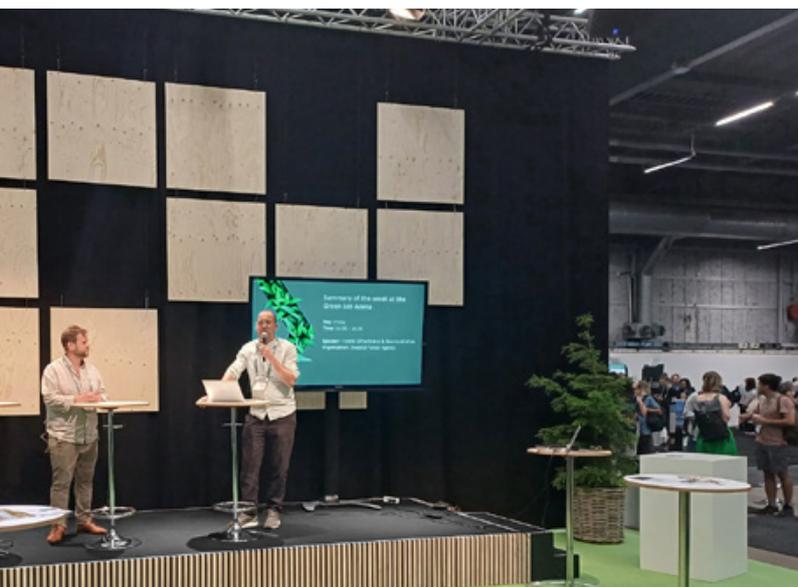
These themes provided a framework for addressing critical challenges and opportunities in forest management, products and services, focusing on innovative strategies for a more sustainable and resilient future. The presentations and dialogues at the Innovations stage was successful, serving as an appreciated addition to the regular scientific programme. It was truly appreciated among delegates, partners and other stakeholders.



## 5.5 GREEN JOB ARENA

The Green Job Arena was a dynamic space where attendees could network and engage in discussions about the future of green forestry jobs. It focused on preparing the forestry workforce for upcoming challenges such as bioeconomy demands, climate change and biodiversity loss. The arena attracted experts, employers, employees, students and organizations who discussed various aspects of forest jobs, including talent needs, gender inclusion and sustainable practices. The concept of an arena that focuses exclusively on green jobs and skills supply is new and has not previously been tested at the IUFRO World Congress. It was well received, and the reviews in the survey were generally positive.

The International Forestry Students' Association (IFSA) was actively present throughout the week in the Green Job Arena, staffing their own dedicated booth. As co-hosts, they helped maintain the arena and ensured it operated smoothly. Similar to their role at the Innovation Stage, they assisted in preparing and supporting guest speakers, and facilitating audience engagement by handling questions. Additionally, they organised networking events and opportunities specifically for students and delegates, playing a key role in bridging the gap between young professionals and established experts in the forestry sector.



The Congress title *Forests and Society Towards 2050* is rooted in the growing demands on forest ecosystem services due to the climate crisis and the need to reinforce the bioeconomy sector, the social services of healthy forests and forest resilience to disturbances and anthropogenic pressures.

The year 2050 is a landmark year to achieve the vision of Living in Harmony with Nature as set out in the Convention on Biological Diversity, as well as the target of net zero emissions. With a focus on the contribution of forests to the UN 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the IUFRO World Congress in Stockholm 2024 invited scientists to present their findings in the following five themes.

THEME 1 (Tue): *Strengthening forest resilience and adaptation to stress*

THEME 2 (Thu): *Towards a responsible forest bioeconomy*

THEME 3 (Fri): *Forest biodiversity and its ecosystem services*

THEME 4 (Mon): *Forests for sustainable societies*

THEME 5 (Sat): *Forests for the future*

The scientific programme contained a total of 437 sessions, of which five were plenaries, 30 sub-plenaries, 191 technical and 211 poster sessions.



## 6.1 PLENARY SESSIONS

Each day during the congress week, except for the excursion day on Wednesday, two keynote speakers gave their presentations in the plenary sessions, see Table 3. The presentations were given by ten keynote speakers from different parts of the world, of which seven were women and three men.



**Table 3. Keynote Speakers and Session Moderators**

Date	Theme	Keynote speaker	Session moderator
Monday 24 June	Forests for sustainable societies	<p><b>Harini Nagendra</b> Director and Professor, Research Centre and Centre for Climate Change and Sustainability, Azim Premji University, India</p> <p><b>Cécile Ndjebet</b> Founder of the African Women's Network for Community Management of Forests</p>	<p><b>Monica Gabay</b> Independent researcher, Argentina</p>
Tuesday 25 June	Strengthening forest resilience and adaptation to stress	<p><b>Andrew Liebhold</b> Northern Research Station, USDA Forest Service, Morgantown, WV, USA</p> <p><b>Juliette Biao</b> Doctor of Philosophy, Director of the UNFF Secretariat</p>	<p><b>Purabi Bose</b> Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), Faculty of Forest Sciences</p>
Thursday 27 June	Towards a responsible forest bioeconomy	<p><b>Anne Toppinen</b> Professor, Vice Dean of Research, Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry, University of Helsinki</p> <p><b>Martin Forsén</b> Chairman of the Board SilviPar SA</p>	<p><b>Erich Schaitza</b> Embrapa, Brazilian Agriculture Research Corporation</p>
Friday 28 June	Forest biodiversity and its ecosystem services	<p><b>Sally Aitken</b> Professor in the Department of Forest and Conservation Sciences, Faculty of Forestry at the University of British Columbia, Canada</p> <p><b>Fran Raymond Price</b> Global Forest Practice Leader, WWF International</p>	<p><b>Shirong Liu</b> Chinese Academy of Forestry, National Forestry and Grassland Administration</p>
Saturday 29 June	Forests for the future	<p><b>Hans Joachim Schellnhuber</b> Professor</p> <p><b>Isabelle Claire Dela Paz</b> President of the International Forestry Students Association (IFSA)</p>	<p><b>Jens Peter Skovsgaard</b> Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), Southern Swedish Forest Research Center</p>

## 6.2 SUB-PLenary SESSIONS

The Congress Scientific Committee (CSC) made 31 slots available for sub-plenary sessions. 22 of the slots were scientific sessions and nine were science to society dialogue sessions, see Table 4. Some of the scientific sub-plenary sessions were given more than one time slot, since they received a large number of abstracts.

## 6.3 SCIENCE AND SOCIETY SUB-PLenary SESSIONS

In addition to the scientific sub-plenary sessions, the congress provided nine science and society sub-plenary

sessions, each offering the opportunity for essential dialogue in forest research and sustainability. The sessions featured keynote presentations and expert panel dialogues between scientists, business leaders and other stakeholders, while exploring the critical role of forests and forest science for a sustainable society, see Table 5. The sessions provided delegates with innovative strategies, interdisciplinary insights and practical tools to navigate the future of forest research and sustainable development.

**Table 4. 31 Sub-plenary sessions – 17 Scientific sessions (abstracts) and 9 Science and Society sessions**

Date	Number of sessions
Monday 24 June	5 Sub-plenary sessions (3 scientific + 2 science/society)
Tuesday 25 June	5 Sub-plenary sessions (3 scientific + 2 science/society)
Thursday 27 June	7 Sub-plenary sessions (6 scientific + 1 science/society)
Friday 28 June	9 Sub-plenary sessions (7 scientific + 2 science/society)
Saturday 29 June	5 Sub-plenary sessions (3 scientific + 2 science/society)

**Table 5. Science and Society Sub-plenary Sessions**

Theme	Title	Number of sessions
1. Strengthening forest resilience and adaptation to stress	President's Discussion "Translating scientific research into effective forest management to meet multiple societal objectives: challenges and opportunities"	1
2. Towards a responsible forest bioeconomy	Scaling up the Exchange Between Forest Science and Business	1
3. Forest biodiversity and its ecosystem services		0
4. Forests for sustainable societies	International Forest Governance: A Comprehensive Global Review Forest Governance in Regions – A Stakeholder Dialogue Ministerial panel – Decisive Roles of Forests Towards 2050	3
5. Forests for the future	Forest Futures Compelling Communication – Reshaping the Sustainable Wood Narrative Leadership for Sustainability – Overcoming Challenges in Forest Research Power of Youth in Scaling Multisectoral Collaboration: The role of forests in achieving the vision for 2050	4
<b>Total number of sessions</b>		<b>9</b>

## 6.4 TECHNICAL SESSIONS

Technical sessions were held in the mornings and in the afternoons, except on excursion day, opening day and closing day, resulting in a total of 191 simultaneous technical sessions.

## 6.5 E-POSTER SESSIONS

E-poster short oral sessions, with short oral presentations, were held every day during lunch. Since multiple presentations were presented simultaneously in an open floor area, the audio was live streamed online as a Silent meeting. A total of 1,471 short oral poster presentations were given in the e-poster area, which included 30 e-poster

screens. The abstracts accepted as poster were available in the Congress app throughout the congress.

## 6.6 PARTNER SIDE EVENTS

In total, seven side events were organized by partners during lunchtime, including notable co-hosted events based on collaborations (e.g. IKEA, the Swedish Forest Agency and World Forest ID) and side events co-hosted by Public Sweden. These events typically lasted one hour each and were held in rooms with a capacity of up to approximately 200 seats. The side events were well-attended and received positive feedback from participants, serving as an appreciated addition to the regular scientific programme.

**Table 6. Technical sessions by theme**

Date	THEME 1: Strengthening forest resilience and adaptation to stress	THEME 2: Towards a responsible forest bioeconomy	THEME 3: Forest biodiversity and its ecosystem services	THEME 4: Forests for sustainable societies	THEME 5: Forests for the future	
Monday 24 June	6	5	5	5	7	
Tuesday 25 June	14	10	10	11	11	
Thursday 27 June	12	9	10	11	9	
Friday 28 June	15	8	11	9	13	
<b>Total</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>191</b>

**Table 7. Partner side events**

Side event title	Organization
Five Public Sweden Perspectives: The Role of Forests for Society – Beyond Wood and Carbon	Co-hosted side event by Formas, Sida, the Swedish Forestry Agency, the Swedish Energy Agency and the Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management
“Sow a Seed” – 25 years of IKEA-funded rainforest restoration in Borneo: Lessons learned and the future	IKEA
Using forensic methods, AI and ‘origin science’ to improve traceability and increase the integrity of forest supply chains	Swedish Forest Agency, Co-hosted side event with IKEA and World Forest ID
22 years of learning from a WWF and IKEA long-term partnership and collaboration for forests, biodiversity and people	WWF – World Wide Fund for Nature
Towards more biodiverse forests – Scientific knowledge steers biodiversity actions for the Finnish wood processing industry	Finnish Forest Industries Federation
A Forest Future for All: Sustainable Management of Forest Ecosystems in Central Africa	CIFOR-ICRAF
“The Friendly Forest 2050” – Towards a new emphasis on social values and recreational needs in forests for the common good	The Swedish Association of Outdoor Organizations

IUFRO traditionally holds a series of working meetings the week before and during each IUFRO World Congress. The Management Committee and the Enlarged Board meeting were held the week before the congress, which were followed by administrative meetings, a Director's Forum meeting and the International Council meeting during the congress week.

## 7.1 IUFRO ADMINISTRATIVE AND DIVISIONS

The IUFRO World Congress 2024 offered an opportunity for IUFRO divisions, research groups, working parties and task forces to meet and discuss administrative matters during the congress week, and was utilized in accordance to Figure 5.

## 7.2 IUFRO INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL

The IUFRO International Council (IC) met in the afternoon of 27 June during the World Congress in Stockholm. Thirty-seven countries were represented at the meeting. The meeting included the approval of draft minutes of the previous IC meeting held on 2 October 2019 in Curitiba, Brazil, as well as approval of reports by the President, Vice Presidents and Executive Director. The IC members were then given presentations of the new IC Chair, Vice Chairs and members of the IUFRO Board. The IUFRO World Congress Statement 2024 were approved. A review and discussion of future policy and the IUFRO post-2024 Strategy Action Plan took place before viewing a video and presentation of the venue of the IUFRO World Congress 2029. The final item on the agenda concerned honorary membership, where there was a vote on two incoming nominations received by the Honours and Awards Committee.

## 7.3 THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND THE IUFRO ENLARGED BOARD



The IUFRO Management Committee held its meeting prior to the congress on Tuesday 18 June at the campus of the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences in Uppsala, Sweden.

The IUFRO Enlarged Board held its meeting back-to-back with the Management Committee meeting on Wednesday and Thursday 19–20 June at the campus of the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences in Uppsala, Sweden. The board is comprised of members of the Management Committee and the coordinators and deputy coordinators of IUFRO's nine divisions. The majority of the members participated in person, and a handful participated online. On the evening of 19 June, the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences hosted the board members dinner in central Uppsala, on the historical grounds of the beautiful Linneaus Garden.



**Table 6. IUFRO administrative and Division meetings for research groups, working parties, task forces and IUFRO divisions**

Group	Date	Time
WP 1.01.12 Silviculture and ungulates	Sunday 23 June	17.00–18.50
WP 9.01.02 Communication and public relations	Sunday 23 June	17.00–17.50
WP 8.01.02 Landscape ecology	Sunday 23 June	17.00–18.50
RG 9.04.00 Forest resource economics	Sunday 23 June	17.00–18.50
WP 1.01.13 Ecology and silviculture of chestnut	Sunday 23 June	17.00–18.50
(joint meeting) Task Force Gender equality in forestry & RG 6.08.00 Gender and forestry	Sunday 23 June	17.00–18.50
WP 8.02.08 African wildlife conservation and management (AWCM)	Sunday 23 June	17.00–17.50
WP 9.03.02 Forest culture	Tuesday 25 June	18.00–18.50
WP 1.02.04 Sustainable management and genetic resources in Meliaceae	Tuesday 25 June	18.00–18.50
WP 4.02.01 Resource data in the tropics	Tuesday 25 June	19.00–19.50
WP 8.02.01 Key factors and ecological functions for forest biodiversity	Tuesday 25 June	18.00–18.50
WP 4.01.04 Effects of environmental changes on forest growth	Tuesday 25 June	18.00–18.50
RG 4.01.00 Forest mensuration and modelling	Tuesday 25 June	19.00–19.50
WP 8.04.07 Radioactive contamination of forest ecosystems	Tuesday 25 June	18.00–19.50
WP 9.01.06 Forest science publishing	Tuesday 25 June	18.00–19.50
Task Force Forest and Water	Tuesday 25 June	18.00–19.50
WP 7.02.03 Vascular wilt diseases	Tuesday 25 June	18.00–18.50
WP 9.05.04 Forest policies in the Baltic and CEE regions	Tuesday 25 June	18.00–18.50
WP 9.03.04 Traditional forest knowledge	Tuesday 25 June	18.00–18.50
WP 2.04.01 Population, ecological and conservation genetics	Tuesday 25 June	18.00–18.50
WP 4.03.03 Information management and information technologies	Tuesday 25 June	18.00–18.50
WP 1.01.08 Ecology and silviculture of spruce	Tuesday 25 June	18.00–18.50
WP 9.01.03 Extension and knowledge exchange	Tuesday 25 June	18.00–18.50
RG 1.04.00 Agroforestry	Tuesday 25 June	18.00–18.50
RG 1.08.00 Silviculture for edible non-wood forest products	Tuesday 25 June	18.00–18.50
RG 5.11.00 Non-wood forest products	Tuesday 25 June	18.00–18.50
RG 5.10.00 Forest products marketing and business management	Tuesday 25 June	18.00–18.50
RG 4.05.00 Managerial economics and accounting	Tuesday 25 June	18.00–18.50
RG 6.01.00 Forest recreation	Tuesday 25 June	18.00–18.50
RG 9.02.00 Forest sector analysis	Tuesday 25 June	18.00–18.50
Task Force Joint IFSA-IUFRO TF on Forest Education	Tuesday 25 June	18.00–18.50
Task Force Precision Pest Management (PPM) in Forest Ecosystems	Tuesday 25 June	18.00–18.50
Task Force Transforming Forest Landscapes for Future Climates and Human Well-Being	Tuesday 25 June	18.00–18.50
WP 1.01.01 Boreal forest silviculture and management	Tuesday 25 June	18.00–18.50
Division 1	Thursday 27 June	18.00–20.00
Division 2	Thursday 27 June	18.00–20.00
Division 3	Thursday 27 June	18.00–20.00
Division 4	Thursday 27 June	18.00–20.00
Division 5	Thursday 27 June	18.00–20.00
Division 6	Thursday 27 June	18.00–20.00
Division 7	Thursday 27 June	18.00–20.00
Division 8	Thursday 27 June	18.00–20.00
Division 9	Thursday 27 June	18.00–20.00

The excursions were organised through the Congress Organising Committee, with excursion coordinators and host organisations in each host country. Researchers from the Nordic and Baltic host organisations managed the programme in collaboration with two travel agencies. The tours offered a mix of scenic landscapes, culture, industry and modern forest science.

### 8.1 PRE- AND POST CONGRESS EXCURSIONS

The following Pre-congress tours were carried out:

#### *In the heart of the boreal – Nature, art and Midsummer eve. Sweden–Finland, 17–22 June*

Starting in Helsinki and finishing in Stockholm, the tour visited Hyytiälä research station, the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences in Umeå and Svartberget research, which performs terrestrial and limnological field research and is a member of the Integrated Carbon Observation System (ICOS). Between the scientific visits, activities such as canoeing, hiking and other activities were offered.

#### *The glaciers of Iceland. Iceland, 16–22 June*

The tour began in Reykjavík and travelled along the south coast. Several stops were made at scenic attractions along the way, such as the famous Eyjafjallajökull volcano, the Seljalandsfoss and Skógafoss waterfalls, the black beach at Vík and Skaftafell National Park. During the excursion, the participants learned about the history of deforestation and afforestation in Iceland, production of geothermal energy and the work of the Icelandic Forest Service.





The following Post-congress tours were carried out:

***Under the midnight sun. Sweden-Finland, 29 June–4 July***

This trip started with a flight north of the Arctic Circle, where the participants experienced the Sami culture, enjoyed beautiful landscapes and engaged in activities, e.g. visiting the Ice Hotel and discovering the Abisko Scientific Research Station, under the midnight sun. During the tour, the participants visited the Abisko Scientific Research Station, Swedish Polar Research Secretariat, Finnish global Atmosphere Watch in Pallas and the Arktikum science center.



***Voyage to the fiords – from Vikings to forest industries. Sweden–Norway, 29 June–4 July***

This tour started in Stockholm and ended in Oslo. In Sweden, the tour stopped in Karlstad and the Paper Province business cluster before crossing the border to Norway, where the agenda included a visit to Yre Hvaler National Park, Fredriksten Fortress, Borregaard biorefinery and Splitkon – a production facility for large format cross laminated timber panels. The trip went along the Oslo Fjord and continued to Oslo, where a range of museums and cultural institutions awaited. On the excursion, the participants made a visit to Färna national park, a Borregaard biorefinery, and visited Treklyngen industrial park, where they participated in presentations and guided tours.



***The Baltic countries – Green jewels of Europe. Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, 29 June–5 July***

The Baltic post-congress tour was a broad mix of culture and science, where the participants enjoyed the Baltic capitals and remote seaside villages, as well as forest highlights, e.g. the Forest museum and experimental station in Estonia, and several research and industry sites in Latvia and Lithuania, including Järvselja experimental station and Latvijas Finieris (birch products).

## 8.2 IN-CONGRESS EXCURSIONS

On Wednesday 26 June, 15 excursions were carried out with varying themes covering IUFRO's areas of activities. All excursions took place within a two-hour journey from the Stockholm event area. During the day, participants learned about forest management methods, nature protection, forest damage, game management, park management and social values, land and water research, bioenergy, climate issues, forest policy and economy, digitization and innovation, and new materials from the forest.

The participants' evaluations showed that the excursions were highly appreciated, which was the result of a successful and close Nordic collaboration between research and authorities, business and non-profit organizations. A total of approximately 50 different organizations participated in the planning and implementation of the excursions.



**Table 7. In-Congress Excursions**

No	Excursion title	Host/Excursion leader	Participants
1	Fire dynamics and disturbances in past and present forest landscapes	Uppsala university	195
2	Joint efforts to take forest management into the future	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU)	270
3	Pathology, mycology, ecology and conservation	SLU	238
4	Valuable trees and forests close to people	The Royal Djurgården Administration + SLU	271
5	Environmental monitoring and field-based research infrastructure	SLU and SITES	180
6	Production systems for forest fuels and bioenergy generation	SLU and StoraEnso Forest	173
7	Forest-industry integration and logistics	SLU and Sveaskog	224
8	State-of-the-art forestry over a rotation period	Forestry Research Inst. of Sweden and Skogssällskapet	300
9	People, forest and climate change	SLU Future forest	273
10	Conservation and forestry in practice	The Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry	373
11	Co-management of deer and forests in a multispecies setting	SLU and Swedish Hunters Association	116
12	Forest as a Park at the Royal Parks of Stockholm	The Royal court	117
13	New innovative materials from the forest – the research forefront	Royal Institute of Technology	64
14	Digitalisation for sustainable forest management	SLU and MISTRA digital forest	182
15	New technologies and innovations in forestry	Linné University and National Museum of Science and Technology	275
		<b>Total</b>	<b>3251</b>



The following In-congress tours were carried out:

### ***1. Fire dynamics and disturbances in past and present forest landscapes***

The excursion took place in Tyresta National Park south of Stockholm, a large old-growth forest that was affected by wildfires in 1999. The participants were guided through the history of natural and anthropogenic disturbances in Sweden, the role of fire in forest conservation and challenges for forestry, conservation and recreation in a future fire regime. SLU Forest and Health also invited guests to participate in forest bathing, examining how resting in the forest can affect your health and mood.

### ***2. Joint efforts to take forest management into the future***

During the excursion located at Krusenberg outside Uppsala, six areas of interest included in the research programme Future forest management (FRAS) in southern Sweden were presented and discussed: Mixed forest management, Regeneration systems, Forest damage, Management for high production, Management for multiple ecosystem services and Digital tools.

### ***3. Pathology, mycology, ecology and conservation***

On this excursion at Krusenberg, clear-cut and continuous forestry management were discussed along with breeding and economic aspects. The participants

also observed many traces of forest damage from fungi that causes spruce root rot, ash dieback and Dutch Elm disease, as well as damage from bark beetle attack.

### ***4. Valuable trees and forests close to people***

During the excursion at Djurgården Royal National City Park, management principles and research findings were demonstrated within five areas: urban forestry and ecosystem services, closer-to-nature forest management, nature conservation in mixed forest, forest history and recreational values in forests close to people.

### ***5. Environmental monitoring and field-based research infrastructure***

During this excursion, hosted by the Swedish infrastructure for Ecosystem Sciences (SITES), participants were presented with long-term effects of climate change on water quality, biodiversity and ecosystem services in aquatic ecosystems, as well as soil conditions and soil chemistry from around 20,000 plots across Sweden. The monitoring of biophysical conditions and changes in deciduous forests were also covered.

### ***6. Production systems for forest fuels and bioenergy generation***

Current technology and systems used in Nordic countries were presented by tracing a forest fuel logistics chain from the time of harvest at the clear-cut. The excursion demonstrated current best practice in the harvest of logging residues and field-adapted storage strategies.

### ***7. Forest-industry integration and logistics***

Close to the city of Eskilstuna, the participants gained insights into Swedish best practice forest operations and were introduced to advanced technology for planning, logging, transportation and forest industry production, including low impact and efficient machine concepts, big data, new fuels, automation and remote sensing.

### ***8. State-of-the-art forestry over a rotation period***

At Bredvik in northern Uppland, the participants were shown how different aspects of forest management can be combined. During the excursion, topics such as forest regeneration, silviculture, forest operations, soil and water protection, forestry value chains,



biodiversity and nature conservation, forest history and culture remnants, and public access and stakeholder engagement were covered.

### ***9. People, forest and climate change***

At Gålö, south of Stockholm, the excursion explored the relationships between forests and society in the context of climate change. The participants gained insight into how forest and climate knowledge is understood and interpreted by local actors in Sweden, including forest owners, tourism representatives, reindeer herders, hunters, forestry companies and environmental organisations.

### ***10. Conservation and forestry in practice***

During this excursion at Barksätter estate close to the city of Katrineholm, several issues crucial for the long-term health of forests and society were discussed, such as forest biodiversity, sustainable forestry and wildlife management, and spruce bark beetle damage.

### ***11. Co-management of deer and forests in a multi-species setting***

The excursion at the Öster Malma estate in county Södermanland was hosted by the Swedish Association for Hunting and Wildlife Management. The excursion focused on drivers of browsing pressures, mitigation measures and approaches to co-manage deer and forests in boreal production landscapes under climate change.

### ***12. Forest as a park at the Royal Parks of Stockholm***

In this excursion, the two royal parks Haga and Drottningholm were visited. The themes discussed were the biological diversity of the older park trees; potential conflicts between the preservation of old trees, historical aspects and the safety of the public; design influences from English parks; the value of the parks for recreation and outdoor life; and the future development of the parks.

### ***13. New innovative materials from the forest – the research forefront***

This excursion showed examples of the research carried out at the Wallenberg Wood Science Center at the Royal Institute of Technology (KTH) in Stockholm. The excursion included presentations and visits to laboratories and discussion on topics such as Sweden's value creation from the forest, research on new materials from wood and examples of start-up projects.



### ***14. Digitalisation for sustainable forest management***

In this excursion, the participants visited the Swedish state forest company Sveaskog where they gained insight into current forest management practices and innovative digital services. During this field visit, participants were introduced to Swedish state-of-the-art inventory and mapping, new methods and remote sensing techniques to assess forest damage, and biodiversity and conservation values.

### ***15. New technologies and innovations in forestry***

At the National Museum of Science and Technology, the participants took part in lectures and exhibitions about new technologies and innovations in forestry, such as new methods for direct measurement in the forest, remote sensing and Artificial Intelligence. A poster exhibition with a focus on sustainability and a lecture on the advantages of building in wood were also offered.

At the congress, social events are crucial to make delegates from all over the world feel welcome. These social events, including networking and mingling opportunities, set the atmosphere for the congress and showcase the traditions and customs of the host country.



### 9.1 OPENING OF THE EXHIBITION

The opening of the exhibition took place on Sunday 23 June from 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the exhibition hall at Stockholmsmässan. The IUFRO President and the Dean of the SLU Faculty of Forest Sciences opened the exhibition in a ribbon cutting ceremony and gave short speeches, accompanied by the chair of the Congress Organizing Committee.

### 9.2 IUFRO WELCOME RECEPTIONS

The Congress Organizing Committee welcomed delegates to two different receptions during the evening of Monday 24 June – one at Stockholm City Hall and one at the congress venue. At Stockholm City Hall, the IUFRO President and the Stockholm City Council welcomed 1,200 delegates, followed by a guided tour through the Nobel Banquet premises and a buffet dinner. At the venue at Stockholmsmässan, the IUFRO Executive Director and the Dean of SLU Faculty of Forest Sciences welcomed 3,000 delegates, followed by mingle with a light meal. The designer of ABBA's stage clothes gave a captivating lecture about the inspiration by nature and shared memories from his time working with the group.



### 9.3 THE PRESIDENT'S DINNER

The traditional and ceremonial IUFRO President's Dinner took place on Wednesday 25 June from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at Älvsjö Manor, a historical manor house from the 17th century adjacent to Stockholmsmässan. Seventy invited international guests, including past IUFRO presidents, mingled and listened to the IUFRO President's speech. Attendees were invited to a buffet dinner in the garden of the manor house after the speech.

### 9.4 THE OUTDOOR MINGLE

The outdoor mingle was arranged for the delegates on the evening of Friday 28 June at the Evenew Arena in central Stockholm. Delegates arrived to an open, outdoor arena where a large tent was erected. In the tent, delegates were treated to a show by Rockford Big Band, who played classic big band jazz, soul, funk music and modern covers. Participants enjoyed a buffet dinner, followed by a spectacular light and sound show until late in the evening. Delegates from all over the world danced the night away and created a wonderful, pleasant atmosphere.



# 10

# CONGRESS PARTNERS

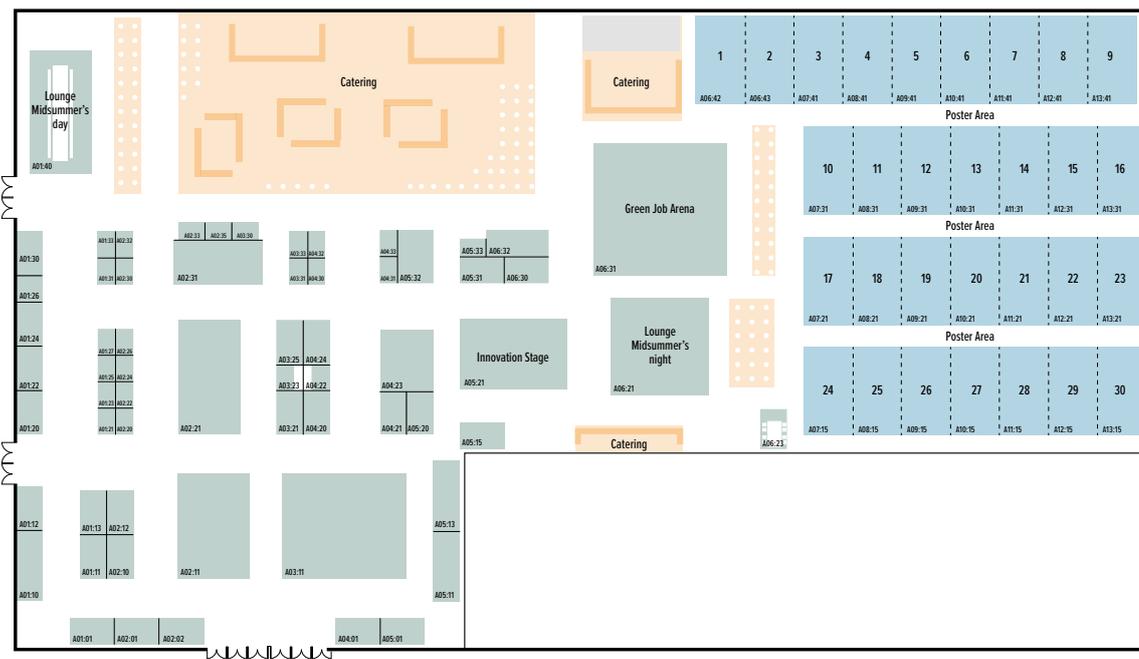
The exhibition hall was one of many highlights for the partners and delegates who participated in the IUFRO World Congress 2024. The exhibition was well attended, and the lounge areas in the exhibition were buzzing with delegates throughout the week.

## 10.1 EXHIBITORS

The exhibition took place in the same venue as the congress, Stockholmsmässan, with a total area of 7,500 m<sup>2</sup>. In addition to the exhibition booths, the hall featured a poster session area, a technical help desk, seven catering stations, two Swedish Midsummer themed social spaces for work and relaxation and two new highlights: the Green Job Arena and the Innovation Stage, both introduced for the first time at the IUFRO exhibition.



Photo: Rebecca Eurrén, Matilda Haglund, Julia Ståhlert



Booth	Exhibitor
A01-26	Agroforestry Network
A04-23	AirForest
A02-12	Arco
A04-24	Asian Forest Cooperation Organization (AFCO)
A05-10	Association of University Forestry Schools of Canada, Canada (shared)
A02-20	Australian Forest and Wood Innovations (AFWI)
A05-21	Balium Development Group/Balium
A05-10	Canadian Forest Service, Natural Resources Canada, Canada (shared)
A05-20	Chinese Academy of Forestry (CAF)
A04-21	CFOR/CSAF
A05-25	Conservation International
A05-13	Cop
A05-13	EcoPlanet Bamboo
A05-20	Esaver Ltd
A05-21	Europe Forest Foundation (Patron of the Innovation Stage)
A05-23	Fachagentur Nachhaltige Rohstoffe e.V. (FNR)
A05-30	Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)
A02-21	Formas, Public Sweden (shared)
A04-01	General Laser GmbH, Umweltata GmbH (shared)
A02-01	GIS
A05-15	Haglöf Sweden AB
A05-27	ICI International Ply Ltd
A02-35	IGA Technology Services
A05-01	International Bamboo and Rattan Organization (INBAR)
A05-28	International Forestry Students' Association (IFSA) (shared)
A03-30	International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)
A05-21	International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)
A05-11	IUFRO SPOC
A02-21	Kenya Forestry Research Institute
A02-31	KSL AB
A04-33	KSLA
A02-22	Larven State Forest Research Institute "Silva"
A04-22	LI-COR Environmental
A02-31	Limnux University
A02-35	Logosun AB
A02-26	MCPH - Academic Open Access Publishing since 1996
A04-31	Michigan State University Department of Forestry
A04-31	Northeast Forestry University (NEFU), Journal of Forestry Research
A05-12	Oregon State University College of Forestry
A05-33	Oxford University Press (OUP)
A05-21	Perisoff Publishers Ltd.
A04-30	Pinecon Forestry
A05-11	Perisse Plc
A02-25	RECOFC
A05-13	Rica Andelin Pulp & Paper, APRIL
A01-01	Scientific and Academic College of the Congo Basin Forest Partnership, University of Laï, Faculty of Forestry, Geography and Geomatics
A02-21	Sida, Public Sweden (shared)
A05-24	Silvaco
A05-30	SLU, EU Soil Health Living Labs: support by NATIONS & PREPSOL
A05-11	SNS (Nordic Forest Research)
A02-25	Springer Nature
A02-24	Svenska Egenomsövningsanslagens Forening, Prästationsliggarna i Skandinavien
A02-21	Svensk Agency for Marine and Water Management, Public Sweden (shared)
A02-21	Svensk Energy Agency, Public Sweden (shared)
A02-21	Svensk Forest Agency, Public Sweden (shared)
A05-12	Svensk Forest Industries Federation
A02-11	Svensk University of Agricultural Sciences (SILU)
A04-20	UBC Faculty of Forestry
A04-01	Umweltata GmbH
A02-10	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), UNCCD/20 Global Land Initiative
A03-33	University of Copenhagen
A04-32	University of Helsinki
A02-30	Yonsei University (YU)
A01-22	World Vision Korea, Sustainable Environment and Economy against Drought and Degradation in TSDA
A02-02	World Wood Day Foundation (WWDF)
A06-12	WPI*
A02-26	Wiss Academy for Nature, RECOFC (shared)
<b>Other</b>	
A06-31	Green Job Arena
A05-21	Innovation Stage
BK-01	IUFRO Booth (not on this map) - located in the entrance hall
A05-40	Lounge - Midsummer's day
A06-21	Lounge - Midsummer's night

Figure 6. Exhibition, poster and catering area – IUFRO World Congress 2024

A total of 68 exhibitors participated in the IUFRO World Congress 2024, representing a wide range of sectors and demonstrating significant global diversity. Of these, 25 exhibitors were from Nordic or Baltic countries (37%), 20 from other European countries (29%) and 23 from countries outside Europe (34%).



**Table 8. List of exhibitors at the IUFRO World Congress 2024**

	Organization	Type of organization	Country (HQ)
1	AirForestry	Companies and business	Sweden
2	Australian Forest and Wood Innovations (AFWI)	Government research institutes	Australia
3	Asian Forest Cooperation Organization (AFoCO)	Intergovernmental organization (IGO)	Korea
4	Agroforestry Network	Network	Sweden
5	Arevo	Companies and business	Sweden
6	Association of University Forestry Schools of Canada, Canada (shared)	Academic association	Canada
7	Berkem Development, Groupe Berkem	Companies and business	France
8	Canadian Forest Service, Natural Resources Canada, Canada (shared)	Government agency	Canada
9	Conservation International	NGO	U.S.A
10	Chinese Academy of Forestry (CAF)	Government research institutes	China
11	CIFOR-ICRAF	NGO	Kenya
12	International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC)	NGO	Hungary
13	EcoPlanet Bamboo	Companies and business	Kenya
14	Elsevier Ltd	Companies and business	Netherlands
15	Erling-Persson Foundation (Patron of the Innovation Stage)	Foundation	Sweden
16	Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®)	NGO	Germany
17	Formas, Public Sweden (shared)	Government agency	Sweden
18	Fachagentur Nachhaltige Rohstoffe e.V. (FNR)	Research institute	Germany
19	General Laser GmbH, Umweltdata GmbH (shared)	Companies and business	Austria
20	Global Landscape Forum (GLF)	Network	Germany
21	Haglöf Sweden AB	Companies and business	Sweden
22	ICT International Pty Ltd	Companies and business	Australia
23	International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)	Intergovernmental organization (IGO)	Japan
24	International Forestry Students' Association (IFSA)	Student network	Germany
25	International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)	Research institute	Austria
26	International Bamboo and Rattan Organization (INBAR)	Intergovernmental organization (IGO)	China
27	IUFRO	International research network	Austria
28	IUFRO-SPDC	International research network	Austria
29	IGA Technology Services	Companies and business	Italy
30	Kenya Forestry Research Institute	Research institute	Kenya
31	KKL-JNF	NGO	Israel
32	KSLA	Academic society	Sweden
33	Latvian State Forest Research Institute "Silava"	Universities and educational institutions	Latvia
34	Linnaeus University	Universities and educational institutions	Sweden
35	LI-COR Environmental	Companies and business	U.S.A
36	Logscm AB	Companies and business	Sweden
37	MDPI – Academic Open Access Publishing since 1996	Companies and business	Switzerland
38	Michigan State University Department of Forestry	Universities and educational institutions	U.S.A
39	Northeast Forestry University (NEFU), Journal of Forestry Research	Universities and educational institutions	China
40	Oregon State University College of Forestry	Universities and educational institutions	U.S.A

cont. Table 8. List of exhibitors at the IUFRO World Congress 2024

	Organization	Type of organization	Country (HQ)
41	Oxford University Press (OUP)	Companies and business	UK
42	Pensoft Publishers Ltd.	Companies and business	Bulgaria
43	Plantma Forestry	Companies and business	Sweden
44	Ponsse Plc	Companies and business	Finland
45	Riau Andalan Pulp & Paper, APRIL	Companies and business	Indonesia
46	RECOFTC	NGO	Thailand
47	Scientific and Academic College of the Congo Basin Forest Partnership	Research network	Canada
48	Sida, Public Sweden (shared)	Government agency	Sweden
49	Sitowise	Companies and business	Finland
50	SLU, EU Soil health Living Labs: support by NATIOONS & PREPSOIL	Universities and educational institutions	Sweden
51	SNS (Nordic Forest Research)	Research network	Sweden
52	Springer Nature	Companies and business	Germany
53	Stiftens Egendomsförvaltningars Förening, Prästlönetillgångarna i Svenska kyrkan	Association	Sweden
54	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU)	Universities and educational institutions	Sweden
55	Swedish Energy Agency, Public Sweden (shared)	Government agency	Sweden
56	Swedish Forest Agency, Public Sweden (shared)	Government agency	Sweden
57	Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management, Public Sweden (shared)	Government agency	Sweden
58	Swedish Forest Industries Federation	Association	Sweden
59	UBC Faculty of Forestry	Universities and educational institutions	Canada
60	Umweltdata GmbH	Companies and business	Austria
61	University of Copenhagen	Universities and educational institutions	Denmark
62	University of Helsinki	Universities and educational institutions	Finland
63	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), UNCCD/ G20 Global Land Initiative	Intergovernmental organization (IGO)	Germany
64	Vytautas Magnus University (VMU)	Universities and educational institutions	Lithuania
65	World Wood Day Foundation (WWDF)	NGO	U.S.A
66	World Vision Korea, Sustainable Environment and Economy against Drought and Degradation in TEDA	NGO	Korea
67	WWF	NGO	Switzerland
68	Wyss Academy for Nature, RECOFTC (shared)	Research institute	Switzerland
<b>Total: 68 exhibitors</b> (25 Nordic/Baltic, 20 European, 23 Non-European)			

## 10.2 PARTNERS

There were a total of 34 official partners of the IUFRO World Congress 2024, with a majority originating from Sweden and other Nordic and Baltic countries. Close to 100 partners and organizations were involved in organizing and implementing the in-congress and pre-and post-congress excursions (see Table 8). Partners represent, for example, universities, research councils, associations, environmental organizations, global companies, forest management companies, tourism organisations, and governmental and non-governmental organizations. Among these partners, ten were universities, reflecting strong academic participation. Several partners

are affiliated with IUFRO, emphasising the strong connection between the congress and global forestry research. Many of these partners contributed not only through financial support, but also by providing content during the congress, such as organizing lunchtime side events and actively participating in the exhibition by speaking at the Green Job Arena and Innovation Stage. Many partners were also involved in organizing the in-congress and pre- and post-congress excursions (see Table 9). Several were also present as exhibitors, representing their organizations with dedicated booths. Notably, the Major Organizational Partner package and the Organizational Partner package were well utilised.

**Table 9. List of all official partners of the IUFRO World Congress 2024**

Partners	Country (HQ)	Partner status	Exhibition booth
Formas	Sweden	Major org. partner	✓ (Public Sweden)
The Nordic Council of Ministers	Denmark	Major org. partner	
Nordic Forest Research (SNS)	Sweden	Major org. partner	✓
Skogssällskapet	Sweden	Major org. partner	
Erling-Persson Foundation	Sweden	Patron	
Swedish Energy Agency	Sweden	Major org. partner	✓ (Public Sweden)
IKEA	Sweden	Platinum partner	
Sveaskog	Sweden	Major org. partner	
Swedish Forest Agency	Sweden	Major org. partner	✓ (Public Sweden)
WWF - World Wide Fund for Nature	Switzerland	Major org. partner	✓
Finnish Forest Industries Federation	Finland	Major org. partner	
Sida	Sweden	Major org. partner	✓ (Public Sweden)
The International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)	Japan	Org. partner	✓
The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)	Germany	Org. partner	✓
CIFOR-ICRAF	Kenya	Org. partner	✓
Conservation International	U.S.A	Org. partner	✓
The Swedish Association of Outdoor Organizations	Sweden	Org. partner	
The Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry (KSLA)	Sweden	Major org. partner	✓
Agroforestry Network	Sweden	NGO Partner	✓
Swedish Agency of Marine and Water Management	Sweden	Major org. partner	✓ (Public Sweden)
Swedish Forest Industries Federation	Sweden	Major org. partner	✓
Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU)	Norwegian	Org. partner	
University of Helsinki	Finland	Org. partner	✓
Vytautas Magnus University	Lithuania	Org. partner	✓
Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies	Latvia	Org. partner	
University of Copenhagen	Denmark	Org. partner	✓
SILAVA	Latvia	Org. partner	✓
Eesti Maaülikool (EMU)	Estonia	Org. partner	
Land and Forest Iceland	Iceland	Org. partner	
Agricultural University of Iceland	Iceland	Org. partner	
University of Eastern Finland	Finland	Org. partner	
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU)	Sweden	Org. partner	✓
Linnaeus University	Sweden	Org. partner	✓
IUFRO	Austria	Major org. partner	✓
<b>Total: 34 partners</b>			<b>21 partner exhibitors</b>

Out of the 34 partners, 21 had their own exhibition booth. Several governmental partners, such as Formas, the Swedish Energy Agency, Swedish Forest Agency, Sida and the Swedish Agency of Marine and Water Management, participated in the shared Public Sweden booth.



As presented in chapter 6.6, seven side events were organized by partners, including co-hosted events (e.g. IKEA and the Swedish Forestry Agency) and Public Sweden's co-hosted side event. Moreover, partners also filled 12 out of 19 time slots at the Green Job Arena, including panel discussions, and 15 out of 44 time slots on the Innovation Stage. IKEA stood out as a key contributor, as the company co-hosted two side events and filled a total of six time slots in the Innovation Stage and Green Job Arena.



**Table 10. List of partners and organizations that were involved in organizing the in-congress, pre- and post-congress excursions**

In-Congress Excursions	Pre- and Post-Congress Excursions
Arboreal	School for forest management, SLU
Biometria	Sveaskog
Drottningholms palace	Hjälmare canal / Steamship Gerda
Finnish geospatial research institute	Stora Enso
Future forests	Splitkom
Gålö sea camp	Hardraade Vikingship association
Gothenburg university	Ekebypark sculpture walk
Haga palace	Ytre Hvaler National park
Holmen forest	Midgard Viking Center
The Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry	Hyytiälä station sites
Royal Institute of Technology	Keuruu Harbor / Elias Rönnroth
Linköpings forest service	Gösta Serlachius museum
County Administrative Board of Stockholm	Jaakinsuo forest drainage experimental area
The Royal court	Västerbottens museum
Life 2 taiga	Svartberget experimental station (SITES, ICOS Sweden)
Linné university	Bonnstan Midsummer eve celebration – Skellefteå municipality
Luleå technical university	Abisko Scientific Research station
MISTRA digital forest	Jukkasjärvi Ice Hotel
MISTRA Sports and Outdoor	Vaisikkavuoma nature reserve
Nordic forest women	Pallas Meteorological Station
Nordluft automation	Nordic Husky farm
The Sami council	Arktikum science museum
SITES	Rovaniemi Santa claus village
Forestry Research Institute of Sweden	Pingvellir National Park
The Swedish forest historical society	Friðheimar farm
Swedish Forest Industries Federation	Droplaugarstaðir forest farm
Skogssällskapet	Icelandic forest research
The Cluster of Forest Technology	Haukadalur National Forest

cont. Table 10. List of partners and organizations that were involved in organizing the in-congress, pre- and post-congress excursions

In-Congress Excursions	Pre- and Post-Congress Excursions
The Archipelago Foundation	Skaftafell National park
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences	Icelandic forest Service
Spillkråkan	Vök geothermal baths
Stockholm university	Skríðuklaustur
Stora Enso forest	Kasmu Captains village
Sveaskog	Oandu Forest trail
Svebio	Sagadi forest museum
Swedish Hunters Association	Järvesilja Experimental Station
Church of Sweden	Amatciens log houses
Swedish Orienteering Association	LIGNUMS
Swedish television	Laflora
Södra forest owners	Latvian State Forest Research Institute Silava
National Museum of Science and Technology	Estonian University of Life Sciences
Treesearch	Vytautas Magnus University
Umeå university	
UNITE/ Helsinki university	
Uppsala university	
Wallenberg wood science center	

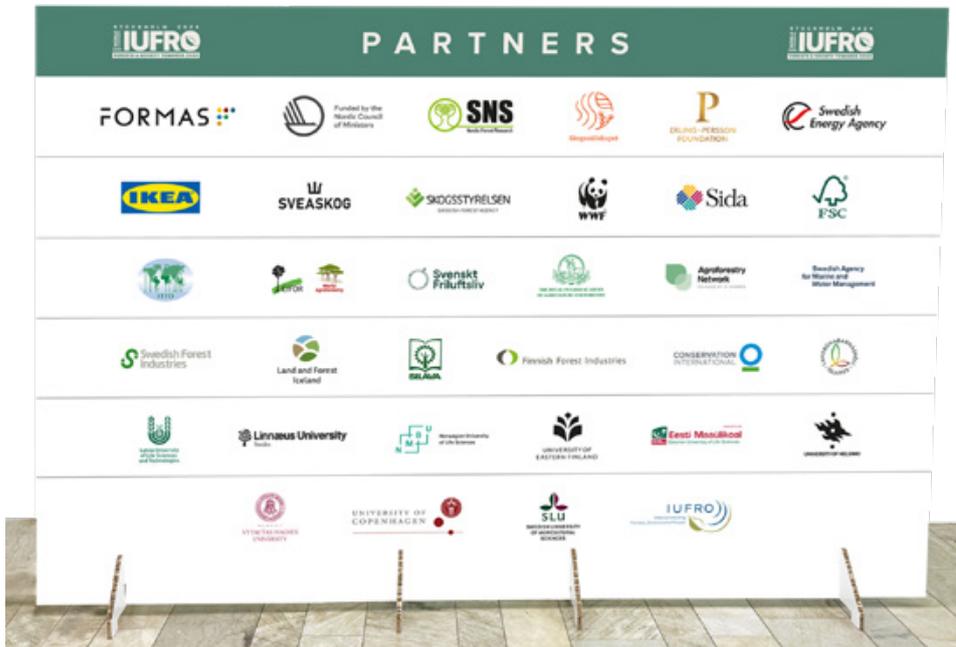


Figure 7. Partner logos printed on re-board

**IUFRO wishes to thank the following for their contributions to the In-Congress Excursions**

Arboreal	Spillkråkan
Biometria	Stockholm University
Church of Sweden	Stora Enso Forest
County Administrative Board of Stockholm	Sveaskog
Dotningholm Palace	Svebio
Finnish Geospatial Research Institute	Swedish Forest Industries Federation
Forestry Research Institute of Sweden	Swedish Hunters Association
Future Forests	Swedish Orienteering Association
Gothenburg University	Swedish Television
Gållö Sea Camp	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences
Haga Palace	Södra Forest Owner Association
Holmen Forest	The Archipelago Foundation
Life 2 Taiga	The Cluster of Forest Technology
Linköpings Forest Service	The Royal Court
Linné University	The Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry
Luleå Technical University	The Sami Council
MISTRA Digital Forest	The Swedish Forest Historical Society
National Museum of Science and Technology	Society
Nordic Forest Women	Mistra Sports and Outdoors
Nordluft Automation	Treesearch
Royal Institute of Technology	Umeå University
SITES	UNITE/ Helsinki University
Skogssällskapet	Uppsala University
	Wallenberg Wood Science Center

Figure 8. Contributors to the in-congress excursions

As an integral part of the Congress, IUFRO organised a Congress Scientist Assistance Programme (SAP) through its Special Programme for Development of Capacities (IUFROSPDC) providing early and mid-career forest scientists from Africa, Asia, Latin America, and Eastern Europe with financial assistance to participate in the Congress.

From 19 to 22 June 2024, the IUFRO SPDC Pre-Congress Training Course took place at SLU's Ultuna campus. SPDC is IUFRO's special programme for the development of capacities and this year, the training course gave scientists from the global south the opportunity to enhance essential skills needed to generate high-quality research results. It also focused on communicating such results to policy and practice. At SLU, 56 participants from 35 different countries joined in the workshop, in addition to IUFRO staff and lecturers.

The course included three topics:

- *Research Methods in Forest Science*
- *Science-Society Interactions: Making Science Work for Policy and Practice*
- *Systematic Evidence Evaluation in Forest Science*

The IUFRO 2024 secretariat was responsible for booking lecture halls at SLU and ordering refreshments and lunch for the group. Several lecture halls were used for the three workshops, and the group also had access to small group work rooms, a student kitchen and a seating area where coffee and light snacks were served. The large lecture hall was used for the opening and closing of the workshop in the morning of 19 and 22 of June. In addition to the lecture halls, a technician was on call to assist with any technical issues.

Coffee and light snacks were provided outside the lecture halls in the mornings and afternoons, and lunch served in a restaurant on campus. The barbecue evening and the Swedish Midsummer lunch were highly appreciated.

The 26<sup>th</sup> IUFRO World Congress is the first congress to adopt a fully digital approach for all delegate communication. A dedicated 13-member Media Desk provided intensive coverage and produced 40 news articles, 31 video interviews and four TV shows distributed globally to delegates and stakeholders. The potential outreach through the congress's channels, partner networks and media outlets was estimated at 275 million recipients across 84 unique channels in 12 languages, though the actual reach was approximately 158,000 unique individuals worldwide. Overall, the strategic focus on digital communication channels and partnerships with established networks was effective, enhancing global outreach and engagement during the congress. The congress website served as the central hub for all content, which was complemented by a smartphone app for easy navigation.

## 12.1 WEB STATISTICS

The last year before the congress, the site consisted of a total of 129 published pages sorted under different headings.

During the given period, from 1 February 2023 until 10 July 2024, there were a total of 379,000 page views, 76,000 users and around 16,000 file downloads. The most visited pages were the Frontpage, Registration and Fees, IUFRO World Congress Week Overview, Detailed Programme (i.e. scientific), Sustainable Future, Call for Congress Abstracts, Themes IUFRO World Congress 2024, In-Congress Excursions, Accommodation and Keynote Speakers.

During June the IUFRO World Congress 2024 website had a total of 43K visits made by 18K unique devices. A visitor could be counted twice if they used for instance a smartphone and a desktop. The number of actual persons visiting the website in June was 13,600. During the same period 95,300 page visits were registered, which means the average visitor visited about 7 pages in total. The most visited pages in June were pages related to registration and fees, the scientific programme and travel information. 10% of the visitors clicked on links provided by the World Congress' newsletters, and 7% clicked on links from social media accounts, mainly the accounts of the World Congress (on LinkedIn) and the IUFRO accounts on Facebook, LinkedIn and Instagram.

The number of visits increased dramatically starting in December 2023 and continued on a higher level, with peaks in January and during the congress in the last week of June 2024. Traffic to the website came mainly from Direct\*, Organic Search and Referrals, in that order. This indicates a strong awareness of the IUFRO World Congress among delegates and stakeholders. The majority of IUFRO2024 website visitors could be traced back to Sweden, USA, Finland, Germany, Canada, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom.

**\*Direct traffic** usually happens in one of two ways:

1) A visitor types your website URL in their browser or 2) visits your website using saved bookmarks  
However, organic search traffic can often be attributed as "direct traffic," especially if a visitor does a search in incognito mode.

**Organic traffic** is loosely defined as any traffic that comes to your website from a search engine, such as Google, Bing, or DuckDuckGo.

**Referral traffic** is any traffic that comes to your website from an inbound link on another website that isn't a social media site. This would be all blogs and news websites.

## 12.2 APP STATISTICS

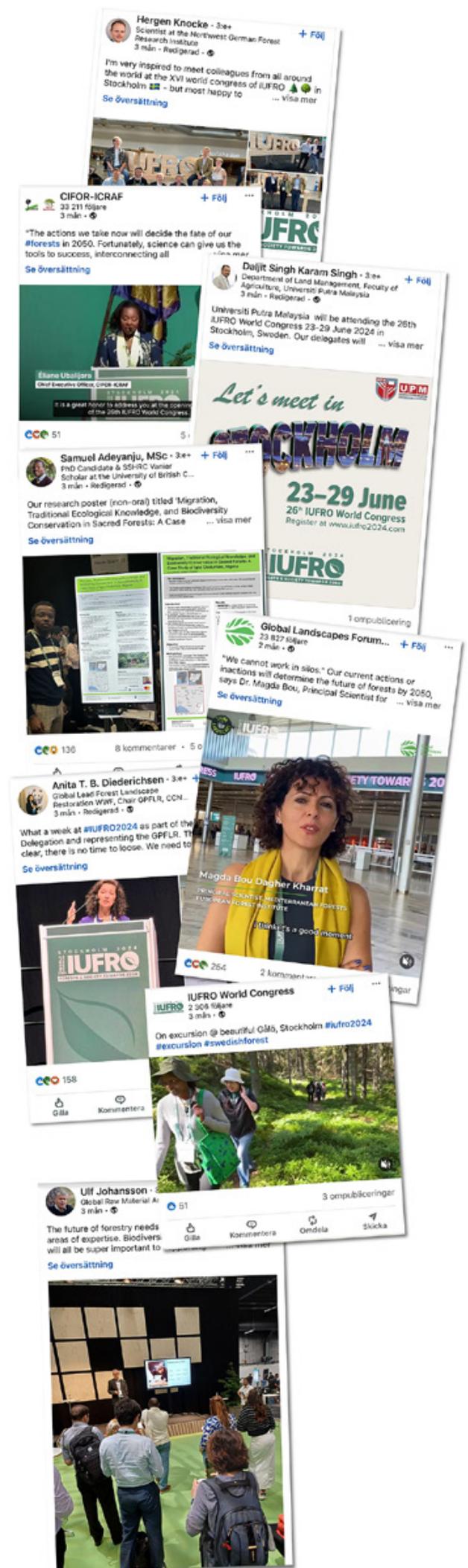
The app was downloaded to 3,982 mobile units – 2,152 with the Android operating system and 1,830 with iOS. Apple and Google require that you ask delegates for permission to gather data, which means that only part of the total usage can be accounted for. Consequently, the following statistics are based on approximately 400 users, which corresponds to around one-tenth of all users. From this statistics the following can be concluded. The app was started approximately 100 times per user, around 140 programme items were viewed per user and, on average, 29 of these were saved in a personal list by a user.

## 12.3 SOCIAL MEDIA

LinkedIn was the most used social media platform, generating 76,191 organic impressions and approximately 1,700 unique daily visitors to the World Congress account. Delegates and stakeholders were encouraged to share content using the #IUFRO2024 hashtag, resulting in 5,335 posts, mostly from Austria, the USA and the UK. Public sentiment on social media was very positive, with 66% of posts having a positive tone.

## 12.4 PRESS AND MEDIA

Media coverage spanned 112 news items across 84 unique channels, with an estimated reach of 158,000 people globally. Key outlets included global enterprises like IKEA, major news websites like Infobae and Naver, and respected regional and international media platforms such as der Standard, BioMed Central, Aftonbladet and National Geographic.



The Human Resources section of the IUFRO World Congress 2024 outlines the key committees and teams responsible for organizing and managing the Congress. The Congress Organizing Committee (COC), comprised of international experts in forestry and related sciences, played a central role in shaping the Congress. The Congress Scientific Committee (CSC) handled the scientific programme, with a detailed timeline for session proposals, abstract submissions and programme releases. The Congress Secretariat and Professional Congress Organizer managed the logistics, including registration and on-site activities. The Media Desk ensured effective communication and coverage, while the Volunteer Programme offered opportunities for participants to engage directly with the congress.

## 13.1 CONGRESS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE (COC)

**Fredrik Ingemarson** Chair, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

**Raymond Wide** Secretary, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

**Birgitta Naumburg** The Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry, KSLA

**Karin Hornay** Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

**Therese Huldgren** Academic Conferences, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

**Vivian Kvist Johannsen** University of Copenhagen

**Niclas Scott Bentsen** University of Copenhagen

**Hardi Tullus** Estonian University of Life Sciences

**Lauri T. Valsta** University of Helsinki, Finland

**Eeva-Stiina Tuittila** University of Eastern Finland

**Edda Oddsdottir** Icelandic Forest Service

**Adalsteinn Sigurgeirsson** Icelandic Forest Service

**Aris Jansons** Latvia University of Agriculture

**Vitas Marozas Vytautas** Magnus University Agriculture Academy

**Hans Fredrik Hoen** Norwegian University of Life Sciences

**Johan Bergh** Linnaeus University, Sweden

**Björn Hånell** Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

## 13.2 CONGRESS SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE (CSC)

**Elena Paoletti** Chair, National Research Council, Italy

**Teresa De Jesus Fidalgo Fonseca** University of Tras-Os-Montes and Alto Douro, Division 1, Portugal

**Marjana Westergren** Slovenian Forestry Institute, Division 2, Slovenia

**Ola Lindroos** Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Division 3, Sweden

**Donald A. Hodges** University of Tennessee, School of Natural Resources, Division 4, USA

**Pekka Saranpää** Natural Resources Institute, Division 5, Finland

**Purabi Bose** Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Division 6, Sweden

**Maartje Klapwijk** Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Division 7, Sweden

**Alexia Stokes** French National Institute for Agriculture, Food and Environment, Division 8, France

**Mónica Gabay** National University of San Martín, Division 9, Argentina

**Daniela Kleinschmit** University of Freiburg, Vice-President Divisions, Germany

**Shirong Liu** Chinese Academy of Forestry, Beijing, Vice-President Task Forces, China

**Wubalem Tadesse** Ethiopian Environment and Forest Research Institute, President's Nominee for Africa, Ethiopia

**Erich Schaitza** Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation, Embrapa Forestry Research, President's Nominee for South America, Brazil

**Björn Hånell** Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Representative of the Congress Organizing Committee, Sweden

**Isabelle Claire Dela Paz** International Forestry Students' Association, Philippines



### 13.3 CONGRESS SECRETARIAT

The Secretariat of IUFRO World Congress 2024 was fully staffed from September 2023 until June 2024.

**Johan Adolfsson** Public Relations Officer & Exhibition Manager

**Sara Andersson** Assistant Ceremonies and Excursions

**Lovisa Eriksson** Project Assistant Partnerships

**Åsa Hofring** Coordinator Innovation Stage

**Karin Hornay** Coordinator PCO

**Jimmy Hägglund** Project Assistant Partnerships

**Björn Hånell** Senior Advisor, Congress Scientific Committee

**Rebecca Hunt** Coordinator International Relations

**Fredrik Ingemarson** Chair, Congress Organizing Committee

**Jimmy Karlsson** Budget and Finances

**Henrik Karmehag** Congress Photographer

**Maria Lindfors** Assistant COC

**Ulf Lovéus** Graphic Designer and Web Editor

**Anders Malmer** Coordinator Pre-Congress training course

**Per Olofsson** Head of the Congress Secretariat

**Britta Radeloff** Coordinator Authorities

**Göran Rune** Senior Advisor

**Raymond Wide** Coordinator Excursions and Green Job Arena



### 13.4 PROFESSIONAL CONGRESS ORGANIZER AND SCIENTIFIC SUPPORT TEAM

The management of the World Congress registration process and activities at the venue was mainly conducted by SLU's own in-house Professional Congress Organizers (PCO), Akademikonferens. The scientific support team were led by the consultant company Invajo, which managed the entire abstract process, including submission, review, and notifications. They also handled scheduling and programme building, seamlessly integrating everything with the Congress app. The PCO and the scientific support team delivered high quality throughout the planning and carry through of the congress.



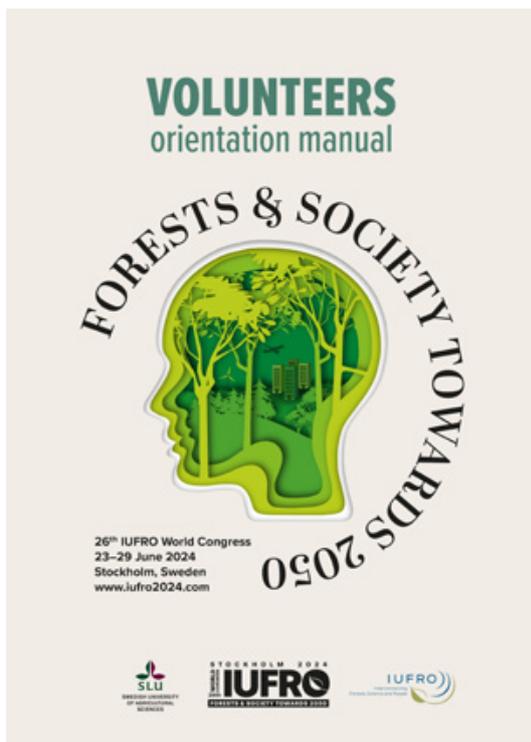
### 13.5 MEDIA DESK

The Media Desk was assigned to all communication planning, coordination and execution during the congress week. It provided coverage of selected sessions, speakers and events, according to the communication plan. It consisted of ten SLU employees: one chief editor, three back-office staff for editing and publishing, and six staff members creating content i.e. conducting interviews, writing articles, taking photos and videos. The Media Desk also included an external partner, Websedge, with three staff members creating TV-interviews and a daily TV-show.

### 13.6 VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

The IUFRO2024 Congress volunteer programme aimed to give volunteers valuable work experience during the days of the congress and have the chance to network and meet leading researchers, stakeholders and scientists from around the world. The congress also created opportunities for volunteers to connect with potential future employers. The volunteers were given the opportunity to participate in the Congress sessions and exhibition.

The selection process of the volunteers was open and widely publicized and communicated, which resulted in over 600 applicants to the 2024 Congress. In total, 82 volunteer applications were approved.



#### The obligations for the volunteers were:

- participate in the volunteer's one-day training
- occupy a specific station for at least two days during the congress
- be available for in-congress excursions on Wednesday 26 June
- assist at the congress outdoor mingle on Friday 28 June
- be an ambassador for the congress, be helpful and willing to assist
- carry out assigned duties in a responsible and professional manner
- inform delegates and attendees, based on written instructions.

The delegate survey conducted two weeks after the congress reveals high satisfaction among delegates, particularly with the quality of presentations, networking opportunities and venue. The high satisfaction rate is confirmed by crosschecking the survey and sentiment from social media, where 66% of the 5,335 posts were positive, 2% were negative and the rest neutral.

Delegates valued the scientific content, expertise of the speakers and well-organized schedule. Networking was highly regarded for fostering valuable future collaborations, and the venue was praised for its service, accessibility and comfort. The smartphone app was also seen as a useful tool for navigating the congress. However, the survey identified areas of improvement, such as session management, with concerns of overlapping seminars and technical issues during the poster sessions. The delegates also would like to see a broader range of topics, along with more digital tools for seamless participation and interaction at the next congress.

Feedback on the Stockholm Congress Statement was mixed. Many felt it lacked strong, actionable proposals, with eight out of ten believing it will have a minimal impact. However, seven out of ten thought it would benefit their own work. Suggestions for future congresses include a continued emphasis on the practical applications of research and making the Innovation Stage and Green Job Arena permanent features of the congress. The survey, which was sent to 4,200 delegates with 355 responses, is balanced in terms of gender and age, but is geographically biased, with most respondents from Christian, secular and Western countries.







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