



XXIII IUFRO World Congress
“Forests for the Future: Sustaining Society and the Environment”
Seoul, Korea - 23 - 28 August, 2010

Call for Congress Session Proposals

The IUFRO Congress Scientific Committee (CSC) is now accepting session proposals for the 2010 Congress. In keeping with the forward-looking spirit of the Congress title, we are developing a Congress program that highlights the contributions that forest science is making to adapt to our changing world and address the significant environmental, social and economic challenges facing society.

Session proposals will be accepted that address one or more of the following Congress themes:

- Forests and Climate Change
- Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use of Forest Resource
- Forest Environmental Services
- Asia's Forests for the Future
- Forest Products and Production Processes for a Greener Future
- Emerging Technologies in the Forest Sector
- Frontiers in Forest and Tree Health
- Forests, Communities and Cultures
- Forests, Human Health and Environmental Security

Who may submit a proposal?

The Congress Scientific Committee will accept proposals from all who share an interest in the future of forests and the themes of the Congress. While not required, we encourage submission of proposals that involve two or more IUFRO Divisions or Task Forces, and/or organizations not formally associated with IUFRO. We also encourage session proposals from university students at all levels. Session proposals from non-IUFRO member organizations will also be accepted but preference will be given to those that are prepared jointly with IUFRO Divisional units and Task Forces – if assistance is needed to identify appropriate partners within IUFRO, please contact the CSC Chair at jparrotta@fs.fed.us.

Preparing and submitting a session proposal.

Session proposals should include the following information:

- Name(s), organizational affiliations and contact details of session organizers;
- Session Title (should be descriptive, and less than 12 words in length)
- A brief statement of session objectives, topics to be covered, and the session's relevance to one or more of the Congress themes

- Information on the proposed session format – *i.e.*, presentation of individual papers and/or posters, moderated panel discussion, or other forms of presentation such as films, etc. (use your imagination!).
- A list of proposed speakers (if known), their organizational affiliations and tentative titles of their presentations.

Proposed sessions should be organized to be 2 hours in length, although there will be a limited number of 2½-hour sessions available in the Congress schedule. For sessions involving oral presentations, we recommend that each speaker be given a minimum of 15 minutes for his or her presentation. Proposals may be prepared and submitted using the [Session Proposal Form](#). The deadline for proposal submission is **January 15th 2009**.

Criteria for selection.

Session proposals will be reviewed and evaluated by members of the Congress Scientific Committee with primary consideration given to their scientific quality, topical significance, and relevance to the Congress themes. Other factors that will be considered are: the involvement of multiple IUFRO units (Divisions, Task Forces, Research Groups and Working Parties) and/or non-IUFRO organizations; geographic and gender diversity of proposed session speakers/presenters; and the involvement of students and young scientists. Proposals will be evaluated as they are received, so we strongly encourage submissions well in advance of the January 15th deadline. Acceptance decisions will be made no later than January 30th, 2009.

Responsibilities of session organizers.

Session organizers are expected to communicate and coordinate with those who will be presenting papers or posters during their session regarding submission of abstracts, are responsible for moderating sessions (or assigning session moderation responsibilities), and are encouraged to pursue publication options for papers presented in their sessions.

Session organizers should note that all those who are expected to present papers or posters during their sessions will need to submit their abstracts via the Congress website (<http://www.iufro2010.com>) during the abstract submission period from March through December 2009. Individuals submitting abstracts will be required to indicate the specific session(s) for which their abstract should be considered. Appropriate session organizers and members of the Congress Scientific Committee will be responsible for review of submitted abstracts. Because the abstract submission process will be open to all, session organizers may need to include papers or posters that were not originally proposed for their sessions, so please be aware of this possibility and the need for flexibility in designing your session. In the event that the number of accepted abstracts for a particular session exceeds the number that can be accommodated in a 2 or 2½-hour session time slot, session organizers may be invited by the CSC to expand their sessions into a second 2-hour slot during the Congress.

All accepted abstracts of oral and poster presentations will be published in a special volume of *The International Forestry Review*, as was done for the 2005 Congress in Brisbane, Australia. Session organizers may be asked to assist the CSC in the editing of accepted abstracts. As formal Congress proceedings with full papers will *not* be published, session organizers should explore alternative publication options (books, special issues of journals, etc.) for their sessions.

We look forward to hearing from you and for your active participation in the design of what promises to be a very memorable IUFRO Congress in Korea.

The IUFRO 2010 Congress Scientific Committee

John Parrotta (Chair); Jens Peter Skovsgaard (Division 1); Bailian Li (Division 2); Hans Heinemann (Division 3); Lauri Valsta (Division 4); Dave Cown (Division 5); Perry Brown (Division 6); Mike Wingfield & Andrew Liebhold (Division 7); Susan Conard (Division 8); Michael Rivoire (International Forestry Students' Association); Jung-Hwan Park (COC Chair); John Innes (IUFRO VP-Policy).

Congress theme descriptions

Forests and Climate Change

Forest managers and policy makers need the best available science, models and decision tools, and monitoring systems to support adaptation and mitigation options for fostering healthy, productive forests and for ensuring continued provision of ecosystem services in a changing climate.

Contributions to this theme will include: effects of climate change on the structure and function of forest ecosystems; interactions between climate and disturbance regimes such as fire, insect and disease, or invasive species; effects of changing climate on ecosystem services; management options for facilitating adaptation of forest ecosystems; mitigation options for optimizing carbon sequestration and greenhouse gas (GHG) offsets; carbon and GHG accounting protocols; feedbacks between climate-induced changes, management options, and global warming potential; and monitoring the impacts of changing climate and of mitigation and adaptation actions.

Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use of Forest Resource

Biodiversity is the foundation of the broad range of forest goods and services that sustain and enrich our lives. Improved understanding of biodiversity from intraspecific to landscape levels is critical for conservation and sustainable use of forest resources. Contributions to this theme will highlight scientific advances related to the role of biodiversity in sustaining environmental, economic, social and cultural values of forests, and explore topics such as conservation policy and management, managing biodiversity in a changing climate, forest landscape restoration, recreation and nature-based tourism, urban forests and amenities, bioenergy and non-timber forest products.

Forest Environmental Services

Beyond their provision of direct economic and social benefits in the form of timber, woodfuels, foods, medicines, and other non-wood forest products, forests and trees provide a range of ecosystem services that are fundamental to human well-being. Optimizing these broader societal benefits requires sound understanding of both the complex relationships between forest structure and function and the provision of forest environmental services, and how provision of these services are affected by environmental and social changes and by forest and broader landscape management. Contributions to this theme will examine such topics as the role of forests and woodlands, and their management, in the maintenance of favorable climate and air quality, prevention and mitigation of floods and other natural disasters, maintenance and restoration of water quality and the natural productivity of soils, amelioration of air and water pollution, and the provision of scenic beauty for recreation and eco-tourism, and inspiration for the arts and other cultural and spiritual activities.

Asia's Forests for the Future

The growing economies of Asia are creating many challenges and opportunities, both internally and externally. Forests have many important roles to play in these countries, and the future forests of Asia will be subject to many problems or changes. This theme will examine all aspects of Asia's future forests, including but not restricted to the supply of goods and services; the role of Asian countries in the global forest sector; planned developments such as China's six key forestry programs; the role of reforestation and rehabilitation programs for desertification control and environmental remediation; urban forestry; multi-purpose forest management; forest health and productivity; interactions between water and forests; traditional forest landscape management practices such as shifting cultivation and agroforestry; forest land ownership reform, and illegal logging and associated trade.

Forest Products and Production Processes for a Greener Future

Creating more value with less impact is essential if we are to move towards a greener future. The philosophy of "eco-efficiency" aims at the delivery of competitively-priced goods and services that

satisfy human needs and improve quality of life, while progressively reducing ecological impacts and resource use intensity throughout the life-cycle to a level compatible with the earth's estimated carrying capacity. Contributions to this theme will examine three promising streams of research that can trigger innovation along the whole forest product value chain: (1) environmentally sound production processes, (2) "green" products and systems, and (3) mechanisms that provide incentives to producers and consumers to use environmentally sound production processes and products.

Emerging Technologies in the Forest Sector

Traditional approaches to forest management, product manufacturing and biomaterial applications are continually being challenged. This theme seeks to highlight some of the more promising emerging technologies leading towards improved tree growth, forest health, and forest product utilization for bio-energy, human health and nutrition, as well as forest monitoring and modelling. Contributions will cover topics such as advanced breeding techniques, molecular genetics and genomics, nanotechnology; optimised energy usage; increased recovery using feature detection; integrated biorefining as well as high-value by-products. Emerging technologies in forest monitoring include 3D remote sensing of the forests, based on physical and empirical approaches; very high resolution remote sensing techniques for carbon balance and REDD monitoring; and new approaches in forest decision support systems.

Frontiers in Forest and Tree Health

The health of trees in forests and plantations is threatened world-wide due to damage caused by insect pests, pathogens and air pollution. This is being increasingly driven by host shifts for pests and pathogens and the introduction of these agents into areas where they previously did not occur. In addition there are growing examples of the negative impact of climate change on forests and there is growing evidence of close interactions between climate change and damage to trees by pests and pathogens. This theme seeks to draw attention to the most important elements of contemporary research dealing with all aspects of tree health.

Forests, Communities and Cultures

Forests and woodlands benefit rural communities in many ways, providing economic opportunities and sustaining social, cultural and spiritual values based on people's multi-faceted inter-generational ties to the land. Contributions to this theme will explore the historical and potential importance of traditional (local and indigenous) knowledge in forest management and maintenance of biocultural diversity; community management of forests and woodlands; the role of small-scale forest-based enterprises in an increasingly globalized world; and emerging issues and opportunities for forest-dependent local and indigenous communities in light of the global trend towards decentralization of forest management authority.

Forests, Human Health and Environmental Security

As environmental conditions in and around forests deteriorate in many regions - whether from warfare, population growth, uncontrolled logging, landscape modifications and land-use changes, climate change or any of a number of other causes, human health often also deteriorates. Such changes are likely to affect the vulnerable groups such as women, children, and marginalized ethnic groups most severely. Contributions to this theme will examine the interrelationships between forests and human health, the impacts of environmental changes on the well-being of different social groups in and around forests, and opportunities for enhancing the role of forests to promote community health, security and well-being.