

Invitation

The Austrian Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism (BMNT), the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research (BMBWF), and the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) cordially invite you to attend the

R20 Austrian World Summit Breakout Session

**Forest Responses to Climate Change:
Why African Forests Matter**

*Wednesday, 29 May 2019, 8:30-13:00
Kleiner Festsaal, University of Vienna, Universitätsring 1, 1010 Vienna*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The R20 Austrian World Summit on 28 and 29 May 2019 in Vienna will for the first time include a Breakout Session on forests and climate change. In this session policy makers and scientists will discuss the role of forests and trees and their sustainable conservation and management in limiting climate-related risks in the context of the Paris Agreement and the UN Sustainable Development Goals. In particular, the importance of forests in Africa will be underlined and examples of cooperation between Austrian and African partners will be highlighted.

Three renowned experts from Africa will talk about the opportunities and challenges for people and the environment related to forests, trees and forest products in the face of climate change. The Austrian Minister of Education, Science and Research, Mr. Heinz Faßmann, will present new science cooperation initiatives between Austria and partners in Africa. This is followed by a panel discussion which will look into the expectations of research and science cooperation as well as into opportunities of collaboration to support sustainable forest management. Concrete examples of forest research and development cooperation projects will finally be presented during a poster session organised by the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna.

We look forward to welcoming you at the breakout session!

Yours sincerely,



Alexander Buck, IUFRO Executive Director
On behalf of the organisers