

Short description

Forests are essential to our future and are essential to human well-being. More than 1.6 billion people, i.e. 25% of the global population, depend on them. Forests are strongly affected by climate change and air pollution, two significant interacting stressors. Climate change is one of the most challenging issues for global forests at present.

Sustainable forest management (policies and practices) is essential to maintain healthy forests and also contribute to economic growth, poverty alleviation, food security, climate resilience and biodiversity conservation. New **forest policy strategies** will lead to improved mitigation of impacts.

The IUFRO Task Force on *Climate Change and Forest Health*¹ organizes this side event to **transfer** relevant Task Force results to policy-makers and stakeholders.

The Task Force is **improving our understanding** of the multi-faceted aspects of forest degradation and of the processes regulating the interactions between forests and climate.

The side event will discuss **novel emergencies** and global challenges, e.g. air pollution and climate change impacts, and **solutions**, e.g. forest supersites and sustainable harvesting, and how to make forests more resilient against climate change, halt forest degradation and achieve healthy and functional forests.

The Task Force outputs facilitate the development of science-based strategies for policy-makers and managers to enable the protection of forests against air pollution and climate change and serve as a decision-support tool for national, European and international authorities.



All participants of the side event will be invited for a wine tasting at the North Delegates' Lounge at the United Nations buildings at 6-7pm.

Agenda

1:15 - Opening remarks

Dr. **J. Parrotta** IUFRO Vice President

1:20-2:00 - Bridging science and policy for protecting our forests from climate change

Dr. **A. De Marco**
ENEA, Italy

Forest disturbances, air pollution and climate change: projections of forest health for promoting prosperity

Climate change cancels out the air quality benefits to forests due to emission control strategies

Prof. **M. Kozlov**
University of Turku,
Finland

Predicting changes in forest losses to insects due to climate warming, pollution and urbanization

Good news from insects: no general increase in herbivory is expected

Dr. **P. Sicard**
ACRI, France

Supersites for Superior Forest Science

Global-level integrated research and monitoring is urgently needed for tracking changes in the health of our forests

Prof. **C. Branquinho**
University of Lisbon,
Portugal

A new global indicator to track the effects of climate change on forests

Let's keep track of climate change effects on forests by large-scale biodiversity-based indicators

2:00-2:45 - Science-policy integration and policy inputs

Dr. **A. Bytnerowicz**
Forest Service, USA

Adaptation strategies for a sustainable forest management

Flexible approach is needed for selection of adaptation strategies in forests facing highly unpredictable changes in climate, chemical environment and landscape

Prof. **E. Marchi**
University of Florence,
Italy

Sustainable forest operations as a foundation of the green economy

Reconciling forest logging and environmental protection requires policy inputs

Questions & Answers

Dr. **E. Paoletti**
IUFRO TF Chair

Wrap-up - *Air pollution and climate change are interlinked and should be subject to joint policies, with ancillary benefits for forest health*

¹ <http://www.iufro.org/science/task-forces/climate-change-forest-health/>

Organized by

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International Union of Forest Research Organizations - Research Group 7.01



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Région



Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur



UNFF12 side event

**Healthy forests for a prosperous
environment: the multi-faceted aspects of
forest degradation**

**Monday 1st May, 2017
Trusteeship Chamber
1:15-2:45 pm**

United Nations headquarters
New York, USA

