



Session: **Opportunities and challenges for harnessing local forest management to improve rural livelihoods in Africa**
Date: **Monday, 7 September, 12:45 – 14:15**
Venue: **Meeting room 11A**

Description

The proposed event addresses directly the overall topic of the congress by focusing on the opportunities and challenges for harnessing local forest and tree management to improve rural incomes and livelihoods in Africa. The event will highlight the different natural, socio-economic and governance situations and varying contexts for efforts to enhance sustainable forest-related incomes and rural livelihoods. It will identify and discuss biophysical, socio-political and cultural conditions that favor or inhibit local forest and tree based income generation and livelihood improvement. Important challenges that will be addressed are, among others, land tenure, rehabilitation of degraded areas, pressures for converting forest land to other uses, small-scale forest-based enterprises, timber markets and the options for local and small-scale producers to access domestic markets. Aiming at increasing forest-based incomes and local development, overarching conclusions will be drawn to identify opportunities for intervention and support, and for research and development efforts. Presentations à 10 min: - Eshetu Yirdaw, University of Helsinki, Finland: Rehabilitation of degraded forest and woodland ecosystems for livelihoods and ecosystem services in Ethiopia - Fernanda Tomaselli, University of British Columbia, Canada: Opportunities and challenges for small forest-based enterprises in the Gambia - Almeida Siteo, Eduardo Mondlane University, Mozambique: Community rights and participation in the face of new global interests in forests and lands: the case of Mozambique - Pablo Pacheco, CIFOR, Indonesia: Can domestic timber markets contribute to local livelihoods? - Pia Katila, Natural Resource Institute Finland: Wider view on opportunities and challenges to enhance forest and tree incomes and the realities in Africa - Glenn Galloway, University of Florida, US: Synthesis and implications for research and development efforts Discussion

Convening organizations

Special Project on World Forests, Society and Environment (IUFRO-WFSE)

Contact

Pia Katila (pia.katila@luke.fi)