



Session: **Research Symposium:**  
**Underpinning sustainable tree plantations in Southern Africa**  
Date: **Friday, 4 September, 7:45 – 18:00**

## **Description**

This one-day pre-Congress event will showcase the depth and breadth of forestry research across South Africa, highlighting how research provides innovation, knowledge and technology to advance operational and management objectives, and influence policy and strategic decision-making, while growing the skills and knowledge base.

Opened by the National Minister for Science and Technology in South Africa, this valuable information-sharing and networking forum will also provide an excellent opportunity for South African and international participants to engage in dialogue, heighten collaboration and grow partnerships. Keynote and invited speakers will highlight research initiatives from across the country's forest research community and the critical role of research in supporting decision-making at all levels across both public and private sectors.

Linking to the Congress theme "Forests and People – Investing in a Sustainable Future," the event will address some of South Africa's key issues as well as the need to promote forestry as an investment and development sector of the future, and support the creation of appropriate and relevant policy.

The event will develop a position paper which will be presented to the Congress highlighting the current and future importance and impact of forestry research in the regio

## **Champion Tree Book Launch**

"The Champion Trees of Southern Africa" book will be formally launched at the Symposium with copies on sale for delegates to purchase.

## **Who can attend?**

The event is open to all interested people including delegates attending the World Forestry Congress.

## **Contact**

Sally Upfold, [sally.upfold@icfr.ukzn.ac.za](mailto:sally.upfold@icfr.ukzn.ac.za)

## **Details**

[Final programme](#) of invited speakers