



Session: **Traditional values, practices and forest policy: transforming local challenges into renewed partnership**  
Date: **Wednesday, 9 September, 12:45 – 14:15**  
Venue: **Meeting Room 2D**

### **Description**

In order for forest and forest landscape policies to become successful, it is widely recognized that they need to be acceptable to a wide range of forest stakeholders as possible. Policies are likely to be more acceptable to multiple forest users who may have significant influence on forests and forest landscapes, if they adequately consider and respect traditional norms and values, or adequately consider traditional knowledge and practices. In the majority, however, policy makers and forest managers inadequately understand local values, knowledge and practices and this poses big challenges and often creates misunderstanding and conflicts. Multiple studies throughout the world showed that spiritual and religious beliefs and traditional practices can be key motivations for conservation and sustainable use of forests and land. A major challenge when defining forest and forest landscape policies is how to accommodate traditional values, knowledge and practices. The proposed side event aims to explore how to achieve a viable symbiosis between interests and objectives that dominate mainstream forest and forest landscape policy making and management planning and the views and preferences of the multiple stakeholders who operate based on entirely different resource and exchange ethics and values and knowledge basis. The event aims to provide a space for controversy between traditional leaders, on the one side, and politicians and technicians, on the other side, and between spiritual and cultural values held and transmitted over generations among forest dwellers versus mainstream political and economic priorities. The event will comprise one or two stage setting presentations followed by a moderated panel discussion on key aspects among four speakers representing traditional leaders, an expert technician and a politician. The audience will be invited to actively participate. Finally, the session moderator will summarize the main points and share some final remarks.

### **Convening organizations**

CIAS Kyoto University  
IUFRO Research Group 9.03.00 - Forest history and traditional knowledge  
ILC International Land Coalition  
IWCS International Wood Culture Society  
TDB Travencore Devasworn Board  
CIFOR CGIAR Forests, Trees and Agroforestry

### **Contact**

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