**XV World Forestry Congress Side Event**

**Managing forests for water**

Side event overview

Forests and trees are an integral component of the water cycle regulating water quantity, quality and timing, as well as providing protective functions, such as soil and coastal erosion, flood and avalanche control.

Forest and mountain ecosystems serve as source areas for more than 75 percent renewable water supply, providing water to 90 percent of urban centres globally. Therefore, forests are vital for water security. However, as tree cover on landscapes change, so does the hydrology of the landscape.

Understanding this close relationship between forests and water is fundamental for forest and natural resource managers and policy makers to have a holistic view of the consequences of their management practices and policies. Science should inform management strategies for the world’s forests, especially considering the ongoing climatic crisis and its impact on forest resources and people.

Under the umbrella of The Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) 2020 a thematic study on *Managing forests for water* has been conducted through a collaboration with U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) and other different International Organizations, Research centers and Universities. The publication aims at improving the information base on water ecosystem services of forests through monitoring, and at providing guidance on how to manage forests for these services, including protective functions.

**Proposed Agenda[[1]](#footnote-1)**

0:00-0:10. Opening remarks on The Forest-Water nexus (Mr Alexander Buck Executive Director IUFRO[[2]](#footnote-2) and/or Associate Chief, U.S. Forest Service Ms Angela Coleman)

0:10-1:10. Panel session/Interview modality:

* Forest-Water Monitoring, Planning and Management (Mr Remi D’Annunzio FAO, Mr Steve McNulty, USDA/Mr Ge Sun, USDA[[3]](#footnote-3))
* Valuing water from forests (Mr Alessandro Leonardi, ETIFOR[[4]](#footnote-4))
* Key forests for water (Mr Richard MacKenzie USFS[[5]](#footnote-5), Ms Maria Gonzales Sanchis/Mr Antonio del Campo Polytechnic University of Valencia[[6]](#footnote-6))

1:10-1:25. Discussion and Q/A (Moderator: Ms Elaine Springgay, FAO[[7]](#footnote-7))

1:25-1:30. Reflections and way forward (Mr Anssi Pekkarinen, Senior Forestry Officer, Global Forest Resources Assessment, Forestry Division, FAO)

**Language**

English.

**Sub-theme of the WFC**

Sub-theme 5: Managing and communicating forest information and knowledge

**Time Slot**

May 4, 2022 from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM

**Expected number of participants**

Physical attendants, 40.

Virtual Attendants, 100.

1. Format: *Davos style panel discussion on stage, Q&A. The podium and seven (TBC) chairs (couch/sofa) for panelists – plus IT (audio and video) set up for virtual and live presentations/interview of 2-3questions. The panel will be composed of seven participants (TBC) from different Organizations and Institutions (USFS, JRC, INECOL, ETIFOR) involved in the publication and one participant/moderator from FAO.* [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Confirmed physical presence [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Confirmed virtual presence [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Confirmed physical presence [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Confirmed virtual presence [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Confirmed physical presence [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Depending on the FAO delegation list from HQ [↑](#footnote-ref-7)