

THE ONLINE INFORMATION BULLETIN OF THE GLOBAL FOREST SCIENCE NETWORK

A merger of IUFRO News and IUFRO E-Notes distributed by e-mail 10 times a year.

Building Bridges to a Sustainable Future: IUFRO at the Science-Policy Interface

John A. Parrotta and Richard W. Guldin (Coordinator), IUFRO Task Force on the Science-Policy Interface

In recent years, the forest science community has begun to take advantage of new opportunities to contribute to the development of forest policies aimed at advancing sustainable forest management at local, national and international levels. The growing emphasis on stakeholder consultation in international policy forums and a wide variety of ongoing regional and national forest policy formulation processes presents both an opportunity and an obligation for forest scientists and research organizations to provide policy-makers and stakeholders with scientifically sound information, both to inform policy discussions and to assess the likely implications of policy options on forest resources and their management.

Recognizing this development, IUFRO established in 1998 a Task Force (TF) on the Forest Science-Policy Interface. During the past 4 years the TF organized a series of regional workshops to evaluate case studies illustrating the linkages between forest research and policy-making processes. During the final workshop, the findings of the earlier workshops were critically evaluated, key messages for improving interactions between the forest research community and both policy-makers and society at large were refined, and advice was developed for forest scientists and organizations to improve communication across the science-policy interface and to develop more effective partnerships among researchers, policy makers and forest stakeholders. A set of guidelines developed specifically for researchers and forest science organizations and based on the findings of the TF, will be presented and discussed during the technical session "Science and Policy: Making the Connection" at the XXII IUFRO World Congress in August.

This "Guidance Document" will provide practical advice to scientists and research organizations related to the development of research programs that address questions that are relevant to current and emerging policy issues,



TF members at the final workshop in Birmensdorf, Switzerland, 2004

strategies for enhancing stakeholder involvement in research and the communication of research findings to stakeholders and policy-makers, advice on ways to better understand and more effectively engage in policy processes, and the development of capacity research organizational cultures that enable and encourage constructive interaction at the science-policy interface. Elements of the guidance document, as well as an overview of the Task Force's objectives and work to date, were presented by C. Denise Ingram (USDA Forest Service) at the IUFRO Side Event during the 17th Session of FAO's Committee on Forestry (COFO) in Rome in March.

Additional products of the TF will include a policy brief intended for use by policy-makers, and training materials for use by scientists, research organizations and decision makers to be developed jointly by the TF and IUFRO's Special Programme for Developing Countries (SPDC).

Reports from each of the regional workshops are on the Task Force website <http://www.iufro.org/science/task-forces/sciencepolicy-interface/>. Selected case studies have been published in: *Revista Forestal Centroamericana* No. 37 (2002), published by CATIE, Turrialba, Costa Rica; Parrotta, JA and Campos, JJ. (Eds.) 2003. *Communication Across the Forest Science/Policy Interface. Forest Policy and Economics (Special Issue) 5 (4): 329-460*; and Gamborg, CH, Parrotta, JA and Thorsen, BJ. (Eds.). 2004. *The Forest Science/Policy Interface: Building Bridges to a Sustainable Future. Scandinavian Journal of Forest Research*, 19, (Suppl. No. 4), 1-176.

Call for Proceedings from IUFRO Meetings

IUFRO keeps an online reference library particularly for proceedings from IUFRO meetings to the benefit of its members. If you are a meeting organizer, please, do not forget to **send always two courtesy copies of the proceedings and also a PDF version**, if possible, to IUFRO Headquarters, c/o BFW, Hauptstr. 7, 1140 Vienna, Austria; e-mail <office@iufro.org>. With your continuous cooperation, we can offer you a reliable and well-stocked literature service!

Revitalization of the Global Forest Decimal Classification - IUFRO 6.03.03 - Get involved!

The Global Forest Decimal Classification is a tool for organizing and retrieving electronic and paper forest and forestry-related information resources. The system was first planned in 1903 and has been repeatedly updated and amended since then. In 1933 the IUFRO Congress adopted the "Flury" system. In 1953 CAB published the system as the Oxford Decimal Classification for Forestry. In 2002 The IUFRO Board endorsed a name change to the Global Forest Decimal Classification. It is custom-designed by and for forest researchers with hierarchical subject divisions and a numeric "decimal" annotation. It has been translated into 12 languages.

Today, the scope of areas to be covered has changed considerably. Therefore, an *ad hoc* steering committee has been formed with the goal of updating and publishing a revitalized classification. A database of the English and German editions of the classification has been built to help editing and updating efforts. Contact has been re-

established with the Universal Decimal Classification Consortium.

The steering group **invites interested parties** to examine the classification via the website (iufro.andornot.com/gfdceditssearch.aspx) and submit new concepts either via the website, by mail or email. Some of the areas already identified as needing substantial revision are: **forest genetics; avalanche; plant chemistry; air pollution; environment; biomass and bio-energy; forest health; wood processing technology; and biodiversity**. For these areas we request help from IUFRO subject experts.

The GFDC unit calls for volunteers to help edit and update the classification. If you would like to get involved please visit the [Unit website](#) or contact *Barbara Holder, Unit Coordinator* at <holder@van.forintek.ca>. Progress will be reported at the IUFRO World Congress in Brisbane.

Barbara Holder, Coordinator, Working Party 6.03.03

Scientific Colloquium: Forest, Landscape and Society

On April 8, 2005, ETH Zurich held a scientific international colloquium on the occasion of the retirement of **Professor Franz Schmithüsen**, Honorary Member of IUFRO. The speakers of the colloquium focused their contributions on "Forest, Landscape and Society", an issue that covers the main domain of Professor Schmithüsen's professional and academic career.



Franz Schmithüsen held the Chair of Forest Policy and Forest Economics from 1984 till 2005 and was deputy head of the Human- Environment Systems Institute (HES) in the Department of Environmental Sciences at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH Zurich, Switzerland) since its foundation in 2004. He became Honorary Member of IUFRO in 2000 in recognition of his excellent and long-standing contributions to the advancement of international cooperation in research and teaching and his continuous efforts to document changes in forest law in different regions of the world.

(Source: http://www.ethz.ch/news/ethupdate/2005/050406_1/index)

Expert Meeting: World Heritage Forests

From 9-11 March 2005 the World Heritage Centre organized the expert meeting "UNESCO and the World Heritage Convention Contributing to Forest Conservation and Sustainable Development - BERASTAGI + 7" in Nancy, France.

A group of 40 international experts in forest conservation, protected area financing, sustainable development and capacity building met to consider forest protected areas and their integration into the landscape. The interests of the forest research community and IUFRO were represented by Eric Teissier du Cros, Vice-President Science.

The consensus emerging from the meeting was to consolidate the existing WH Forest sites as strictly protected core areas, alongside the integration of their management, in a broader landscape. The detailed outputs of this meeting will be assembled in a publication that will be ready later this year.

(Source: <http://whc.unesco.org/pg.cfm?cid=301>)

Meetings

Find announcements and reports of IUFRO events on our [online calendar](#) and the [homepages](#) of the IUFRO Units involved.

IUFRO Events

Soil - Bio-Engineering in Torrent and Erosion Control

23-27 May 2005, Bozen, Italy

Seminar involving IUFRO Units 8.04.00, 8.04.04, 8.04.06

Contact: Gernot Fiebiger-Tel: +43-662-878152, Fax: +43-662-878152150, E-mail: <gernot.fiebiger@wlv.bmlf.gv.at>

11th International Silver Fir Symposium

4-9 September 2005, Poiana Brasov, Romania

„Challenges for the Management of European Silver Fir (*Abies alba* Mill.) Under Changing Climatic and Economic Conditions.“

Web: <http://www.icassv.ro/en/index.html>

Co-sponsored by IUFRO WP 1.05.16

Contact: Ion Barbu, Tel: +40230314747 ;

Fax: +40230314746 ; E-mail: <barbu.ion@icassv.ro>

Rockfall and Avalanche Protection Forest: Science and Practice

26-28 September 2005, Vaujany, France

Co-sponsored by IUFRO WP 1.05.14

Web site: <http://vaujany2005.grenoble.cemagref.fr>

Contact: Luuk Dorren <luuk.dorren@cemagref.fr>

7th International Conference on Dendrochronology

11-17 June 2006, Beijing, China.

co-organized by IUFRO 5.01.00

Contact: Qi-Bin Zhang, Ph.D, Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences, 20 Nan-Xin-Cun, Xiangshan, 100093, Beijing, P.R. China

Tel: 86-(0)10-82593485 (Office), Fax: 86-(0)10-62590833 ;

E-mail: <qbzhang@ibcas.ac.cn>

Non-IUFRO Events

5th Session of the UNFF

16-27 May, UNHQ, New York, USA

<http://www.un.org/esa/forests/session.html>

Biodiversity of the Boreal Forest Ecosystems: Assessment, Present State, Conservation

June 12-18, Saint Petersburg, Russia

MSc course intended for students from the NOVA-BOVA network and NW Russia regions.

Contact: Maxim Chubinsky, Saint-Petersburg State Forest Academy, Cell phone +7 911 9681206 ; Fax +7 812

5500815 ; E-mail: <wood2004@mail.ru>

Facilitating Forestry Mitigation Projects in India: Promoting Stakeholder Dialogue and Capacity Building

16-17 June, 2005, Dehradun Uttarancha, India

Workshop organized by the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education in Partnership with Joanneum Institute, Austria and Freiburg University, Germany; sponsored by The European Union. <http://www.icfre.org>

Contact: ICFRE: <hoodan@icfre.org>

Publications

IUFRO Publications

Wood Science – Education and Research Programmes

Proceedings from the first international wood science symposium held from 16-20 August 2004 in Stará Lesná, Slovakia, cosponsored by IUFRO Division 5. Edited by S Kurjatko, D J Gardner, and J Kúdela; published by Arbora Publishers, ISBN 80-968868-1-9. 155 pages.

Social Roles of Forests for Urban Population

Forest Recreation, Landscape, Nature Conservation, Economic Evaluation and Urban Forestry.

Proceedings from the interim meeting of IUFRO RG 6.01.00 from 23-29 August 2004 in Hokkaido, Japan, (Co-organized by IUFRO Units 6.11.04 and 6.14.00) edited by Taiichi Ito and Nobuhiko Tanaka. Japan Society of Forest Planning Press. 199 p. ISBN 4-915870-30-8.

Send orders to: Taiichi Ito <taiichi@sakura.cc.tsukuba.ac.jp>

Health of Tropical Forest Trees

Report from the IUFRO WP 7.02.07 (Diseases of Tropical Forest Trees) Training Course from 4-8 April 2005 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, jointly organized by APAFRI, FRIM and the USDA-FS. <http://iufro-archive.boku.ac.at/iufro-net/d7/wu70207/ev70207.htm>

Air Pollution Impacts on Forest Ecosystems: Key Results from the 2004 IUFRO RG 7.04.00 Meeting.

Paoletti E., Andersen C., Bastrup-Birk A.M., Bytnerowicz A., Ferretti M., Günthardt-Goerg M.S., Johnson D., Müller-Starck G., Huttunen S. 2004.

In: *Proceedings of the Meeting "Forest under changing climate, enhanced UV and air pollution"*, August 25-30, 2004, Oulu, Finland, Kinnunen H., Huttunen S. (Eds.), Dept Biology, Thule Institute, Univ. Oulu, pp. 196-210.

Non-IUFRO Publications

FAO - "State of the World's Forests 2005"

The 2005 issue of the State of the World's Forests has the theme "realizing the economic benefits from forests" and includes main contributions on: enhancing the economic benefits from forests; economic benefits from agroforestry; the economics of wood energy; impacts of tariffs and non-tariff measures on forest products trade; and violent conflicts in forested areas. The edition also provides an update on issues related to forest resources, forest conservation and management, institutions and the international forest policy dialogue: www.fao.org/forestry/site/sofo/en

The Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee:

Fifty Years of International Cooperation in Forestry

By T J Peck and E G Richards; ILO, Geneva, Switzerland 2004, ISBN 92-2-116052-1 (print version).

European Forest Sector Outlook Study (EFSOS)

Geneva Timber and Forest Study paper 20
UN Geneva, Switzerland, 2005. ISBN 92-1-116921-6