

THE ONLINE INFORMATION BULLETIN OF THE GLOBAL FOREST SCIENCE NETWORK

Conference in Foz do Iguacu Recognizes the Value of Sense of Place in Forest Research

By Teresa Cristina Magro, Coordinator of IUFRO Research Group [6.04.00](#) – Nature conservation and protected areas

Between 21 and 26 April 2013, an international meeting was held in the Brazilian city of Foz do Iguacu organized by IUFRO Research Group 6.04.00.

“The Protected Areas and Place Making Conference - PAMP2013” was organized by Professors Teresa Cristina Magro and Demótenes Ferreira da Silva Filho, both of the Forestry Faculty, Luiz de Queiroz College of Agriculture (ESALQ), of the University of São Paulo, in close collaboration with Jessica Leahy from the School of Forest Resources of the University of Maine (USA).

The sponsors of the event were: CAPES, CNPQ, Itaipu Binacional, Boticario Group Foundation For Nature Protection, Klabin and Fealq. Visit the website at <http://canjerana.esalq.usp.br/PAMP2013/doku.php>

The event attracted 105 participants from 13 countries: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, Finland, Japan, Lithuania, Nigeria, Pakistan, United States and Sweden. Other IUFRO Research Groups participated actively in the conference through the presentation of scientific papers in the concurrent sessions: [6.01.00](#) – Forest Recreation, Landscape Planning and Management, [6.03.00](#) – Nature-Based Tourism, and [6.10.00](#) – Rural Development.

IUFRO President Professor Niles Elers Koch attended the opening session and Dr. Tuija Sievänen, Coordinator of IUFRO Division 6 – Social Aspects of Forest and Forestry, gave a speech during the closing of the conference on April 26. Technical visits were made to the Itaipu Binational Dam, Bela Vista Biological Refuge, Iguacu National Park (Brazil) and Iguazu National Park (Argentina).

Presentations mainly focused on social aspects of conservation and aimed to stimulate discussions how to improve the management of protected areas in Brazil, a country with up to 1.5 million square kilometres of protected area divided into 1700 units. According to the conference organizers, these areas have limited human and financial resources and this represents a big challenge for Brazilian society on how to manage these protected areas. The organizers emphasize that the recognition of the social importance of protected areas within Brazilian reality is in the interest of society and that research must contribute towards finding different values in each ecosystem or protected area.



*Field Trip at Iguacu National Park (Brazil).
Photo by Yukie Kabashima*

Using sense of place is a necessary concept in the process leading to the recognition of these values. Understanding the role of the different meanings of “place” will contribute to a better identification of conservation units also among stakeholders, governments on local, state and federal levels, and the private sector. A growing recognition of the importance of conservation units and their value will also lead to more willingness on part of the social actors to cooperate with each other in a dynamic and sensible way in order to preserve a “place”. This will consequently contribute to everybody’s quality of life.



*Some of the participants of PAMP 2013.
Photo by Yukie Kabashima.*

Innovative Approaches for Decision Support in Sustainable Forest Management and Policy Advice

By José G. Borges, Coordinator of IUFRO Unit [4.04.04](#); Ljusk-Ola Eriksson, Chair of the Conference Organizing Committee; and Harald Vacik, Deputy Chair of IUFRO Unit [4.03.03](#)

The 2013 FORSYS Conference brought together the experience and the expertise worldwide for developing innovative decision support approaches to address sustainable forest management and its concerns with social, economic and environmental objectives. It reported the state-of-the art on the development and use of decision support systems and provided insights into case studies that enhance forest management planning and support forest policy analysis.

Sustainable forest ecosystem management and policy analysis

The task of sustainable forest ecosystem management planning is to facilitate decision-making processes of forest managers so that plans may optimize the supply of economic goods, such as timber, cork and bio-fuel, while sustaining the ecological base in terms of biodiversity, carbon sequestration, soil and water quality and addressing concerns regarding the well-being of people and society. This is to be accomplished under changing environmental, regulatory, and economic conditions, rendering the empiricism of the past unsuitable as a means for making decisions and developing policies about the future, but requiring advanced decision-support tools.

The synthesis for innovative management and policy decision support

The Conference *FORSYS 2013 Decision Support Systems for Sustainable Forest Management* took place on April 24-26, 2013 in Umeå, Sweden. It was sponsored by IUFRO Division 4, the European Science Foundation (ESF) and the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences. Its program encompassed 48 presentations and it involved 98 participants from 32 countries (Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States).

The Conference presented an original synthesis of multidisciplinary research efforts - developed under the COST Action FP0804 (FORSYS Forest Management Decision Support Systems DSS) - to provide an innovative worldwide quality reference for development and application of advanced computerized tools to support forest management and policy analysis. This was built from the experience and expertise reported in comprehensive country reports by 94 researchers from 26 countries in Africa, America, Asia and Europe and from the work recently conducted under FORSYS by over 120 researchers and stakeholders to address hot topics such as:

a) the architecture and implementation of decision support systems (DSS),



Participants at the 2013 FORSYS Conference in Umeå, Sweden, April 24-26. Photo by Mikael Ronnqvist.

b) the models and methods to support decision-making in DSS,
c) the knowledge management techniques in DSS, and
d) the participatory processes to be supported by DSS.

The need to involve decision-makers in the design of DSS was discussed as critical success factor and it became evident that research tries to consider the rising demands and needs of stakeholders with advanced techniques and models. The synthesis coming up from the COST Action and the final conference will be influential to improve management from a stand to a multiple-ownership landscape scale and to enhance forest policy analysis in general.

The Community of Practice on Forest Decision Support Systems

The further research to innovate forest management and policy analysis processes will be supported by the Community of Practice on Forest Decision Support Systems (<http://www.forestdss.org>) which was constituted during the conference. This Community will build from the state-of-the art and the FORSYS experience, namely from a large repository of DSS projects that has been formally described in a semantic wiki: (<http://fp0804.emu.ee/wiki/index.php/Category:DSS>) to further provide a solid expertise in applying models, methods, techniques and frameworks for developing and applying DSSs for forest management and policy analysis.

A proposal for a session to further disseminate this work at the IUFRO 2014 World Congress (Decision Support for providing Ecosystem Services - Community of Practice of Forest Decision Support Systems) is currently being organized by IUFRO Units [4.02.07](#), [4.03.03](#) and [4.04.04](#).

Lidar Applications in Forest Inventory and Related Statistical Issues

By Piermaria Corona, Coordinator of IUFRO WP [4.02.06](#), and Gherardo Chirici, Coordinator of IUFRO WP [4.02.04](#)

The increasing availability of space-borne or air-borne lidar data offers the potential to exploit this three-dimensional information alone or in combination with remotely sensed multispectral images to support forest inventories for the estimation of forest attributes at various scales.

The availability of air-borne lidar data can range from a full coverage over a given territory, where these data can be exploited as ancillary data known for the entire population, to a sample of the territory based on transects below the flight lines to spot samples within transects in order to adopt multiphase/multistage estimation approaches, for example. However, the potential to integrate air-borne lidar information in forest inventories at various scales under a sound statistical framework is an aspect to be further developed.

The research workshop on "Lidar Applications in Forest Inventory and Related Statistical Issues" held on 8 May 2013 and hosted by the University of Tuscia, Viterbo, Italy, was conceived to allow participants to exchange information and experiences about such issues. It was attended by 70 researchers from Italy, USA and Sweden and involved IUFRO Units 4.02.04 and 4.02.06. The workshop was sponsored by the Accademia Italiana di Scienze Forestali, Associazione Italiana di Telerilevamento, Consiglio per la ricerca e la sperimentazione in agricoltura, Forestry Research Centre, Società Italiana di Selvicoltura ed Ecologia Forestale.

The results presented and the discussions carried out during the meeting suggest that air-borne lidar-based information widely proves to be well correlated to forest attributes and can be used to support the estimation of various quantitative variables, such as biomass or growing stock volume, and for discriminating forest in different classes on the basis of structure and forest management (e.g. coppice vs high stands).

Various analysis and estimation techniques can be used along with the support of air-borne lidar data, obtaining good results in various conditions, from Alpine to Mediterranean environments. The benefit of using optical multispectral imagery in conjunction with air-borne lidar data appear relatively limited. The maximum allowed scanning angle should be limited to 10° since several metrics derived from lidar data are sensible to these characteristics.

Air-borne lidar-based information can be considered from the beginning of a forest inventory supporting the set-up of multistage/multiphase sampling designs (i.e. lidar data acquisition is conceived as a part of the sampling design) or just after the end of the field survey, prevalently to support small area estimations, wall-to-wall mapping or the treatment of missing field data.

The exploitation of air-borne lidar-based information for monitoring/inventorying forest (volume/biomass) changes is devised as a distinctively challenging current topic for forest inventory research. Specific attention is to be paid to the fact that local forest conditions and characteristics of the air-borne lidar acquisition may alter the relationship between forest variables and lidar-based metrics over time. Therefore, forest inventory and remote sensing specialists should cooperate even more closely.

Related websites: www.aisf.it; www.aitonline.org/; www.dibaf.unitus.it; www.sisef.org; www.selvicoltura.eu

Powerpoint presentations at: <http://forestlab.net/download/lidar-workshop-university-of-tuscia/>

IFSA Southern European Regional Meeting Starting in Vienna

The IFSA (International Forestry Students' Association) is a global network of some 3000 students of forest sciences. In more than 40 countries so-called Local Committees (LC) work on a regional scale for bringing together students from all over the world in order to broaden their mind about our world's forests and their sustainable management.

Each year most of the different IFSA Regions invite to a regional meeting for the LC members in this region for several days. The Southern European Regional Meeting (SERM) 2013 was opened at BOKU University, Vienna, on 29 April and gathered some 50 students from many countries in Europe.

IUFRO Executive Director Alexander Buck had been invited to address the students at the opening ceremony at BOKU University and he seized this opportunity to underline the importance of the collaboration between the two networks of IUFRO and IFSA.

Find photos from the opening and the students' tour through Austria and Hungary at: <http://serm2013.wordpress.com/2013/05/09/thank-you-all/>



Opening of IUFRO World Congress Memorial Hall in Seoul, Korea

The XXIII IUFRO World Congress was successfully held from 23-28 August 2010 in Seoul, Republic of Korea. A total of 2,734 forest scientists from 92 countries participated in the Congress to present 2,123 papers. The event, titled "Forests for the Future: Sustaining Society and the Environment", served as a venue to highlight the value of forest in addressing global environmental issues such as resource deficit, biodiversity loss, and global warming.

The congress was acclaimed for advancing Korea's status in the international forest community and is still marked as an opportunity to secure a driving force for Korea's green growth. Korea Forest Research Institute (KFRI), the host of the Congress, now opened the "XXIII IUFRO World Congress Memorial Hall" on May 10, 2013 to promote the successful hosting and significance of the Congress.



Don Koo LEE, former IUFRO President, Seung-jin SUH, former Minister of Korea Forest Service, Wan-yong CHOI, former Director General of KFRI, Young Kyoon YOON, current Director General of KFRI, members of the XXIII IUFRO World Congress Organizing Committee, and other officials who prepared the Congress attended the opening ceremony.

The participants celebrated the opening of the Hall with a signboard hanging ceremony and a ribbon cutting ceremony. They also discussed ways to promote global research cooperation and to strengthen relationships with international institutions including IUFRO. The Hall will be open to the public to promote the role of forests for the future and the significance of the international cooperation in solving the global issues in forest and forestry fields.

Congratulations

On 1 April 2013, IUFRO Immediate Past President Don K. LEE was appointed Endowed Chair Professor at the Park Chung Hee School of Policy and Saemaul of Yeungnam University (YU) by the President (Prof. S. K. NOh) of YU. Don K. Lee will teach "International issues in forest and environmental science fields" and "Restoration ecology and silviculture".

Publications

IUFRO-WFSE Newsletter 1-2013

For the latest newsletter of IUFRO's Special Project World Forests, Society and Environment (IUFRO WFSE), go to: <http://www.iufro.org/science/special/wfse/wfse-news/>

Book of Abstracts

International Symposium MORIOKA 2013:

Global Forest Products Marketing and Forest Certification in A Green Economy

28 March 2013, Morioka, Japan, IUFRO 5.10.00.

<http://www.iufro.org/publications/proceedings/proceedings-meetings-2013/#c20384>

Proceedings

1st FOREBIOM Workshop: Potentials of biochar to mitigate climate change. 4-5 April 2013, Vienna, Austria,

IUFRO 7.01.03 and Task Force on Forest Bioenergy <http://www.iufro.org/publications/proceedings/proceedings-meetings-2013/#c20383>

Proceedings

Second International Conference of 2.09.02 – Somatic embryogenesis and other vegetative propagation technologies: Integrating vegetative propagation, biotechnologies and genetic improvement for tree production and sustainable forest management; Brno, Czech Republic; 25-28 June 2012

<http://www.iufro.org/science/divisions/division-2/20000/20900/20902/publications/>

Proceedings

International Conference on Traditional Forest-related Knowledge and Culture for Green Economy: <http://www.iufro.org/publications/proceedings/proceedings-meetings-2012/#c20237>

New Journal for Early Career Researchers:

Springer Science Reviews

The journal provides a new vehicle for early career researchers to showcase their talents. It also publishes a range of invited expert reviews on topics of general interest to early career researchers. PhD students and postdocs are invited to submit their literature reviews for consideration for publication.

<http://www.springer.com/life+sciences/journal/40362?detailsPage=societies>

Announcements

2014 IUFRO World Congress Awards

Nominate your candidates before 31 August 2013! No self-nominations possible. For more information, visit: <http://www.iufro.org/discover/awards/>

"What is the forest for me"

Results of Drawing Competition 2013

The European Commission's Department for Agriculture and Rural Development organized a drawing competition for primary school children and received over 9000 drawings from 23 countries. The winner of this competition is Jakub Roszak (8 years) from Poland. http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/forest-drawing-competition/index_en.htm

Tenure Track Assistant Professorship Forest Operations

The TUM Department of Ecology and Ecosystem Management/Center of Life and Food Sciences Weihenstephan, Germany, invites applications for a Tenure Track Assistant Professorship "Forest Operations". Deadline: 30 June 2013

<http://www.iufro.org/discover/noticeboard/#c14607>

Funded PhD Position in Edinburgh, Scotland

<http://www.iufro.org/discover/noticeboard/#c12985>

Applications are invited for one fully funded three-year PhD studentship within the Forest Products Research Institute and the School of Engineering and the Built Environment at Edinburgh Napier University. Visit: <http://www.napier.ac.uk/aboutus/vacancies/Pages/Jobdetails.aspx?GUID=ca0e1b7c-256d-4a42-b41d-7c42f787f882>

IUFRO Meetings

Search our [online calendar](#) for a full list of meetings! Find non-IUFRO meetings on the IUFRO [Noticeboard](#)! Also search for forest-related events in GFIS at: <http://www.gfis.net>



12-15 Jun 2013

IUFROLAT 3

Tercer Congreso Latinoamericano de IUFRO/Third IUFRO Latin American Congress

San José, Costa Rica

Contact: iufrolat(at)catie.ac.cr

http://web.catie.ac.cr/iufrolat/IufroLat_ing.htm

Twitter: Look out for #iufrolat

10-14 Aug 2013

11th International Christmas Tree Research and Extension Conference

Truro, Nova Scotia, Canada

IUFRO 2.02.09

Contact: Ulrik Braüner Nielsen, ubn(at)life.ku.dk

<http://www.dal.ca/about/agricultural-campus/about/conferences/international-christmas-tree-research-and-extension-conference.html>

27-30 Aug 2013

Conference of IUFRO Task Force on "Resources for the Future"

Vancouver, Canada

IUFRO Task Force on Resources for the Future

Contact: John Innes, john.innes(at)ubc.ca

<http://iufro2013.forestry.ubc.ca/>

1-5 Sep 2013

ClimTree (Climate Change and Tree Responses in Central European Forests) Conference

Zurich, Switzerland

IUFRO 7.03.06

Contact: Andrea Battisti, andrea.battisti(at)unipd.it, Alain Roques, alain.roques(at)orleans.inra.fr

<http://www.iufro.org/science/divisions/division-7/70000/70300/70306/activities/>

9-11 Oct 2013

International Conference on Wood Adhesives

Toronto, Ontario, Canada

IUFRO 5.00.00, 5.04.00

Contact: Christopher G. Hunt, cghunt(at)fs.fed.us

<http://www.forestprod.org/woodadhesives/>

7-9 Nov 2013

9th International Conference "Wood Science and Engineering in the Third Millennium" - ICWSE 2013

The "Transilvania" University, Brasov, Romania

IUFRO 5.00.00, 5.04.00

Contact: Marius Barbu, marcat(at)gmx.at, Mihaela Campean, campean(at)unitbv.ro

<http://www.unitbv.ro/fil/Conferinta/ICWSE2013.aspx>

14-16 Nov 2013

6th International Scientific and Technical Conference on Innovations in Forest Industry and Engineering Design

Yundola, Bulgaria

IUFRO 5.00.00, 5.04.00

Contact: inno_conference(at)abv.bg

<http://inno.ltu.bg>

18-21 Mar 2014

IUFRO Acacia 2014 Conference "Sustaining the Future of Acacia Plantation Forestry"

Hue, Vietnam

IUFRO 2.08.07, 1.02.06, 2.04.01

Contact: Jane Harbard, harbardj(at)utas.edu.au

<http://iufroacacia2014.com.vn/>



5-11 October 2014

XXIV IUFRO

World Congress 2014

Salt Lake City, UT,

United States

<http://www.iufro2014.com/>

Other Meetings and Courses

24 Jun – 10 Jul 2013

Curso: Análisis espacial para la conservación de la biodiversidad y manejo de paisajes tropicales

Bogotá, Colombia

Departamento de Biología, Universidad Nacional de Colombia

<http://www.dib.unal.edu.co/escuelainternacional/2013/cursos/biodiversidad.html>

23-24 Sep 2013

Climate change and its implications on ecosystem services and society

Lecce, Italy

Italian Society for Climate Sciences (SISC)

<http://www.sisclima.it/conference2013>

15-18 Oct 2013

Africa Climate Conference 2013 (ACC-2013)

Arusha (Tanzania)

African Policy Climate Centre (ACPC) and the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP)

<http://www.climdev-africa.org/acc2013>

3-6 Dec 2014

Fifth International Conference on Plants & Environmental Pollution (ICPEP- 5)

Lucknow, India

International Society of Environmental Botanists and CSIR-National Botanical Research Institute, Lucknow

Contact: isebnirilko(at)sify.com / isebmail@gmail.com

<http://isebindia.com>

9-13 Dec 2013

European Forest Week and Metsä 2013 Joint session of the ECE Timber Committee and the FAO European Forestry Commission

Rovaniemi, Finland

<http://www.unece.org/forests/efw2013.html>