

## The Role of Dryland Forests in Central and Northeast Asia

Report by Nyam-Osor Batkhuu, Deputy Coordinator of IUFRO Working Party 1.01.13-Long term research on forest ecosystem management in Northeast Asia

Forests in drylands (arid and semi-arid regions) play a significant role in conserving biodiversity, harboring unique and endemic species that are particularly adapted to extreme ecological conditions and, providing ecosystem goods and services that are essential for people's livelihoods and well-being. If dryland forests are well managed and properly valued, they have the potential to help tackle such global challenges as poverty, climate change, erosion, land degradation and desertification.

Against this background, an International Workshop on Nursery, Silviculture, Forest Restoration and Sustainable Management in Central Asia and Northeast Asia was held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, on 15-19 October, 2018. It aimed to identify and promote approaches for the sustainable management of dryland forest ecosystems, by researching ecosystem restoration techniques using native species of economic value, and how restoration of degraded lands can be achieved in a way that will mitigate the effects of unsustainable land use practices and contribute to the conservation of biodiversity in ways that support the development of rural livelihoods according to the ecosystem approach.

The event brought together over 50 participants from 8 countries and was jointly organized by the National University of Mongolia, the National Institute of Forest Science, Republic of Korea (NIFOS), the Research Institute of Forestry, Republic of Uzbekistan, and IUFRO Units [1.06.00](#) Restoration of Degraded Sites and [1.01.13](#) Long-term Research on Forest Ecosystem Management in Northeast Asia. It was co-sponsored by the National Institute of Forest Science, ROK, and the Asia Pacific Association of Forestry Research Institutions (APAFRI). Participants included international researchers, managers, government officials, representatives from research institutions and students.

Sixteen invited speakers provided overviews, broad perspectives, and challenges that set the stage for specific information on the status of dryland forests, conservation and restoration efforts and the implementation of forest landscape restoration in different biomes of the world including Central Asia and Northeast Asia.

Welcoming addresses were kindly delivered by Dr. Joo Han Sung, Director, Forest Technology and Management Research Center, NIFOS and Dr. Sim Heok Choh, APAFRI. They stressed the importance of promoting regional synergistic efforts towards sustainable forest management and restoration of forest ecosystems that are essential for conservation of forests and enhancing functionality of the dryland forests.

Dr. Abdushukur Hamzaev, Vice-chairman of the State Committee on Forestry and Director, Forestry Research



Workshop participants, organizers, speakers.  
Photo by Batkhuu Nyam-Osor

Institute, Republic of Uzbekistan, delivered a speech on the behalf of Mr. Bakirov Nizomiddin, Chairman of State Committee on Forestry, Republic of Uzbekistan. He briefly introduced the state of forestry and state committee on forestry of the Republic of Uzbekistan and strongly pointed out that no similar International Workshop had been organized in Tashkent within the last 10-years.

A two-day field trip to the Galliya-Aralskiy forest experimental station located 360 km to the south of Tashkent provided an opportunity to introduce and explore Pistachio (*Pistacia vera* L.) provenance trials and research trials for combating land degradation in the Samarkand region, which started in the 1960s.

(Report abridged by the editor)

Read the full report at:

<https://www.iufro.org/science/divisions/division-1/10000/10100/10113/activities/>

Further reading: Discussion forum on dryland forests co-hosted by IUFRO at the 2018 Global Landscapes Forum

<https://www.iufro.org/events/other-major-events/glf-2018/#c28133>

IUFRO World  
Congress 2019



More than 4000 abstracts have been submitted for the IUFRO World

Congress in Curitiba! Authors will be advised if their presentation is accepted by the end of February 2019.

Find out more about the Congress: <http://iufro2019.com/>

## European Forests – Our Cultural Heritage

Report by Elisabeth Johann, Coordinator IUFRO Working Party 9.03.02 Forest and Culture  
Meeting website: <http://www.forstverein.at/de/forstgeschichte/>

Cultural landscapes are considered to be a development factor. Their potential has only partly been investigated so far. There is an increasing interest by forest owners who look for new markets and additional income beside forestry, and by tourism enterprises in utilizing forest areas and beautiful sceneries. Even though there are numerous initiatives, collections and museums, they are often not adequately connected. Therefore, new approaches towards enhancing co-operation between forest and woodland history, including traditional knowledge, and forest and tourist enterprises should be taken, and the growing need to deepen knowledge about forest-related cultural heritage should be met.

On 4–7 December 2018, IUFRO Working Parties [9.03.01](#) Economic and Social Forest History, and [9.03.02](#) Forest and Culture, as well as [IUFRO Research Group 9.03.00](#) Forest History and Traditional Knowledge, were involved in the meeting on “European Forests – Our Cultural Heritage” held in St. Georgen am Längsee, Carinthia, Austria. The event was supported by the Austrian Forest Association, the Institute of Ethnology of the Czech Academy of Sciences, the Estonian State Forest Management Centre Tallinn, and the ‘Österreichischer Walddialog’ and gathered 37 participants from 16 countries.

The conference was unique in so far as it highlighted and discussed the topic of cultural heritage forest from the viewpoints of the most diverse scientific disciplines, including, among others, landscape ecology, archeology, environmental policy, social history, dendrochronology, biology, botany, mapping, forest management, forestry history and tourism. The exploration and representation of cultural sites as well as their current relevance were discussed. As diverse as the research areas and perspectives was the circle of participants, which spanned the whole of Europe; from England to Romania and from Estonia to Italy and Spain.

*Discussions focused on:*

- Historical land use assessments
- Ancient monuments and other cultural remains in the forest
- Historical sites and artefacts in the forest
- Sharing and improving knowledge concerning the cultural heritage
- Cultural heritage in and of the forest
- Best practices for including traditional knowledge into forest management
- Recognizing the cultural and spiritual values in forest management
- Essential tools in applying cultural and spiritual aspects in practical forestry operations
- History of former utilization practices and techniques applied
- Historical elements as a physical part of cultural heritage
- Immaterial cultural heritage such as knowledge



*Participants in front of the conference venue Monastery St. Georgen am Längsee, Austria. Photo by Walburga Litschauer*

One of the main conclusions of the meeting is that to maintain and safeguard the cultural heritage of European forests it is necessary to incorporate the knowledge about cultural heritage into today's forest management plans. The integration of this knowledge into tourism concepts can provide valuable assistance here.

Proceedings will be published by the Czech Academy of Sciences in 2019. A demand for further conferences related to the topics discussed has been expressed by several participants.



### World Wood Day

Join the World Wood Day celebrations under the motto **CHANGE** on 19-23 March 2019 in Stübing/Graz, Austria!  
<http://www.worldwoodday.org/2019/>



The celebrations will also include an academic symposium co-sponsored by IUFRO (see under IUFRO Meetings) and a design competition for the IUFRO Distinguished Service Award:  
[http://www.worldwoodday.org/news\\_detail\\_design.php](http://www.worldwoodday.org/news_detail_design.php)

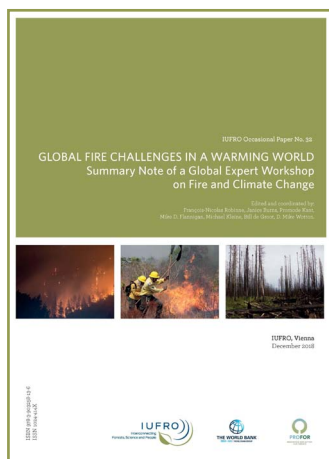
*Organized by:* International Wood Culture Society (IWCS); Austrian Open Air Museum Stübing; University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU), Vienna; World Wood Day Foundation (WWDF)  
*Supported by:* IUFRO, IAWA, IAWS, Society of Wood Science and Technology (SWST), Japan Wood Research Society (JWRS)

## Publications

### IUFRO Occasional Paper 32 Global Fire Challenges in a Warming World

Summary Note of a Global  
Expert Workshop on Fire and  
Climate Change

Edited and coordinated by:  
François-Nicolas Robinne,  
Janice Burns, Promode Kant,  
Mike D. Flannigan, Michael  
Kleine, Bill de Groot, D. Mike  
Wotton.



In July 2018 IUFRO and the World Bank's Program on Forests (PROFOR) jointly convened a Global Expert Workshop on Fire and Climate Change in Vienna, Austria, with the aim of improving the understanding of the complex inter-relationships between wildfire, climate, and land management, and of identifying urgently required response strategies and actions. This Occasional Paper is the result of a large collaborative effort by fire scientists and practitioners who believe that learning to co-exist with changing fire activity is not only possible but necessary if we, as a global society, are to adapt to climate change and keep our natural and cultural landscapes healthy, resilient, and safe for the next generations.

Link to paper: <https://www.iufro.org/publications/series/occasional-papers/article/2019/01/23/occasional-paper-32-global-fire-challenges-in-a-warming-world/>

In the pipeline:

#### Sustainable Development Goals: Their Impacts on Forests and People

The contributions of forest towards reaching the SDGs have received considerable attention. Little attention, however, has yet been focused on possible and likely impacts that efforts undertaken in different sectors to advance towards the 17 SDGs will have on forests, forest ecosystem services, forest-related livelihoods and human wellbeing, and how these impacts, in turn, will contribute or undermine the contributions of forests to climate and development. These are the issues that the book will focus on from the point of view of each of the SDGs.

IUFRO's Special Project on World Forests, Society and Environment (IUFRO-WFSE) will launch this book at the IUFRO World Congress 2019 in Curitiba, Brazil. The development of this publication is a collaborative effort of about one hundred scientists and experts from different parts of the world. Find out more about IUFRO-WFSE: <https://www.iufro.org/science/special/wfse/>

#### Newsletter of IUFRO Research Group 7.02.00 - Pathology

The latest issue of the Pathology Newsletter looks back on the accomplishments of 2018 and informs about the important events that will come up in 2019. Multiple working party meetings are planned to take place in Europe and North America and the IUFRO World Congress will take place in Brazil.

Read more: <https://www.iufro.org/fileadmin/material/science/divisions/div7/70200/nl70200-181212.pdf>

#### The Dictionary of Forestry, 2nd Edition

Edited by Robert Deal, Coordinator of IUFRO Research Group 5.12.00 - Sustainable utilization of forest products. This 2nd edition features 496 fully revised and expanded terms plus 46 brand new terms like "genecology" and "stand dynamics". Visit: <https://www.eforester.org/Store/Bookstore/DictionaryofForestry.aspx>

#### Latest Teaknet Bulletin (Vol. 12 Issue 1 January 2019)

<https://www.iufro.org/science/divisions/division-5/50000/50600/publications/#c20880>  
Learn about the Teak Session at the IUFRO World Congress 2019 in Curitiba: "Towards Sustainable Development of the Global Teak Sector in a Changing World" (Session C2C)

#### Coppice Forests in Europe - Now available online!

Authored by 115 experts, researchers and practitioners from 35 countries across Europe and beyond, this volume primarily focusses on traditional types of coppice, but also addresses more recent forms such as short rotation coppice. The publication is based on work from COST Action FP1301 EuroCoppice, supported by COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology), with additional support from the Eva Mayr-Stihl Stiftung.

392 pp | ISBN: 978-3-9817340-2-7

Details at: <https://www.eurocoppice.uni-freiburg.de/coppice-forests-in-europe>

#### Small-scale Forest Enterprises in Latin America Unlocking their potential for sustainable livelihoods

Del Gatto F., Mbairamadji J., Richards M. & Reeb D. 2018. *Small-scale forest enterprises in Latin America: unlocking their potential for sustainable livelihoods*. Forestry Working Paper No. 10. Rome, FAO. 86 pp. Licence: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO.

This publication is part of FAO's work on forestry with focus on small-scale forest enterprise development and poverty reduction. This work was developed under FAO's Strategic Programme on Reducing Rural Poverty.

<http://www.fao.org/forestry/enterprises/en/>

#### Renewable Energy: A Gender Perspective

Renewable energy employs about 32% women, compared to 22% in the energy sector overall. Still, within renewables, women's participation in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) jobs is far lower than in administrative jobs. This report from the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) examines the question of gender equity throughout sector.

<https://www.irena.org/publications/2019/Jan/Renewable-Energy-A-Gender-Perspective>

#### Women as Environmental Stewards: The Experience of the SGP

The Global Environment Facility's (GEF) Small Grant Programme (SGP) is showcasing the role of women as environmental stewards in a series of 13 case studies of "action from the ground up" on biodiversity conservation, chemicals and waste management, climate change, international waters and land degradation.

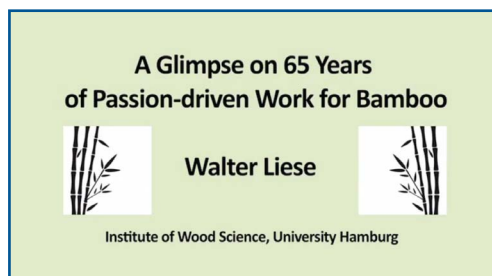
<https://sgp.undp.org/resources-155/our-stories/557-sgp-launches-new-publication-women-as-environmental-stewards-at-the-gef-dialogue-with-civil-society-on-gender-in-washington-d-c.html>

## Announcements

### Video Honoring Professor Walter Liese

The video recorded by Swan reviewed his 65 years of bamboo research career and his efforts to promote international cooperation in bamboo.

Watch a video produced by the *World Journal for Bamboo and Rattan* to recognize the work of IUFRO Honorary Member and former IUFRO President Walter



Liese: <https://youtu.be/WucY-LPuGjA>

Also available on the IUFRO YouTube channel:  
<https://www.youtube.com/user/IUFRO>

### Congratulations!

#### Professor Mike Wingfield appointed Advisor to the UP Executive

IUFRO President Mike Wingfield has been appointed by the University of Pretoria as Advisor to the Executive, reporting to Vice-Principal for Institutional Planning Professor Anton Ströh. In his additional role, Mike Wingfield will assist UP's Executive Team in defining strategic opportunities and promoting new initiatives including Future Africa and the development of a future "Research and Innovation Park" for the University. In this regard, he will access his local and global networks to promote a culture of research excellence at UP and seek to attain UP's 2025 strategic objectives. He will maintain his research program as well as his national and international scientific responsibilities.  
<https://fabinet.up.ac.za/index.php/news-item?id=784>

### GLF Charter Member Statements

Global Landscapes Forum Charter members - including IUFRO - are committed to forging sustainable solutions. In case you have not yet seen this, here is the link to the video shown in the closing ceremony of the GLF 2018 in Bonn: <https://bit.ly/2CBy8vD>  
(Watch the contribution of IUFRO starting at 4:05.)

### Merger of CIFOR and ICRAF

The Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) and International Centre for Research in Agroforestry (ICRAF), also known as World Agroforestry, have agreed to merge to strengthen capacity, provide the evidence needed to scale up investment in sustainable development, and accelerate impact. The merger became effective on January 1st 2019 through a common Board with subsequent implementation of a single leadership team and unified policies, processes and systems. [Press release](#)  
Also read <https://www.cifor.org/cifor-icraf-merger-faqs/>

### UN Secretary-General Outlines UN Priorities for 2019: <https://bit.ly/2DocnRx>

UN Secretary-General António Guterres urged Member States to dramatically accelerate efforts on key 21st-century challenges, namely: the fight against climate change; achieving the SDGs; and stepping up new technologies that can "turbocharge" this work. Further on climate

change, he remarked that by 2020, under the Paris Agreement, Member States are meant to assess progress and submit new pledges to meet the goals to which they agreed. In addition, by 2050, net zero global emissions should be reached. (...)

## Positions / Fellowships

<https://www.iufro.org/discover/noticeboard/position-announcements/>

<https://www.iufro.org/discover/noticeboard/fellowshipsscholarshipsresearch-funding/>

### Call for Nominations of Fellows for the Assessment of Invasive Alien Species

Submit nominations by 15 February 2019

The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) invites Governments and relevant institutions and organizations to nominate fellows as part of the IPBES Fellowship Programme for the assessment of invasive alien species. Visit: <https://www.ipbes.net/notification/call-nominations-fellows-assessment-invasive-alien-species-15-february-2019>

### NordGen Forest and Nordic Forest Research (SNS) Scholarship

Apply by 15 February 2019

The scholarships should contribute to common Nordic benefit by supporting education, continuing education and knowledge exchange for persons working or studying within forest seed or plant production, regeneration methods and tree breeding in the Nordic countries.

Details: <https://nordicforestresearch.org/scholarship/>

### Tenure Track Position as Associate Senior Lecturer in Rural Development in Sweden and Europe

Apply by 18 February 2019

The Department of Urban and Rural Development, Faculty of Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) in Uppsala, Sweden, is inviting applications for a Tenure track position with a focus on environmental and agricultural politics for sustainable rural development.

Details: <https://www.slu.se/en/about-slu/jobs-vacancies/?rmpage=job&rmjob=1707&rmlang=UK>

### Professor on the Ultrastructure of Wood and Wood Fibres

Apply by 4 March 2019

The Department of Forest Biomaterials and Technology, of the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) in Uppsala is offering this professorship, which has a connection to Treeseearch, a national platform for new materials and specialty chemicals from the forest.

Details: <https://www.slu.se/en/about-slu/jobs-vacancies/?rmpage=job&rmjob=1741&rmlang=UK>

### Professor in Forest Vegetation Ecology

Apply by 8 April 2019

A professorship position, fully funded, in forest vegetation ecology is open at the Department of Forest Ecology and Management, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), Umeå, Sweden.

Details: <https://www.slu.se/en/about-slu/jobs-vacancies/?rmpage=job&rmjob=1734&rmlang=UK>

## IUFRO Meetings

Search our online calendar for a full list of meetings:

<https://www.iufro.org/events/calendar/current/>

Find non-IUFRO meetings on the IUFRO Noticeboard:

<https://www.iufro.org/discover/noticeboard/>

Also search for forest-related events in GFIS at:

<https://www.gfis.net>

21-23 Mar 2019

### World Wood Day Symposium

Stübing/Graz, Austria

IUFRO [5.15.00](#)

Jointly organized by IUFRO, IAWA and IAWS

Contact: michael.grabner(at)boku.ac.at

[http://www.worldwoodday.org/2019/regions\\_event/39](http://www.worldwoodday.org/2019/regions_event/39)

World Wood Day: <http://www.worldwoodday.org/2019/>

6-10 May 2019

### Joint Meeting of the IUFRO Working Parties Shoot, foliage and stem diseases and Wilt diseases (7.02.02 and 7.02.03) on Phyllosphere Diseases

Figline Valdarno, Florence, Italy

IUFRO [7.02.02](#), [7.02.03](#)

Contact: Alberto Santini, alberto.santini(at)cnr.it

<https://phyllospherediseases.wixsite.com/conference2019>

20-22 May 2019

### IAWA-IUFRO International Symposium: Challenges and Opportunities for Updating Wood Identification

Beijing, China

IUFRO [5.06.00](#), Research Institute of Wood Industry (CRI-WI), Chinese Academy of Forestry (CAF) and the Forest Products Laboratory (FPL), Forest Service, USA

Contact: Yafang Yin, yafang(at)caf.ac.cn

Lichao Jiao: jiaolc@caf.ac.cn

<http://iawa-iufro-symposium.intoom.com/>

22-25 May 2019

### 22nd European Forum on Urban Forestry - Urban Forests: Full of Energy

Cologne, Germany

IUFRO [6.07.00](#)

Contact: Cecil C. Konijnendijk van den Bosch,

cecil.konijnendijk(at)ubc.ca

<https://efuf2019.wordpress.com/>

8-10 Jul 2019

### Small-scale Forestry Conference 2019

Duluth, MN, United States

IUFRO [3.08.00](#)

Contact: Christoph Hartebrodt,

Christoph.Hartebrodt(at)forst.bwl.de

<http://iufrossf.umn.edu/>

2-4 Sep 2019

### Temperate and Boreal Primeval Forests in the Face of Global Change

Lviv, Ukraine

IUFRO [1.01.07](#), [8.01.01](#)

Contact: Alfredo Di Filippo, difilippo(at)unitus.it

Peter Brang, peter.brang(at)wsl.ch

[https://www.wsl.ch/en/about-wsl/events/details/temperate-and-boreal-primeval-forests-in-the-face-of-global-change.html?no\\_cache=1&cHash=59b9293ac3a62c035fa120c6199de24a](https://www.wsl.ch/en/about-wsl/events/details/temperate-and-boreal-primeval-forests-in-the-face-of-global-change.html?no_cache=1&cHash=59b9293ac3a62c035fa120c6199de24a)

29 Sep - 5 Oct 2019

### XXV IUFRO World Congress: Forest Research and Cooperation for Sustainable Development

Curitiba, Brazil

<http://iufro2019.com/>

17-25 Oct 2019

### Phytophthora in Forests and Natural Ecosystems

Sardinia, Italy

9th meeting of IUFRO WP [7.02.09](#)

Contact: Bruno Scanu, bscanu(at)uniss.it

<http://www.iufrosardinia2019.org>

6-8 Nov 2019

### Biological Control of Forest Insects and Pathogens

Pretoria, South Africa

IUFRO [7.03.13](#)

Contact: brett.hurley(at)fabi.up.ac.za

<https://www.iufro.org/science/divisions/division-7/70000/70300/70313/activities/>

5-7 Dec 2019

### IUFRO WP 5.03.07 „Pulp and Paper“ meeting: „Green Technology for Pulp, Paper and Allied Industry“

Dhaka, Bangladesh

IUFRO [5.03.07](#)

Contact: Md Sarwar Jahan, sarwar2065(at)hotmail.com

<http://iufro-wp50307.com/>

25-27 Mar 2020

### Mixed species forests: Risks, Resilience and Management

Lund, Sweden

IUFRO [1.01.06](#), [1.09.00](#)

Contact: Magnus Lof, Magnus.Lof(at)slu.se

<https://www.iufro.org/science/divisions/division-1/10000/10100/10106/activities/>

19-23 Oct 2020

### ACID RAIN 2020 - The Future Environment and Role of Multiple Air Pollutants

Niigata City, Japan

IUFRO [7.01.01](#), [7.01.03](#), [7.01.10](#)

Contact: Hiroyuki Sase, sase(at)acap.asia

<https://www.acidrain2020.org/>

## Other Meetings

19-21 Jun 2019

### Evolving the Forest, incorporating the 2019 Annual Conference of the Royal Forestry Society

Dartington Hall, Devon, England, UK

art.earth, Royal Forestry Society and Timber Strategies

Early Bird Registration closes: 19 February 2019

Contact: events(at)artdotearth.org

<https://evolvingtheforest.uk/>

7-18 Oct 2019

### Global Conference on Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought UNCCD COP14

New Delhi, India

Contact: secretariat(at)unccd.int

<https://www.unccd.int/news-events/india-will-host-uncd-cop14>