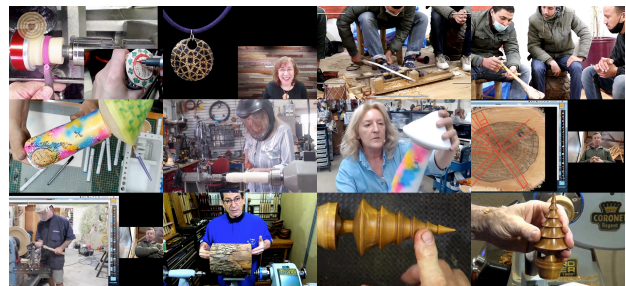


The 2021 World Wood Day- CO₂ & Wood: Carbon Capture and Storage in Forests, Wood and Non-Wood Products

Report from the World Wood Day (WWD) 2021 Virtual Event, 2021 WWD Virtual Symposium and the Third IUFRO Forest Products Culture Colloquium, 21-22 March
(<https://www.iufro.org/science/divisions/division-5/50000/51500/>)

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2021 World Wood Day celebration was done virtually with some regional activities done in compliance with local guidelines such as tree planting events held in Chad, China, Japan and Ivory Coast. The virtual event was broadcasted on the World Wood Day YouTube Channel and started with video reviews of previous World Wood Day events on 19-20 March. On 21 March, both the International Day of Forests and the World Wood Day, commenced with the welcoming remarks addressed by the Chair of World Wood Day Foundation, Dr. Howard Rosen, and the President of International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO), Dr. John Parrotta. Four programs, Woodturning demonstrations, a Collaborative Project (a team work for creating wood art), Music of Wood, and a Symposium, then followed and was broadcasted until 22 March.

The 2021 World Wood Day Virtual Symposium and The Third IUFRO Forest Products Culture Colloquium, with a theme of “CO₂ & Wood: Carbon Capture and Storage in Forests, Wood and Non-Wood Products”, emphasized the importance that harvested long-lived forest products (wood and non-wood materials) play in mitigating climate change, particularly as stored wood-based carbon products that society values. The symposium organizing committee, which included the International Wood Culture Society (IWCS), the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU), the International Academy of Wood Science (IAWS), the International Union of Forest



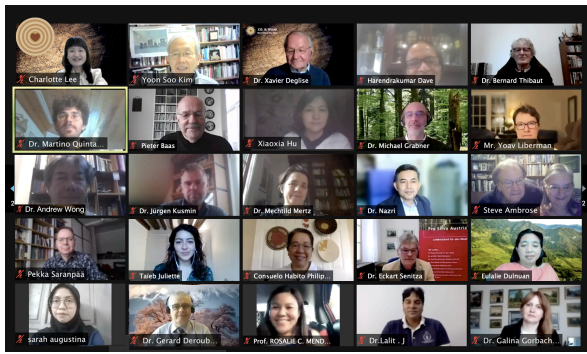
Woodturning Demonstration around the world. Photo: IWCS

Research Organizations (IUFRO) Division 5 Forest Products (including IUFRO Research Unit 5.15.00 Forest Products Culture), IUFRO Research Unit 9.03.02 (Forest Culture) of Division 9 (Forest Policy and Economics), and the Estonian State Forest Management Centre (RMK); decided the following six different topics to explore the theme:

- 1) Carbon Capture and Storage in Forests, Wood and Non-Wood Forest Products
- 2) Wood in Construction and Building, including Wood Durability and Protection Needs
- 3) Building Components, Furniture, Musical Instruments, Artifacts Manufacturing and Design
- 4) Education on Sustainable Forests, Forest Products Utilization and Wood Culture
- 5) Challenges for Sustainability in the Forest-Wood Chain
- 6) Wood Products and Wood Biotechnology (IAWS Special Session)



Tree Planting in Abidjan, Ivory Coast. Photo: IWCS



Symposium Group Photo on Zoom Webinar. Photo IWCS

Approximately 850 participants and audiences and from 51 countries joined on Zoom, YouTube, and bilibili (Mainland China) from March 21-22. Thirty-nine presentations including nine keynote speeches were well delivered by forty-one speakers and excellently moderated by seven session chairs. The up-to-date issues including climate change imitation, sustainable forest management mode with an integrated silvicultural system, middle age and modern timber techniques in the restoration of Notre Dame de Paris, wood durability and protection needs in construction and buildings, Japanese wood and carpentry, furniture making and design, choices of wood in musical instruments making, wood knowledge for future generations, building a sustainable supply chain from forest to market, how to strengthen the role of research and best practice in decision making for the forest-wood chain, and containing carbon in wood used for coastal defense and marine construction were enthusiastically discussed. The exchange of ideas was carried out both orally and in text at the online platforms.

The 2021 World Wood Day Virtual Symposium has received strong support for the organization and promotion of the sessions from IUFRO Headquarters, IUFRO Division 5 Forest Products, and IUFRO Unit 9.03.02 Forest Culture.

The next World Wood Day event and symposium in 2022 will aim to involve more IUFRO Divisions and to reflect the spirit of IUFRO- interconnecting forests, science and people.

World Wood Day (21 March, the International Day of Forests) is a cultural event aimed to raise awareness on the importance and value of wood and its responsible uses. The 9th World Wood Day celebration will continue with various programs

scheduled for the weekend of the 21st of every month throughout the year. More details are available on the official website of World Wood Day 2021 (<http://www.worldwoodday.org/2021>).



Live Stream Music Concert, Senzoku Gakuen College of Music, Tokyo, Japan. Photo IWCS



Live Stream Music Concert Themed "My Forest", Música Maya AJ in Chimaltenango, Guatemala. Photo IWCS



Collaborative Project "GeoTree". Photo IWCS