



International Union of Forest Research Organizations
Union Internationale des Instituts de Recherches Forestières
Internationaler Verband Forstlicher Forschungsanstalten
Unión Internacional de Organizaciones de Investigación Forestal

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Seung Jin Suh and Jeong Soo Oh (KFRI), and Dong Kyun Park (NEAFF).

Cover page:

“Harmony between Nature and Human”
painted by Professor Moon Yong SHIN, Dept. of Fine Arts, Mokpo National University, Korea

Editorial

This volume is the second in the series of IUFRO's new Annual Reports, which serve not only IUFRO's members but also our stakeholders and other external audience. The report is sponsored by Korean institutions, and this is reflected by the cover illustration. Last year's water color painting was likewise an original piece of art made exclusively for IUFRO. We hope to continue this tradition also in the future as a way of recognizing the cultural aspects of forests.

While this report includes some statistics and basic information on IUFRO, it highlights only a few of the Union's many activities in 2002. Those who are interested in more detailed information are welcome to visit our web pages.

In the previous Annual Report we focused on some of our Task Forces and Special Programmes. This year we want to put greater emphasis on the accomplishments of IUFRO's eight discipline-oriented Divisions and their almost 300 Units, which form the scientific foundation of the Union.

In 2002 IUFRO celebrated its 110th anniversary. This anniversary is a reminder of the long traditions that constitute the backbone of IUFRO's activities. IUFRO is striving to build on these rich traditions as it evolves to meet the forest research needs of the future. In this spirit, IUFRO has gone through quite a number of changes in recent years, and 2002 was not an exception.

In 2001 we presented our new Philosophy and Strategy. In 2002 the Strategy was expanded into an Action Plan with clearly defined goals. One of these goals was to increase support for IUFRO's Secretariat and to improve its working conditions so that the Secretariat could better serve the Union. Related to this, we have also considered it important to enhance collaboration with our host country, Austria, and especially with the Austrian Office and Research Centre for Forests (BFW), which has provided premises for IUFRO's Headquarters.

The year 2002 was marked by significant strengthening of relations between Austria and IUFRO. The Austrian government substantially increased its contribution to the Union by supporting more staff for the Secretariat and providing larger, newly renovated office space in the lovely setting of Mariabrunn for IUFRO's Headquarters.



1 IUFRO President Risto Seppälä and the Head of the Austrian Federal Office and Research Centre for Forests Harald Mauser in Vienna, Mariabrunn (Austria)

I wish to extend sincere thanks to the Austrian government for this valuable additional support, which clearly reaffirms Austria's strong commitment to IUFRO.

Also cooperation with the Austrian Research Centre and its management is entering a new era, which is symbolized by the photograph on this page. IUFRO is looking forward to having more Austrian scientists involved in its activities.

I seize this opportunity to thank the whole IUFRO family - Member Organizations, International Council, Board, Officeholders and other active members of the IUFRO Units as well as the Secretariat - for their valuable services to the Union in 2002.

*Risto Seppälä
IUFRO President*

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Forest Research in Korea

The Korea Forest Research Institute (KFRI) was founded in 1922 as the Forestry Experiment Station. It was reorganized in 1987 and became the Forestry Research Institute. In 2000 it received the name of Forest Research Institute. The management system of the institute was changed into that of an Independent Agency in 2001. Out of the current total of staff members at KFRI about 61% are researchers and 113 hold Ph.D. degrees.

The KFRI has developed various technologies and conducted research in support of the successful implementation of its "Forest Vision towards the 21st Century", which was established by the Korea Forest Service as a basic strategy for achieving sustainable forest management.

Major activities in 2002

- International Symposium on "Global Environment and Task of Korean Forest" to celebrate the International Year of Mountains and the 80th Anniversary of the KFRI.
- The 11th Bio-Refor Workshop on "Restoration for Sustainable Forest Ecosystems" hosted by Seoul National University and supported by KFRI.

- The International Conference of "Restoration of Degraded Forest Ecosystems in Southeast Asia" of the ASEAN-Korea Environmental Cooperation Project hosted by Seoul National University and supported by KFRI.

Research highlights

- The awareness of the ecological characteristics and biodiversity of the demilitarized zone (DMZ) in Korea was enhanced in order to develop conservation strategies.
- Four sites of long-term ecological research conducted by KFRI were registered in the Asia-Pacific LTER network.
- New biomaterials for wood construction, functional materials from wood constituents and environmentally friendly pesticides were developed.
- Indirect forest values from improvement of water and air quality, recreation and scenery, soil conservation, landslide prevention, and wildlife protection were re-estimated. The resulting value was equivalent to 10% of the Korean GDP.
- Criteria and indicators at national and local levels were developed to monitor and implement sustainable forest management.
- During the last 30 years, more than 16 new varieties of hybrid poplars, hybrid pines and chestnut trees have been developed. A total of 700 ha of seed orchards were established to disseminate improved seeds of 53 different tree species.
- The 2,420 ha of natural forests were designated as conservation forests for genetic uses.
- Somatic embryogenesis was applied for mass propagation of conifers and hardwoods. Taxol was produced from yew tree seeds by cell culture.
- New methods such as genetic transformation and DNA fingerprinting were applied to conserve forest genetic resources.



3 Buddha shrine in Gyeongju, Korea

4 View of Korea Forest Research Institute



Twenty-two (22) universities in Korea offered education programs in forestry and forest products. These universities also closely collaborated in the research activities of KFRI through the exchange of adjunct professorships.

Celebrating 110 Years of IUFRO in Our New Headquarters

On 9 October 2002, a Symposium on "Forest Research and Concepts in a Changing World" was held in Mariabrunn, Vienna, jointly organized by IUFRO and its host organization, the Austrian Office and Research Centre for Forests (BFW). This event marked the 110th anniversary of our Union.



5 New IUFRO Headquarters in Mariabrunn, Vienna

The IUFRO President was pleased to welcome more than 100 participants who came from 20 countries and three continents and represented forest research institutions and international organizations like the United Nations Forum on Forests, the United Nations Commission for Europe, the International Plant Genetic Resources Institute, the Confederation of European Forest Owners, and the Liaison Unit of the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe. The participants appreciated the event very much and enjoyed the high quality of the presentations and the most interesting technical excursion on the following day.

The symposium also offered the opportunity to present the new IUFRO Headquarters to an international audience. Since 1973 the IUFRO Secretariat had been located on the premises of the Austrian Federal Forest Research Centre, now the Austrian Office and Research Centre for Forests (BFW), in Schoenbrunn, Vienna. Over the years, as IUFRO kept growing constantly, Special Programmes and Projects were established and had their offices at the Secretariat. More staff and space were needed, and the Secretariat, consequently, developed into Headquarters.

In 2002 the long-standing commitment of the Austrian Government to support IUFRO was reinforced by a new contract, which provided more support and more office space in order to better allow IUFRO to live up to its global role and continue to provide its services on a large scale. Because of this contract, the Headquarters team was able to move into beautifully renovated and furnished offices in September 2002. These new offices are located in the BFW building of Mariabrunn, which was a monastery originally, and where the Austrian forest education and research institution started as early as in 1813.

In this context, we recall that it was a forest scientist working in that very building who posed the following question in 1890 at the International Congress for Agriculture and Forestry in Vienna: "What can be done to make forest research results internationally comparable?" International interest in the topic was so strong at the time that two years later the directors of Central European Forest Research Stations already had agreed on statutes and a working procedure for a new institution to develop a solution. Thus, IUFRO was born. The formal founding of IUFRO was celebrated in 1892 in Eberswalde, Germany, and the focus of IUFRO was primarily placed on building collaboration among forest research institutes to establish standards for trials and measurements. So the symposium in Mariabrunn, Vienna, also marked the occasion of IUFRO's returning to the place where the idea of its establishment was first expressed.

IUFRO would like to seize this opportunity to thank again all those who contributed to the success of the symposium with their excellent presentations. Proceedings will be published in 2003. IUFRO enjoyed the support expressed by many organizations and individuals and appreciated the congratulations received from IUFRO Member Organizations, FAO, and many others.

6 IUFRO Headquarters team



IUFRO World Congress 2005

At its 2002 meeting in Manaus, Brazil, the Management Committee of IUFRO approved the ten sub-themes chosen by the Congress Scientific Committee for the 2005 World Congress "*Forests in the Balance: Linking Tradition and Technology*" to be held in Brisbane, Australia in 2005. The sub-themes are based on a large number of suggestions made by members of the IUFRO Board, which includes the Coordinators of each Division and a number of General Members. Suggestions were also received from the Coordinators of IUFRO's Task Forces and Special Programmes. Significant input was received from the Congress Organizing Committee in Australia.

Congress Sub-themes

Integrating approaches to achieve multiple goals: Intensive management, extensive management or conservation?

Utilizing genetic resources to further sustainable forestry.

Meeting the challenge of climate change.

Promoting development through improvements to the forest – wood and products chain.

Involving indigenous groups in forest science and forestry.

Increasing the value of forests through innovative products and technologies.

Demonstrating sustainable forest management.

Sustaining forests: A duty for forestry and society?

Realizing the environmental benefits of forests.

Advancing the role of communication, education and capacity building in the future of forestry.

Highlights in 2002

Division 1 - Silviculture

International Conference on Restoration of Boreal and Temperate Forests - Documenting Forest Restoration Knowledge and Practices in Boreal and Temperate Ecosystems

Vejle, Denmark, 29 April - 3 May, 2002

The program of this conference organized by Working Parties 1.17.02 and 1.05.08 was framed in light of the 10th anniversary of the Rio "Earth Summit" (UNCED). Researchers and managers together identified general approaches, discussed regional differences, and explored common challenges for restoring forest ecosystems.

Eighty plenary and subplenary papers and an additional 30 posters were presented, encompassing knowledge and experiences gained worldwide on this increasingly critical topic. A conference proceedings of short papers was available at the meeting, and a special issue of the journal *Forestry*, with selected volunteer oral and poster papers, will be published in spring 2003. CRC/Lewis Press will publish a textbook of papers synthesizing available knowledge and presenting national and regional case studies, early in 2004.

Division 2 - Physiology and Genetics

DYGEN Conference "Dynamics and Conservation of Genetic Diversity in Forest Ecosystems"

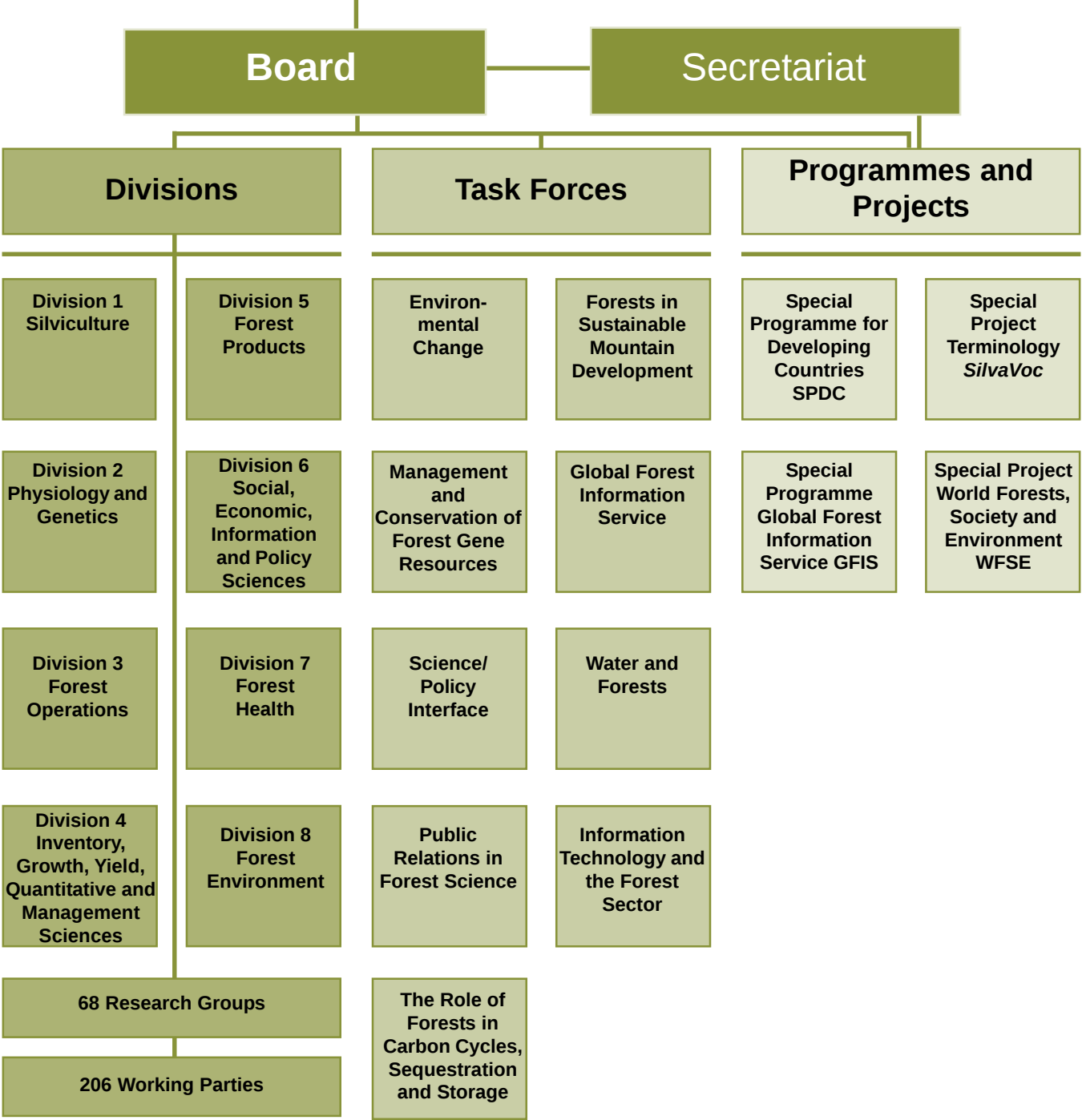
Strasbourg, France, 2 - 5 December, 2002

This conference was the most important event organized by Division 2 since the Beijing Meeting in 1999. It had two principal objectives: namely evaluation of the large EU funded projects being carried out within the 4th and the 5th Frame Programmes of the European Union and evaluation of the activities of the European Forest Genetic Resources Programme activities from 1995 to 2002. The conference highlighted the coordinating capabilities of IUFRO Division 2.

The presentations demonstrated how successful several large projects funded by the European Union had been in helping researchers join forces in studying common European wide questions.

A general impression was that new methods in molecular population genetics and new theoretical advances and statistical methods allowed many questions to be addressed with much more powerful tools than previously.

International Council



7 Successful reforestation 22 years after the eruption of Mt. St. Helens, WA, USA



Finances

IUFRO Secretariat: Balance at 31 December 2002 in Euro

Note: The tables relate to the IUFRO Secretariat only. For detailed information about the Programmes and Projects, please contact the Coordinators at IUFRO Headquarters (iufro@forvie.ac.at).

ASSETS		LIABILITIES	
A) Capital assets	Total	A) Capital ownership	Total
i) Intangible property	8 854.90	i) Profit/loss as shown in the balance	
ii) Tangible assets	18 455.36	Capital at 31 Dec 2001	740 329.40
iii) Money investments	284 557.95	- Capital reduction in 2002	-82 873.63
			657 455.77
B) Current assets		B) Provisions and obligations	
i) Receivables and other property	311 130.43	i) Provisions	117 627.64
ii) Cash, cash in banks	<u>188 730.32</u>	ii) Obligations	<u>36 645.55</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	811 728.96	TOTAL LIABILITIES	811 728.96

Statistics

Geographical Distribution of IUFRO Member Organizations, Officeholders and Meetings

	Member Organizations	Officeholders	Meetings in 2002
Asia (excl. Southwestern Pacific Rim)	105	120	7
Southwestern Pacific Rim	53	84	4
Central and South America	54	48	4
Northern America	158	187	6
Africa (excl. Mediterranean Basin)	44	24	3
Mediterranean Basin	66	50	9
Central Europe	93	134	17
European Countries with Economies in Transition	46	44	8
Northern Europe	72	124	14
Total	691	815	72

plus 1 Web conference

Highlights cont'd

Division 3 - Forest Operations

Forest Operations in the Tropics

IUFRO Research Group 3.05.00 (Forest Operations in the Tropics) has announced an unusual result from research carried out under the group's auspices: the research results have been incorporated directly into government policy! Plinio Sist, Deputy Coordinator of 3.05.00, reports that based on research results from an EU-sponsored project involving scientists active in 3.05.00 and carried out in East Kalimantan, Indonesia, the Indonesian Director General of Production Forest Development, through a letter issued on 14 March 2002, instructed that harvesting intensity will henceforth be limited to no more than 8 trees/ha, a direct recommendation from that research.

Division 5 - Forest Products

Utilization of Plantation-grown Timber

In July 2002, IUFRO Working Party 5.06.02 (Quality Teak Timber from Plantation) held a far-sighted workshop on "Further Processing of Tropical Timbers of Fast Grown Plantations" in the Asia-Pacific region, hosted by the Korea Forest Research Institute. Ten countries participated (Cambodia, China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, and Thailand) and reviewed the current status of tropical timber resources with marketing opportunities in the context of promoting the utilization of plantation grown timber.

Division 4 - Inventory, Growth, Yield, Quantitative and Management Sciences

IUFRO's Forest Modeling and Resource Assessment activities

IUFRO continues to pursue its scientific networking activities in the area of Forest Modelling, Resource Assessment and Monitoring, and to provide consultancy for the UN-FAO/ECE Global Forest Resources Assessment 2000, advise the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe and assist the European Commission in developing a European forest information system. More recently, IUFRO's Division 4 has been assisting FAO in developing an On-line Knowledge Reference for National Forest Assessments. This particular reference tool is intended to function as a worldwide knowledge resource for forest assessment, to assist scientists, teachers and other stakeholders and to support forest assessments in developing countries. Developing and maintaining this important tool requires a long-term commitment. Reference, which will reside on the FAO website at www.fao.org/forestry/fra-knowledgeref, will be dynamic and so the contents can evolve over time. Initially, provision will be made for a variety of topics including sampling strategies, remote sensing technology, information management and data processing, scenarios and analysis. Several lead authors recruited from IUFRO members will be responsible for specific chapters in the reference.



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At Division 4 Conference: Continuous Cover Forestry - Assessment, Scenarios, Bleicherode, Germany

The resulting recommendations are:

- Increase forest cover and wood supply through efficient plantation establishment.
- Utilize plantation species on a sustainable basis; identify and encourage higher value species in plantation forests.
- Construct networks for improving access to existing databases and knowledge centers on wood technology.
- Improve dissemination of relevant research for training, technology transfer, marketing and trade.
- Favor cooperation for the exchange of information among the countries.
- Implement appropriate policies, strategies, and effective measures for an efficient and continuous monitoring of the supply of planted species.
- Explore the benefits of carbon trading in the establishment of forest plantations.

Division 6 - Social, Economic, Information and Policy Sciences

2nd IUFRO All Division 6 Conference, Chile

As a follow-up on the first all Division 6 conference in South Africa, 1999, the second conference was held in Valdivia, Chile, from 11-17 November 2002, organised by Deputy Division Coordinator Susana Benedetti, Instituto Forestal (INFOR). The conference focused on the timely topic of "Collaboration and Partnership in Forestry". Approximately 40 delegates from 14 countries attended, and around 30 papers were presented. In addition to the keynote, case study, and plenary presentations, numerous informal contacts were established and developed. The sessions offered the opportunity for researchers to present their work on topics such as communities and collaboration; education and extension; economy and policy; and recreation, landscape and nature conservation. The settings created opportunities to share ideas about research needs, research approaches, and policy developments - opportunities that the participants actively engaged in.



9 Participants of the 2nd all Division 6 Conference in Valdivia (Chile)

Forestry Serving Urbanised Societies

Close to 250 participants from about 40 countries attended this European regional conference, held in Copenhagen, Denmark from 27-30 August 2002. This cross-Division 6 conference, organised by Research Group 6.14.00 Urban Forestry in close collaboration with the European Forest Institute (EFI), stressed the need for forestry to recognise and develop its urban mandate. Hosted by the Danish Centre for Forest, Planning and Landscape (*Skov & Landskab*), the event identified promising approaches in finding a more sustainable balance between forest resources and urban demands. Sessions elaborated, for example, upon recreational, health and environmental values of forests and green areas. New planning and management tools, the emergence of the concept of urban forestry, and the role of research were presented and discussed.

Division 8 - Forest Environment

Ecological and Economic Benefits of Mountain Forests

An evaluation of the services of mountain forests and the identification of regulatory forest policy actions were the major goals of a symposium held in September 2002 in Innsbruck, Austria. The event was organized by the Austrian Federal Office and Research Centre for Forests, the Austrian University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, and IUFRO

10 Nordkette mountain range in the Tyrol (Austria)



Division 8. The topics were: (i) Land-use conflicts and integrated forest management, (ii) Geochemical processes, (iii) Vegetation at the timberline, and (iv) Risk assessment and crisis management. One of the field trip subjects was the nitrogen eutrophication of forest ecosystems due to high cattle density.

Attendees concluded that for a fair evaluation of ecological and economic benefits of mountain forests the balance between natural ecological processes and man-made ones due to management needed to be clarified. Such an assessment requires insight into the vegetation dynamics behaviour, the interactions with the geochemical environment, and the present and future needs of society.

Task Force on the Science/Policy Interface

Building Bridges to a Sustainable Future

International Workshop on Forest Science and Forest Policy in the Asia-Pacific Region:

Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India

16-19 July 2002 (Photos 11, 12)

The IUFRO Task Force on the Science/Policy Interface held its second regional workshop at the M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation in Chennai (Madras), India from 16-19 July 2002. The meeting was attended by 38 delegates (forest scientists, managers and policy makers) from eight Asian nations - India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, China-Beijing, Mongolia, Republic of Korea, and Japan – as well as from the United States, CIFOR and FAO. The meeting explored the role of forest science in the development of forest policies and forest management practices in Asia. The participants' varied backgrounds, interests and experiences covered a broad array of issues relevant to the theme of the workshop, from community-based forest rehabilitation and management and industrial forest development to national- and international-level



forest policy discourses. The result was a series of lively and thought-provoking discussions on the roles, responsibilities and interactions of forest scientists, local communities and traditional knowledge, NGOs, industry, national governments, and international organizations in the development of forest policies and sustainable forest management practices. The field trips to various coastal zone locations in Tamil Nadu highlighted the successful integration of state-of-the-art science and technology with community-based initiatives for rehabilitating and managing degraded mangrove ecosystems.

11 *Prawn cultivation in mangrove plantation (India)*

Task Force on Environmental Change

IUFRO Research Series No. 9

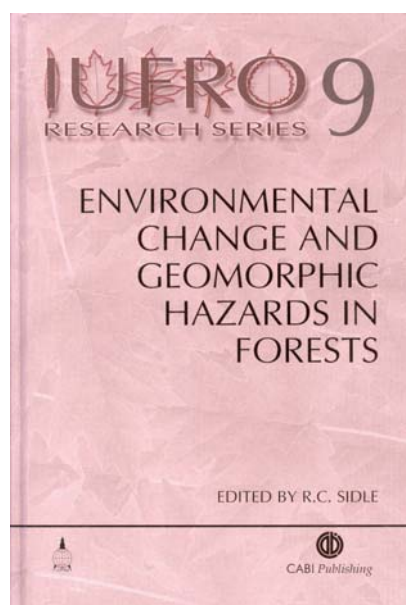
Environmental Change and Geomorphic Hazards in Forests

The most recent volume of IUFRO's Research Series, edited by R C Sidle, was published by the Task Force on Environmental Change in 2002.

Environmental and climate change affect forests and land use in numerous ways, including increasing the risk of geomorphic hazards. Such hazards include surface erosion, desertification and related land degradation. Yet it is often difficult to distinguish between the influences of climate change and those of changing forest land use, on geomorphic hazards.

This volume reviews current knowledge on these issues and features include:

- Hydrologic impacts, including flooding and soil erosion
- Desertification in Mediterranean Europe and Africa
- Landslides
- Mangrove forests and hazards along shorelines
- Examples from all five continents

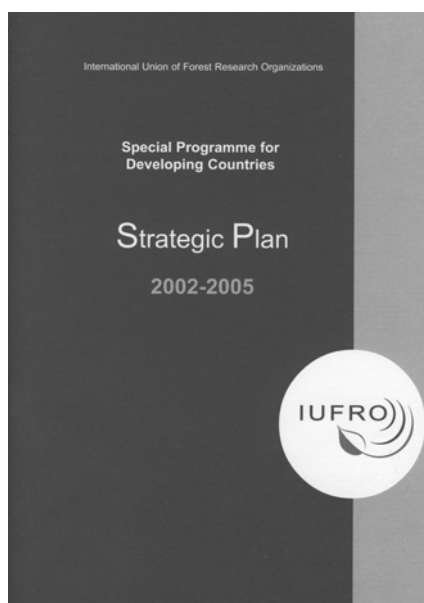


Special Programme for Developing Countries

IUFRO-SPDC's Strategy 2002 - 2005

In September 2002 a new strategic plan for IUFRO-SPDC covering the period 2002 to 2005 was published. This plan is the result of a 12-month consultation process within the IUFRO-SPDC Advisory Group representing the IUFRO Board with members from both, developing and industrialised countries, and international forestry organisations such as FAO and CIFOR.

Based on its mission, "to expand and foster forest research capacity in developing and economically disadvantaged countries" IUFRO-SPDC aims at enhancing the ability of IUFRO member institutions in developing and economically disadvantaged countries to generate and deliver scientific information and advisory services on forests and trees and their sustainable utilisation. The focus of activities will be on the development and implementation of training courses and the facilitation of thematic research networking initiatives within the framework of the existing IUFRO structure. While the traditional training in research management with courses in grant



proposal writing and the use of modern information technology tools will continue, IUFRO-SPDC will put more emphasis on technology transfer. New training courses are intended to assist IUFRO members in developing countries to improve their contributions to processes that aim at translating good science into relevant policies and practical field applications.

GFIS - the Global Forest Information Service

Visit <http://www.iufro-gfis.net/>

IUFRO's Special Programme GFIS is an international initiative under the leadership of IUFRO. Partners in this initiative are the Forestry Department of FAO, the Centre for International Forest Research (CIFOR), and the European Forest Institute (EFI), which are represented on the recently established Steering Committee together with IUFRO. Several other contributors and sponsors such as CAB-International, USDA Forest Service, Forestry Canada, and the Korea Forest Research Institute are represented in the GFIS Task Force that gives advice to the Special Programme, which is based at IUFRO's Headquarters in Vienna and is responsible for the implementation of the service.

GFIS intends to enhance and ensure access to all forest-related information for all stakeholders including policy makers, forest managers, NGOs, community groups and the public at large. Its initial aims are to recommend standards for improving the interoperability of metadata and to develop and operate a global multi-lingual resource discovery service.

A first functional prototype of this Internet-based service was successfully launched at the European Regional Conference of IUFRO in Copenhagen, Denmark, in August 2002. Several on-line search operations with keywords were demonstrated there using seven existing GFIS nodes in Africa, Latin America and Europe. The advantage of a domain-search facility such as GFIS over a more general commercial search engine was demonstrated. With the generous support of the European Commission for the development of GFIS in Africa, a great amount of metadata from African forest research institutions has thus already been made accessible by this IUFRO service.

12 Agroforestry activities with the participation of women (India)



Outlook



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Participants of the IUFRO Management Committee meeting near Manaus (Brazil)

In 2002 IUFRO proved its *expertise* and undeniably succeeded in becoming a more important actor in international processes. As a focal point for the “Scientific and Technological Community” in the Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue, it showed its ability to compile and publish highly appreciated discussion and position papers on important issues discussed in the United Nations Forum on Forests. In December, the compilation of such a discussion paper was initiated at the Secretariat for UNFF-3 on three substantive elements: (i) Economic aspects of forests, including trade, (ii) Forest health and productivity and (iii) Maintaining forest cover to meet present and future needs. The paper is to be delivered to the UNFF Secretariat in March 2003.

In the past ten years, roughly speaking, IUFRO also proved its *flexibility* by establishing short-term Task Forces to address important issues. Presently, a Task Force is being set up on Forest Biotechnology focusing on Genetically Modified Trees (webpage and workplan in IUFRO Net). Task Forces do not initiate research. They publish state-of-knowledge documents, hold workshops and plan sessions during major IUFRO events such as the IUFRO World Congresses. The Task Force on the “Science/Policy Interface” held a workshop in Chennai, India, in 2002 on “Building Bridges to a Sustainable Future” and discussed the involvement of local communities and traditional knowledge in the rehabilitation of forest land. Its next workshop, dealing with issues related to forest policies in the European-African region and the Middle East, will be held in Copenhagen in July 2003.

IUFRO's essential *power*, however, is the global and priceless expertise of more than 15,000 forest researchers and scientists, of its more than 800 Office Holders, and of its Scientific Divisions. Forest researchers and scientists are aware that an enormous source of expertise should also be tapped from other research fields. IUFRO must become more attractive to institutions outside its usual circle which may then decide to become members. It should seek to make itself known and renowned by publishing synthesis articles in journals and newsletters dealing with sciences other than forestry, and by linking its web site to those of scientific groups for which forests are an excellent research field because of their relatively low disturbance compared to other terrestrial ecosystems.

IUFRO has the expertise, the flexibility and the power to move forward on all these avenues.

Eric Teissier du Cros,
Vice-President “Science”

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Swamp and lake in the Manaus area (Brazil)



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How to become a Member of IUFRO

A membership application form as well as information on the annual membership fees is available on the IUFRO website at <<http://iufro.boku.ac.at/iufro/secre/benefits.htm>> and also on request from IUFRO Headquarters.

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Our Mission is ...

to promote the coordination of and the international cooperation in scientific studies embracing the whole field of research related to forests and trees.