

The APFC Gazette

27th Session of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission

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BMICH, Bauddhaloka Mawatha
23 - 27 October 2017



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



Forest Department Sri-Lanka

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Produced in collaboration with IFSA



Celebrating people and forests in
Asia-Pacific: A networking evening

In celebration of APFNet's 10th and RECOFTC's 30th anniversaries, a networking evening was organized.

The evening began with speeches from the Assistant Executive Director of APFNet, Mr. Xia Jun, and Executive Director of RECOFTC, Mr. David Ganz. Both briefly spoke about their journeys in the forestry sector, mentioning the many friends made along the way. (continued on page 2)



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The speakers stressed the need to continue collaboration as this has played a critical role in the successes of both organization's work in community forestry (CF) and sustainable forest management (SFM).

Following opening remarks , a structured networking evening allowed participants to share a) their favorite forestry experience ; b) a favorite visit to a forest; and c) a forestry project that most excited them.

The session fostered structured discussion, eventually transitioning to an informal networking as delegates enjoyed a finger food reception and beverages , joining the hosts in celebrating their 10th and 30th anniversaries.



Reminders!

Delegates are invited to discover the exhibition booths on display at the Red Verandah outside of the BMICH.



Faces of the day

Mr. Johny Holbert
Ministry of Environment and
Forestry, Indonesia



"APFC is a great platform for researchers to develop themselves, particularly in the forestry sector. I hope this event can help researchers to find future collaborations and increase funding opportunities".

Mr. Franz Arnold
FAO - Myanmar



"As a new arrival in the Asia-Pacific region, APFC helps me to make more contacts with colleagues and have fruitful discussions about forest monitoring, which is an important topic in my country".

What are your expectations for APFC?

Partner event summaries



APFISN Workshop on Habitat and species specific protocols for management of forest invasive species in the Asia-Pacific region.

Asia-Pacific Forest Invasive Species Network (APFISN),
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
- Regional Office for Asia and Pacific (FAO-RAP)

Common Invasive Alien Species (IAS) across countries have significantly affected the biodiversity and integrity of ecosystems. To deal with this issue in the Asia-Pacific region, APFISN has helped countries to promote and share solutions to pest outbreaks and rapidly manage the spread of IAS. Additionally, they provided a platform for sharing information on IAS management, including plants and animals, and also held education trainings to target groups like the general public, students, teachers and agencies. They plan to compile various management protocols for certain specific species and habitats to protect ecosystems from invasion.

A decade of forest monitoring, management, and protection in Bangladesh

Bangladesh Forest Department, FAO, USAID, GIZ, Silvacarbon

Forest monitoring, Country Investment Plans for the Environment, and Conservation Law Enforcement were some of the topics presented during this partner event. In Bangladesh, forest monitoring is conducted every 5 years, and collects both tree cover and quality data among other variables. Bangladesh has also built up a technical support network to improve data collection, and is striving to involve more local people in forest management by implementing co-management practices. These initiatives, however, do not come without challenges, such as funding allocation, manpower, and inaccessibility. Despite all of these initiatives, the people of Bangladesh have been able to improve and better manage their forest reserves.

Teak in Productive Landscapes: An Introduction to Global Efforts for the Conservation and Sustainable Management of Teak Resources

International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO)
International Teak Information Network (TEAKNET)

Teak is one of the most valuable tropical hardwood species that is traded globally. It is grown increasingly in about 70 tropical countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America. In this event, teak researchers and experts from the region discussed priorities to be addressed through the proposed Global Teak Support Programme. Key issues and needs identified included; enhancing the conservation and sustainable use of natural teak forests; expanding the genetic resource base of planted teak forests in view of new challenges; and strengthening international collaboration and regional networking.

Mapping the Future: Taking Forestry Strategic Planning to the Next Level

Asia-Pacific Network for Sustainable Forest Management and Rehabilitation (APFNet)

APFNet has set out to understand the state, gaps and needs of forestry strategic planning in various Asia-Pacific economies. This required a broader approach which captured the larger picture of change at regional and global levels. Strategic planning has not yet developed effectively, due in large part to a lack of monitoring and the difficulty in assessing private sector contributions. By producing and promoting knowledge, conducting training classes and encouraging multi stakeholder participation, the APFNet strategic planning program should see benefits moving forward.

Friday's Partner Events

From Vision To Action: Including youth in SDG implementation

International Forestry Students Association (IFSA)

Saffron Room, 10:30 - 12:00

Engaging non-state actors is key to achieving the SDG goals. Forestry students and young professionals play a key role in accelerating progress towards the 2030 sustainable development agenda. This session will highlight success stories of youth involvement, and will be followed by a visioning exercise.

The 15th World Forestry Congress in Republic of Korea and the Regional Forest Cooperation through Asian Forest Cooperation Organization (AFoCO), Korea Forest Service (KFS)

Orchid Room, 10:30 - 12:00

This event will showcase preparations for the 4th Asia-Pacific Forestry Week and World Forestry Congress 2021 to be hosted in the Republic of Korea. The session will also serve as a platform for information and technological exchange among AFoCO members.

Harmonizing Sri Lanka's eco-cultural heritage with emerging green economic initiatives: Case studies, Forest Department Sri Lanka

Tulip Room, 10:30 - 12:00

Home gardens provide vital resources for many Sri Lankan households. There is a need to promote home gardens as they contribute substantially to Sri Lanka's economy as an essential approach to livelihood development in low to middle income households.

Ecosystem Conservation and Management Project Sri Lanka (ESCAPM), Saffron Room, 13:30 - 15:00

Landscape-level planning can help identify a wide range of issues across ecosystems while taking account of multiple stakeholders. The event will discuss challenges associated with formulation and implementation of landscape management in unique ecological and social ecosystems in Sri Lanka.

Trees in urban landscapes

The importance of urban and peri-urban forests which provide vital ecosystem services in cities was discussed under agenda item 9. The presentation emphasized positive implications urban trees have on human well-being, pollution control and air quality. There was a strong interest and support from the delegates on this topic, indicating that urban forestry has become an emerging priority in the region. The Commission requested FAO to support capacity building on the management of urban forests. There was also considerable discussion on the value of urban forests.

Did you know?

The contribution of the forest sector to the national economy of Sri Lanka is estimated to be about 6%, mainly from the production of timber, sawn wood, and firewood. There is also a wide range of plantations of rubber, coconut and tea, which are vital cash crops for many households.



1 USD = 153.7 LKR
1 EUR = 180.7 LKR

bloomberg.com



(Forestry Department Sri-Lanka, 1999)

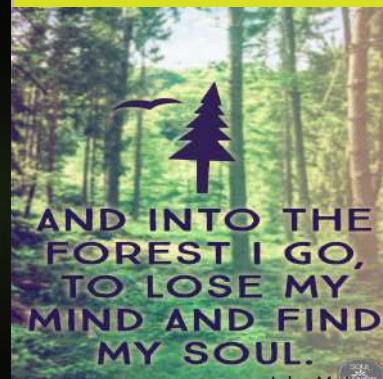
Use the official hashtag
#APFC27

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A brief shower or two, rain jackets or umbrellas are advised

accuweather.com



John Muir

Sustainable Forests and Landscapes (GEF-7 Regional Program Development) FAO-RAP, Orchid Room , 13:30 - 15:00

Forests provide vital ecosystem services in support of agriculture and food security. This role is quickly being diminished due to massive degradation of forests and lands. This partner event will further promote and accelerate restoration for multiple environmental and social benefits in Asia and the Pacific and facilitate FAO-GEF programme development under GEF-7.

Highlights of the day

New Landscapes for Community Forestry

A special in-session seminar highlighted the emerging new landscapes for community forestry. The Commission heard there are six key elements in successful community-based forest programmes including: 1) secure tenure; 2) effective regulatory frameworks; 3) inclusive and transparent governance systems; 4) efficient technologies; 5) market knowledge; and 6) a supportive administration. Delegates noted the transformative social impacts of community-based forestry including empowerment of women and youths.