

PEOPLE

Family

1 JANUARY
Global Family Day

15 MAY
International Day of Families

There are 25 million family forest owners worldwide. Organizing these small forest holders is a key to sustainable forest management and better livelihoods. The International Family Forestry Alliance (IFFA) gives them a voice at the global level and assists in sharing of experience. For example, IFFA organized this exchange exercise for Swedish and Kenyan family foresters, supported by Growing Forest Partnerships.

JIM DEGERMAN



A mother and her children transport wood home from the Yoko Forest in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. In forested developing countries, rural families commonly depend on woodfuel for cooking and heating. ©FAO/24683_1790/GIULIO NAPOLITANO



Forests: a rich resource for family recreation: bicycling on a family-friendly forest trail.

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1 OCTOBER
International Day for Older Persons

In Europe, private forest owners are ageing, as part of a general trend towards an ageing population in developed regions, compounded by increased rural-to-urban migration. This is likely to have an impact on forest management, as the motivation of future owners to participate in forestry is uncertain (Turkey). [FAO/FO-6988/SEVGI GORMUS](#)



Elders pass along knowledge and respect for natural resources: In Gujarat, India, a tribal elder speaks up in a community's effort to protect tribal rights over forests and forest resources, facilitated by the non-governmental organization ARCH (Action Research in Community Health and Development). [ARCH](#)

PEOPLE

Children



1 JUNE
International Children's Day

12 AUGUST
International Youth Day

Childhood encounters age.

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Children are the hope for the forests of the future: a young boy paints a home-made tree in a Tokyo street, Japan. As the world becomes increasingly urbanized, it is more important than ever to educate city children about the importance of forests and trees. UN PHOTO/70319/JAN CORASH

Schoolchildren in Rwanda set out to plant trees on World Environment Day 2010. MEAGHAN O'NEILL



Children plant trees to celebrate Tree Day (el Día del Árbol) at the Escuela Nacional Central de Agricultura, Guatemala. FAO/FO-6147/EDWIN E. VAIDES LÓPEZ

12 JUNE
World Day Against Child Labour

Like children in many countries, this young boy in Assam, India labours hard in carrying fuelwood over long distances. UN PHOTO/149396/JEAN PIERRE LAFFONT





In Elisiya, Bangladesh, Alo Rani, 36, weaves a basket from bamboo, an important non-wood forest product. She received financial and technical assistance to develop her bamboo weaving business.

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8 MARCH

**International Women's Day
United Nations Day for Women's
Rights and International Peace**

15 OCTOBER

International Day of Rural Women

25 NOVEMBER

**International Day for the
Elimination of Violence against
Women**



This women's collective in Burkina Faso gathers *Butyrospermum paradoxum* ssp. *parkii* nuts for processing into shea butter for sale.

FAO/CFU000183/ROBERTO FAIDUTTI



Women play a particularly important role in managing forests because they depend on them for many of their activities. This woman in Argentina, for instance, has to spend much time and effort in collecting fuelwood and carrying the heavy load home. CARE

PEOPLE Diversity



The indigenous Shavante Indians of Brazil make fire using sticks from the buriti (*Mauritia flexuosa*), a palm that grows in the Amazon forest; the fibre is also used to make art crafts such as baskets.

UN PHOTO/31707/JOSEANE DAHER



21 MAY
**World Day for Cultural Diversity for
Dialogue and Development**

11 JULY
World Population Day

9 AUGUST
**International Day of the World's
Indigenous People**

16 NOVEMBER
International Day of Tolerance

DECEMBER 20
International Human Solidarity Day



People rest under the shade of a large tree in the Shewa region, Ethiopia.

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3 DECEMBER
International Day of Disabled Persons

All people should be able to enjoy the beneficial effects of visiting the forest. In the United Kingdom, where there are over 8.6 million disabled people (including people with hearing, sight, speech and learning impairments as well as those with physical impairments), the Forestry Commission consults with representatives of disabled access groups to ensure equal access and enjoyment of the outdoors for all people under the Equality Act 2006 and the amended Disability Discrimination Act 2005.

FORESTRY COMMISSION/1044046/
ISOBEL CAMERON

