

Scientific conference  
**“Ecosystem Goods and Services from Planted Forests”**  
04 - 07 October 2006, Bilbao, Spain



While the total area of forests is declining globally, the extent of plantations is increasing at a rapid rate. In many parts of the world, plantations already comprise an important component of the landscape. While there are many different types of plantations established for different purposes, the majority of plantations have been established with the aim of producing timber and other wood products. In some parts of the world, plantations have been established with the explicit aim to reduce the reliance on native forests. Increasingly, plantations are established to meet also other objectives such as land rehabilitation, erosion control, control of the water table etc. At the same time, as native forests disappear or become less accessible, people are becoming more reliant on ecosystem goods and services provided by plantations, in particular in densely populated areas. It is thus timely to ask, to what extent plantations can provide different ecosystem goods and services, how far they can substitute or augment ecosystem goods and services from native forest, and how they may be designed and managed to consider or optimise the provision of ecosystem goods and services such as provision of habitat, clean water, non-timber forest products etc. It is the aim of this conference to present the current knowledge on those issues.

In particular the conference will focus on the following topics

- Ecosystem services from plantations: carbon sequestration, biomass production, land rehabilitation, control of water table, etc.
- The role of plantations in biodiversity conservation
- Plantations and livelihoods
- Assessment methods for EG&S from plantations
- Design and management principles to optimise the provision of EG&S from plantations
- Conversion of plantations to semi-natural forests
- Interactions between plantations and other land uses in the landscape
- Policies and standards for sustainable plantation management
- Markets for ecosystem services from plantation forests

This conference will be jointly organised by the [NETFOP project](#) (Networking Forest Plantations in a Crowded World - funded by the Economic Cross Cultural Programme between the EU and India) through the [Institute of the Silviculture at Freiburg University](#) and the [European Institute of Cultivated Forests](#) (IEFC - project centre of the European Forest Institute). The conference is sponsored and supported by **IUFRO**, **CIFOR** and **IUCN**. It is part of a larger congress on the [Role of Planted Forests in Sustainable Development](#).

For more information on the conference, important dates, call for contributions, etc. please visit:  
<http://www.waldbau.uni-freiburg.de/bilbao.html>