



Towards a harmonized global approach for managing Forest Invasive Species

(insect pests, diseases and plants)



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Forest invasive species are non-native pests, pathogens and plants that are introduced either intentionally or unintentionally to an ecosystem, which spread and establish resulting in a significant environmental, economic, and/or socio-cultural impact. FAO is addressing the pressing global issue of invasive species by: producing publications and other knowledge products (e-learning courses); offering assistance to countries both in emergency and after-outbreak situations, as well as in the preparation of long-term prevention strategies; and helping to establish and maintain regional networks dedicated to invasive species.

Invasive species have no borders, therefore a strong and more coordinated interaction by affected countries within the same region and among different regional forest invasive species networks is needed to provide timely and efficient response when new invasive species are introduced and/or detected in a country or region.

Regional Forest Invasive Species Networks

FAO is currently facilitating five regional forest invasive species networks:

- Asia-Pacific Forest Invasive Species Network (APFISN);
- Forest Invasive Species Network for Europe and Central Asia (REUFIS);
- Forest Invasive Species Network for Africa (FISNA);
- Near East Network on Forest Health and Invasive Species (NENFHIS);
- Network for integrated and dynamic forest pest management in the Southern Cone countries.

Objectives of the side event:

- Enhance regional collaboration of Forest Invasive Species Networks;
- Initiate the establishment of a harmonized global approach for the management of forest invasive species.

COFO 24 Side event
Friday 20 July 2018,
Ethiopia room - C285/9
13.00-15.00 hours

The **Regional Forest Invasive Species Networks** aim to foster the exchange of information and the mobilization of resources, support forest health projects, raise regional awareness, and act as a link between and among experts, institutions, networks and other stakeholders concerned with forest invasive species.

Agenda

Items	Time	Activity / Speaker
1	13.00 13.10	Welcome address Mette Wilkie, Chief, Forestry Policy and Resources, Forestry Department, FAO
2	13.10 13.20	Chair Dr. Chadi Mohanna, Director of Rural Development and Natural Resources, Ministry of Agriculture, Lebanon
3	13.20 14.20	Speakers <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overview of current/future activities of Regional Forest Invasive Species Networks - Ferenc Lakatos, Coordinator REUFIS, University of West Hungary, Sopron.• Using the IPPC framework for the management of forest invasive species - Brent Larson, IPPC, FAO.• Gaps in current international collaboration in managing forest invasive species - Simon Lawson, Coordinator APFISN, University of Sunshine coast.• Why do we need a global approach for managing forest invasive species? - Brett Hurley, Coordinator FISNA, University of Pretoria.
4	14.20 14.55	Key components of a global approach for forest invasive species management - Q&As session.
5	14.55 15.00	Closing remarks Chair

A light lunch will be served to participants outside the event room before the meeting starts (12:30-13:00)

