

The Forestry Week Gazette

ASIA-PACIFIC FORESTRY WEEK 2016

Clark Freeport Zone, Pampanga, Philippines
22-26 February 2016

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Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



Asia-Pacific Forestry Week 2016
Growing Our Future!

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Growing our Future!

The Opening Plenary Session was facilitated by Al Jazeera broadcast journalist Veronica Pedrosa. She started by asking the panel the meaning of “Growing Our Future”.

This was followed by a free-flowing discussion of topics based on issues raised by the panelists: Neil Byron, Doris Capistrano, John Innes, Tony La Viña and May Anne Then. During the Q&A, issues discussed included tenure of forestlands, climate change-related challenges faced by the Asia-Pacific region and the role of private sector in sustainable forest management.

Events happening today

- Continuation of APFC's 26th session
- Stream Events
- Forestry Fashion Show

Budi Soehardi, 2009 CNN Hero, also delivered a stirring message to the APFW delegates, in which he shared successful efforts to transform the Roslin Orphanage, co-founded with his wife, into a self-sufficient eco village. Showing photos of rocky, uncultivable land turned into a farm teeming with rice, vegetables and fruit trees, Soehardi emphasized that growing our future involves committing to creating a world that is better to live in.

Opening Ceremony and Opening Plenary Session



EVA MULLER
Director of Forestry Policy and Resources Division, FAO

“For forestry, the challenge is to promote political impetus to act and turn words into physical actions at all cost.”



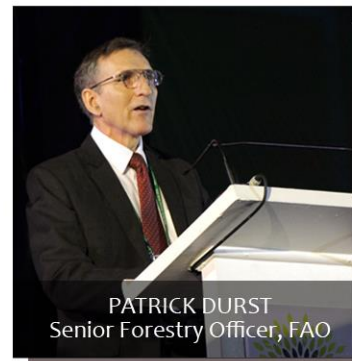
MARCIAL C. AMARO, JR.
Assistant Secretary, DENR, Philippines
Chair, 26th Session of the APFC

“Like entering a vast forest with diverse types of trees and plants, treat APFW 2016 as an adventure to explore and discover.”



RAMON JESUS PAJE
Secretary, DENR, Philippines

“The theme Growing Our Future is indeed suitable, as we must involve all stakeholders to actively integrate forestry in the wider context of sustainable development.”



PATRICK DURST
Senior Forestry Officer, FAO

Mr. Durst expressed his sincerest gratitude to the organizers and partner institutions that made APFW 2016 possible.



MAY ANNE THEN
President, IFSA

“We can’t talk about growing the future without talking about growing the youth today.”



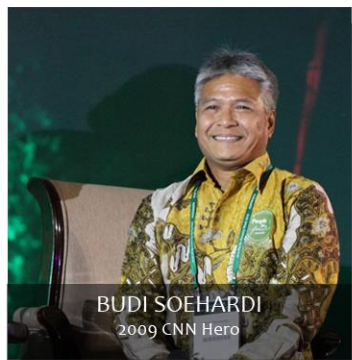
DORIS CAPISTRANO
Advisor, ASEAN-Swiss Partnership on Social Forestry and Climate Change

“We all know that the problems for forestry are not necessarily technical or silvicultural—they are institutional and governance-related.”



TONY LAVIÑA
Dean, Ateneo School of Government

“How we maximize opportunities for conservation, opportunities for investments with ASEAN economic integration will matter a lot to the future of our forests in this part of the world.”



BUDI SOEHARDI
2009 CNN Hero

“Life is beautiful. Be in it. And the future is now.”



NEIL BYRON
Non-executive Director and Adjunct Professor

“We should design a sustainable and equitable forestry system that will generate better living standards for people in this region.”



JOHN INNES
Dean, Faculty of Forestry
University of British Columbia

“We are doing better in terms of recognizing the roles of minorities, indigenous people, youth and women in forestry.”

Streamlights

The following are highlights of the first day of discussions in each stream.

Stream 1

Pathways to Prosperity: Future Trade & Markets



The keynote speaker, Frances Maplesden, provided a detailed review of current forestry market conditions, including emerging trends in the trade of logs, sawnwood and processed wood products. Darren Thomas from Double Helix Tracking Technologies provided an overview on how using DNA analysis and other types of tests can help the forest products sector achieve more transparency. The Non-Timber Forest Products Exchange Program (NTFP-EP), Department of Forestry and Department of Forest Inspections of Lao PDR, and WWF China and the Chinese Academy of Forestry hosted parallel sessions that generated lively discussions among participants.

“It was not a perfect agreement but I’m telling you, it is the best agreement that is signed by 196 countries,” emphasized Dean Tony La Viña of the Ateneo School of Government as he reflected on the Paris Agreement during the opening of the session. Christine Fung of Pacific Community (SPC) said that SPC recognizes that REDD+ - if it is planned properly - can provide a wide array of benefits. Juan Chang, a Senior Forestry and Land Use Specialist of Green Climate Fund (GCF) pointed out that GCF needs at least \$20-40 billion per year to finance forest resource management in developing countries.



Stream 2

Tackling Climate Change: Challenges & Opportunities



Stream 3

Serving Society: Forestry & People





Stream 3 revolved mainly around the role of forests in achieving SDGs. Mr. Fred Kafeeero, FAO forestry officer asserted that community-based forestry (CBF) is a powerful tool to improve the livelihoods of local communities. Mr. Dian Sukmajaya of ASEAN Economic Community Department expressed that ASEAN envisions sustainably managing forest resources to contribute to sustainable development. Ms. Maria Elder from SPC expressed the need to develop benefit sharing mechanisms in community-based SFM processes. Discussion afterwards led to the conclusion that forests provide a wide range of benefits that need to be equitably shared within communities.

Panelists in the opening plenary shared their views on opportunities for developing institutions and governance. Dr. Eva Müller of FAO and Dewi Bramono of APP shared insights on the development of new models of governance which exhibit principles of transparency, accountability, responsibility, independence and fairness. DENR Assistant Secretary Marcial Amaro Jr. talked about the status and challenges relating to the Executive Order No. 26, the legislation which established Philippines’ National Greening Program (NGP). Marlea Muñoz, President of Women’s Initiatives for Society, Culture and Environment, mentioned that to successfully secure forest tenure, we need to ensure the security of key IP advocates. Andy White, coordinator of RRI, shared experiences that communities can manage forests in an effective way.

Stream 4

New Institutions, New Governance



Stream 5

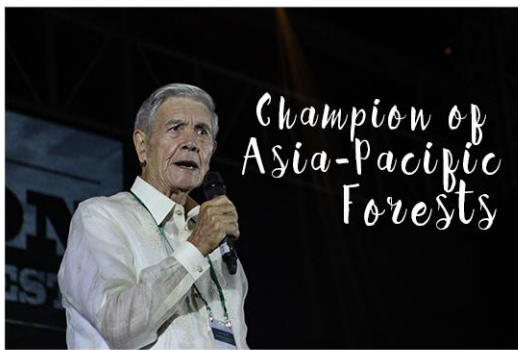
Our Green Future: Green Investments & Growing our Natural Assets



In the opening plenary, keynote speaker Dr. Brand, CEO of New Forest Asset Management Ltd. highlighted the importance of the Asia-Pacific region in the world’s forestry sector & added that there are issues that inhibit green investment. Mr. Prasetyo, REDD+ Management Agency Head in Indonesia, recognized the development of multiple use forests, providing a range of economic and ecological goods & services, to attract investors and that seed capital must be used as leverage for better rules and regulation. Dr. Brady, Seniors Operations officer at the International Finance Corporation (IFC), stressed the importance of integrity and due diligence in green investing.



Delegates to APFW 2016 lose themselves in the moment as they dance during the Welcome reception at the Fontana Convention Center.



Champion of Asia-Pacific Forests

Inspirational Philippines' forester Patrick Dugan was honored with the "Champion of Asia-Pacific Forests" award during the welcome reception at the Fontana Convention Center last night.

Mr. Dugan, with more than sixty years of experience, has been an immeasurable source of practical ideas and recommendations for simple, but workable, actions that advance sustainable forest management.

In his valedictory address, Patrick Durst of FAO told the assembly that Mr. Dugan's passion for improving forest and land management have made him undoubtedly the most influential and tireless advocate for assisted natural regeneration (ANR) over the past 25 years – in the Philippines and throughout the wider Asia-Pacific region.

EVENTS HAPPENING TODAY

Partner events for APFW 2016's five thematic streams will resume today. Take a sneak peek at what's in store for you in some of the upcoming sessions:

Stream 1 (Pathways to Prosperity: Future Trade and Markets)

Small Forest Enterprises: Barriers and Opportunities in Participating in the Responsible Wood Products Trade. In this session, organized by RAFT Program, EU FLEGT, EFI and FLEGT Programme of FAO, unique challenges faced by small forest enterprises in the legal and sustainable wood products trade in the Asia-Pacific region will be explained.

Stream 2 (Tackling Climate Change: Challenges and Opportunities)

Forest Development Planning for Climate Change Resilience and Poverty Reduction. Zooming in on the Philippine Government's National Greening Program and Risk Resiliency Program, this session, organized by FMB-DENR, The World Bank and the Program on Forests, will present an ecosystem-based approach for assessing the contribution of forest services to climate change.

Stream 3 (Serving Society, Forestry and People)

The Importance of Agroforestry in Achieving SDGs. ICRAF Southeast Asia Regional Program will spearhead a session exploring agroforestry's role in tropical land use in support to the post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals.

Stream 4 (New Institutions, New Governance)

Young Foresters' Summit. Organized by IFSA, this half-day event will include a workshop where young foresters can share their vision for the future of forestry in the Asia-Pacific region.

Stream 5 (Our Green Future: Green Investment and Growing Our Natural Assets)

Mobilizing Investments in Asia-Pacific Forests: Interactive Workshop. Featuring subgroup discussions and group sharing, this session will offer cross-sector stakeholder discussion and literacy building on forestry investment. This event is organized by APFNet in partnership with FAST, The Nature Conservancy, WWF and New Forests.

Aside from stream events, APFC will also convene for its second segment. In the evening, a fashion show featuring Anthony Cruz Legarda's collection and a cultural show will take place.

Canopy Room Events

9:00 onwards
K2F CHILDREN PAINTING SESSION

K2F STORY WALL

11:00 - 12:30
NTFP-EP FOREST FOOD SESSION

14:00 - 20:50
FORESTRY FILM FESTIVAL

Reminders!

- Join next APFC session in Paeonia room at 8:30
- Check out booths and posters during the Information market
- Don't miss Cultural event night at 19:00



Exchange Rate

1USD = 47.6150 PHP

1EUR = 52.5728 PHP

Source: Bloomberg Business

Source: CNN Weather

Weather Forecast
33° 23°
M/Sunny
Clark, Pampanga



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#APFW2016 social media corner



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"This year's Asia-Pacific Forestry Week is set to gather member-country delegates from international orgs to discuss key forestry issues in the Asia-Pacific region. But before the serious stuff, they collaborated first to finish this painting. #apfw2016 #growingourfuture"