

The Forestry Week Gazette

ASIA-PACIFIC FORESTRY WEEK 2016

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

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apfw2016.denr.gov.ph



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



Asia-Pacific
Forestry
Commission



Department of Environment
and Natural Resources



Asia-Pacific Forestry Week 2016
Growing Our Future!

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Growing our Future!

Highlights of today's events

- Field Trips
- Asia-Pacific Forest Communication Network meeting

"Youth are the voice of the forest, youth are the solution", said Dean Willie Abasolo of the College of Forestry and Natural Resources – UPLB at the Young Foresters' Summit convened during day three of Asia-Pacific Forestry Week 2016. Afterwards, Mr. Tomy Valdez briefly introduced the Society of Filipino Foresters, Inc. Four young presenters then took the stage to discuss the changes needed in forestry education, community forestry initiatives and the role of youth in forestry. The youth present in the room assembled in three groups for a capacity-building exercise and shared their outputs. "Champion of Asia-Pacific Forests" Patrick Dugan shared his wisdom with the youth in an open forum that followed.

APFC's Session Highlights

The Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission (APFC) considered reports and recommendations from all five streams at Asia-Pacific Forestry Week (APFW) 2016 yesterday.

Mr. Yurdi Yasmi, Forestry Policy Officer of the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, opened the session with a brief overview of past APFWs and described how the thematic streams and events were organized.

Mr. Rupert Oliver, Stream 1 Rapporteur recommended that APFC promote sustainable use and trade of timber and adopt broad approaches to foster its sustainability.

Mr. Christopher Martius, Stream 2 Rapporteur suggested FAO enhance funding and coordination among agencies and sectors to strengthen actions on climate change. He also emphasized the need to support the implementation of member countries' intended nationally determined contributions (INDCs).

Mr. Ronnakom Triraganon presented the recommendations from Stream 3 to strengthen local rights and to invest in local institutions and capacities. His message was supplemented by a passionate plea from an IP representative from Jember, Java, who urged the Commission to listen to the voices of local communities.

Mr. Jim Carle, Rapporteur of Stream 4, underscored the importance of implementing activities that enhance the roles of private sector, smallholders, communities, and youth in supporting SFM projects.

Lastly, Ms. Alexandra Wu, Rapporteur of Stream 5, strongly recommended the promotion of green investments in forests and natural resources by encouraging dialogue among policymakers and financiers. She also recommended the Commission encourage public-private partnerships (PPPs) for the region's SFM projects.



Faces of the Day

HOW'S YOUR APFW2016 EXPERIENCE SO FAR?

"We were not expecting so many people. We had a lot, the room was full. We were happy. People are so active, so passionate."

Francesca Nugnes, Canada Finance Alliance for Sustainable Trade (FAST)

"It's really heartwarming to see all of the new voices coming up. It is very light but a very information-filled kind of forum."

Doris Capistrano, Philippines ASEAN-Swiss Partnership on Social Forestry and Climate Change

"Good and organized. We've had a fulfilling meeting and also have precise output."

Sri Rahayu Sardula, Indonesia UNIVERSITAS GADJAH MADA



Streamlights

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

Ms. Emma Hatcher claimed that better cooperation among countries will aid in timber legality prosecution. Compliance, legislation and governance were pointed out as major challenges for timber legality. These problems are all interconnected; incompetent governance translates to weak legislation, which in turn promotes non-compliance with international standards, especially in the case of small holder plantations that cannot afford the costs of forest certification. Small holders play an integral part of the sustainability of commercial wood supplies; they should be supported. Philosophy of “treat small holders different from big ones” was proposed to address the issue.



Stream 1 Pathways to Prosperity: Future Trade & Markets



Speakers from the Forest Management Bureau (FMB) – DENR, the World Bank and the Program on Forests (PROFOR) discussed how forestry development planning, which includes sustainable natural resources management and watershed management, can help build climate change resilience in Asia-Pacific countries. The significant roles of forests in reducing poverty were strongly emphasized.



Stream 2 Tackling Climate Change: Challenges & Opportunities

Speakers highlighted the role of land rights for indigenous peoples (IPs) in eradicating poverty, attaining food security and combating climate change. They also stressed that shifting cultivation can be a sustainable land use management system of IPs in the Asia-Pacific region. Mr. Henry Binahon, the founder of Binahon Agroforestry in Bukidnon, Philippines, emphasized the importance of changing the mindset of farmers from using traditional farming to agroforestry. He emphasized that it is economically-viable, environment-friendly and will help attain the SDGs.



Stream 3 Serving Society: Forestry & People

The session “*Improving Forest Communication for People and Forests*” by RECOFTC, FAO and APFCN stressed the need to devise well-thought out strategies in communicating forest-related issues, one of which being Participatory Development Communication Strategy. In a simulated advice show titled “Ask Dr. Comm”, forest communication “ailments” were brought for consultation. Dr. Comm gave recommendations on ways to monitor communication effectiveness, errors committed by forestry communicators and issues on internal communication among forestry practitioners.



Stream 4 New Institutions, New Governance

Mobilizing Investments in Asia-Pacific Forests.
APFNet in partnership with FAST, The Nature Conservancy, WWF and New Forests offered multi-stakeholder discussion on how to overcome investment challenges and build forestry investment literacy.



Stream 5 Our Green Future: Green Investments & Growing our Natural Assets

Forest Spatial Information and User-Oriented Services System.

AFoCo and KoFPI invited speakers to present innovative methods to manage resources. The speakers were unanimous in asserting the importance of investing in new technologies (such as drones) that are faster, more convenient and efficient in processing, analysis and managing data.





During a night of revelry, the importance of forests was highlighted during a fashion show that featured works from various fashion collections and advocacy apparels.

PLACES NOT TO MISS AROUND CLARK, PAMPANGA

Got spare time after APFW? Here are some places you may want to visit for more unforgettable experiences.



Miyamit Falls

If the explorer in you is ready to face all the hurdles and inconveniences of trekking, Miyamit Falls is where the wild meets beauty—a place of adventure where the Aetas teach you their ways in the wild. To behold the beauty at the peak requires more than four hours of walking and discomfort. ATVs are available, but walking the trail rewards you with a different view and experience, more than just being a spectator in the ride all the way to the top. Located in Porac, Pampanga, trekkers recommend that first-timers



bring tons of water, ascent should start before dawn or much earlier, and they keep the good vibes. Summer is the best time to visit Miyamit Falls for a refreshing swim and trek.

Mt. Pinatubo

This volcano is not in Clark. It's an hour's drive from Mabalacat to get to Mount Pinatubo. Its familiar name was made famous by the devastating eruption that took place in 1991. That calamity caused great havoc to many people in Pampanga and around the area. Entrance is thru Capas, Tarlac via a 4x4 truck.

Reminders!

Don't forget to have fun and freshen up for the remaining days of APFW 2016!



Exchange Rate

1USD = 47.6980 PHP

1EUR = 52.5328 PHP

Source: Bloomberg Business

Source: CNN Weather

Weather Forecast
30° 23°

P/Cloudy
Clark, Pampanga



Featured delegate of the Day

SAGITA ARHIDANI
ASEAN Social Forestry Network
Indonesia

"We are very happy to have this opportunity to share insights on how forests can make important contributions to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Forests are not only trees, but we have to take into account the wisdom, knowledge, and role of the people who know how to ensure the health of forests. It's really serving society through the forest including the roles of the people.

APFW brings us back to our organizations, institutions, and networks as we discuss how to implement (this event's outputs). After APFW, we hope that the event's outputs will help the social aspects of forestry gain the regional support we most need."

HIGHLIGHTS OF TODAY'S EVENTS

Participants can choose to join one of three field trips:

- Eco-Tourism and Biodiversity at Subic, Zambales
- Forest Rehabilitation at Clark Pampanga
- Forest Research and Extension at Magalang, Pampanga

FAO and RECOFTC will hold an Asia-Pacific Forest Communication Network meeting at Widus Hotel.

#APFW2016 social media corner

CHATHAM HOUSE
The Royal Institute of International Affairs

CH_Illegal Logging @CH_Logging

"More from #APFW2016: Need to rethink certification if smallholders are not going to be excluded from timber markets"



CIDT International @wlvcdt

"#APFW2016 is the start of turning talk into actions after an important year in 2015 with #globalgoals, COP21 & World Forestry Congress"



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