

# The Forestry Week Gazette

## ASIA-PACIFIC FORESTRY WEEK 2016

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

[j.mp/APFW2016](http://j.mp/APFW2016)

[apfw2016.denr.gov.ph](http://apfw2016.denr.gov.ph)

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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!

Everything has an ending.  
Asia-Pacific Forestry Week 2016  
has finally rolled down its final curtain.

The closing ceremony, which was held at Fontana Convention Centre, started with an audiovisual presentation from the host organization – Forest Management Bureau of DENR. It was followed by a presentation of stream leaders' actionable recommendations to the 26th session of Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission.

An inspirational tribute was presented for FAO RAP Senior Forestry Officer Mr. Patrick B. Durst, whose unwavering leadership leading to the success of APFW 2016 and past APFWs was recognized by his colleagues...(continued on page 2)

# This is our hope, this is our future!

(Continued from page 1)

he extended his heartfelt gratitude to CSO organizations, independent individuals, private sector, indigenous peoples, and students who actively participated in the event. "As said here in the Philippines, maraming salamat po!" conveyed Mr. Durst as he ended his speech. It is Mr. Durst's last year as secretary of APFC after serving for 21 years since 1994. Next, Undersecretary for Field Operations Mr. Demetrio Ignacio, Jr. rendered his warm regards to those individuals who have made the event successful including FMB-DENR, member delegates of APFC, and participants of APFW.

Thereafter, the program was ended with a fantastic performance from Manila Philharmonic Orchestra, Angeline Quinto, Bryan Termulo, and Bayang Barrios who sang the theme song of APFW 2016 "The Forest of Life."

DENR Undersecretary for Field Operations Demetrio Ignacio Jr. gives a bow and arrow as a token of appreciation to FAO Senior Forestry Officer Mr. Patrick P. Durst during the closing ceremony of APFW 2016.

## APFC Concludes 26th Session

The Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission (APFC) concluded its 26th session, during the last day of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Week (APFW) 2016 held at Clark Freeport Zone, Pampanga, Philippines.

The APFC, which has deliberated on various forest and forestry issues faced by the Asia-Pacific region starting February 22, adopted the draft report of its 26th session. The report contains 16 agenda items for discussion, which the Commission considered and provided recommendations for future action. Among these agenda items are the following:

- Beyond Paris: What's Next for Forests and Forestry in Asia-Pacific
- Global Policy Processes
- Outcomes of the XIV World Forestry Congress
- Forests and Natural Disasters
- Building Momentum for Community-Based Forestry and Forest Farm Producer Organizations
- Gender Policies, Youth and Forestry Education
- State of Forestry in the Asia-Pacific Region
- Regional Analysis of the Global Forest Resources Assessment
- Gender Policies, Youth and Forestry Education
- State of Forestry in the Asia-Pacific Region
- Regional Analysis of the Global Forest Resources Assessment
- Progress in Implementing APFC- and FAO-Supported Activities in the Region
- Growing Our Future: Reports and Recommendations from Asia-Pacific Forestry Week 2016 Streams

- Forest and Landscape Restoration
- Inputs to FAO Governance

Other matters discussed during the last-day session of APFC are activity reports from the Commission's working groups, which include the Asia-Pacific Forest Invasive Species Network, Asia-Pacific Forest Policy Think Tank, Asia-Pacific Forest Communication Network and Kids-to-Forests Initiative.

In his concluding remarks, Mr. Patrick Durst, Senior Forestry Officer of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), lauded the APFC delegates for their active participation and contribution of ideas, which coincided with the organizer's efforts to come up with a process that yields meaningful recommendations responsive to the needs of the region's forestry sector.

Meanwhile, Sri Lanka offered to host the 27th session of the APFC, while the Republic of Korea expressed interest to host the Commission's subsequent session as well as the fourth APFW.

## Faces of the Day

WHAT WAS YOUR MOST  
MEMORABLE MOMENT IN  
APFW2016?

"The network. We get to know people and new friends with similar interests and passion."

PHNOM THANO  
Thailand  
Inter-Mountain  
People Education  
and Culture  
(IMPEC)

"The most memorable moment for me was the opening ceremony. I really feel proud that FMB was given a chance to host this momentous event."

EDNA D. NUESTRO  
Philippines  
Forest  
Management  
Bureau, DENR

"The ability to bring people together to work and communicate forestry's pressing issues is the biggest impact. APFW made it easier."

ROBERT MAGYAR  
Vietnam  
North Head

# Streamlights

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

## Stream 1 Pathways to Prosperity: Future Trade & Markets



Stream 1 session began with an event organized by Non-Timber Forest Products-Exchange Programme (NTFP-EP) Asia on **"Forest and Beauty"**. The workshop related to the cosmetics and fragrances sector. Forest products discussed included *Lancium domesticum*, *Sterculia foetida*, *Sapindus emarginatus*, *Limonia acidissima*, *Santalum spp.*, and *Canarium ovatum*. These products have been highlighted as important natural ingredients used by the cosmetic industry. The demand for natural ingredients used for cosmetic products has been increasing for the last decade. The discussion pointed out the importance of bringing attention to the role of forests in providing beauty products, as well as the connections with livelihood security and utilization of NTFPs.

## "REDD+, is it really difficult?" Stream 2

Tackling Climate Change:  
Challenges & Opportunities



But, the basic answer was "Yes".

## Stream 3 Forests and Water in Action

Serving Society:  
Forestry & People



The event considered the relationship between forests and water. The speakers synthesized their arguments on the importance of forests as a natural provider of water for several uses. In addition, incentives for forest-water ecosystem services were also tackled and their inclusion in the policy-making process of different countries.

### Way Forward for People and Forests of Asia-Pacific Region

On this topic, Community Forestry (CF) strongly asserted its role in realizing poverty reduction, sustainable forest management, and social equity among local communities. Roles for CF in meeting the SDGs were articulated. Participants developed actionable recommendations for CF contributions to SDGs.

## Stream 4

New Institutions,  
New Governance



The workshop on **"Research Agenda for Forested Landscapes"** in 2017-2022 facilitated by CGIAR-FTA covered capacity building, policy implementation and local community involvement. During the group discussion, delegates highlighted issues concerning research in forested landscapes, including communication problems between experts and locals involved. Concluding the discussion, Ingrid Öborn of World Agroforestry Centre stated, *"If we link up and learn from each other at different levels, we can create synergies."* Stream 4 also included a session on Evidence-Based Forestry Initiatives. Wen Zhou presented CIFOR's research, impacts on the environment and livelihoods, as well as research gaps and quality issues involving the evidence-based forestry initiative.

## Stream 5

Our Green Future:  
Green Investments &  
Growing our Natural Assets



### Positive impacts from investing in communities and smallholders: the forest production systems of the future

Organized by PEFC International and the Chinese Academy of Forestry, the session focused on the importance of community forestry and its collective role in production systems. Ms. Novarina from APRIL Indonesia, highlighted the development of programs that will cater for the interest of community forest people to ensure involvement, partnership and cooperation. After that session, Mr. Magyar from North Head discussed the pillars that support good forest conservation policies, including involvement of producers, consumers and suppliers outlook.

# “Maraming Salamat!”

**Closing address from Patrick Durst  
Senior Forestry Officer,  
Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations**

“Distinguished participants  
and colleagues,

At the closing of Asia-Pacific Forestry Week 2016, it is my great pleasure to congratulate you all on this highly successful event.

The largest Asia-Pacific Forestry Week, with more than 70 events by more than 80 organizations, assembled many of the most outstanding forestry leaders, some of the most eloquent and knowledgeable forestry advocates, and many of the finest forestry minds, available to the Asia-Pacific region, and indeed the world. We've all greatly benefited from the ideas, learning and experiences that have been generously shared during the rich array of events that have been woven together to create this impressive event.

Among the recommendations arising from the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission Session were calls for assistance in building capacities of countries to enable them to meet the ambitious goals and targets for forestry that these new accords entail. FAO is certainly cognizant of this need, and I also extend the request to our many institutional partners – that we collaborate and cooperate to ensure efficient delivery of assistance to support countries in dealing with these complex issues.

I've found this third Asia-Pacific Forestry Week to be enlightening, informative and extremely enjoyable. To a very large part, this success is due to our hosts. On behalf of FAO, I wish to offer my heartfelt thanks to the Government of the Philippines and especially

to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, for their great generosity and outstanding efforts in organizing Asia-Pacific Forestry Week 2016. I'm fully aware that the organizational burden has been immense, and appreciate that this burden has been shouldered by our hosts with unflagging enthusiasm and unflinching courtesy.

I also offer thanks to the many, many organizations that have enriched Forestry Week by bringing innovation and creativity to various events and for contributing important financial resources. Of course, I once again need to particularly reiterate our enormous gratitude to the eight other stream leader organizations, ITTO and the WRI; the CIFOR, and the SPC; the RECOFTC and the ASFN; and, the APFNet and AFoCo. To APAFRI, ESSC and the students of IFSA – particularly not forgetting the team of IFSA journalists who have worked with us long into the night – and early into the morning – to bring us the Forestry Week Gazette.

Special thanks to Janet and the Kids-to-Forests for really putting things into perspective with respect to youth and the imperative for “Growing our Future!”

Most of all, thanks to all of you, who have contributed so much to this invigorating event.

Such collaboration and goodwill will long be remembered as a crowning feature of Asia-Pacific Forestry Week 2016.

As said here in the Philippines...Maraming salamat po!

Thank you very much.”



## “You forestry people are terrible communicators.”

Renowned Al Jazeera broadcast journalist Veronica Pedrosa, in a stream session on improving forestry communication. She encouraged forestry practitioners to come up with carefully crafted communication messages to make forest issues more interesting.



the editorial staff

(L-R: Riza, Jason, Lyka, Lem, Paula, C.R., Ja, Hubert, Dana)