

Forestry Leaders Summit

Building partnerships in international forestry education and research



celebrating the

**International
Year of Forests**

April 27-29, 2011, Vancouver, Canada



“Great universities are bridges between communities and continents. Hubs of intellectual and cultural interchange, they embody the values of respect and service while expanding opportunities for individuals to carry these values into the world”

(Place and Promise – UBC Plan)

Recognizing that forests can contribute significantly to sustainable development, poverty eradication and the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, the UN General Assembly declared 2011 the International Year of Forests. It invited Governments, the non-governmental organizations, the private sector and other actors to make concerted efforts to raise awareness of the need to strengthen the conservation and the sustainable management of forests for the benefit of current and future generations.

The International Year of Forests, 2011 offers a unique opportunity to raise public awareness of the challenges facing many of the world's forests and the people who depend on them. Success stories and valuable lessons on how to promote sustainable forest management already exist. The Year provides a means of bringing those voices together and building momentum towards greater public participation in forest activities around the world*.

In celebration of the International Year of Forests, the UBC Faculty of Forestry is organizing a Forestry Leaders' Summit: "Building Partnerships in International Forestry Education and Research". The main objectives of this summit are to:

- Highlight forestry education and research success stories from around the world and the contribution of forestry graduates to international development agendas;
- Investigate how we can jointly build on these successes to further promote forestry education and research;
- Identify new collaboration opportunities.

Invited participants will include leaders from forestry education institutions, research organizations (both government and non-governmental) and international stakeholder organizations.

The main outcome of the Summit will be an action plan identifying new areas for future collaborative partnerships.

The Summit will be held at the UBC Faculty of Forestry, Vancouver, British Columbia. UBC Forestry is one of the leading forestry schools in the world, and has been actively involved in enhancing collaboration in forestry education and research. As one of the founding members of the International Partnership on Forestry Education (IPFE), UBC Forestry currently co-coordinates the IPFE secretariat with the University of Eastern Finland. The City of Vancouver is made up of people from diverse cultures and backgrounds. This ethnic diversity is one of the primary contributions to the unique character of the city. Vancouver has topped the list of the ten most liveable cities in the world for several years based on combination of stability, health care, culture and environment, education, and infrastructure.

* Aug 2010. UN General Assembly; Preparations for the International Year of Forests. 2011 Report of the Secretary-General)

Summit Program

Wednesday, April 27

17:00 Tour around Forest Sciences Centre, visit to research labs

18:00 Evening welcome reception at the Forest Sciences Centre

Thursday, April 28

Opening of The Summit

8:30 Opening ceremonies

9:20 Group photo and COFFEE/TEA BREAK

Session I

Chair: John Innes, Dean, UBC Faculty of Forestry

10:00 Expanding strategic partnerships and cooperation in forest research

Niels Elers Koch, President, the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO)

IUFRO's Mission is to promote global cooperation in forest-related research and to enhance the understanding of the ecological, economic and social aspects of forests and trees; as well as to disseminate scientific knowledge to stakeholders and decision-makers and to contribute to forest policy and on-the ground forest management. One of its strategic goals is to enhance interdisciplinary cooperation within the scientific community, expand partnerships and collaboration with international organizations, governments and stakeholders and strengthen cooperation within and between regions.

10:30 Enhancing the benefits of forests for people through collaborative international forestry research

Frances Seymour, Director General, Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR)

CIFOR's mission is to contribute to the sustained well-being of people in developing countries, particularly in the tropics, through collaborative strategic and applied research and related activities in forest systems and forestry, and by promoting the transfer of appropriate new technologies and the adoption of new methods of social organization, for national development.

11:00 How could universities and research institutions jointly advocate and advance excellence in forest resource education, research and outreach?

James Allen, Chair of Education, National Association of University Forest Resources Programs (NAUFRP); Professor and Executive Director, School of Forestry, Northern Arizona University

NAUFRP's purpose is to advance the health, productivity, and sustainability of America's forests by providing university-based natural resource education, research, science, extension and international programs. It connects educators, professional managers, scientists, conservation leaders, policy makers, landowners, and forest users to jointly address diverse ecological and human challenges.

11:30 FAO Forestry Department engaging in partnerships with new stakeholders

Michael Martin, Director of Forest Economics, Policy and Products, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Countries encourage FAO to work more effectively to respond to a rapidly changing environment, reach outside the traditional inter-governmental forest sector, engage in partnerships with new stakeholders, and serve as a global leader in international forest affairs.

12:00 LUNCH

Session 2

Chair: Niels Elers Koch, President, IUFRO

13:00 Canadian Forest Service; bringing together stakeholders to address regional, national and global forest issues

Tom Rosser, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister, Natural Resources Canada – Canadian Forest Service

For more than a century, the Canadian Forest Service has conducted research on the health of Canada's forests to ensure that our nation's forest sector needs are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The Canadian Forest Service is a science-based policy organization within Natural Resources Canada, a Government of Canada department that helps shape the natural resources sector's important contributions to the economy, society and the environment. Made up of research scientists, technicians, economists, policy analysts and other dedicated professionals, the Canadian Forest Service develops and shares knowledge about forests and brings together stakeholders to address regional, national and global forest issues.

13:30 Building Asian-Pacific partnerships

De Lu, Deputy-Director General, Asia-Pacific Network for Sustainable Forest Management and Rehabilitation (APFNet)

Asia-Pacific Network for Sustainable Forest Management and Rehabilitation (APFNet) mission is to promote and improve sustainable forest management and rehabilitation in the Asia-Pacific region through capacity-building, information-sharing, regional policy dialogues and pilot projects. APFNet, as an open organization, will provide a platform for members of the network for information exchange and complementarity.

14:00 University forestry schools: how to develop an effective framework for cooperation with each other and with international and government agencies

Robert Beaugard, Chair, Association of University Forestry Schools of Canada, Dean, Faculté de foresterie, de géographie et de géomatique, Université Laval

The Association of University Forestry Schools of Canada (AUFSC) represents eight forest education and research organizations in Canada. AUFSC provides a framework that facilitates cooperation with our members to share information, curricula, and personnel to enhance education and research. It also promotes collaboration with our colleagues in government, industry and the broader forestry community to develop new approaches for sustainably managing Canada's forests.

14:30 COFFEE/TEA BREAK

Session 3

Chair: Assistant Deputy Minister, Natural Resources Canada – Canadian Forest Service

15:00 Forestry training in India: new initiatives for international cooperation

R.D. Jakati, Director, Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy

The primary mandate of the Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy is to impart knowledge and skills to the professional foresters and help them to develop competence for managing the country forest and wildlife resources on a sustainable basis.

15:30 Issues and challenges facing forestry education and research in developing countries; needs for collaboration

August Temu, Director of Partnerships, World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF)

The World Agroforestry Centre's research is organized around six global research priorities. These span trees to farms, landscapes and global issues. Underpinning all research is a strong commitment to: improving science quality, accelerating impact, enhancing partnerships and increasing operational efficiency. By focusing on these areas, the Centre will be better positioned to tackle the challenges of poverty, food security and environmental degradation.

16:00 Policy advice; new role for forestry research institutions requiring effective international collaboration

Risto Päivinen, Director, European Forest Institute

Policy advice was approved as a new strategic function of EFI this year. Forestry is a global business and the forestry agenda is increasingly connected to the high importance political issues such as climate change, trade relations, good governance and poverty reduction. In this context the policy makers require best possible knowledge and science-based information. The European Forest Institute is an international organization established by European States. By the summer of 2010, a total of 22 European States had ratified the Convention on EFI.

16:30 Global and regional collaboration on forestry education; challenges and opportunities in building networks

Hosny El Lakany, Chair, International Partnership on Forestry Education (IPFE)

The International Partnership for Forestry Education (IPFE) is a not-for-profit, voluntary partnership to address the challenges and opportunities facing university-level forestry education globally. IPFE facilitates collaboration, and sharing of information, experiences, resources and skills, for education about forests and forestry.

17:00 Open discussion

18:30 Salmon BBQ reception (Cecil Green Park House), hosted by John Hepburn, Vice President, UBC

Friday, April 29

Session 4

Chair: John Innes, Dean Faculty of Forestry

9:00 Roundtable discussion

“Building new framework and partnerships for international collaboration to advance the forestry agenda in global political issues such as climate change, trade relations, good governance and poverty reduction”.

11:30 Summary and concluding remarks

John Innes

12:00 LUNCH

13:00 Field trip

14:30 Guided forestry walk

16:30 Forest bar/networking

17:30 Evening banquet