



Chairman's Message



The last six months have been very hectic, both on the global and regional fronts. The war in Afghanistan, aftermath of the September 11 event, is finally over. Developed countries have swarmed in to rebuild that war-torn nation. Even the forest related donor agencies have shifted their attentions to Afghanistan. On the other side of the globe, increasing normalization of the relationship between the two Koreas, has also prompted a re-channeling of aid. All these have compounded the problem faced by APAFRI. With the Tree Link Project finishing in the latter part of this year, APAFRI is out there earnestly seeking donor agencies to support its continuation. We have initiated several activities to solicit funds and have received quite a number of positive responses. APAFRI will continue to explore potential funding sources for its activities well into the future.

To this end, a Business Plan has been developed for the years 2002–2004. While most of the details were adopted from the previous business plan, a necessity to ensure continuity, the emphasis has shifted from building an endowment and sustaining activities through the use of interest earned to actively seeking smaller and shorter duration supports for specific elements of APAFRI.

A brochure entitled Guide to Programmes and Services was published early this year. This brochure is a compilation of the programmes and

services provided by APAFRI to its members, as well as the benefits that members and donor agencies would get from APAFRI. This brochure will form part of an information and promotion package that will be sent to potential members or donors. Members who are interested can download the brochure from our website.

APAFRI made its presence felt at the recently concluded ASEM meeting in Chiang Mai, Thailand. The whole Secretariat was there to promote APAFRI, however, not many donor agencies were there. We had, nevertheless, got the general agreement from the participants that APAFRI, working with ASEMFECC, should host the four networks proposed. We shall closely monitor developments leading to the eventual establishment of these networks and strive to secure the leading role of hosting these networks.

I would like to remind members that APAFRI is co-organising two conferences, to be held concurrently from 7–10 October 2002 in Kuala Lumpur. The conferences are the 7th Round Table Conference on Dipterocarps and the International Conference on Bringing Back the Forests: Policies and Practices for Degraded Lands and Forests. Both these conferences offer excellent opportunities for researchers, forest managers, conservationists, educationists, planners, and policy makers to

exchange and share information. The attendance of participants from all the regions will provide more networking opportunities for further collaboration and fostering closer ties.

The Secretariat of APAFRI has recently been strengthened with the assignment of Dr. Sim Heok-Choh from FRIM to APAFRI as the new Executive Director. Dr. Sim, a mechanical engineer by training has been an active researcher in forest products for many years. He moved on to head a unit administering consultancy and technical services six years ago and during the past year was also responsible for several research management activities. His managerial and administrative experiences will boost up the capability and efficiency of the APAFRI Secretariat. Mr. Alias Abdul Jalil, who will assume the position of Deputy Executive Director, will assist Dr. Sim in the running of the Secretariat. The remuneration and other benefits of Dr. Sim will continue to be covered by FRIM. As such, the contributions from

FRIM, and the Malaysian Government, to APAFRI have been increased by many folds, further reaffirming the commitment of FRIM towards the sustainability of APAFRI.

With the strengthening of the capacity and capability of the APAFRI Secretariat, we shall be able to institute changes to further improve our services to the members. I would like therefore to invite members to contact the Secretariat with suggestions and comments on APAFRI activities and/or areas of possible collaboration.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express our thanks to CIDA through the Tree Link Project, GTZ, ACIAR and FORSPA for supporting the events organised by APAFRI during the past six months. Thanks also to FRIM, UPM, University of Agriculture and Forestry, Ho Chi Minh City and many others. Their contributions are greatly appreciated.

SINCERE THANKS TO ACIAR

APAFRI – Tree Link Information Services (ATIS) is currently using a converted desktop computer to provide all its services, such as APAFRI website, e-mail, e-loan system, e-journal, supporting special networks and hosting members' websites. The system has been used for more than two years now and has been running for 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We are worried that the system will breakdown due to excessive usage, long duration of operations and old age.

With financial support from ACIAR, a new server and two units of computer were purchased. These will further improve the efficiency of ATIS in serving APAFRI members. Our sincere thanks to ACIAR.

APAFRI ANNOUNCEMENT

We are pleased to inform you that, as of May 1, Dr. Sim Heok-Choh of FRIM has been assigned to the APAFRI Secretariat as its new Executive Director.

The APAFRI Secretariat would like to express its thanks to FRIM for assigning Dr. Sim to assist us. Dr. Sim's assignment to APAFRI has substantially increased the contributions from FRIM, and the Malaysian Government to APAFRI. This has further reaffirmed the desire and commitment of FRIM towards the sustainability of APAFRI.

Dr. Sim can be contacted at
simhc@frim.gov.my or
sim@apafri.upm.edu.my
Tel: 60-3-62797536
Fax: 60-3-62773249

WORKSHOP ON FOREST MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION AND THE DESIGN OF LOCAL AUDITING SYSTEMS

4-6 DECEMBER 2001, CAMBODIA

Although the concept of forest certification has existed for some time, few countries in the Indochinese region have much experience in applying them. While interest in the certification schemes has been growing, much apprehension has also been expressed about the value of using these systems. Furthermore, there are the lingering concerns about transferring much of the management work to concessionaire who may be deterred by the additional costs and the apparent lack of market incentives.

With funding from GTZ and FORSPA, APAFRI organised a workshop on Forest Management Certification and the Design of Local Auditing System at Phnom Penh, Cambodia, in December

last year. During this workshop, issues on design and requirements of auditing systems and the training needs of forest managers involved in promoting certification scheme were discussed.

Supports of GTZ and FORSPA are greatly appreciated and we would also like to take this opportunity to express our thanks to our gracious host, Department of Forestry and Wildlife of Cambodia for working closely with APAFRI to make this workshop a success.

APAFRI members seeking more information on the workshop could contact the Secretariat, at secretariat@apafri.upm.edu.my

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION FOR FORESTERS IN VIETNAM

Over the past six months, APAFRI, with funding from the Tree Link Project and with the cooperation of the Faculty of Forestry, University of Agriculture and Forestry, Ho Chi Minh City, and the Forest Science Institute of Vietnam, Hanoi, had conducted four training courses for foresters in Vietnam. These training courses were organised as a result of a Continuing Professional Education training needs assessment conducted in 2000.

Two of these training courses were conducted by the Forest Science Institute of Vietnam:

- Training Course "Vegetative Propagation for Conservation of Genetic Resources and Clonal Forestry" was conducted in Dalat City
- Training Course "Conservation of Biodiversity and Forest Genetic Resources" was conducted in Hanoi.

APAFRI members who would like to have more information are kindly requested to contact Dr

Nguyen Hoang Nghia, Deputy Director General of Forest Science Institute of Vietnam, Hanoi, E-mail: vkhlh@vista.gov.vn.

The other two training courses were conducted by the Faculty of Forestry, University of Agriculture and Forestry, Ho Chi Minh City:

- Training Course "Geomatic Technique Training Programme in Forest Resource Management" was conducted at the Laboratory of Department of Social Forestry, Faculty of Forestry, University of Agriculture and Forestry, Ho Chi Minh City.
- Training Course "Social Forestry" was conducted at the Faculty of Forestry, University of Agriculture and Forestry, Ho Chi Minh City with a field trip to Dateh District, Lam Dong Province.

APAFRI members who would like more information please contact: Dr Dang Dinh Boi, Dean, Faculty of Forestry, University of Agriculture and Forestry, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, E-mail: sfsp.td@hcm.vnn.vn

BRINGING BACK THE FORESTS: POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR DEGRADED LANDS AND FORESTS KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA 7-10 OCTOBER 2002

A four-day international conference on solutions to rehabilitation challenges in the forests and grasslands of Asia and the Pacific

A large and growing area of forest land in Asia and the Pacific has been deforested or degraded by intensive logging, shifting cultivation, repeated burning and other human disturbances. Much of this land has been converted to other uses, but much has also been left in a degraded state. In this condition it may still support trees, but it will have lost much of its original structure, productivity and diversity.

Transforming degraded forest lands into rehabilitated forests, offers many benefits but faces serious practical and institutional constraints. Knowledge and experience of rehabilitation are still limited, and its needs are inadequately addressed in forest policy, planning and management. Some promising approaches and experiences in rehabilitation exist in the region, but they have not been widely publicised or adopted. Concerted efforts are needed to build the knowledge, institutions and, above all, policy commitment needed for rehabilitation.

Against this background, the International Conference on Bringing Back The Forests: Policies and Practices for Degraded Lands and Forests will bring together forest managers, planners and policy makers to assess the state of current knowledge, highlight and promote successful approaches to rehabilitation, and identify key policy and management needs for effective forest rehabilitation.

More information is available on our website, www.apafri.upm.edu.my/reconf/index.html or you may contact the APAFRI Secretariat directly.

THE SEVENTH ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE ON DIPTEROCARPS

**7-10 OCTOBER 2002
KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA
“Dipterocarps in the new millennium:
Conservation, Domestication & Utilisation”**

We have now stepped into the 21st century. The last Round Table Conference on Dipterocarps, the sixth in the series, was held at Bangalore, India in 1999. At the Bangalore meeting several resolutions were adopted by the participants. These covered the fields of conservation, domestication and utilisation of the Dipterocarp family with the aim of promoting more in-depth studies on these disciplines and generating new knowledge in time for the next round table conference.

The Seventh Round Table Conference will be convened in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. This Conference will review new research information on the species in the family of Dipterocarpaceae. The aspirations of this international conference therefore is to gather all researchers, policy makers, wood technologists, educationalists, conservators and foresters who work on this family from around the globe to participate and to exchange information. The attendance of participants from all the regions will provide more networking opportunities for further collaborative work and a platform for fostering closer ties and exchange of information.

More information is available at our website, www.apafri.upm.edu.my or you may contact the Secretariat directly, secretariat@apafri.upm.edu.my

DEVELOPMENT OF A TECHNICAL FORESTRY ENGLISH (TFE) CURRICULUM

Project Brief

One of the crucial initiatives expected of the APAFRI Tree Link Project is the development of marketable-standard training programmes to improve the quality of research in priority forest renewal areas in Asia, and subsequently the dissemination of related information to enhance the application of forest renewal research by end users. Hence, in light of the continuing dominance of the English language as the international language of academia as well as professional/technical communication, the Technical Forestry English (TFE) Curriculum Development Project was proposed as a logical outcome of the above initiative.

The TFE project team was set up in May 1999 under the auspices of the APAFRI Secretariat at the Faculty of Forestry, UPM. The team represented a collaborative effort between three forestry and two English language faculty members of the university. A broad working framework was then formalised between the Faculty of Forestry, UPM and APAFRI /Tree Link. The project aimed to assess the English language needs of the target forestry student/researcher population at UPM, and to design two self-access TFE training modules on CD-ROM. These multimedia-supported modules were to be tested at UPM before they were published for distribution to sister organisations in countries such as Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, and the Philippines. However, teething problems in the use of the authoring software provided for the TFE team resulted in a refocusing of effort on producing paper copy versions of the learning modules with a view to working on the CD-ROM versions in later phases. The modules have since been edited and are currently being translated in part into Cambodian and Vietnamese.

Assessing TFE Needs

The assessment procedures comprised several cross-sectional assessments of language and related learning needs of 104 diploma, undergraduate, and postgraduate forestry students at UPM via questionnaires, interviews, and a tripartite technical reading test. Sub-samples of these students were interviewed to obtain in-depth information about their perceptions. Although the effort was mainly exploratory, it aimed to establish training requirements sufficient to enable the TFE team to design prototypes of the proposed instructional modules. The main conclusions of the needs study were as follows:

- Significant differences in academic/professional English language needs between the under-graduate and postgraduate sub-samples;
- 50% or more of the content of TFE courses should be of a technical nature so that language learning tasks will be relevant to the training experience
- English language skills most needed were in the areas of written and spoken communication in academic and/or technical contexts

Detailed profiles of undergraduate and postgraduate students at UPM were produced separately, taking into account the various areas of need convergence as well as divergence.

Curricular Objectives of the TFE Modules

Users of the Basic and Research modules should be able to:

- display a deeper understanding of the conceptual structure of the forestry discipline in relation to research and publication in the field;

- recognise patterns of information structure in key technical forestry genres written in English;
- recognise English language conventions used in key technical forestry genres;
- distinguish between the general, semi-technical, and technical levels of vocabulary in technical forestry writing;
- read with adequate comprehension a variety of technical genres; and
- write well-structured technical forestry texts with a rhetorical awareness of the English language use in their field of specialisation.

Although making oral presentations is not explicitly covered in the modules, enhanced abilities in the above areas should have a positive effect on module users speaking skills.

Impact of the Project on Forestry Faculty Staff

- Greater awareness that students need to be trained in technical English, and indeed can be

trained to use technical English appropriately commensurate with their needs.

- Grammar and vocabulary awareness must be promoted among students of technical fields. Instructors ought to be able to use basic grammatical terms to highlight and explain language structures and errors made by students.
- Better understanding of writing formats, e.g. the rationale underlying the structure of texts in use in the field.
- Possible spin-off effects on teaching practice – still difficult to apply some of the principles/knowledge gained via working on the TFE project in actual teaching contexts; perhaps more applicable when teaching through the medium of English.
- Potential impacts of the TFE project on teaching in Malay or any other regional language: structure of texts, underlying patterns of thought, and ideas about the conceptual structure of the discipline tend to be similar across languages.

SMALL GRANTS FOR SCHOLARLY EXCHANGE

The IUCN Sustainable Use Team, through a grant from the Ford Foundation, is offering small grants to promote scholarly contributions from individuals from developing countries in the field of sustainable use of biological systems. The aim is to promote the authority of science from developing countries and foster opportunities for scholarly exchange. The programme will run until the end of June 2002. In general, the programme is intended to support the communication of research findings, project results, and lessons learned from developing countries. Applications will be reviewed on a quarterly basis. Priority will be given to proposals that address the complex connections between people and nature, exploring the concept of sustainability.

Applications related to activities that employ innovative inter- or multidisciplinary approaches are the most likely to be funded. Support will be

provided primarily for participation at scholarly or technical meetings. This will generally include travel and per diem costs, but may also cover costs associated with preparing a presentation (e.g. production of audio-visual materials), and meeting registration costs. Grants will be for a maximum of \$2000.

The following quarterly application deadlines will apply: 31 March and 30 June:

For more information please visit the
IUCN Sustainable Use
Specialist Group web site:
[http://iucn.org/themes/ssc/susg/
smallgengai.html](http://iucn.org/themes/ssc/susg/smallgengai.html) or
Contact: Ruth Barreto, IUCN/Ford
Foundation Small Grants Coordinator,
e-mail: rbarreto@iucnus.org

ASIA PACIFIC FOREST GENETIC RESOURCES PROGRAMME (APFORGEN)

APAFRI and the International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (IPGRI) have recently agreed to collaborate in the development and implementation of a programme to promote conservation and sustainable use of tropical forest genetic resources in the region. The proposed programme responds to a need expressed by APAFRI members for information exchange in rapidly developing scientific and technical areas, such as biodiversity assessment and conservation methodologies. The proposed programme also responds to the outcome of a Southeast Asian workshop on forest genetic resources, held in Thailand, 26 February – 10 March 2001. The workshop recommended specifically that IPGRI, in collaboration with APAFRI, should take a leading role in developing a regional network to strengthen work on conservation and use of forest genetic resources in the region.

APAFRI and IPGRI believe that a regional programme with a holistic approach to conservation and management of forest genetic resources can promote sustainable forest management and help alleviate the various problems and obstacles to attain sustainable forestry in the Asia Pacific region.

Currently national programmes on forest genetic resources are not well established in most countries in the region. There is a lack of co-ordinated efforts in this field despite the fact that several existing species-specific networks also carry out important work on genetic resources. Only in the South Pacific are countries collaborating within a formal networking framework. Through networking, it is possible to avoid duplication of efforts and to gain synergy among collaborating countries and other stakeholders. This, in turns, promotes partnership and more efficient use of limited resources. Networking can also enhance the dialogue between scientists, managers, policy-makers and users, and increase interaction between different sectors at the national level, a necessary pre-condition for sustainable forest management.

The broad objective of the proposed programme, to be conducted initially over a period of four years, is to manage tropical forest genetic diversity more equitably, productively and sustainably. The specific objectives of the programme are to:

- Strengthen national programmes on forest genetic diversity in the participating countries,
- Enhance regional networking and collaboration on conservation and management of forest genetic resources,
- Locate, characterize, conserve and appropriately deploy genetic diversity of selected priority forest species,
- Increase sustainable management and use of genetic diversity in natural and man-made forests.

The main activities of the programme will be to strengthen national programmes, locate forest genetic diversity, develop and apply appropriate conservation methods and strategies, and increase the level of management and use of tropical forest genetic diversity in the participating countries. Regional activities including information exchange, development of regional conservation strategies and action plans, country-to-country technology transfer, and exchange of forest germplasm will also be facilitated. The programme will focus on priority forest species, which will be identified by the participating countries themselves. The Southeast Asian countries have already developed a sub-regional list of priority forest species. The activities will be linked to ongoing networking efforts on forest genetic resources in the South Pacific, such as the SPRIG programme, so that the countries participating in other parts of the region can learn from the experiences of the Pacific countries and also to increase information exchange with them. These are considered to be necessary activities to provide the countries a sound basis for long-term conservation and sustainable management of tropical forests.

APAFRI and IPGRI have approached the Canadian International Development Agency for initial funding to undertake a series of programme design activities to develop a full-fledged proposal. The programme design activities will identify the countries willing to commit themselves to the development of the proposed programme, and to engage them in the more detailed planning process.

Following the initial design phase APAFRI and IPGRI will prepare a joint publication to be used as a baseline reference for the finalisation of the programme proposal and the mobilization of other

resources for the country-based activities to be undertaken within the proposed programme. IPGRI and APAFRI will also develop a web-based information exchange mechanism for the programme. The mechanism will be used to keep the participating countries, international partners and potential donors informed about the development of the proposal and other activities.

Further information on the proposed APFORGEN Programme can be obtained from the APAFRI Secretariat.

THE ASIA EUROPE FORESTRY EXCHANGE PROGRAMME (ASEFOREP)

APAFRI was invited to participate in the ASEFOREP Meeting on 22–23 March 2002 at The Mines Beach Resort, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. We are the Asian contact point for this exchange programme.

Background

ASEFOREP is a collaborative exchange programme of Asian and European higher forestry education institutions. ASEFOREP is committed to international people-to-people exchange. The ASEFOREP exchange programme was established jointly by the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), four Asian universities and three European universities in Singapore in November, 1999 and has since expanded further.

Aims and Objectives

The programme aims to improve the professional education of forest resource managers and increase the international mobility of forestry graduates. ASEFOREP is designed to give Asian and European forestry students and teachers an opportunity to study and teach on another continent in a different cultural environment.

Scholarship

Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) will contribute US\$2,500 to each ASEFOREP exchange participant. Participating student shall be exempted from paying tuition and academic fees to the host institution.

Participating Universities

In Europe

- Universität für Bodenkultur, Wien, Austria
- University of Joensuu, Faculty of Forestry, Finland
- Technical University Munich, Germany
- Università di Firenze, Dipartimento di Scienze e Tecnologie Ambientali Forestali, Department of Science and Technologies of Forest Environment, Italy
- University of Lleida, Spain
- Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), Sweden

In Asia

- Universiti Putra Malaysia, Faculty of Forestry, Malaysia
- Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM)
- University of the Philippines Los Baños, College of Forestry and Natural Resources, Philippines
- Hokkaido University Forests, Japan
- The Northwest Sci-Tech University of Agriculture and Forestry, China
- The Northeast Forestry University, China
- Bogor Agricultural University, Indonesia
- Kasetsart University, Thailand

Other universities in ASEM countries are also encouraged to join this programme.



ASEM WORKSHOP ON
CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF FORESTS
CHIANGMAI, THAILAND
19-21 APRIL 2002

Background

This workshop was arranged within the ASEM co-operation project on Forest Conservation and Sustainable Development, approved at the third biennial ASEM summit in Seoul, Korea. ASEM (the Asia-Europe Meeting) is an informal process of dialogue and cooperation bringing together the fifteen EU Member States and the European Commission, with ten Asian countries.

This workshop, the first follow-up meeting to the Guiyang Symposium, aimed to promote interregional projects on different aspects of the workshop theme within the framework of the Guiyang Declaration. As a process initiated at an intergovernmental level, the ASEM Forest Cooperation is now strongly steered in the direction of implementing concrete projects. In brief, the ASEM Forest Cooperation is intended to support the creation of partnerships between ASEM countries' administrative and other organizations such as universities, and companies interested in projects related to forests and forestry. These will be facilitated through a Project Forum, in which ASEM member countries and their representatives can introduce planned or existing projects, in which they wish to have foreign collaborative counterparts.

Themes of the Workshop

The workshop covered three interrelated issues:

- 1) portray the benefits of ASEM Forest Cooperation and organise future networking,
- 2) facilitate the formation of interregional consortia for joint project proposals, and
- 3) introduce international funding sources and opportunities for ASEM cooperation networks and projects.

The ASEM S&T forest cooperation process aims to promote networking, which provides emergent benefits and opportunities for all sectors (private, public and research) participating in the cooperation.

The setting up of networks for ASEM Forest Cooperation is currently only in its early phase. The establishment of theme-specific interregional contacts and partnerships will be crucial to ensuring fruitful continuation of the process after the workshop. Relevant parties from all ASEM countries are to express their interests to participate in the ASEM forest networks on the following themes covering different aspects of forest conservation and sustainable use, and which are compatible with the objectives of Guiyang Declaration:

- a) Networking on reforestation, afforestation, forest plantations and forest rehabilitation (soil protection, water conservation, carbon sequestration, biodiversity conservation, etc.)
- b) Networking on natural forest conservation, reserve planning and management (biodiversity conservation, ecotourism, etc.)
- c) Networking on the multiple societal roles of forest (poverty eradication, public participation, NTFPs, agroforestry, ecotourism, etc.)
- d) Networking on urban and peri-urban forestry.

Networking on the fourth theme has been partially organised, and its status was reported at the workshop. The preparatory arrangements for other networks have now been started. Interested groups or institutions may contact the ASEMFECSecretariat.

APAFRI participated in this workshop and proposed to the committee that they use APAFRI as their communication channel in Asia. The Theme committee agreed to use the existing networks such as EFTERN with APAFRI as the network point. Funding proposals will be prepared within a few months after the workshop and submitted to European Union's next Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP6 in 2002-2006), which will be the central framework and potential funding source for ASEM forest cooperation networking.

For more information, please contact the APAFRI Secretariat.

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON **GMELINA ARBOREA**

SAMARINDA, 6-10 APRIL 2003

Sponsored by

PT Sumalindo Lestari Jaya & CAMCORE, North Carolina State University

G*melina arborea* is a fast-growing species with the potential to become a major international timber species over wide range of sites in the tropics. This species can be used to produce various wood products such as sulfate-kraft-pulp, plywood and medium-density-fiberboard.

The suitability of *Gmelina arborea* wood has attracted wide attention since its introduction. It has been the subject of moderate to intensive tree improvement activities in the last 20 years. With more than 500,000 hectares planted in Latin America, Africa and Asia, it is important to gather the latest information on its properties and utilisation.

Objectives of the workshop

- To define the "State of the Art" in development of *Gmelina arborea* as a plantation species and to provide the latest information about its wood properties.
- To determine further areas of research for improving *Gmelina arborea* plantation forestry
- To provide an informal forum for researchers and plantation and mill managers from Africa, Asia and Latin America to discuss collaborations to promote the development of *Gmelina*.

Call for Paper

Invited papers will be given by leading researchers and managers on all aspects of *Gmelina arborea*. Voluntary papers will also be solicited in the areas of a) conservation, testing and breeding, b) silviculture, c) wood properties, and d) products. We encourage those interested to prepare and display a poster at the workshop. The posters will be judged by a panel of invited speakers and certificates will be awarded to the top three entries. The Proceedings of the Workshop will be distributed on CD only. A copy of the CD will be given to each conference attendee. Papers and posters should be in English.

Submission of Abstract of Paper and Poster

A paper or poster title and 250 word (maximum) abstract must be submitted electronically to the workshop organisers by **1 November, 2002**. Be sure that you indicate what Session the paper is for: a) conservation, testing and breeding b) silviculture, c) wood properties, or d) products. Send abstracts to dvorak@unity.ncsu.edu or fswijoyo@sumalindo.astra.co.id. You will be informed by **no later than 30 November** if your paper or poster has been accepted.

More information is available at:
www.camcore.org
Please contact
info@camcore.org or fswijoyo@sumalindo.astra.co.id
for additional information.

ASIA PACIFIC CERTIFICATION INFORMATION CLEARING HOUSE

A web-based Asia Pacific certification information clearing house has been launched at <http://www.forestandtradeasia.org> by the WWF Forest Futures programme and numerous partners. Together they work to inform stakeholders and promote certification in South East Asia. The desired outcome is a proactive certification community facilitating credible and transparent sustainable forestry and certification communication for nationally and regionally for East Asia Pacific.

This initiative will serve as the springboard for the establishment of Forest and Trade Network in the region and also support multi-stakeholder groups developing national certification standards. The rationale for this is that a growing number of forest enterprises in the East Asia Pacific region are showing interest in becoming certified. Yet it has emerged that they require considerable support to move from current management practices to the level required to meet certification standards. Producers need accurate and practical information on the requirements of certification and access to reliable and appropriate technical assistance. A web-based information clearing house will be a first step to meet the unsatisfied demand for information and guidance.

The effort needs to be regional. The arc that stretches from the Russian Far East and the Koreas, through Japan, China, and South East Asia and into Melanesia, is a major hub of the global forest products trade. Japan, mainland China, South Korea, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia and Hong Kong are major export markets. They drive timber production in the Russian Far East, Indonesia, the Mekong Basin, Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands.

Global trade flows – timber, pulp and paper

East Asia's wood markets have been largely indifferent to the social and environmental

footprint of their purchases. As a consequence, their suppliers have been able to exploit weak systems of governance in frontier regions to "mine" wood through migratory logging and reckless clearing with little or no investment in resource regeneration. The legacy of the timber extraction business in these regions is grim -aggravated social tensions, reduced water and soil quality, destruction of habitats of unique plant and animal species, and loss of subsistence foods, medicines and materials traditionally sourced from the forest.

Yet the East Asian forest products trade could be transformed. Progressive participants could use forest management and chain-of-custody certification to distinguish good wood from bad. Major retailers and multinational brands might embrace certification as a proactive response to consumers in Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Singapore and Hong Kong who are increasingly favouring products they associate with good corporate citizenship. Companies re-exporting finished wood products could use certification to gain access to high-value markets in North America and Europe. A more discerning market might motivate opportunistic timber miners to become forest managers.

WWF believes it can set in motion such a transformation, by expanding its global forest and trade network into East Asia. The network comprises national and sub-regional associations of NGOs and companies who buy or sell wood products. Presently, over 700 company members in 18 countries are committed to producing and purchasing forest products from well-managed forests and to supporting independent certification. The companies in the network conduct around 7% of the global forest products trade.

Reproduced from the Indonesian Conservation Database List with thanks.

UPCOMING EVENTS

APAFRI Supported Events

The Seventh Round Table Conference on Dipterocarps

Dates : 7–10 October 2002
Venue : Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Contact : Dr Sim Heok-Choh /
Mr Alias Abdul Jalil
APAFRI Secretariat
C/o Forest Research Institute Malaysia
Kepong, 52109 Kuala Lumpur
Malaysia
Tel : 60-3-6279 7536 / 60-3-6272 2516
Fax : 60-3-6277 3249
E-mail : dipconf@apafri.upm.edu.my or
alias@apafri.upm.edu.my

International Conference On Bringing Back the Forests

Date : 7–10 October 2002
Venue : Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Contact : Dr Sim Heok-Choh /
Mr Alias Abdul Jalil
APAFRI Secretariat
C/o Forest Research Institute Malaysia
Kepong, 52109 Kuala Lumpur
Malaysia
Tel : 60-3-6279 7536 / 60-3-6272 2516
Fax : 60-3-6277 3249
E-mail : foreconf@apafri.upm.edu.my or
alias@apafri.upm.edu.my

Other Events

Ecology in a Changing World 8th International Conference

Date : 17–21 June 2002
Venue : Seoul, Korea
Contact : Almo Farina, Secretary General
E-mail : farina@intecol.org

3rd International Canopy Conference

Date : 23–28 June 2002
Venue : Cairns, Australia
Contact : Eileen Domagala
International Collaborations,
Department of the Premier and Cabinet,
Cairns, Australia
Tel : 61-7-3224 2055
Fax : 61-7-3404 3618

FAO/ITTO/INAB International Conference on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management

Date : 22–26 July, 2002
Venue : Guatemala City, Guatemala
Contact : Ms Eva Mueller
ITTO Secretariat
Tel : 81 45 223 1110
Fax : 81 45 223 1111
E-mail : itto@itto.or.jp

17th World Congress of Soil Science: Salt affected soils and the environment

Date : 14–21 August 2002
Venue : Bangkok, Thailand
Contact : Prof Dr Jorge Batlle
Sales Department de Biologia Vegetal
Facultad de Farmacia
Avda Vicente Andres Estalles s/n
46100 Burjasot, Valencia, Spain
Tel : 34-963 864 289
E-mail : jorge.batlle@uv.es

**Australian Forest Plantations 2002
Conference**

Dates : 20–21 August 2002
Venue : Canberra, Australia
Contact : Ms Julie Allais
Conference Secretariat
Bureau of Rural Sciences
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and
Forestry, Australia
GPO Box 858
Canberra ACT 2601
Tel : 02 6272 4430
Fax : 02 6272 4687
E-mail : plantation.conference@brs.gov.au
http : www.brs.gov.au/plantationconference

**The 30th International Forestry Students'
Symposium**

Dates : 9–24 September 2002
Venue : Bogor, Indonesia
Contact : Faculty of Forestry
Bogor Agricultural University
P.O.Box 168, Bogor
Indonesia 16001
Tel : 62-251 621 677 / 623 402
Fax : 62-251 621 256
E-mail : secretariat@ifss2002.or.id
http : www.ifss2002.or.id

**Population and Evolutionary Genetics of
Forest Tree Species**

Date : 25–29 August 2002
Venue : Stara Lesna, Slovakia
Contact : Laislav Paule
Faculty of Forestry, Technical University
SK-96053 Zvolen, Slovakia
Tel : 421 855 520 6221
Fax : 421 855 533 2654
E-mail : paule@vsld.tuzvo.sk

**Forest Information Technology 2002:
International Conference & Exhibition**

Date : 3–4 September 2002
Venue : Helsinki, Finland
Contact : Lelia Korvenranta,
Finpro Arkadiankatu,
2 POB 908, 00101
Helsinki, Finland
Tel : 358 204 6951
Fax : 358 204 695565
E-mail : info@finpro.fi

Malaysia Timber Marketing Convention

Date : 24–25 September 2002
Venue : Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Contact : MTMC 2002
Level 18, Menara PGRM 8
Jalan Pudu Ulu, 56100 Kuala Lumpur
Malaysia
Tel : 60-3-982 1788
Fax : 60-3-982 8999
E-mail : mtmc@mtc.com.my

**International Seminar on New Roles of
Plantation Forestry Requiring Appropriate
Tending and Harvesting Options**

Date : 29 September–05 October 2002
Venue : Tokyo, Japan
Contact : University of Tokyo, Japan Forest
Engineering Society office
C/o Laboratory of Forest Utilisation
111 Yaoi, Bunkyo-ku, 113-8657 Tokyo
Japan
Fax : 81-3-5481 7553
E-mail : JFES-office@fr.a.u-tokyo.ac.jp

XII World Forestry Congress

Dates : 21–28 September 2003
Venue : Quebec City, Canada
Contact : XII World Forestry Congress
P.O.Box 7275, Charlesbourg
Quebec G1G 5E5
Canada

THE THIRD APAFRI GENERAL ASSEMBLY

APAFRI is seeking proposals from member institutions or countries to host the Third APAFRI General Assembly. It is anticipated that the General Assembly will be held in conjunction with a major regional event to facilitate the attendance of representatives from member institutions.

Articles X and XI of the APAFRI Constitution provide guidelines for conducting the General Assembly.

Article X

The General Assembly

General Assembly of the Association shall be represented by one delegate from each member institution

The general assembly shall meet once every three years after the close of the financial year but not later than the month of April on a date and at a time and place to be decided by the Executive Committee

All decisions shall be taken by a simple majority vote. In the case of equality of votes, the chairperson shall have a casting vote

The quorum for the general assembly shall be 33% of the membership.

If half an hour after the time appointed for the meeting of the general assembly a quorum is not present, the members present shall have the power to proceed with the business of the day but they shall not have the power to alter the constitution of the Association or make decisions affecting the whole membership.

Notice of meeting together with an agenda, minutes of the previous general assembly and an audited account of the Association shall be forwarded to the members at least 30 days before the general assembly.

An extraordinary general assembly may be convened whenever the Executive Committee deems it necessary or at the joint request in writing of not less than 1/5 of the members, stating the objects and reason for such a meeting.

Notice and agenda for an extraordinary general assembly shall be forwarded by the Executive Secretary to all members at least 15 days before the date fixed for the meeting.

The provisions regarding quorum and postponement of the triennial general assembly shall also apply to an extraordinary general assembly but with the proviso that if no quorum is present after half an hour from the time appointed for the extraordinary general assembly requisitioned by the members, the meeting shall be cancelled, no extraordinary general assembly shall be requisitioned for the same purpose until after the lapse of at least six months from the date thereof.

Article XI

Duties of the General Assembly

The general assembly shall determine:

The policy of the Association;

Review and endorse the programme of work and budget prepared by the Executive Committee;

Review progress;

Exercise other powers conferred upon it by the Constitution.

The general assembly shall effect the Executive Committee and appoint auditors

Proposing institutions or countries will work closely with the APAFRI Secretariat in planning and conducting the General Assembly. It is hoped that proposing institutions or countries will provide support (financial and in kind) to offset the overall cost of the General Assembly. The APAFRI Secretariat will work with the proposing institutions or countries to raise funds and to assist in the planning of the Assembly.

Member institutions or countries interested in hosting the General Assembly are kindly requested to contact Dr. Daniel Baskaran, Executive Secretary, APAFRI, E-mail: baskaran@frim.gov.my

ATIS UPDATE

Hosting websites for our members is one of the services provided by the APAFRI-Tree Link Information System (ATIS). Member institutions or organisations need to have their own web designs, ATIS can provide advice and some limited technical support for hosting the site.

ATIS is now hosting two homepages for our members in Vietnam and the Philippines:

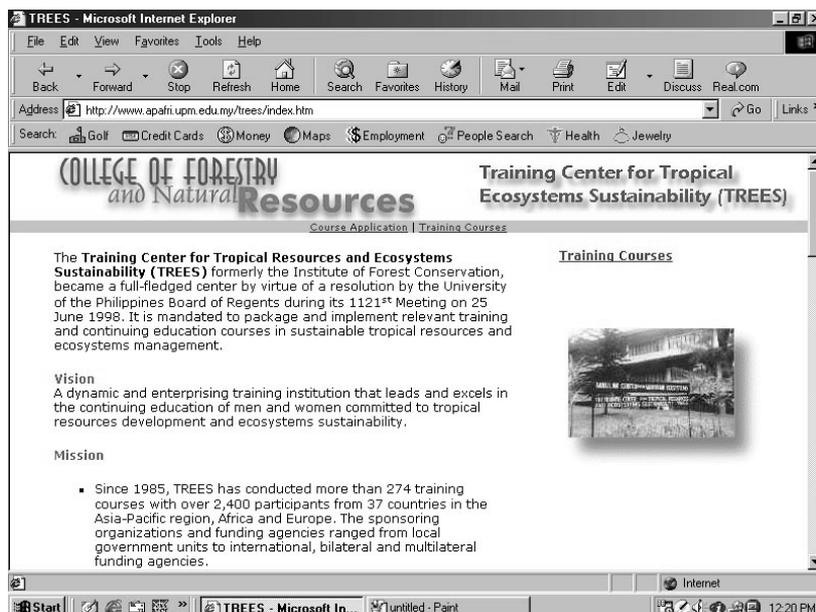
Forest Science Institute of Vietnam (FSIV)

<http://www.apafri.upm.edu.my/fsiv>



University of Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) – Training Centre for Tropical Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability (TREES)

<http://www.apafri.upm.edu.my/trees/index.htm>



APAFRI members interested in this service please contact the Secretariat: secretariat@apafri.upm.edu.my

The APAFRI Newsletter is compiled by the Secretariat. Your comments, articles and / or suggestions are gratefully received.

Contact us:

APAFRI Secretariat
Forest Research Institute Malaysia
Kepong, 52109 Kuala Lumpur
Malaysia

Tel: (6) 03 6272 2516

Fax (6) 03 6277 3249

e-mail: secretariat@apafri.upm.edu.my

website: www.apafri.upm.edu.my

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- ❖ GTZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit)

Contributions in kind:

- ❖ Universiti Putra Malaysia
- ❖ Forest Research Institute Malaysia

ASIA PACIFIC ASSOCIATION OF FORESTRY RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS



APAFRI

Secretariat

Forest Research Institute Malaysia
Kepong
52109 Kuala Lumpur
Malaysia

Tel : (6) 03 6272 2516
Fax : (6) 03 6277 3249

E-Mail: secretariat@apafri.upm.edu.my
website: www.apafri.upm.edu.my

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