



Newsletter

Programmes - Agenda - News

- First Central American Forestry Congress
- Founding Assembly of the Forest Stewardship Council



The European Tropical Forest Research Network (ETFRN)

is an initiative of the Commission of the European Communities, and was established in October 1991 in order to provide information and services to support research on tropical humid and dry forests. This includes all research areas related to the tropical forest environment.

The aim of ETFRN is to increase the cooperation and concertation of research institutions, governments and industry of European and Tropical countries through well-targeted information management.

ETFRN organises and participates in workshops and seminars. It supports the users in exploiting existing funding sources and in establishing research cooperations. It will use and support the development of a Global Tropical Forestry Research Information System.

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Editors:

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European Tropical Forest Research Network (ETFRN)

c/o ATSAF e.V.

Hans-Böckler-Str. 5

D-53225 Bonn

Tel.: +49-228-4001 319

Fax: +49-228-4001 311

New Address as of 1st January 1994:

c/o ATSAF e.V.

Ellerstr. 50

D-53119 Bonn

Tel.: not yet clear!

Fax: not yet clear!

Editor: H. Freiberg

Editorial Coordination and Design: M. Reule

Editorial Assistant: A. Claßen

Organisations-Institutions Programmes

COFORD *The Irish ETRFN-Node*

COFORD is the Irish National Council for Forest Research and Development. It was established in April 1993 and is part-funded under the European Community (EC) STRIDE Forestry Sub-Programme.

Rationale

Because forest research is an investment in the future of the industry it must be planned to reflect the medium and long-term needs of all sectors of the industry, maintain international competitiveness and achieve national priorities in developing sustainable employment while maintaining environmental compatibility.

Research programmes require constant review and evaluation to take account of changing technology, international trade conditions and environmental issues. Close linkages between education, research and industry are essential to ensure the correct balances between value for money, scientific competence, industrial competitiveness and environmental safeguards.

Objectives

The objectives of COFORD are as follows:

1. to plan, advance and coordinate all forest research activities in Ireland;

2. to establish research priorities and funding procedures;
3. to improve research competence;
4. to strengthen links between education, research and industry.

Activities

At present COFORD is:

1. Developing a research programme for each sector of the forest industry through representative sectoral committees in the following areas:
 - reproductive material,
 - silviculture,
 - harvesting and transport,
 - processing, both primary and secondary,
 - environment;
2. Supporting the transfer of research results and technology to ensure maximum uptake by the industry. This work is supported under measure two of the STRIDE Forestry Sub-Programme and there are six projects.
3. Grant-aiding the purchase of research equipment and the provision of research facilities in order to strengthen existing research facilities. There are 18 projects in this measure.
4. Supporting international networking to ensure best practices for Irish conditions under measure four of the STRIDE Forestry Sub-Programme. There are ten projects under this measure.

5. COFORD is the Irish National Node for ETRFN. It is establishing a database of organisations and researchers involved in tropical forestry and other areas of development and is liaising with both government and NGOs in relation to issues in tropical forestry generally.

For further information please contact:

COFORD

Agriculture Building

UCD

Belfield

IRL-Dublin 4

Tel: +353-1-706 77 00

Fax: +353-1-706 11 80

**WWF/UNESCO/RBG:
'People and Plants Initiative'**

The "People and Plants Initiative" was started in July 1992 by WWF, UNESCO and the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, to promote the sustainable and equitable use of plant resources through providing support to ethnobotanists from developing countries.

The initiative stems from the recognition that people in rural communities often have detailed and profound knowledge of the properties and ecology of locally occurring plants, and rely on them for many of their foods, medicines, fuel, building materials and other products. However, much of this knowledge is being lost with the transform-

ation of local ecosystems and local cultures. Over-harvesting of non cultivated plants is increasingly common, caused by loss of habitat, increase in local use and the growing demands of trade. Long-term conservation of plant resources and the knowledge associated with them is needed for the benefit of the local people and for their potential use to local communities in other places.

The diversity of traditional plant-resource management practices runs through a spectrum from "cultivation" through to gathering "wild" plants, all of which are included in the People and Plants approach.

Ethnobotanists can work together with local people to study and record the uses of plant resources, identify cases of over-harvesting of non cultivated plants, find sustainable harvesting methods and investigate alternatives such as cultivation. The "People and Plants Initiative" is building support for ethnobotanists from developing countries who work with local people on issues related to the conservation of both plant resources and traditional ecological knowledge. Key participants organize participatory workshops, undertake discussion and advisory visits to field projects and provide literature on ethnobotany, traditional ecological knowledge and sustainable plant resource use. It is hoped that a network of ethnobotanists working on these issues in different countries and regions can be developed to exchange information, share experience and collaborate in field projects.

European Tropical Forest Research Network

Current activities include:

- Caribbean:

Assessment of the conservation status of medicinal plants with TRAMIL, a working group dedicated to promoting the use of medicinal plants and to producing a Caribbean pharmacopoeia.

- Mexico:

Survey of useful plants of the Sierra Norte of Oaxaca, in collaboration with the Sociedad para el Estudio de los Recursos Bióticos de Oaxaca (SERBO).

- Bolivia:

Inventory of useful plants of the Beni Biosphere Reserve, in conjunction with the Estación Biológica del Beni.

- Brazil:

Projeto Nordeste: Contributing to sustainable use of local medicinal plants and forage crops for local people in the arid Northeast of Brazil, in collaboration with the region's universities and government institutions.

- Cameroon:

Appraisal of the viability of harvesting *Prunus africana* bark, in cooperation with botanists from the Centre for the Study of Medicinal Plants, Yaoundé.

- Uganda:

Surveys with Ugandan forest managers, graduates and local people to plan for sustainable wild plant use in montane forest.

- Madagascar:

Recording and assessing medicinal plant use in Manongarivo Special Reserve and developing an integrated health care system in cooperation with local ethnobotanists, traditional plant specialists and doctors.

- International:

Undertaking a Survey of Economic Plants for Arid and Semi-arid Lands (SEPASAL) and developing a database of useful plants for arid and semi-arid regions.

Furthermore, a series of five handbooks on plant conservation is being prepared to provide technical guidance on methods in ethnobotany and sustainable use of plant resources. The series will be published in English by Chapman & Hall, on behalf of WWF International. The manuals will be made available in developing countries and translations into Spanish and other languages will be arranged by UNESCO.

For further information please contact:

Biodiversity Unit
Conservation Policy Division
WWF-International - World Conservation Centre
Avenue du Mont Blanc
CH-1196 Gland
Fax: +41-22-364 82 19 or

The Director
Royal Botanical Gardens Kew
Richmond
UK-Surrey TW9 3AB
Fax: +44-81-332 51 97

The World Conservation Monitoring Centre - WCMC

The World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC) is an independent, non-governmental, international organisation providing information on the status, protection and management of the earth's living natural resources. Established in 1988 in Cambridge, UK, and with a staff of 55, WCMC is a non-profit charity with core support provided by its founders, the World Conservation Union (IUCN), the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The Centre has three main objectives:

- * to carry out research and analysis of data in support of conservation action, the identification of conservation priorities and the sustainable management of biological diversity;
- * to provide a service capable of anticipating and responding to the demands of users for reliable and up-to-date conservation information;
- * to provide professional technical services in support of conservation research, database building and information management.

To cover a broad range of biodiversity issues, WCMC tracks several major information themes. These themes comprise threatened plants and animals, trade in endangered species, natural habitats, protected areas and important unprotected areas. Data are maintained in structured databases and in geographic information

systems (GIS), and relevant literature kept in files and publications in the Centre's library.

With support from core funding, and through projects endorsed by external clients, WCMC researches, gathers and analyses conservation information for its users. Collaborating with its founders and their commissions, contacting numerous national and international organisations, and keeping in touch with the literature, enables WCMC to provide a competent, objective information service to a large range of users. Products include publications, customised reports, digital files, analyses and databases.

Since 1988, WCMC has been studying tropical forest distribution, status and management through a portfolio of interrelated projects:

1. *The Conservation Atlas of Tropical Forests*;
2. *Threatened Tropical Timbers Database*;
3. *Tropical Timbers Database*;
3. *Tropical Managed Areas Assessment*;
4. *Forest Resources Accounting*;
5. *TREES II Pre-feasibility Study*.

Together with IUCN, WCMC has produced two volumes (Asia and the Pacific, and Africa) of a three-volume *The Conservation Atlas of Tropical Forests*. These atlases outline important tropical forest issues and country forest maps for each tropical region. The third volume, *The Americas*, is in preparation and will be published in 1994. The digital forest and protected

areas data, together with other conservation data, are maintained in the WCMC *Biodiversity Map Library*, a user interface designed in-house to allow easy access to a large library of GIS files. The Centre aims to up-date these data to ensure future information accuracy and to monitor changes in forest cover. The current data holdings will be up-dated by new data coming from contacts and projects worldwide, such as the CEC TREES project (Tropical Ecosystem Environment observations by Satellite; see *ETFRN Newsletter* No.5). TREES has been set up to monitor pan-tropical forest cover using remotely sensed imagery. The TREES research team is currently using the WCMC forest and protected areas datasets as a backdrop to aid classification techniques and to detect areas of rapid change.

The CEC established a feasibility project to identify the likely user-community and their requirements of TREES data, evaluate possible TREES products and to look at ways of disseminating the information once the research phase of the project is complete. Since February 1993, Earth Observation Sciences, Farnham, UK, and WCMC have objectively considered TREES goals and achievements to date, assessed the actual and potential needs of the user community and, as a result, recommended future action for TREES.

WCMC is also building a database on the conservation status, distribution and level of trading of the major tropical timber species. With support from the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO),

this project was undertaken for the timbers of Asia and Africa and has resulted in much controversy over the control of trade. Currently, WCMC is seeking support for the expansion of the project to the Americas and the Caribbean. WCMC staff attend the twice-yearly meetings of ITTO in a continuing dialogue on the need for dependable information as a basis for the success of ITTO's *Strategy 2000*.

The *Tropical Managed Areas Assessment* project has recently been completed. This entailed compiling an inventory of protection and production forests of tropical countries and mapping these areas using the Centre's GIS. The project, supported by the Overseas Development Administration (ODA/UK), ran in parallel with the FAO *Forest Resources Assessment 1990*. As a result of this assessment FAO and WCMC have evaluated the extent of protection of FAO's ecofloristic zones, by overlaying the managed areas outlines onto ecofloristic zone maps. WCMC took part in a UNEP/FAO expert consultation on 'Environmental Parameters in Future Global Forest Assessments' in Nairobi, Kenya and also in a FAO/ECE 'Meeting of Experts on Global Forest Resources Assessment' (Kotka, Finland, May 1993).

The parties to ITTO have agreed to place their tropical forest management on a sustainable footing by the year 2000, but as yet they have not agreed reporting procedures. 'Forest Resource Accounting' (FRA) is a methodology, developed by WCMC and IIED (International Institute for Environment and Development), and

funded by ODA, for measuring progress towards sustainable use of tropical timber. A pilot study was undertaken in three countries (Indonesia, Ecuador and Cameroon) to identify data-handling measures needed to record the distribution, condition and management status of tropical forests. FRA defines the strategic framework necessary to enable sustainable management to take place. It also provides a generic system designed to facilitate monitoring through the collation of forest management information. Development of this system would vary from one country to another depending on current forest management capacity. It is envisaged that the FRA system would become an integrated part of existing forest monitoring rather than a new, stand-alone system. It would meet national needs as well as facilitating international reporting to ITTO.

WCMC's work in mapping the world's tropical forests provides a backdrop to policy decisions on forests and forestry. However, to monitor forest loss, information is needed on condition, quality and management of forests as well as their geographical location. A project *State of the Forests*, in collaboration with WWF-International, is currently at an advanced stage of discussion with a potential commercial sponsor. Project proposals are also under consideration for temperate and boreal forest work. In addition, WCMC is about to begin work on an CEC feasibility study for a '*Yearbook on Tropical Forests and Biodiversity*'.

The Centre will soon be recruiting new staff with tropical forest skills. Anybody interested in working with WCMC or for further information should contact:

Clare Billington
World Conservation Monitoring Centre
219 Huntingdon Road
UK-Cambridge CB3 0DL
Tel: +44-223-277314
Fax: +44-223-277136
E-mail: CLAREB@WCMC.CO.UK

The ITTO Fellowship Programme

The objective of the fellowship programme of the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) is to promote human resources development and institutional strengthening in the forestry sectors of member countries.

Activities

Funding of fellowships for short-term activities such as visits to forests, mills, and research or educational institutions or participation in seminars, workshops, training courses, and conferences. Partial tuition grants for post-graduate programmes. Awards of small grants to transfer technology to producer member countries. Underwriting, through author's contracts, preparation of technical documents which further the programme objective in producer member countries.

Appraisal

Applications are appraised by a Selection Committee comprising seven members, namely the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Permanent Committees of Reforestation and Forest Management, Forest Industry, and Economic Information and Market Intelligence. The Vice-Chairman of the International Tropical Timber Council (ITTC) chairs the Committee, which meets twice a year, during the Council Sessions. The Committee's recommendations are submitted to the ITTC for final approval.

Applications to present papers or participate in conferences, seminars, and other scientific meetings may be made at any time, provided they arrive at the Secretariat at least one month before the date on which the meeting is scheduled to start. Such applications may be considered by an *ad hoc* Committee under the Executive Director's chairmanship in cases where the meeting begins more than a month before or less than a month after a scheduled Council Session and regular meeting of the official Selection Committee.

Criteria

Criteria to be used by the Selection Committee will be:

1. Conformity of the application with the objective of this programme.
2. Conformity of the application with ITTO's general objectives in respect of sustainable forest management, utilization, and trade, and in particular with ITTO's Target 2000, which stipulates that all internationally traded tropical

timber shall originate from sustainably managed forests by the year 2000.

3. Conformity of the application with ITTO's Action Plan and ITTO's published Guidelines on various forestry sector activities.
4. Reasonable costs in relation to expected benefits for the forestry sectors of producer member countries.
5. Anticipated results which can readily be disseminated by extension in producer member countries.
6. Restriction of support for research to non-Ph.D. programmes, except where the Committee is satisfied that the thesis is of critical importance to ITTO.
7. Spreading of awards as widely as possible, both geographically and by subject, with a target market in middle management. Awards in excess of \$12,000 shall be limited to prevent numbers of awards being excessively constrained by available funds.
8. High probability of the candidate being able to publish his or her results in an ITTO publication or a scientific journal.
9. Awards to be made to individuals, not to the incumbents of institutional positions.

Application

Only nationals of ITTO member countries are eligible to apply. ITTO member countries as of 1 January 1993, are:

Producers:

Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Gabon, Ghana, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Liberia, Malaysia, Panama, Papua

New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Zaire.

Consumers: Australia, Austria, Canada, China, European Economic Community, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, United Kingdom, Egypt, Finland, Japan, Nepal, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Sweden, Switzerland, United States of America.

Deadline for receipt of applications is 15 April 1994 for the 16th ITTC Session (18 - 25 May 1994). Applicants must seek letters of acceptance from institutions which will participate in the proposed activities. They must be able to speak, read, write, and understand the working language at the location of the activity. Their applications must include a detailed description of all proposed activities.

Application forms are available in English, French, and Spanish from:

The Executive Director
International Tropical Timber Organization
Pacifico-Yokohama
1-1-1, Minato-Mirai, Nishi-ku
Yokohama 220
Japan

Tel: +81-45-223-11 10
Fax: +81-45-223-11 11
Tlx: 3822480 itto j

The Caribbean Technical Cooperation Network

In 1983, a Caribbean Technical Cooperation Network in Upper Watershed Management was established, to enable the institutions working in this area to exchange information and experiences and to collaborate on common problems. Since its inception, the Network has carried out a number of training courses and workshops on the planning and management of watersheds, techniques of soil and water conservation, protected areas management, reforestation and agroforestry.

In 1991, at the 17th session of the Latin American and Caribbean Forestry Commission held in Venezuela, the participating countries noted the variety of activities carried out by the Technical Cooperation Network on Upper Watershed Management and recommended that the name of the Network be changed to the Caribbean Technical Cooperation Network on Forestry and Related Environmental Matters, so as to better reflect the broader spectrum of activities undertaken by the Network.

In order to have sufficient background information on the needs and aspirations of the member countries, FAO's Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean carried out a study to assess the state of forestry and related environmental matters in the English-speaking countries of the

Caribbean, and determine the areas in which technical cooperation amongst the member countries of the Network would be most effective.

A Round Table was organized in Trinidad and Tobago from 17 - 18 September 1992, with participation from representatives of the Caribbean countries, to discuss and decide on the establishment and operation of the Caribbean Technical Cooperation Network on Forestry and Related Environmental Matters. The Round Table agreed to a one year plan of activities and a medium-term programme. The Forestry Division of the Ministry of Agriculture Land and Marine Resources of Trinidad and Tobago is represented by Mr. Narine Lackhan, who was elected Regional Coordinator of the Network.

A decision was taken to invite the non-English-speaking countries of the Caribbean to participate in all Network activities, but it was agreed that the working language of the Network would be English.

The meeting decided that the main activities of the Network should be to facilitate the exchange of information and to organise training courses and workshops. For the exchange of information, a directory of specialists and institutions in forestry and related environmental matters should be prepared. This directory should include lists of publications such as project reports and other technical documents. Training courses should be organised in forestry, watershed management, protect-

ed areas, social forestry and research. There is also a need to train professional officers and technicians in 'management of natural forests' and in the 'elaboration of management plans, including forest inventories'.

As an initial activity a training course for overseers and foremen on 'forest nurseries and plantation practices' was held in Trinidad & Tobago in June 1993.

The bodies of the Network are the members, the Regional Coordinator and the Network Secretariat. The Regional Coordinator has to

- define with the national coordinators the specific objectives of the Network at the regional level;
- plan and coordinate, in close collaboration with the national coordinators of the Network and the FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, the activities to attain these objectives;
- coordinate activities with other networks as well as with national and regional technical centers;
- participate in Network activities at national and regional level.

The Network Secretariat will act as focal point of the secretariat for the Network and will support the technical and administrative assistance provided by FAO for the Network, for example, in the organisation of training courses and the preparation of a newsletter.

Progress in the Establishment of the Coconut Genetic Resources Network

The National Coordinators of the Network are the focal points for communication among the Network members and the Secretariat. It is their responsibility to distribute the newsletter and other information from the secretariat to the national members of the network.

Since its establishment, one of the first actions of the Network was to promote the designation of the Network National Coordinators, and disseminate information on their addresses, telephone and fax numbers, in order to allow for good communications. To date there are focal points in Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Haiti, Barbados, Grenada, Jamaica, Belize, Guyana, Montserrat, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago and Saint Lucia.

For further information contact:

Mr. Narine Lackhan
Deputy Director of Forestry
Forestry Division
Long, Circular Road
Port-of-Spain
Trinidad and Tobago
Tel: +809-628 40 07 or

Mr. Claus-Martin Eckelmann
Associate Forestry Officer
c/o FAO Representation
P.O. Box 822
134-138 Frederik Street
Port-of-Spain
Trinidad and Tobago
Tel: +809-625 04 67/8
Fax: +809-623 09 95

The International Board for Plant Genetic Resources (IBPGR), through its Asia/Pacific Regional Office, is establishing a network to foster the conservation and utilization of the genetic resources of coconut palm. IBPGR's action is in response to a request from the participants from 15 coconut growing countries at a Coconut Genetic Resources Workshop, held in Cipanas, Indonesia, in October 1991. It is also consistent with the decisions of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) and its Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). TAC recommended that coconut should be included within the CGIAR portfolio of activities, due to its importance as a multipurpose tree for use by smallholders in several farming systems throughout the tropics, and as a tree species important for the sustainability of often fragile coastland and island ecosystems.

The priority areas identified as requiring an international research effort are:

- Germplasm collecting, conservation, evaluation, and enhancement;
- The control of diseases and pests;
- The productivity and sustainability of coconut-based agroforestry systems;
- The need for greater efficiency and added value in post-harvest handling;
- Socio-economic issues, especially the factors which influence farmers' participation in rehabilitation and replanting programmes.

European Tropical Forest Research Network

TAC recommended that first priority be given to germplasm aspects, and that IBPGR be invited to strengthen its work on coconut genetic resources.

In accepting this invitation, IBPGR has moved quickly to establish the Coconut Genetic Resources Network,

- A ten-member Steering Committee was elected during the Cipanas meeting in Indonesia.
- Five regional networks, to be comprised of the coconut producing countries as members have been proposed. These regions are: South East Asia, South Asia, the Pacific, Africa and the Americas. Two Steering Committee members will represent the countries in each of the five regional networks.
- A Consultant was engaged for four months in 1992 to prepare a report on the proposed structure and strategy of this network. In preparing this report, the Consultant visited each of the Steering Committee members in their own countries.
- The first Steering Committee meeting of the Network was held in Singapore in December, 1992. During that meeting twelve ongoing activities were considered. These activities includes a common database for passport data, characterization and evaluation of coconut germplasm around the world, and the development of guidelines for the safe movement of coconut germplasm. A series of task forces should develop network strategies and specific activities on the following:

priority areas for collecting, a conservation strategy, assessment of the various new methods for measuring coconut genetic diversity, a plan for multi-location trials, support for research on diseases that threaten the safe movement of coconut germplasm, and liaison with ongoing coconut physiology investigations. Finally, information, publication, public awareness, and training needs were identified. It was decided that the short name for the new network would be COGENT.

- The second Steering Committee meeting was scheduled for September, 1993, in Montpellier, France. During that meeting, the task forces set up during the first Steering Committee meeting were due to submit their reports, enabling the Steering Committee to recommend the first round of on-the-ground activities in this network.

Close attention must now be paid to enlisting the support and membership of other coconut producing countries, carefully understanding their needs, and developing sustainable effective activities to achieve the long term objective of this new network.

Although this network has made a strong start, its success will be measured in terms of how effectively global genetic resources of coconut can be safely conserved and used for the benefit of coconut farmers and consumers.

(from: Bulletin Burotrop No.5, 1993)

Research Cooperations

Under this heading the ETFRN Newsletter offers its readers the possibility to write a short article for future issues of the Newsletter offering research cooperation opportunities.

Should you be interested in making your cooperation efforts known to the Newsletter readers, please feel free to send us your summaries.

The Department of Plant Biology of the University of Madrid

The Department of Plant Biology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Madrid, is trying to initiate research in the Tropics, especially in South and Central America. At present the main fields of research are as follows:

1. Soil-vegetation relationships.

Until now, the Department has carried out this kind of research in Iberian semi-arid regions, gipsaceous areas, and in some Iberian mountain habitats. Studies concentrate on the relations between abiotic data (edaphic, geomorphologic, microclimatic and other abiotic parameters) and biological data (flora and vegetation units). Methods are developed which are based on numerical approaches to get general models. In future, the Department intends to carry out the same kind of work in tropical areas, especially in mountain regions.

2. Reproductive biology and ontogeny of fern gametophytes, and its relations to the soil, especially the incidence of the type of soil in germination and growth of gametophytes in *Asplenium* and *Cystopteris* species.

The ontogeny of sex organs and the general development of gametophytes in the laboratory and in the field, and its relation with the ploidy level. The study of reproductive systems using traditional and molecular methods. In future, the Department would like to study this kind of subjects in members of the family *Aspleniaceae*, and the genus *Cystopteris*, in tropical areas, especially in South America. This kind of work would help to understand the ecology of some of these species.

Currently, seven scientists (four seniors and three juniors) are working on these subjects, plus one senior scientist from the 'Laboratorio de Edafología, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid.

The Department is now looking for European partners to apply for a research project within the framework of the STD-3 programme, in one or both fields mentioned above.

For further information please contact:

Dr. Santiago Pajarón
Departamento de Biología Vegetal I
Facultad de Biología
Universidad Complutense de Madrid
E-28040 Madrid
Fax: +34-1-394 50 34

European Tropical Forest Research Network

International Agenda: Conferences

Date	Title	Contact
Nov. 93		
22. - 26.	Water Issues in Forests Today, Canberra/Australia	Dr. Emmett M. O'Loughlin, CSIRO, Div. of Water and Land Resources, P.O. Box 1666, Canberra ACT, Australia; Tel: +61-6-2 57 32 99, Fax: +61-6-2 57 32 56
23. - 25.	ASEAN Seminar on Management and Conservation of Biodiversity, Kuala Lumpur/Malaysia	Director, ASEAN Institute of Forest Management, Suite 903, IGB Plaza, 6, Jalan Kampar, 50400 Kuala Lum- pur, Malaysia; Tel: +603-442 92 51, Fax: +603-442 51 15
23. - 26.	Impact of Diseases and Insect Pests in Tropical Forests, Cochin/India	Dr. K.S.S. Nair, Chairman S2.07-07, Kerala Forest Research Institute, Peechi - 680 653, Thrissur Dist., Kerala State, India; Tel: +91-487-223 75, Fax: +91-487-404 51, Tlx: 887275 kfri in
Dec. 93		
06. - 10.	International Congress on Modelling and Simulation 1993 - Modelling Change in Environmental and Socio- economic Systems, Perth/Australia	International Congress Secretariat, Prof. M. McAleer, Dept. of Econo- mics, University of Western Austra- lia, Nedlands, WA 6009 Australia; Fax: +61-9-380 10 16
06. - 10.	Gestion Durable des Sols et Environ- nement en Afrique Intertropical - First International Colloquium, Ouagadougou/Burkina Faso	Dr. L. Thiumbiano, General Secre- tary/WCASS, 06 BP 9046, Ouagado- ugou 06, Burkina Faso; Tel: +226-31-92 02/08, Fax: +226-31-92 06
06. - 11.	Sustainable Development of Degrad- ed Lands through Agroforestry in Asia and the Pacific, New Delhi/India	Panjab Singh, Director, Indian Grass- land and Fodder Research Institute, Jhansi 284 003, India
13. - 15.	Non-CO ₂ Greenhouse Gases: Why and How to Control? The European Symposium on Environmental Protec- tion, Maastricht/The Netherlands	Dr. J. van Ham, c/o Vereniging LUCHT, P.O. Box 60 13, 2600 JA Delft, The Netherlands; Fax: +31-15-61 31 86
Jan. 94		
17. - 21.	Physical Measurements and Signa- tures in Remote Sensing, The Alps/France	ISPRS, Commission VII, Working Group 1, Carte Blanche, 173 Ave. de Lautrec, 1100 Castres, France; Tel: +33-63-72 31 00, Fax: +33-63-72 30 32

European Tropical Forest Research Network

Feb. 94

02. - 05. Mechanisms of Woody Plant Defences against Herbivores, Kihei/Hawaii Dr. W.J. Mattson, Pesticide Research Center, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824, USA; Fax: +1-517-353 55 98
06. - 11. Behaviour, Population Dynamics, and Control of Forest Insects, Maui/Hawaii/USA Dr. Thomas L. Payne, c/o Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center - OARDC, 116 Agricultural Administration Building, 2120 Fyffe Road, Columbus, OH 43210, USA; Tel: +1-614-292 38 97 Fax: +1-614-292 32 63
17. - 20. 7. Jahrestagung der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Tropenökologie, Bremen/Germany Deutsche Gesellschaft für Tropenökologie, c/o Zoologische Staatssammlung, Münchenhausenstr. 21, 81247 München

March 94

05. - 12. FIG XX Congress - Surveying Global Changes, Melbourne/Australia ICMS, P.O. Box 29, Parkville, Victoria, Australia 3052; Tel: +61-3-387-99 55, Fax: +61-3-387-31 20
07. - 09. 5th Round Table Conference on Dipterocarps: Recent Advances in Dipterocarp Research for Sustainable Forest Management, Chiang Mai/Thailand Somyos Kijkar, Director, ASEAN-Canada Forest Tree Seed Center, Muak Lek, Saraburi 18180, Thailand; Tel: +66-36-34 13 05, Fax: +66-36-34 18 59
21. - 24. Silviculture of Protection Forestry in Arid Regions and the Agroforestry Potential, Alexandria/Egypt S.A.E: Kandeel, Dept. of Forestry & Wood Technology, El Shatby, Alexandria, Egypt
28. - 31. 4th International Conference on Plant Protection in the Tropics, Kuala Lumpur/Malaysia The Honorary Secretary, 4th MAPPS ICPT, c/o Dept. of Plant Protection, Faculty of Agriculture, 43400 UPM Serdang, Selangor, Malaysia; Fax: +603-948 37 45

April 94

17. - 23. 3rd Asian Conference on Mycorrhizae: Biology and Technology of Mycorrhizae, Yogyakarta/Indonesia Director, SEAMEO BIOTROP, P.O. Box 17, Bogor, Indonesia; Fax: +62-251-32 68 51
24. - 30. Minimum Data Requirements for Sustainable Forest Management, Stellenbosch/South Africa Prof. B. Bredenkamp, Faculty of Forestry, University of Stellenbosch, Private Bag X5018, 7599 Stellenbosch, South Africa; Fax: +27-22 31-77 36 03

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May 94

02. - 07. International Symposium on Biodiversity and Taxonomy in Tropical Ecosystems, Bonn/Germany
Dr. F. Krapp, c/o Zoologisches Forschungsinstitut, Museum A. Koenig, Adenauer Allee 150 - 164, 53113 Bonn, Germany;
Tel: +49-2 28-91 22-2 94,
Fax: +49-2 28-21 69 79
02. - 07. Assessment of non-timber resources and 'simplicity versus efficiency', Ascona/Switzerland
Michael Köhl, Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research, Zürcherstr. 111, 8903 Birmensdorf, Switzerland
15. - 19. International Symposium on the Spatial Accuracy of Natural Resource Data Base: "Unlocking the Puzzle", Williamsburg/USA
Dr. James L. Smith, Dept. of Forestry, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA 24061-0324, USA

June 94

06. - 09. SIT '94 - Inventories for Ecosystem Management, Oregon/USA
G. Lynd, USDA Forest Service, FIE-RR, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090, USA;
Fax: +1-202-205 10 87
07. - 10. 5th International Symposium on Society and Resource Management, Fort Collins/USA
Michael J. Manfredi, Program Chair, Human Dimensions in Natural Resources Unit, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado 80523, USA;
Tel: +1-303/491-65 91,
Fax: +1-303/491-22 55
20. - 24. International Conference on Ecology and Environment, Drake Bay/ Peninsula de Osa/Costa Rica
Celso Vargas, Dept. of Computer Science, Costa Rica Institute of Technology, P.O. Box 159, Cartago, Costa Rica;
Fax: +506-51 53 48, E-mail: VARGASE@UCRVM2.UCR.AC.CR
20. - 24. Mapping and Geographic Information Systems, Athens/Georgia/USA
ISPRC Commission IV, 173 Ave. de Lautrec, 1100 Castres, France;
Tel: +33-63-72 31 00,
Fax: +33-63-72 30 32
29. - 05.07. 5th International Congress for Computer Technology in Agriculture, Cambridge/UK
Katherine Fort, RASE, National Agricultural Centre, Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire CV8 2LZ, UK;
Tel: +44-203-69 69 69,
Fax: +44-203-69 69 00

July 94

04. - 06. Origin and Evolution of the Flora of the Monsoon Tropics, Tinaroo/ Australia
ASBS Symposium, c/o Mr. J. Clarkson, P.O. Box 1054, Mareeba Qld 4880, Australia

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10. - 16. FAO/IAEA Symposium on the Use of Nuclear and Related Techniques in Soil/Plant Studies with Special Emphasis on Environmental Preservation and Sustainable Agriculture, Acapulco/Mexico Dr. Christian Hera, Head of Soil Fertility, Irrigation and Crop Production Section, Joint FAO/IAEA Division, P.O. Box 100, 1400 Vienna, Austria
10. - 16. 15th International Congress of Soil Sciences, Acapulco/Mexico 15th WCSS Secretariat, Centro de Edafología, Colegio de Postgraduados, P.O. Box 45, 56230-Chapingo, Mexico; Tel: +52-595-457 01, Fax: +52-595-457 23
24. - 27. International IUFRO/NEFU/FAO Seminar on Forest Operations under Mountainous Conditions, Harbin/China Prof. Li Guangda, Dept. of Forest Operations, Northeast Forestry University, 8 Hexing Road, 150040 Harbin, P.R. of China; Fax: +86-451-240146
- Aug. 94**
20. - 26. VI International Congress of Ecology, Manchester/UK The Secretary, VI International Congress of Ecology, Dept. of Environmental Biology, The University, Manchester M13 9PL, United Kingdom
21. - 27. Measuring and Monitoring Biodiversity in Tropical and Temperate Forests, Chiang Mai/Thailand Secretariat, Forest Biodiversity Symposium, c/o Royal Forest Dept Silvicultural Research Sub-Division, 61 Paholoyothin Road, Chatuchak, Bangkok, Thailand 10900; Fax: +66-2-579 47 30
- Sep. 94**
05. - 09. 8th Symposium of the IAMAP Commission on Atmospheric Chemistry and Global Pollution and 2nd Scientific Conference of the International Global Atmospheric Chemistry Project, Tokyo/Japan T. Ogawa, CACGP/IGAC Symposium, Dept. of Earth and Planetary Physics, Faculty of Science, University of Tokyo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113, Japan
06. - 08. Allelopathy in Sustainable Agriculture, Forestry and Environment, Rajasthan/India Dr. Shamsher S. Narwal, Dept. of Agronomy, CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar-125 004, Haryana, India; Tel: +91-16 62-7 37 21 Ext. 42 68, Fax: +91-16 62-7 35 52
07. - 09. Air Pollution, Multiple Stress and Predisposition to Tree Decline, Fredericton/N.B./Canada Dr. Kevin Percy, Forestry Canada, Maritimes Region, P.O. Box 4000, Fredericton, NB, Canada E3B 5PJ; Tel: +1-506-452-35 24 Fax: +1-506-454-35 25
12. - 16. Resource Technology 94: Decision Support - 2001, Toronto/Canada M. Power, Co-Chair, RT/94, Toronto, Canada; Tel: +1-613-589 28 80, Fax: +1-613-589 22 75,

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12. - 16. Scenario Studies for the Rural Environment, Wageningen/The Netherlands
DLO Winand Staring Centre, IAC, Wageningen, The Netherlands
18. - 21. Inventory and Management of the Boreal Forests: Meeting World Needs, Anchorage/Alaska/USA
Mr. Vernon J. LaBau, USDA Forest Service, Forestry Sciences Lab., 201 E. 9th Ave., Suite 303, Anchorage, AK 99501, USA;
Tel: +1-9 07-2 71 25 85
27. - 01.10. IUFRO International Symposium on Growth and Yield of Tropical Forests, Tokyo/Japan
Dr. Yukichi Konohira, Deputy Coordinator Division 4, Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology, 3-5-8 Saiwaicho Fuchu, Tokyo 183, Japan;
Fax: +81-423-64-78 12
- Oct. 94**
03. - 07. Resources and Environmental Monitoring, Rio de Janeiro/Brazil
Roberto Pereira da Cunha, INPE, P.O. Box 5 15, 12201 Sao Jose dos Campos, Brazil
17. - 21. Sustainable Forest Management, Furano Hokkaido/Japan
Dr. Hidejiro Nagumo, University Forest, The University of Tokyo, 1-1-1 Jayri, Bankyo-ku, Tokyo 113, Japan
17. - 21. FAO/IAEA International Symposium on Nuclear and Related Techniques in Soil/Plant Studies on Sustainable Agriculture and Environmental Preservation, Vienna/Austria
Dr. Christian Hera, Head of Soil Fertility, Irrigation and Crop Production Section, Joint FAO/IAEA Division, P.O. Box 100, 1400 Vienna, Austria
- Nov. 94**
21. - 25. Systems-Oriented Research in Agriculture and Rural Development, Montpellier/France
Jacques Faye & Michel Dulcire, International Symposium, Systems-Oriented Research and Rural Development, BP 50 35, 34032 Montpellier, France;
Tel.: +33-67 61 71 85,
Fax: +33-67 61 71 86,
E-mail: Sympo94@montp2.cirad.fr
- Dec. 94**
12. - 16. International Symposium on High Salinity Tolerant Plants, Karachi/Pakistan
Dr. M. Ajmal Khan, Convenor, Int. Symp. on High Salinity-Tolerant Plants, Dept. of Botany, University of Karachi, Karachi-75270, Pakistan

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June 95

12. - 14. Recent Advances in Tropical Tree Seed Technology and Planting Stock Production, Haad-Yai/Songkhla/ Thailand
Symposium Secretariat, AFTSC, Muak-Lek, Saraburi 18180, Thailand; Tel: +66-36-341-305, Fax: +66-36-341-859

Aug. 95

03. - 06. Research on Environmentally Sound Forest Practices to Sustain Tropical High Forests, a meeting associated with the IUFRO World Congress, Kotka/Finland
Rudolf Heinrich, Chief, Forest Harvesting & Transport Branch, FAO, Via delle Terme di Caracalla, 00100 Rome, Italy; Tel: +39-6-57 97 47 27, Fax: +39-6-57 97 51 37
06. - 12. 20th IUFRO World Congress, Tampere/Finland
Prof. Risto Seppälä, Finnish Forest Research Institute, Unioninkatu 40 A, 00170 Helsinki, Finland; Tel: +3 58-0-85 70 51, Fax: +3 58-0-62 53 08

International Agenda: Workshops

Nov. 93

02. - 05. Agroforestry Training Materials Workshop, Nairobi/Kenya
The Training Materials Coordinator, ICRAF Training Programme, P.O. Box 30677, Nairobi, Kenya; Fax: +254-2-521 001, E-Mail: 157:CG1236

May 94

21. - 24. 6th Workshop of the IUFRO Working Party Molecular Genetics of Forest Trees, Scarborough/Maine/USA
Prof. Michael S. Greenwood, Dept. of Forest Biology, The University of Maine, Orono, USA; Tel: +1-207-581-28 38, Fax: +1-207-581-28 58

July 94

04. - 09. Interactive Seminar and Workshop on Soil, Tree, Machine Interactions in Forest Operations, Feldafing/Germany
Dr. Dietmar Matthies, Lehrstuhl für forstliche Arbeitswissenschaft und Angewandte Informatik, Hohenbachernstr. 22, 85354 Freising, Germany

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International Agenda: Training Courses

Nov. 93

08. - 10. Satellite Microwave Remote Sensing and Applications, Washington/D.C./USA The George Washington University, Academic Center, Room T-308, 801 22nd St. N.W., Washington, DC 20052 USA; Fax: +1-202-872-06 45
15. - 19. Synthetic Aperture Radar with Remote-Sensing Applications, Washington/D.C./USA The George Washington University, Academic Center, Room T-308, 801 22nd St. N.W., Washington, DC 20052 USA; Fax: +1-202-872-06 45
29. - 17.12. Experimental Design and Analysis in Agroforestry Research, Nairobi/Kenya The Course Coordinator, ICRAF Training Programme, P.O. Box 3067-7, Nairobi, Kenya; Fax: +2 54-2-5 2 10 01

Jan. 94

03. - 18.02. Management of Agricultural Research, Armidale/Australia Prof. B. Hardaker, Dept. of Agricultural Economics and Business Management, University of New England, Armidale 2351, Australia; Fax: +61-67-71 15 31
10. - 31.03. Rural Extension for Foresters, Reading/UK Dr. Chris Garforth, AERDD, University of Reading, 3 Early Gate, Whiteknights Road, Reading RG6 2AL, U.K.; Fax: +44-734-26 12 44

March 94

14. - 25. Forest Genetics and Tree Improvement, Raleigh/USA Ann Coughlin, North Carolina State University, College of Forest Resources, Box 8001, Raleigh, North Carolina, 27695-8001, USA; Tel: +1-919/515-31 84, Fax: +1-919/515-72 31

April 94

11. - 03.06. Annual Short Course on Economics of Resource and Environmental Management, Armidale/Australia Prof. B. Hardaker, Dept. of Agricultural Economics and Business Management, University of New England, Armidale 2351, Australia; Fax: +61-67-71 15 31
18. - 27.05. Rural Project Planning Course, Australia Course Co-ordinator, ANUTECH Pty Ltd, GPO Box 4, Canberra, ACT 2601, Australia; Tel: +6 16-24 95 6 71, Fax: +6 16-2 49 58 75

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May 94

02. - 27. First International Course in Tropical and Subtropical Nematology, Brisbane/Australia International Consultancies, Dept. of Primary Industries, Queensland, GPO Box 46, Brisbane Qld 4001, Australia; Tel: +61-7-2 39 33 02, Fax: +61-7-2 21 38 96
02. - 10.06. International Short Course in Land Use Management for Tropical Agriculture, Brisbane/ Australia International Consultancies, Dept. of Primary Industries, Queensland, GPO Box 46, Brisbane Qld 4001, Australia; Tel: +61-7-2 39 33 02, Fax: +61-7-2 21 38 96

June 94

07. - 08.10. Certificate Course in Community Forestry, Bangkok/Thailand Dr. Somsak Sukwong, Director, Regional Community Forestry Training Center, c/o Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University, Bangkok 10900, Thailand
06. - 15.07. The Planning of Projects for Biodiversity Conservation, Bradford/UK The Course Director, The Planning of Projects for Biodiversity Conservation, University of Bradford, Bradford, England BD7 1DP, UK; Fax: +44-274-38 52 80
13. - 24. GIS and Environmental Modelling Course, Canberra/Australia George Collet, Forestry & Environment Division, ANUTECH Pty Ltd., Australian National University, Canberra ACT 0200, Australia; Fax: +61-6-249 58 75
20. - 15.07. Resource and Environmental Management Course, Canberra/Australia George Collet, Forestry & Environment Division, ANUTECH Pty Ltd., Australian National University, Canberra ACT 0200, Australia; Fax: +61-6-249 58 75
26. - 09.07. 9th International Training Course on Environmental Assessment and Management, Aberdeen/UK Conference Administrators, Ms. Barbara Rae or Ms. Jane Butler, Centre for Environmental Management and Planning, AURIS Environmental Division, 23 St. Machar Drive, Old Aberdeen, AB2 1RY, Scotland UK; Fax. +44-224-48 76 58

Oct. 94

10. - 02.12. Forestry Planning and Management Course, Canberra and Gympie/Australia George Collett, Forestry & Environment Division, ANUTECH Pty Ltd, Canberra ACT 0200, Australia; Fax: +61-6-249 58 75

News

The ETFRN Coordination Unit is moving!

As of January 1st, 1994, the Coordination Unit of ETFRN will be moving to new premises. In future, you will be able to contact us under the following address:

European Tropical Forest Research Network
Coordination Unit
c/o ATSAF e. V.
Ellerstr. 50
D-53119 Bonn

Please send your inquiries and articles to this address as of December 20th, 1993.

ETFRN Node Meetings

An ETFRN Node Meeting in the UK is planned for December 12th, 1993, at the UK Tropical Forest Forum.

First Central American Forestry Congress - Conclusions and Recommendations

Background

In accordance with the Central American Integration process, the Forestry Congress Organizing Commission, the Central American Commission for the Environment and

Development with the cooperation of the Tropical Forestry Action Plan for Central America, the regional forestry service offices and the Tropical Forestry Action Plan in each country decided to hold the 1st Central American Forestry Congress and the 3rd Guatemalan Forestry Congress. The Congress was held in Flores Peten, Guatemala from August 29th to September 4th, 1993.

The event was attended by 210 delegates from Central America, Belize, Mexico and Panama, and other participants from the USA, Germany, Finland, Spain, England, Netherlands, Chile and Peru.

Goals

General

Propose and support actions to resolve shared problems of sustainable production in the humid tropical forests in Central America by sharing experiences and assigning responsibilities.

Specific

Offer each country the opportunity to present the forestry problems they face, so that their neighbours might offer solutions according to their experiences.

Present and analyze study cases through the exchange experiences.

Promote Central American cooperation among national and international public and private institutions.

Activities

The theme for this congress was 'The humid tropical forest: a development alternative in Central America'. This theme was divided into four subjects, being: a) the development of agriculture and cattle and its relation to the humid tropical forest, b) technical, economic and financial aspects in sustainable management of the humid tropical forest, c) the role of communities and institutions in the sustainable management of the humid tropical forest, and d) sustainable management of the humid tropical forest.

The programmed activities included master conferences on the main theme as well as conferences on other subjects; discussions by work groups, plenary sessions to reach conclusions and present recommendations and, lastly, field trips.

Precongress activities

Before the Congress a meeting of Central American wood manufacturers was held in Panama City on August 19th through 21st, 1993, which was also attended by representatives of governmental agencies from seven countries.

Furthermore a meeting of representatives of farmers and indigenous people took place in Quetzaltenango, Guatemala, from August 24th to 26th, 1993, which based on the theme 'The perspectives of rural communities participating in the sustainable management of humid tropical forests'.

Significant conclusions and recommendations

Following are the significant conclusions and recommendations presented by the working groups:

1. Subject: *Development of agriculture and cattle and its relation to the humid tropical forest.*

Initiate actions focussed on involving multiple sectors and institutions; review and publish present laws; create new jobs in rural areas by decentralizing the industry; organize communities to become enterprises; promote farming with proper land use; promote agroforestry; develop a social forestry system; prepare and execute territorial ordinance projects in the countries of the region.

2. Subject: *Technical, economic and financial aspects in sustainable management of the humid tropical forests.*

Present legislation must be reviewed and improved; use of a great number of secondary species and other forest products must be promoted and increased and added value must be achieved through the integration of forest and industry; the management plan must be an instrument which simplifies and facilitates the forest management; the purpose forest grants should be legal insurance to the holder of the grant so he/she may execute an efficient management of wood and other forestry products; prepare a proposal to simplify management plans in Central America and create a model of a simple (minimal) plan.

3. Subject: *The role of the communities and institutions in the sustainable management of the humid tropical forest.*

The state must guarantee ownership of the land; encourage credit and technical assistance to forestry activities; define forestry policies; should be an intermediary and not an executor of forestry activities. International cooperation must offer financial support to strengthen institutions and training national personnel. Private enterprise must accept associating with rural communities; human well-being must transcend economic gain; must accept a role to improve quality of life in the rural areas; must renew its operating systems and share responsibility in managing resources sustainably. Non-governmental agencies must support rural communities and temporarily channel resources when the state and the communities are incapable; must be a facilitator in technical and training aspects. Forestry investigating and educational centers must direct the investigation, develop human resources and prepare serious solutions to the sustainability of the resources.

4. Subject: *Sustainable management of the humid tropical forest.*

Forestry management and development must be part of an integrating strategy of all social sectors, in order to save regional germ plasm through its adequate management and use. The responsibility of managing and preserving its biodiversity is that of all involved. Gender role of women in preserving

family and in managing forests must be recognized and its leadership and participation must be supported.

For further information please contact:

Dr. J. Bockor

Proyecto Desarrollo Forestal Communal
DIGEBOS/GTZ

7a. Ave. 6 - 80, Zona 30

Guatemala, C.A.

Tel./Fax + 502-2-735214

Founding Assembly of the Forest Stewardship Council

The Founding Assembly of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) was held in Toronto, from October 1 - 3, with 130 participants from 25 countries. The purpose was to review progress on the consultations which had been organised by the FSC Interim Board over the last 18 months in 10 countries, and make a decision on whether the FSC should be established. The role of the FSC is to promote good forest management by accrediting forest management certification organisations. The FSC will be a non-profit, non-governmental organisation.

Membership

After intensive discussions it was decided that the FSC should be established, and that the organisation should be incorporated as an association with members. The membership of the organisation will be divided into two chambers. The first chamber will be made up of social, environmen-

European Tropical Forest Research Network

tal and indigenous organisations, and it will have 75% of voting power in general assemblies. The second chamber will have 25% of voting power and will be made up of individuals and organisations with an economic interest in the timber trade. The chamber structure is a way of weighting voting without restricting the number of organisations or individuals which can become members. The FSC will aim at geographical and North-South balance in its membership.

The Board was asked to develop proposals to cover the following issues within six months, for ratification by the Founding assembly by postal ballot:

1. Criteria for membership of the FSC;
2. Procedures for selection of members;
3. Detailed voting procedures including mechanisms for achieving North-South and regional balance;
4. Board election procedures;
5. Mechanisms for ensuring transparency in the FSC including the constitution of an NGO International Monitoring Committee;
6. Grievance and recourse procedures for members concerning Board decisions.

Board

A decision was taken by the Founding Assembly that the Board should be made up of nine individuals, elected for a three-year term. Of these, two will represent economic interests including academics, consultants, retired representatives or employees of FSC-certified companies, representatives or employees of companies

with a proven commitment to the FSC Principles. Governments, commercial interest not demonstrably committed to the FSC Principles and industry associations may not be represented on the Board.

The remaining seven Board members will come from environmental and social organisations and groups. In the first term of the Board there will be four representatives from the 'South' and three from the 'North' and among these four from social groups and three from environmental groups. In the second term these proportions will be reversed. It was agreed that in electing board members the general assembly should aim for regional and gender balance.

Using these criteria the following Board members were elected by secret ballot:

- Mr. Bruce CABARLE,
World Resources Institute, USA
- Prof. A. Ramos de FREITAS,
Brazilian Silviculture Society, Brazil
- Mr. Christopher ELLIOTT,
WWF International, Switzerland
- Dr. Robert HRUBES,
Independent Consultant, USA
- Dr. Dominique IRVINE,
Cultural Survival, USA
- Mr. Antonio JACANAMIJOY,
Organización Nacional Indígena y
COICA, Colombia
- Ms. Marta NUNEZ,
Fundación Natura, Ecuador
- Mr. Juan Carlos RUEDA,
Grupo de Trabalho Amazonica, Brazil
- Mr. Nicanor GONZALEZ,
Pueblo Kuna, Panamá

Principles and Criteria

The Founding Assembly accepted and endorsed the FSC Principles and Criteria (see Table 1) as a working document with the recognition that it still needed further development (particularly Principles 3 and 9). It was agreed that the document in its

present form will not be used for accreditation and that the P&C working group will be charged with continuing their work on the document with the goal of presenting in a period of six months to one year a final version to the membership for ratification.

Table 1: *Principles and Criteria of Natural Forest Management*

Principle #1: Compliance with Laws and FSC Principles

Forest management operations shall respect all applicable laws of the country in which they occur and international treaties and agreements to which the country is a signatory, and comply with all FSC Principles and Criteria.

Principle #2: Tenure and Use Rights

Long-term tenure and use rights to the land and forest resources shall be clearly defined, documented and legally established.

Principle #3: Indigenous Peoples' Rights

The legal and/or customary rights of indigenous peoples to own, use, and manage their lands, territories, and resources shall be recognized and respected.

Principle #4: Community Rights and Relations

Forest management operations shall maintain or enhance the long-term social and economic well-being of forest workers and local communities.

Principle #5: Optimizing Benefits from the Forest

Forest management operations shall encourage the optimal and efficient use of the forest's multiple products and services, in order to ensure economic viability and a wide range of environmental, social and economic benefits.

Principle #6: Environmental Impact

Forest management operations shall maintain the critical ecological functions of the forest and minimize adverse impacts on biological diversity, water resources, soils, non-timber resources, and unique and fragile ecosystems and landscapes.

Principle #7: Management Plan

A management plan consistent with the FSC principles and appropriate to the scale of operations shall be written, implemented and kept up to date, clearly stating the objectives of management, and the means of achieving them.

Principle #8: Monitoring and Assessment

Regular monitoring should be conducted that assesses the condition of the forest, yields of forest products, chain of custody, and management operations and their social and environmental impacts.

Principle #9: Relation between Natural Forests and Plantations

Natural forests should not be replaced by tree plantations. Plantations should complement natural forests and reduce pressure on them.

It was stressed that the burden for input into this process lies with those individuals and organisations who have felt that there has not been enough input into the process.

A New Project to Promote the Availability of Biodiversity Information for East Africa

Biological diversity - the total variety of genes, species and ecosystems in a region - has become a major issue which is being addressed by the conservation community and, more recently, by different levels of government. The involvement of governments was emphasised when over 150 countries signed the Biodiversity Convention at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro.

The current rate of loss of biodiversity has been identified as a key threat to the continued survival of the planet, and suitable means are needed to reverse this downward trend.

Conservation of biodiversity can be accomplished through a process involving:

- Inventory of dataset holdings to determine the current level of knowledge, and to improve the accessibility of these data
- Following this, a strategy for research to enhance this knowledge
- Having identified the gaps, actions needed to conserve biological diversity can then be defined and implemented

A joint IUCN/WCMC project, *Availability of Biodiversity Information for East Africa*, can be regarded as a first step. In essence, this project will establish a "database of datasets", but will not in itself hold raw species/abundance data.

The project objectives are:

- To review the data available globally on the biodiversity of Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda
- to compile a register and develop a database of the sources and types of biodiversity information which are held for East Africa
- to identify gaps in available data in terms of taxonomic and geographic coverage to suggest means of improving the network of institutions and individuals undertaking biodiversity research in East Africa and to facilitate the exchange of technical expertise within this East African network
- to identify future activities to enhance the capacity of East African institutions to manage biodiversity data and update this database.

The expected outputs are:

- directory of data holdings
- database of the sources of biodiversity information
- improved accessibility and mobilisation of data
- information network
- biodiversity information status assessment
- further research strategy
- training in database management

The two main collaborating institutions are the Eastern Africa Regional Office of IUCN and the World Conservation Monitoring Centre. These will be aided by various national institutions in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania.

All organisations both within and outside East Africa holding dataset information on biodiversity for East Africa are asked to participate in a survey with the aim to construct a "data sources" database, based on the findings of this survey. When completed, this database will be made available and accessible to institutions within and outside the region, therein supporting biodiversity initiatives.

For a detailed questionnaire and any further information please contact:

Donald M. Gordon
Project Manager
East Africa Metadatabase Project
World Conservation Monitoring Centre
219c Huntingdon Road
Cambridge CB3 0DL
United Kingdom
Tel: +44 223 277314
Fax: +44 223 277136

Tropical Forest Conservation and Development: On-line Bibliography

The Environmental and Natural Resources Policy and Training Project (EPAT), which is sponsored by USAID and was implemented by the Midwest Universities Consortium for International Activities under the leadership of the University of Wisconsin on behalf of 16 partners, has recently published the first Manual of a Bibliography concerning Tropical Forest Conservation and Development. Contrarily to other bibliographies dealing with this subject the present manual tries to pull together literature from various disciplines taking into account that the conservation and sustainable development of tropical forests is interdisciplinary in nature.

The bibliography is accessible electronically through the Internet. Periodic updates will be provided on-line, using Gopher software at the address MINERVA.FORESTRY.UMN.EDU (port 70). For further information contact:

Jean Albrecht
Librarian
University of Minnesota Forestry Library
B 50 NRAB
2003 Upper Buford Circle
St. Paul, MN 55108
USA
Tel: +1-612-624-27 79
Fax: +1-612-624-87 01

World Press Centre's Forest Service

A great deal of time, money and effort goes into producing and making available press material and public information about tropical forest matters. Yet no one - reporter or researcher - anywhere in the world has easy access to the latest current raw source-material about forest matters when they want it. The World Press Centre (WPC) offers journalists and others the latest current information on forests from official, voluntary, business and research sources as it is issued. WPC's Forests Service offers distribution of material which is essential to those researching or writing about boreal, temperate and tropical forests.

WPC is a multilingual computer clearing house which carries press material and public information on policy subjects like forests, at all levels of government in English, French, Spanish and German. Users get relevant new agenda, news and background material without overload or complex searching. The Forests Service lets sources send material from the computer on which it is written directly to screens of those working on forest stories. Current users include ICSU, World Bank, IIASA, UNEP and the European Commission.

The forest service will focus new policy material on the following issues:

- Land use policies: agriculture, mining, employment, depopulation of the countryside.
- Climate change and deforestation, threats from acid rain, fires, pests and diseases.
- Forest science: social forestry, plantations, reforestation, afforestation and agroforestry.
- International forest agreements: TFAP and ITTO, future, concerns, activities and criticism.
- Sustainable production of tropical timber: management, boycotts, logging practices, labelling schemes.
- Indigenous forest peoples: rights, knowledge, health intellectual property rights.
- National parks: tourism, secondary forest products, road building, mining, oil exploration.
- Wider consequences: poverty, trade, agriculture, migration, third world debt, demography, food security; land tenure, role of women, fuelwood, shelter, desertification, fodder, food, medicines.
- Destruction of watersheds, soil erosion, freshwater supplies, floods, landslides.
- Loss of biological diversity: conservation, flora and fauna, medicinal plants, biotechnology.

Forest-related material is accessible by the country or region to which it relates. For example, researchers (or reporters) will be able to find new and current material about forest issues in Germany, Europe or the EC.

To use WPC, update software and a subscription is needed. Update costs £100+VAT (in the UK) or \$US150 and comes with an introductory offer of three months free use. After such time, single user subscriptions cost £500 or \$US750 a year; less that £10 (\$US15) per week for

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unlimited distribution of and access to new world wide news and policy material about forest affairs.

For more information contact:

World Press Centre

3 Parolles Road

London N19 3RE

Tel: +44-71-263 63 31

Fax: +44-71-281 28 66

*Official Foundation of the
European Forest Institute*

The European Forest Institute (EFI, see *ETFRN Newsletter* No. 3) launched its activities at the beginning of this year and was established as an Association, forming its own legal entity. The official Act of Constitution was signed by twelve founding members from ten European countries in Joensuu, Finland, on 9 September 1993.

The founding members adopted the Institute's bylaws and discussed the plan of action for 1993 - 94, as well as the future research programme.

Research activities were started

The purpose of the European Forest Institute is to undertake research on forest policy, including its environmental aspects, on ecology, multiple use, resources and health of European forests and on the supply of and demand for timber and other forest products, and to prepare forecasts of

future development of the European forest resources and their utilization. In order to meet these aims, among EFI's activities are the development of research methods, compilation and maintenance of data concerning European forests, the organization of scientific meetings as well as forest research training.

Projects will be undertaken on problems of concern to as many countries as possible. Currently the Institute has six ongoing research projects. One of the projects deals with the policy implications of the ECE/FAO Forest Resource Assessment 1990 and will be presented at the Joint Session of the FAO European Forestry Commission and the ECE Timber Committee in Rome, Italy, in October.

Other ongoing EFI projects are on growth trends, carbon balance, undisturbed forests of Europe as well as an EFI forestry data-bank and a study 'Forest Resources in Europe 1950 - 90'.

The number of international researchers working at the Institute is intended to grow gradually to approximately twenty within the next five years. The Government of Finland is financing the Institute to the amount of FIM4.6 mill. (approx. ECU 700,000) next year and will provide substantial support when its activities have reached a stable level. In the future more than half of the research funding is intended to come from other than Finnish sources.

The founding members of the EFI are:

Faculty of Forestry, University of Brno, Czech Republic
Faculty of Forestry, Albert-Ludwigs-University Freiburg, Germany
Forest Research Institute, Hungary
Norwegian Forest Research Institute, Norway
The Forest Research Institute, Poland
National Forest Research Station, Portugal
St. Petersburg Forest Technical Academy, Russian Federation
Swedish University of Agriculture Sciences, Sweden
Institute of Terrestrial Ecology/NERC, United Kingdom
University of Joensuu, Finland
Finnish Forest Research Institute, Finland
Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry, University of Helsinki, Finland

Appointment of the EFI Board

An international Board was selected for the Institute at the constitutive meeting. The members of the Board are:

Professor Per-Ove Bäckström, Sweden
Professor Melvin Cannell, United Kingdom
Vice Rector Vladimir Ivanovich Yagodkin, Russian Federation
Professor Emil Klimo, Czech Republic
Mr. Pekka Patosaari, Finland
Mr. Tim Peck, formerly UN-ECE/FAO
Professor Kazimierz Rykowski, Poland
Professor Raul Albuquerque de Sardinha, Portugal (also ETRFN Node representative for Portugal)
Mr. Ernst Weimann, Germany

Norwegian Director for the Institute

Professor Birger Solberg of Norway was appointed as the first Director of the EFI. He has taken up his duties on 1 October 1993.

Dr. Solberg has extensive international experience, for example from the United States and Kenya as well as by being involved in forestry research round the world for national and international organizations. Dr. Solberg's international experience together with his publications which cover a wide field of the forest sector are highly relevant to the EFI's objectives.

The Board held its first meeting on September 10th, 1993 at which Mr. Tim Peck was elected Chairman and Professor Kazimierz Rykowski Deputy Chairman of the Board. Professor Heinrich Spiecker from the University of Freiburg, Germany, was elected Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board.

Further information can be obtained from:
European Forest Institute
Torikatu 34
SF-80100 Joensuu
Tel: +358-73-12 43 95
Fax: +358-73-12 43 93

Publications

Wood Protection in Tropical Countries

H. Willeitner und W. Liese. 1992. Wood Protection in Tropical Countries: A Manual on the Know-How. Schriftenreihe der GTZ No. 227. GTZ, Eschborn, Germany. 228 pp. ISBN: 3-88085-480-7. ISSN: 0723-9637.

Inspired by a technical-cooperation project with Nigeria on wood research that was phased out in 1982, the book is essentially designed for use in technical-cooperation projects and for wood practitioners in tropical countries; i.e. individuals responsible for implementing and directing wood protection measures or processing large quantities of wood.

Besides discussing the optimal wood-protection methods for tropical countries, this book also covers areas which need to be taken into consideration when using wood protection agents. Since these are mostly chemical substances, great importance is attached to describing the necessary safety measures, environmentally friendly usage and appropriate residue disposal afterwards.

The tropical forests are and will continue to be an indispensable source of raw material for the local population. Large quantities of wood are needed for firewood, house construction and furniture, packaging and

small equipment and tools for local use. The infrastructure also requires considerable quantities of wood; e.g. for railways, electricity and telephone cables, boats and bridges. The aim of this book is to show how industrial timber, one of the forest's most important products, can be used sparingly.

(from the foreword)

Who will save the forests?

T. Banuri and F. Apffel Marglin (eds.). 1993. Who will Save the Forests? Knowledge, Power and Environmental Destruction. UNU/WIDER, Helsinki, Finland, ZED Books, London, U.K. and New Jersey, USA. 195 pp. ISBN: 185649 159 5 Hb. ISBN: 185649 160 9 Pb.

This book examines conflicts over the management of forest resources in various parts of the world, including North America, Europe and the South. It illustrates how the interrelationships between people and their environment differ depending on the knowledge systems of their respective societies. The authors show how Western scientific knowledge, in particular, has been used to marginalize the knowledge and practice of age-old rural communities despite the fact that it is these societies that have managed the environment in sustainable fashion down the centuries.

This argument about the importance of competing systems of knowledge points the way to a profound critique of moderniz-

ation. It also implies that the only truly sustainable development strategy is one that restores the autonomy of local arrangements based on alternative conceptions of reality.

"Who will Save the Forests?" should command the attention of all those - both scholars and practitioners - who understand the importance of social context and the scale of the crisis which contemporary development approaches have caused in both human and environmental terms.
(from the back cover)

The Struggle for Land and the Fate of the Forests

M. Colchester and L. Lohmann (eds.). 1993. *The Struggle for Land and the Fate of the Forests*. World Rainforest Movement. Penang, Malaysia and ZED Books London, U.K. 389 pp.
ISBN: 1-85649-140-4 Pb.
ISBN: 1-85649-139-0 Hb.

Deforestation is caused by 'poverty', 'overpopulation' and 'under-development'. The solutions are therefore obvious - fewer people and more development. This book challenges these assumptions. Deforestation, it argues, is an expression of structural inequalities within tropical countries and in their relations with the industrial North. Throwing aid money into the development pot will only accelerate forest loss if these structural issues are not simultaneously addressed.

Based on six country studies from Latin America, Asia and Africa to illustrate the real complexity of the problem and the diversity of situations that exist, this book shows how land concentration, land speculation and landlessness are the main causes of improvident land use.
(from the back cover)

Neotropical Montane Forests

H. Balslev (ed.). 1993. *Neotropical Montane Forests*. Biodiversity and Conservation. Abstracts from a Symposium held on June 21 - 26, 1993. 114 pp.
ISBN 87-87600-40-4, ISSN 0904-6453

From June 21 - 26, 1993, the Department of Systematic Botany, Aarhus University in collaboration with the New York Botanical Garden organized a 'Neotropical Montane Forest Symposium'. The present publication includes the abstracts of the presentations given at the symposium.

The purpose of the symposium was to document biological and ecological diversity in neotropical wet and moist montane forests and place it in the context with other neotropical areas. Emphasis was given to plants, with regards to taxonomic and ecological richness, threatened and conservation areas of high biodiversity and endemism, the evolution, diversity, speciation, distribution, and biogeography of Andean-centered genera and families.
(from the introduction)

European Tropical Forest Research Network

The following organizations act as National Nodes to the EUROPEAN TROPICAL FOREST RESEARCH NETWORK:

Austria:

- * Institut für Waldökologie, Universität für Bodenkultur Wien, Peter-Jordan-Str. 82, A-1190 Vienna. Tel: +43-1-47 85 45 28, Fax: +43-1-479 78 96, contact: G. Glaser

Belgium:

- * OISBO, p.a. Science Policy Office, Wetenschapstraat 8, B-1040 Brussels. Tel: +32-2-238 34 11, Fax: +32-2-230 89 12, contact: M. Desmet

Denmark:

- * Danish Centre for Tropical Agriculture & Environment, Royal Veterinary University, Rolighedavej 23, DK-1958 Frederiksberg C. Tel: +45-35 28 34 28, Fax: +45-35 28 34 28, contact: K. Bruhn

Finland:

- * University of Helsinki, Dept. of Forest Ecology, Tropical Silviculture, Viikki kottilei 20 SF-00014 University of Helsinki. Tel: +3 58-0-708 56 43, Fax: +3 58-0-708 56 46, contact: M. Kanninen

France:

- * CIRAD-Fordit, 45 bis, Avenue de la Belle Gabrielle, F-84738 Nogent/Marne cedex. Tel: +33-1-43 94 43 62, Fax: +33-1-43 94 43 29, contact: F. Grison

Germany:

- * Bundesforschungsanstalt für Forst- und Holzwirtschaft, Leuschnerstr. 91, D-21031 Hamburg 80. Tel: +49-40-739 62-404, Fax: +49-40-739 62-480, contact: J. Heuveldop

Greece:

- * Directorate of Forest Resource Development, Section of Forest Research, Ippokratous St. 3, GR-10164 Athens. Tel: +30-1-362 12 90, Fax: +30-1-360 71 38, contact: N. Efatakiada

Ireland:

- * Council for Forest Research and Development, Agriculture Building, University College Dublin, Belfield, IRL-Dublin 4. Tel: +353-1-706 77 00, Fax: +353-1-705 11 80, contact: F. Mulloy

Italy:

- * Laboratorio di Botanica, Agraria e Forestale, Dipartimento di Biologia Vegetale, Università di Firenze, Piazzale delle Cascine 38, I-50144 Firenze. Tel: +39-55-36 57 98, Fax: +39-55-36 01 37, contact: C. Lenzi-Grilli

Netherlands:

- * Tropenbos, P.O. Box 2 32, NL-6700 AE Wageningen. Tel: +31-83 70-282 63, Fax: +31-83 70-230 24, contact: E. Lammerts van Bueren

Norway:

- * Norwegian Centre for International Agricultural Development, Agricultural University of Norway, P.O. Box 50 02, N-1432 Aas. Tel: +47-64-94 98 24, Fax: +47-64-94 07 50, contact: E. Stijthoorn

Portugal:

- * Tropical Forestry Center, Tapada da Ajuda, P-1500 Lisbon. Tel: +351-13 97 32 06, Fax: +351-13 97 31 63, contact: R.M. de A. Sardaña

Spain:

- * CICYT, Calle Rosario Finá 14-16, E-28020 Madrid. Tel: +34-1-577 00 98, Fax: +34-1-571 67 81, contact: J. A. Muñoz Delgado

Sweden:

- * Natural Resources Management Institute, Stockholm University, S-10691 Stockholm. Tel: +46-8-16 42 14, Fax: +46-8-16 59 87, contact: M. Kegl

United Kingdom:

- * UK Tropical Forest Forum, c/o Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Richmond, UK-Surrey TW9 3AE. Tel: +44-81-332 62 99, Fax: +44-81-332 92 94, contact: J. Thornback
- * Natural Resources Institute, Central Avenue, Chatham Maritime, UK-Kent ME4 4TB. Tel: +44-834-88 00 88, Fax: +44-834-88 00 86, contact: I. Hunter

Other:

- * Commission of the European Communities, DG XIIIB-4, Rue de la Loi 200, B-1049 Brussel. Tel: +32-2-295 44 84, Fax: +32-2-296 62 62, contact: K. Beeze