

## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

*Greetings from Seoul,  
Republic of Korea!*

First and foremost, I would like to take this opportunity to express my most sincere thanks and gratitude to all members present at this year's Seventh General Assembly. I am most honoured to be elected as Chairman of APAFRI Executive Committee for the next three years.

Allow me also to congratulate and welcome all the members of the new APAFRI Executive Committee 2015-2018: the Vice-chairman Dr Bambang Tri Hartono of Forestry and Environment Research Development and Innovation Agency (FORDA), and members Dr Iwao Noda of Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences (JIRCAS), Prof. Dr Mohamed Zakaria Hussin of University Putra Malaysia, Mr Semi Dranibaka of Fiji Forest Department, Dr B N Mohanty of Indian Plywood Industries Research and Training Institute, Mr Chen Yen-Chang of Taiwan Forestry Research Institute (TFRI) and Dr Zhao Wenxia of Research Institute of Forest Ecology, Environment and Protection (RIFEED-CAF). The Immediate Past Chairman, Dr Abd Latif Mohmod of Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) will also remain in the Executive Committee.

Dr Willie P Abasolo of the College of Forestry and Natural Resources (CFNR-UPLB) and Dr Lee Ying Fah of Forest Research Centre Sabah (FRC), were nominated as the Internal Auditors.



With this well represented team, and the support from the experienced Secretariat staff, I am confident of pushing APAFRI to achieve even greater heights, both in terms of providing better services to the members as well as ensuring sustainability. I would also urge all members to continuously assist us by contributing ideas and suggestions to further improve the services that they expect from APAFRI.

The organization I am representing, the National Institute of Forest Sciences (NIFoS, formerly known as Korea Forest Research Institute (KFRI)) would continue to provide financial support to APAFRI activities for the region. To ensure smooth operation, I welcome FRIM's offer to continue hosting APAFRI Secretariat in FRIM's Kepong campus. Dr Abd Latif Mohmod, Director General of FRIM, has during the General Assembly informed that the recent meeting of the FRIM's governing board has also approved an annual maintenance budget of RM50,000, a five-fold increase from the RM10,000 allocated previously. These are in addition to the in-kind contribution of assigning a senior researcher with an administration assistant to manage the Secretariat, and all other office facilities.

We have also been informed that the present contract of Dr Sim Heok-Choh is expired at the end December 2015, and he does not want to continue on a full-time basis. FRIM has nominated Dr Gan Kee-Seng, currently the Director of Forest Products

Division, to assume the position of Executive Secretary of APAFRI effective 1 January 2016. While we welcome Dr Gan, we are relieved to be informed that Dr Sim would continue to assist the new Executive Secretary for at least several months in 2016 to ensure a smooth transition.

In addition, I would like to remind you that the International Union of Forest Research Organization (IUFRO) Regional Congress for Asia and Oceania will be held in Beijing, China, 24–27 October 2016. The Congress is very meaningful in that it is the very first IUFRO Regional Congress for the Asia-Pacific region. Contributions to the Congress can be in the form of session proposals, which will be accepted by 31 January 2016. Please browse the website [www.iufro-ao2016.org/en](http://www.iufro-ao2016.org/en) for more information. I hope all members will plan to actively participate and contribute to the success of this special Congress in our region.

Last, but not least, on behalf of APAFRI, I would like to extend my thanks to the various agencies for their contributions to support APAFRI's programmes and activities. My special thanks also go to the various national research institutes, universities, forestry agencies and private companies for their contributions to many of APAFRI's activities. Let us all work together to play a greater role in the development of forestry research for the sustainable management of forests in the Asia Pacific region

As we are now approaching the New Year, allow me to take this opportunity to wish all members and friends of APAFRI a prosperous new year in 2016.

With best regards,

**PARK JungHwan**  
Chairman, APAFRI  
December 2015

## New APAFRI Executive Secretary



As of 1 January 2016, **Dr. Gan Kee Seng** from FRIM is joining APAFRI Secretariat as the new Executive Secretary. Dr Gan, currently the Director of Forest Products Division, FRIM, shall oversee the running of the APAFRI Secretariat, and shall be the official signatory for all legal and financial documents.

Dr Gan is to replace Dr. Sim Heok Choh, who has decided to step down after having served as APAFRI Executive Secretary since 2009.

# THE 20TH APAFRI EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

## 20 September 2015

### Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



The Chair welcomed all the Executive Committee members who were present to this meeting on 20 Sep 2015. All the members of the current Executive Committee were present except Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), the Vice-chair. Dr Ashwani Kumar did not get approval in time to attend this meeting.

After the usual reports on activities and finance of APAFRI, there were some discussions on membership fees. While a few thought that the membership fee should be increased, no one had suggested any actions after being told of the difficulties in collecting membership fees.

Dr Sim had reiterated the policy of APAFRI not supporting on-the-ground research project.

However, the Secretariat could assist in putting together proposals for submitting to donor agencies for funding.

The Chairman mentioned that although FRIM is not eligible for reelection as a member of the next APAFRI Executive Committee, FRIM's governing board has agreed to continue hosting the Secretariat if the new Chair has yet to be ready. The DG FRIM has also requested a five-fold increase in maintenance budget for the Secretariat from the present level of RM10 000 per year to RM50 000 per year.

The Chair thanked everyone present for their involvement and contributions to the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 11.30.



## SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

20 September 2015

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



The Seventh General Assembly of the Asia Pacific Association of Forestry Research Institutions (APAFRI) was held on 20 September 2015. Official representatives of 19 member institutions were present at this General Assembly.

The current membership of APAFRI had reached 69 institutional members and 10 affiliate/individual members since it was established 20 years ago. Quite a number of member institutions had never paid membership fees for many years despite regular reminders from the Secretariat. A few had written to the Secretariat that they wished to terminate their membership, while many remained silent. Discounted all these, the current active members totaled 33. The Secretariat has, however continued to list these *non-paying* members in the registry, and had also continued to send them information and publications. Over the years, a few of these *non-paying* members had decided to rejoin for a few years, and later faded away again.



The General Assembly was informed that Korea Forest Research Institute (KFRI) has been a major funder for APAFRI activities during the past several years. KFRI's annual financial contributions had enable APAFRI to provide crucial support to member institutions in organizing activities in the region. The Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM), being the largest funder of APAFRI, has hosted the APAFRI Secretariat since 2000.

During the discussions, several activities which had been planned by various international and regional organizations next year for the Asia Pacific region were mentioned. These include the Third Asia Pacific Forestry Week (APFW) in the Philippines, and the IUFRO Regional Congress, which has been tentatively scheduled to convene in Beijing, 24–27 October 2016.

Dr Abd Latif Mohmod, Director General FRIM, informed the Assembly that the recent meeting of the FRIM governing board has offered to continue hosting APAFRI Secretariat in FRIM's Kepong campus with an annual maintenance budget of RM50 000, a five-fold increase from the RM10 000 previously. These are in addition to the in-kind contribution of assigning a senior researcher with an administration assistant to manage the Secretariat, and all other office facilities.

Before dissolving the present Executive Committee to pave the way for electing the new Executive Committee, the current Chairman, Dr Abd Latif Mohmod, thanked the members for their

contributions and support during the term of office. As a token of appreciation, he presented a pewter plaque to each one of them. In return, the Immediate Past Chair, as represented by Dr NDR Weerawardane, also presented a plaque to Dr Abd Latif Mohmod.



When the General Assembly resumed after a brief coffee break, the current Executive Secretary, proceeded with the election of the new Executive Committee for 2015–2018. The Seventh APAFRI General Assembly had elected KFRI, represented by Dr Park JungHwan, as the Chair for the Executive Committee 2015–2018. The other members are as in the list below.

UPLB and FRC (Sabah) were unanimously elected to be the Internal Auditors 2015–2018.

Dr Park JungHwan thanked the members present for electing KFRI as the Chair of APAFRI Executive Committee 2015–2018. He would urge KFRI management to continue the annual financial contribution to APAFRI, very likely increase substantially with more activities during the coming years. KFRI, however, is not ready to host the Secretariat for the time being, and KFRI accepted FRIM's offer to continue hosting the Secretariat in Malaysia.

Dr Abd Latif Mohmod reiterated that the governing board: the Malaysian Forestry Research and Development Board and FRIM's top management had already approved the continued hosting and further strengthening of the APAFRI Secretariat. However, as the present contract of Dr Sim Heok-Choh is expiring end December, and he does not want to continue on a full-time basis; Dr Gan Kee-Seng, the Director of Forest Products Division, FRIM, would assume the position of Executive Secretary of APAFRI effective 1 January 2016.

Dr Sim Heok-Choh, the current Executive Secretary, expressed his sincere thanks and gratitude to all present for making this General Assembly a very successful and fruitful gathering of members. He also thanked the Immediate Past Chairman for the support that FRIM had rendered to the Secretariat all these years. With these remarks, he declared the Seventh General Assembly of APAFRI adjourned.



## APAFRI EXECUTIVE MEMBERS 2015–2018

Chairman	: <b>Korea Forest Research Institute (KFRI)</b>	 Dr Park JungHwan
Vice Chairman	: <b>Forestry and Environment Research Development and Innovation Agency (FORDA)</b>	 Dr Bambang Tri Hartono
Immediate Past Chairman	: <b>Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM)</b>	 Dato' Dr Abd Latif Mohmod
Committee	: <b>Department of Forestry, Fiji (DF-Fiji)</b>	 Mr Semi Dranibaka
	: <b>University Putra Malaysia (UPM)</b>	 Prof. Dr Mohamed Zakaria Hussin
	: <b>Indian Plywood Industries Research and Training Institute (IPIRTI)</b>	 Dr B N Mohanty
	: <b>Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences (JIRCAS)</b>	 Dr Iwao Noda
	: <b>Taiwan Forestry Research Institute (TFRI)</b>	 Mr Chen Yen-Chang
	: <b>Research Institute of Forest Ecology, Environment and Protection (RIFEEP-CAF)</b>	 Dr Zhao Wenxia
Internal Auditors	: <b>College of Forestry and Natural Resources (CFNR-UPLB)</b>	 Dr Willie P Abasolo
	: <b>Forest Research Centre Sabah (FRC)</b>	 Dr Lee Ying Fah

# INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON LONG-TERM ECOLOGICAL RESEARCH AND SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT

25–28 October 2015

Yanji, China



Forests cover approximately 30% of the Earth's land surface and provide critical ecosystem goods and services, including food, fodder, water, shelter, nutrient cycling, and cultural and recreational value. Forests also store carbon, provide habitat for a wide range of species and help alleviate land degradation and desertification. Forests are composed with biologically diverse systems, however, forests are increasingly threatened as a result of deforestation, fragmentation, climate change and other stressors that can be linked to human activities. Climate change, in particular, is expected to impact on forest biodiversity and the ability of forests to provide soil and water protection, habitat for species and other ecosystem services. Forest ecosystems identified as being particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change (Rio Conventions, 2010). Climate change and forests are intrinsically linked: climate change is a threat to

forests, and protecting forests from conversion and degradation helps mitigate the impacts of climate change. Adaptation strategies are needed to minimize potential negative impacts on the forest ecosystem, from national to regional scales. The complexity of natural and human systems is however a formidable barrier to quantifying climate change impacts and vulnerabilities.

APAFRI, with funding from Korea Forest Research Institute (KFRI), organized a workshop for the Northeast Asian countries, to discuss restoration on degraded forests, national strategy and policy on sustainable forest management, biodiversity conservation, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, and long-term ecological research. Participants from China, Japan, Korea, Mongolia and Russia share their experiences in these areas, and discussed possible collaborative works.

# THE 8TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TRADITIONAL FOREST KNOWLEDGE AND CULTURE IN ASIA: LINKING BIOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY WITH LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT

7–9 November 2015

Nanjing, China

Asia is populated by about half of the world's population, has a vast land area and important centres for culture and biodiversity. Asia has one of the world's highest diversity of ethnicities, languages and cultures. The Asian region is the home of very rich ancient wisdom that had been passed down through the generations, has also two of the ancient civilizations, India and China, with recorded histories that date back many thousands of years. A major portion of this is directly or indirectly linked to its vast stretches of forests, which have been the lifeline for the millions of people living in and around them.

Ecological diversity in Asia is matched with diverse cultural heritages, including forest-related cultures. There is a rich tradition of managing forests, in accordance with traditional religious customs of the local communities, biodiversity conservation and landscape management. People of village groves and community common forests such as the *fengshui* forest in China, *satoyama* in Japan, and *maeulsoop* in Korea, have rich traditional knowledge about forest ecosystems that provide physical, cultural and spiritual amenities. Although most of these age-old techniques and practices had been deemed outdated and no longer relevant to present day forestry, increasingly they are being re-discovered and explored for solving current problems, including loss of biodiversity and degradation of natural resources.

The Asia Traditional Forest-Related Knowledge and Culture Network was informally established during the International Conference on Sustainable Forest Management and Poverty Alleviation: Roles of Traditional Forest-related Knowledge, 17–20 December 2007, in Kunming, China. Since then, several annual conferences had been organized:

1. 5–10 October 2008: hosted by the Korea Forest Research Institute, Seoul National University and the Society of Forest and Culture in Seoul, Korea.
2. 19–24 October 2009: organized by the Kunming Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences on, Kunming China;
3. 14–15 December, 2010: organized by the Research Institute for Humanity and Nature and Kanazawa University, in Kanazawa, Japan;
4. 23–26 November 2011: organized by the Korea Forest Research Institute on Jeju Island;
5. 4–9 November 2011: organized by the Renmin University of China and the Northwest A & F University in Yangling, China;
6. 6–8 November 2013: organized by the Research Institute for Humanity and Nature, Kyoto University at Aya, Japan, and lastly
7. 3–5 October 2014: organized by the Korea Forest Research Institute, Seoul, Korea.

The topic of this year's conference was selected to rediscover and explore traditional forest related knowledge and culture in relation to protection of culture and biodiversity and landscape management. Culture activities and tourism industry based on forests have been developed in Asia, in particular in East Asian countries, and provided many benefits to the local residences and tourists. The conservation and development of biodiversity and cultural values and local community participation is essential for the development of forest culture. The appreciation of rural areas is related not only to intrinsic environmental qualities but also to perceptions about the identity of a place provided by the quality of its landscape. The sense of identity of a place is created by economic, social and cultural aspects through time and space, and it is comprised of meanings often associated with specific landscapes features. The preservation of such features contributes towards higher quality of life for local populations through material and



immaterial means. These features often improve livelihoods, fulfilling their recreational, emotional and spiritual needs, and their sense of identity, while contributing to local economies by attracting visitors seeking the aesthetic and spiritual qualities of the area.

The 8th International Conference on Traditional Forest Knowledge and Culture in Asia - Linking Biological and Cultural Diversity with Landscape Management held in Nanjing, China, 7–9 November 2015, attracted the participation of 54 researchers and academicians from 8 countries with over 30 papers and posters.

The conference, by providing a platform for sharing of information and exchanging experiences related to TFRK in the Asia Pacific region, aims to:

- share information on how traditional forest knowledge and culture links to cultural and biological diversity, and landscape management;
- share information on forest culture related to sustainable forest management and quality of life and wellbeing.

- discuss establishing a regional database of cultural forest heritage; and
- strengthen the regional network of traditional knowledge and culture related to forest and biodiversity, and sustainable development in Asia, and beyond under IUFRO system.

The conference will cover the following specific topics:

- Cultural and spiritual identity of forest-dwelling peoples, and traditional beliefs of their relationship with village common forest lands;
- Values of traditional forest-related knowledge and culture in sustainable forest management and biodiversity conservation;
- Forest landscape for the quality of life and wellbeing;
- Beauty of rural and forest region, and rural homesickness of forest beauty in the rural region in a rapid urbanization era;
- Policies for sustaining and promoting forest-related traditional knowledge and culture in landscape restoration and ecological rehabilitation.

APAFRI, with financial contributions from KFRI, supported nine participants to this conference.



# TRAINING WORKSHOP ON SYSTEMATIC REVIEW IN FOREST SCIENCE

17–19 November 2015

Kepong, Malaysia



APAFRI assisted IUFRO Special programme for Development of Capacities (IUFRO-SPDC) in organizing a workshop in cooperation with the University of Oxford which was held at the Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM). Twenty-five participants from Bangladesh, China, Fiji, India, Malaysia, Nepal and Philippines (11 women and 14 men), learned about the use of systematic reviews and worked in the key steps involved in the systematic review process. Dr. Gillian Petrokofsky, Biodiversity Institute, University of Oxford, UK, who has explored the systematic review process for forest science as part of her research on the quality of evidence for science-policy dialogue and for constructing relevant research agendas, was the facilitator of this workshop.

This training workshop was organized to meet the need for quantitative and qualitative scientific evidence for policy and management which has significantly risen in recent years, as the world is becoming increasingly interlinked with complex problems awaiting adequate policy and management decisions at all levels. This holds also true for the land use sector where forests and trees play key roles in the conservation, restoration and

sustainable management of landscapes, particularly against the backdrop of the most pressing problems in the 21st century such as poverty, food security and sustainable development. In this context, it is important that sufficient evidence is generated from the body of globally available scientific research for the purpose of informing policy decisions and actions about forests and forest-related land-uses.

The participants were exposed to various tools for systematic reviews of forest-related science, including framing answerable questions that address policy and practice concerns; finding the best available evidence to answer the question; recognizing the limitations of available studies and the problem of bias. These were followed by critically appraising the evidence for its validity and usefulness; planning a systematic review process; and devising active dissemination strategies to publicise the review results, aiming to support good decision-making. Using a participatory approach, participants learned how to prepare systematic reviews that assess the evidence base for priority policy and practice questions.

(Adapted from <http://www.iufro.org/science/special/spdc/actproj/twssysrev/>.)

# WORKSHOP FOR ESTABLISHING A REGIONAL TRAINING CENTRE ON FOREST GENETIC RESOURCES

1–3 December 2015

Binzhou City, Shandong Province, China



The workshop, organized by the Chinese Academy of Forestry together with Bioversity International, APAFRI and FAO, was hosted by the China Happy Ecology Industrial Co. Ltd. The three-day workshop was attended by representatives from Chinese Academy of Forestry (CAF), China Happy Ecology Industrial Co. Ltd. (CHE), FAO, APAFRI, Bioversity International, ICRAF Kunming, NIFoS (Korea) and University of the Philippines Los Baños.

After a brief introduction on the purpose and objectives of the workshop, each agency/organization presented their experiences and involvement in activities related to forest genetic resources conservation and sustainable utilization which range from traditional nursery practices, tree improvements, to tissue culture. These agencies and organizations had over the years accumulated fairly extensive experiences which had been compiled into various forms of publications which would be valuable training materials for the proposed training centre.

There were intense discussions focused on:

- Training needs for different target groups: initial emphasis would be for government

officials who are policy and/or decision makers;

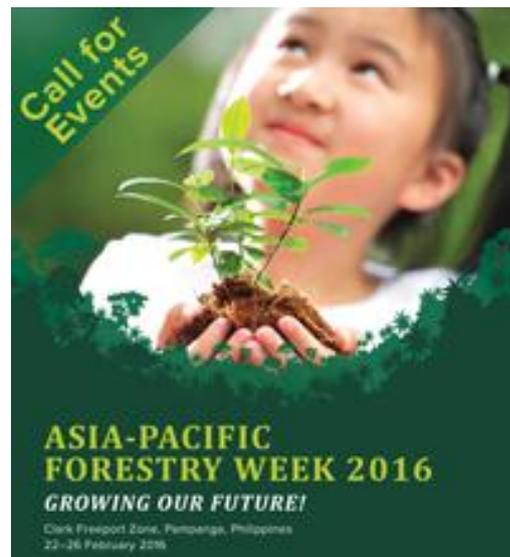
- Funding for the training centre: CHE would provide some core funding, and proposals would be prepared to solicit additional funding from regional/international agencies;
- Training duration and frequency: flexible and would adjust according to responses;
- Trainers and trainees: trainers to be sourced with the assistance of regional/international agencies, and trainees will be from the Asia Pacific region;
- Promotion and communication: CHE assisted by CAF would be responsible in promoting the training centre, and also act as the communication hub.

In addition, the participants were also informed of the coming events in the region which would be good venue for promoting the centre. These include the Asia Pacific Forestry Week in February 2016, in the Philippines; and the also the IUFRO Regional Congress in China, in October 2016. Side events and poster/exhibition could be proposed for these events to raise awareness of the importance of forest genetic resources conservation and sustainable utilization, and also promote the regional training centre.

# ASIA-PACIFIC FORESTRY WEEK (APFW 2016)

22–26 February 2016

Pampanga, Philippines



The APFW 2016 will be the third Asia-Pacific Forestry Week following events held in Hanoi, Viet Nam in April 2008 and Beijing, China in November 2011. Each of these events attracted in excess of 700 participants and encompassed around 40 individual workshops, seminars and other events. APFW 2016 is expected to be an event of similar magnitude.

As in the previous forestry weeks, APFW 2016 will also be supported by many other partners and collaborators including government, civil society, research and capacity-building organizations, private sector, and programme agencies.

FAO and its partners invite people interested, and committed to, sustainable forest management in Asia and the Pacific to come together for one of the largest and most important forestry gatherings in the region in 2016. The 26th Session of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission will be organized in conjunction with the third Asia-Pacific Forestry Week 2016, in Clark Freeport Zone, Philippines, 22-26 February 2016.

The Republic of the Philippines' Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) will co-host the event.

The main theme of APFW 2016 is Growing Our Future! This theme reflects the need for society to proactively integrate forestry into the wider context of sustainable development. The theme also explicitly suggests that forestry should no longer be seen as a separate extractive renewable sector, but rather encompasses a holistic approach to an integrated and sustainable development paradigm, under which economic, social and environmental objectives are equally addressed.

Five sub-thematic streams include:

- Pathways to prosperity: Future trade and markets
- Tackling climate change: challenges and opportunities
- Serving society: forestry and people
- New institutions, new governance
- Our green future: green investment and growing our natural assets

For more information visit: <http://www.fao.org/about/meetings/asia-pacific-forestry-week/en/> or contact [ap-forestry-week@fao.org](mailto:ap-forestry-week@fao.org)



# IUFRO REGIONAL CONGRESS FOR ASIA AND OCEANIA 2016

## FOREST FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: THE ROLE OF RESEARCH

### 24–27 October 2015

### Beijing, China

Asia and Oceania encompass only about one-quarter of the world's land area, but provide home to more than one-half of the world's population. Some of the world's richest and many of its poorest countries are located in the region. Some countries have almost no forests, while others have more than two-thirds of their land covered by forest vegetation. Furthermore, the region includes both some of the world's leading importers and exporters of forest products.

Most countries in this region have experienced extremely rapid social and economic developments and forest changes in recent years. While forest resources have helped to fuel the surging economic development, forests have also suffered greatly from the rapid changes such as deforestation and forest degradation. Expanding populations and greater wealth have led to an increasing demand for wood products and non-timber products, farmland, water resources, electricity from hydro-electric sources, and attractive industrial and residential sites. At the same time, there are urgent needs for the conservation of biological diversity, protection of water and soils, forest-based recreation and ecotourism, and carbon sequestration for mitigating climate change. Across the region, while highly encouraging progress has been made by some countries in moving towards green economies, the transition to more open and flexible market economies has also brought new risks and threats to forest resources, and new resource management regime reforms. Other countries have experienced a privatization trend (e.g., the privatization of most of New Zealand's forest plantations). Meanwhile, reducing deforestation and forest degradation and combating illegal logging form an increasingly important obligation shared by all countries in this region.

The region is also increasingly affected by global climate change, and especially in recent years it has suffered from a series of natural catastrophes due

to extreme weathers, such as the disastrous 2008 ice-storm in China, the 2015 Myanmar floods, frequent typhoons affecting Southeast Asia, and prolonged droughts threatening western, central and northeastern Asia, Australia and New Zealand. Meanwhile, the region is also facing threats by geological hazards and other complex (geological, meteorological) disasters, such as the 2004 Indonesia tsunami, the 2011 Japan earthquake and tsunami with subsequent nuclear accident, and the 2015 Nepal earthquake and consequent landslides. These disasters have not only destroyed lives, properties and the environment, but have also robbed those who survived of their homelands. Consequences of natural calamities have been particularly severe for the many victims of natural calamities who live in rural mountainous areas. Therefore, research on multipurpose forestry development, forestry mitigation and adaption to climate change is urgently needed. Similarly, research on restoring biodiversity and rehabilitating degraded forest ecosystems to enhance forest ecosystem services across scales to improve rural mountainous people's livelihoods and living environment, and promote green economies, is an absolute necessity.

The IUFRO Regional Congress for Asia and Oceania 2016 aims at reaching a common understanding about the status and trends of forests and the consequent research needs towards sustainable forestry development under such changes. It also aims at generating research synergies for well-informed policy and decision making to meet the forest governance and management demands in the transition period.

#### Themes

1. Sustainable forest management for enhanced provision of ecosystem services;
2. Forest and landscape rehabilitation and restoration;

3. Combating desertification, disaster and risk management, and climate change mitigation and adaptation;
4. Planted forests for fostering a greener economy;
5. Innovative technologies for bio-energy, bio-materials and other products;
6. Urban forestry for human health and community well-being;
7. Social and cultural aspects of forests, including traditional knowledge, human health, community participation and gender roles;
8. Forest and agro-forest management for food security, enhanced livelihoods and non-timber forest products.

**IUFRO-AO2016 Secretariat**

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(Adapted from the official website: [www.iufro-ao2016.org](http://www.iufro-ao2016.org))

## Activities Organized/ Participated by APAFRI in 2015

Date	Activity	Venue
2–4 February	Workshop on ‘Documenting Traditional Forest-related Knowledge for Ecosystem Services in ASEAN Countries’	Kuala Lumpur
22 March – 2 April	Eighth Executive Forest Policy Course	Naypyidaw, Myanmar
25 May	International Forestry Education Workshop 2015	Serdang, Selangor, Malaysia
25–28 May	Regional Workshop on Establishing Cross-References on Wood Products Quality Assessments and Standard Testing Among ASEAN Member States	Kuala Lumpur
5 – 6 August	Eleventh Meeting – APFC Executive Committee	Bangkok, Thailand
11 – 15 Oct	Sixth International Wildland Fire Conference	Pyeongchang, Korea
21 – 22 Oct	International Conference of Indonesia Forestry Researchers	Bogor, Indonesia
26 – 29 Oct	International Workshop on Long-term Ecological Research and Sustainable Forest Management	Yanji, China
7 –9 November	International Conference on Traditional Forest-related Knowledge	Nanjing, China
1 – 2 Dec	Workshop on Preparation of Regional Training Centre on Forest Genetic Resources	Binzhou, China



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

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