CHAIRMAN’S MESSAGE

Greetings from Kuala Lumpur!

I am proud to announce that APAFRI had gone through another year with numerous sparkling achievements in 2010. Among the highlights are its highly prominent presence during the IUFRO World Congress 2010 in Seoul; successful completion of the ITTO Project on forest genetic resources; training workshop in Coimbatore, India; and the Asia Pacific Symposium on Vulnerability Assessments in Manila, the Philippines.

APAFRI has been very active in IUFRO, and has participated in all World Congresses since APAFRI’s establishment in 1995: Kuala Lumpur 2000, Brisbane 2005, and again in Seoul 2010. For this year’s IUFRO World Congress, the Secretariat staff assisted IUFRO Special Programme for Developing Countries (SPDC) in conducting four training workshops with two training modules in the Forest Human Resources Development Institute, Namyangju City (near Seoul), the week before the Congress.

As an activity under the ITTO Project on forest genetic resources, APAFRI organized a side-event on Asia Pacific forest genetic resources as well as setting up a booth in the trade and exhibition displaying posters and distributing publications during the Congress. The Executive Secretary also assisted in moderating a sub-plenary session and a technical session on forest genetic resources. In addition, APAFRI had supported the participation of a number of young scientists from this region to the event and has been recognized as a sponsor in the Scientist Assistance Programme of the Congress.

The APAFRI Secretariat, prompted by me, had in December 2010, published a book on APAFRI in commemoration of its 15 years of existence. Established during the Meeting of the Heads of Asia Pacific Forestry Research Organizations, Bogor, Indonesia in 1995; APAFRI has since then, more than sailing through the numerous changes that challenged its very existence. It has, instead grown and matured to its present status of being widely recognized as an active network of forestry researchers for the Asia and the Pacific.

As the Director General of the Forest Research Institute Malaysia, FRIM, which has been hosting the APAFRI Secretariat at its main campus in Kepong since 2001, and also Chairman of the current APAFRI Executive Committee, I am delighted to see the successful compilation of the short but illustrious history of APAFRI in a single volume. This pictorial compilation, just came off the press, records the events and activities of APAFRI during the past one-and-a-half decades. It chronicles the involvements of APAFRI in forestry research in the Asia and Pacific region, as well as its participations in various international forums often in the capacity as the Asia and Pacific representative. This compilation, for various reasons, is far from complete or accurate. It is however, a first attempt in documenting APAFRI’s activities and events in serving the forestry fraternity for the Asia Pacific region during the past 15 years. It is my sincere hope that, the publishing of this current volume could induce and attract contributions towards the compilation of another more enhanced volume in the near future.

In October, the building housing the Secretariat of APAFRI - Wisma APAFRI was officiated in a simple yet solemn ceremony. The occasion was graced by the presence of one of the past Chairmen, Tan Sri Dr Salleh Mohd Nor; as well as colleagues from Bioversity International and FRIM. Keeping up with the promise of
continuing the hosting of APAFRI Secretariat, FRIM had spent more than USD50 000 in converting two adjoining units of disused staff quarters into Wisma APAFRI. Besides having sufficient rooms for the whole Secretariat staff, the new premises also have rooms for meeting and storing of the many publications that APAFRI had produced as well as collected over the years.

In closing, on behalf of APAFRI, I would like to extend our thanks to the various agencies for their continued support to APAFRI’s programmes and activities. I am especially grateful to the Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore, India, which hosted a training workshop on forest genetic resources in July; and the Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau (ERDB) of the Philippines for hosted the Asia Pacific Symposium on Vulnerability Assessments in December. With its small staff of only four persons, APAFRI Secretariat would not be able to organize any activities without the assistance of member organizations. It is my sincere hope that more of our member institutions could assist us in hosting and organizing activities in the future.

Allow me also to take this opportunity to wish all our members, colleagues and friends a prosperous and happy New Year in 2011!

With best regards,

Abd Latif Mohmod
Chairman, APAFRI

December 2010

**APAFRI – halfway through its second decade**

This pictorial compilation of APAFRI’s many achievements, activities and events during its first one-and-a-half decades was prompted by a suggestion from the current Chairman, Dato’ Dr Abd Latif Mohmod, Director General of Forest Research Institute Malaysia. Ms Syuqiyah Abdul Hamid, APAFRI’s Information Officer, inspired by the idea, spent several months going through numerous old dusty files and gathered the many faded photographers, for this compilation.

The APAFRI Secretariat had also sent out a few rounds of emails seeking contributions of materials: notes, photographs and pamphlets from colleagues who had been actively participated in APAFRI activities and events. These attempts however, were met with little success. This compilation, therefore, is far from complete or accurate. It is however, a first attempt in documenting APAFRI’s activities and events in serving the forestry fraternity for the Asia Pacific region during the past 15 years. With the publishing of this current volume, APAFRI Secretariat hope to induce and attract contributions towards the compilation of another more enhanced volume in the near future.

(From the epilogue of the book)
This Project responded to a need expressed by APAFRI members to increase information exchange and national capacity in rapidly developing scientific and technical areas, such as biodiversity assessment and conservation methodologies. The was also a follow-up to a recommendation by the Southeast Asian workshop on forest genetic resources (FGR), held in Thailand in 2001, which specifically recommended that International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (IPGRI) currently known as Bioversity International, in collaboration with APAFRI, should take a leading role in developing a regional programme to strengthen work on conservation and sustainable use of FGR in the region.

Several countries in the Asia Pacific region have already taken steps to implement sustainable forest management in practice and there was a need to promote conservation and management of FGR per se within this process. The Project focused on strengthening information sharing and national capacity on conservation and sustainable use of FGR in seven countries in tropical Asia: Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines and Thailand.

Originally approved for three years starting from February 2006 till January 2009, the Project executed by FRIM in technical collaboration with APAFRI and IPGRI, was allocated USD343 400 by ITTO. By the end of 2008 when most of the project activities were completed, there was a balance of funds which prompted FRIM to request for extension with no additional funding. There were also strong support that regional mechanism, such as APFORGEN, should continue to play the leading and coordinating role in developing and subsequently executing project activities.

Forestry professionals in the region had recommended that this project should be continued with an expanded scope to address emerging issues such as impacts of climate change on FGR. In addition, participation in this Project should be extended to other countries in the Asia Pacific region, including non ITTO member countries.

With the successful completion of the Project, all the originally planned and also a number of additional activities had been executed, and the objectives were considered satisfactorily achieved. The Project had organized a number of regional meetings and training workshops, including one international symposium, and had published five proceedings/reports. The intended situation after project completion originally postulated had generally achieved with enhancements in various aspects such as capacity and capability, awareness, commitments, and information sharing and exchange.

Outputs:

- An introductory meeting of the NFP on this Project was held in conjunction with the Asia Pacific Forest Genetic Resources Programme (APFORGEN) National Coordinators’ Meeting, in Dehradun, 15–16 April 2006.
- A Mid-term Review was conducted in Bogor, 5–7 September 2007.
- Three FGR training Workshops:
  - Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 11–16 June 2007
  - Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 7–11 July 2008
  - Coimbatore, India, 5–9 July 2010
- National workshops were organized by the NFPs in the seven participating countries:
  - Philippines – 6 February 2007
  - Indonesia – 1 March 2007
  - India – 11 July 2007
  - Cambodia – 12 February 2008
  - Myanmar – 26 February 2008
  - Thailand – 12 March 2008, and
- International symposium on forest genetic resources, Kuala Lumpur, 5–8 October 2009
- A side-event on FGR in Asia and the Pacific during the XXIII IUFRO World Congress 2010 and also poster display (national posters of the seven participating countries).
The Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore, coorganized the Training Workshop on Conservation and Management of Forest Genetic Resources from 5–9 July 2010, with Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM), APAFRI, and Bioversity International. The International Timber Trade Organization (ITTO) funded this workshop which was organized as an activity under the ITTO Project PD/199/03 Rev.3(F): Strengthening National Capacity and Regional Collaboration for Sustainable Use of Forest Genetic Resources in Tropical Asia.

The workshop was inaugurated by Dr. P.A. Azeez, Director, Salim Ali Centre for Natural History and Ornithology, Coimbatore. Dr. Abd. Latif Mohmod, Director General, Forest Research Institute, Malaysia welcomed the participants. Dr. N. Krishna Kumar, Director, IFGTB gave the keynote address. Twenty-one researchers/foresters from seven countries participated in the Workshop: India – six, Cambodia – three, Indonesia – three, Malaysia – three, Myanmar – two, Philippines – one, and Thailand – three.

The Training Workshop was conducted by resource persons drawn from several research institutions and universities, as well as from IFGTB and FRIM.

Field visit to Anamalai Tiger Reserve, Tamilnadu; and Parambikulam Wildlife Sanctuary, Kerala; was organized on 7 July. The Field Director, Anamalai Tiger Reserve and the Wildlife Warden, Parambikulam Wildlife Sanctuary addressed the participants on various issues concerning management of wildlife and Forest Genetic Resources. The participants visited the Seed Production Areas of teak established by the forest departments in collaboration with IFGTB and also the largest standing teak tree “Kannimara”.

(For more details, browse www.apforgen.org)

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Project Completion Report
PD/199/03 Rev.3(F)
Strengthening National Capacity and Regional Collaboration for Sustainable Use of Forest Genetic Resources in Tropical Asia

For copies write to: syuqiah_apafri@frim.gov.my

International Symposium on Forest Genetic Resources
Conservation and Sustainable Utilization towards Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

Extended Abstracts
Editors: Sim H.C., Hong L.T. and Jalonen R.
SECOND ANALYTICAL WORKSHOP ON DYNAMIC PLOT DATABASE APPLICATION AND TOOL DESIGN
18-23 July 2010, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

The “Second Analytical Workshop on Dynamic Plot Database Application and Tool Design” was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 18-23 July. APAFRI generously covered all participants’ local costs during this five-day workshop which brought together 25 scientists and information managers from the Centre for Tropical Forest Science (CTFS), East Asia Pacific-ILTER and the US LTER to collaboratively analyze long-term datasets collected by CTFS while monitoring forest plots in China-Taipei, Malaysia, Singapore, Panama, Japan, Puerto Rico and the US. The workshop had two major goals:

1. To “field-test” advanced informatics tools and approaches built around the Ecological Metadata Language (EML), the “R” statistical language, and the Kepler Scientific Workflow System
2. To attempt comparative ecological analyses of data from multiple international plots to identify broad patterns

The workshop provided hands-on training on how to use the three informatics tools to Malaysian scientists engaged in the Malaysian Ecological Research Network (MyERNET). This initiative by the Forestry Research Institute of Malaysia is using metadata-based approaches pioneered by the Partnership for Biodiversity Informatics (which includes the US LTER) to increase data archiving and reuse. Besides the formal workshop sessions, the organizers had also arranged a two-day field trip to Pasoh Forest, which is the oldest-mapped large forest plot (50 ha) in Asia with a very large and sophisticated forest flux tower and canopy walkway. The participants also visited the new National Botanical Garden and enjoyed a traditional Malaysian dinner at a museum.

(Adapted from a report prepared by Fatin Laily Ghazali (fatinlaily@frim.gov.my))

REGIONAL RATTAN CONFERENCE
29 August – 1 September 2010, Makati City, Philippines

The Regional Rattan Conference was conducted on 29 August to 1 September 2010 at Dusit Thani Hotel, Ayala Centre, Makati City, Philippines. It was organized by the Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau (ERDB) in collaboration with Forest Products Research and Development Bureau (FPRDI) and the University of the Philippines Los Baños College of Forestry and Natural Resources (UPLBCFNR). It was co-sponsored by the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), Foreign Assisted and Special Projects Office of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), International Network on Bamboo and Rattan (INBAR) and the Asia Pacific Association of Forestry Research Institutions (APAFRI). This regional conference is the culminating activity of the ITTO-Philippines-ASEAN Rattan Project [ITTO PD 334/05 Rev. 2 (I)]. It aimed to provide venue for sharing successful strategies especially on pilot demonstration establishment involving communities, villages and government agencies. The outputs of the eight research studies under the Rattan Research Grant Program (RRGP) of this project and the research gaps and other researchable areas on rattan production aspects and utilization technologies were also discussed. In addition, it provided opportunity to present the strength and weaknesses in the project implementation, insights and experiences.

The Conference was attended by a total of 36 participants composed of the following: ASEAN Contact Persons and Project Leaders coming from five ASEAN member countries: Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar,
Philippines and Thailand; Project Steering Committee (PSC) Members; Resource and Guest Speakers; and Project Staff. Dr. John Dransfield, an Honorary Research Fellow at Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, and Dr. Florentino O. Tesoro, Technical Consultant of the ITTO-Philippines-ASEAN Rattan Project were the resource persons with presentations “How many rattans are there?” and “Rattan RDE Directions for the Next Decade”. Gracing the opening of the training were Hon. Manuel D. Gerochi, Undersecretary for Staff Bureaus and Project Management of the DENR; Dr. Coosje Hoogendoorn, the Director General of INBAR; and Mr. Li Qiang, ITTO representative. Rationale of the Conference was discussed by Dr. Lapis while Dr. Armando M. Palijon presented the composition of the participants. Highlights of the Conference include the presentations of the country reports on the pilot demonstration establishment by the respective ASEAN Contact Persons; results and outputs of the researches conducted under the RRGP by the respective Project Leaders; “Experiences in the Establishment of Rattan Pilot Demonstration in Southeast Asia”; an Assessment Report of the ITTO-Philippines-ASEAN Rattan Project; as well as discussion of the sustainability of the project through the concept proposal titled “Small-hold Rattan-based Enterprise Development in Asia and the Pacific”. A declaration of commitment of the Participating SEA Member Countries on Sustainability of Rattans in the Region 2010 was signed by rattan scientists, professionals and practitioners. Another highlight of the Conference was the launching of the books on rattans namely “A Field Guide to Philippine Rattans” and “The ASEAN Rattans” authored by Dr. Aida B. Lapis and Dir. Marcial C. Amaro, Jr., respectively. The Rattan ASEAN database was also presented during the Conference.

(Adapted from a report prepared by Dr. Aida B. Lapis (acbl2002@yahoo.com))

TRAINING COURSE ON IDENTIFICATION AND TAXONOMY OF SOUTH EAST ASIAN FIREFLIES
27-31 July 2010, Selangor, Malaysia

In 2008, the Queen Sirikit’s Botanic Garden Organization and the Committee for the Fireflies in Thailand Project organised the 1st International Firefly Symposium in Chiang Mai, Thailand. The Second Firefly Network Meeting was held in conjunction with the symposium, and the meeting formally decided that it would be beneficial to hold a symposium every two years. Malaysia was voted as the host for the 2nd International Firefly Symposium to be held in 2010.

The 2nd International Firefly Symposium 2010 coincided with the 25th anniversary of the Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) and the 70th anniversary of the Malaysian Nature Society (MNS), both of which were organisers of the symposium. It was also being organised in conjunction with activity commemorating the International Year for Biodiversity 2010 and was in Selangor, a state in Malaysia where the heart of the firefly ecotourism lies.

In conjunction with the Second International Firefly Symposium 2010, a training course was conducted on Identification and Taxonomy of South East Asian Fireflies. The 5-day course was hosted in Forest Research Institute Malaysia on 27-31 July 2010 where APAFRI is one of the sponsors to this event.

A total of 20 participants from Hong Kong, Malaysia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and USA were introduced to identification and taxonomy of the South East Asian firefly by two renowned taxonomists: Dr. Lesley Ballantyne, from Charles Sturt University, Australia; and Dr. Jeng Ming-Luen, from the Taiwan National Museum of Natural Sciences. The knowledge of taxonomy and identification is important, especially to identify the diversity of the firefly species in this region and the knowledge acquired will help in conservation efforts of the fireflies in South East Asia.

(Adapted from a report prepared by Nur Zati Akma Mustafa (nurzatiakma@frim.gov.my))
The importance of FGR conservation continues to be recognized in many countries of the Asia Pacific region

Between 2006–2010, national capacities in sustainable use of forest genetic resources and regional collaboration between APFORGEN countries were supported by a project titled “Strengthening national capacity and regional collaboration for sustainable use of forest genetic resources in tropical Asia. The project was funded by the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), and jointly implemented by the Asia Pacific Association of Forestry Research Institutions (APAFRI) and Bioversity International, with Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) as the executing agency. Seven APFORGEN network member countries participated in this project.

Countries organized national coordinators meetings, several national consultative workshops, trainings as well as international symposium. Project activities concluded in 2010 with a training workshop on conservation and management of FGR in Coimbatore, India, July 2010, which was jointly organized with Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (IFGTB). Several proceedings from the national coordinators meetings and consultative workshops were also published.

The national focal points from the seven participating countries also had the opportunity to attend the XXIII IUFRO World Congress, Seoul, August 2010, and to participate in a side-event on Asia Pacific Forest Genetic Resources. Valuable experiences were learned from the keynote presentations of internationally renowned experts. The scientific programmes were also a platform for exchanging of information, making contacts with fellow researchers and building partnership for research projects. The side event was an opportunity for the seven national focal points to present their status updates, outputs and achievements from the project. Focal points also highlighted the recent initiatives for improving conservation and sustainable use of FGR, new initiatives on development of legal and policy framework, institutional arrangements, research and conservation activities, and information management approaches.

Enthusiasm for continued regional collaboration reaffirmed

The results of a recent survey conducted among the APFORGEN national coordinators indicated that participation in the project had clearly strengthened the national FGR programmes through sharing experiences and good practices, and provision of scientific information.

Lack of scientific information on genetic resources continued to be viewed as a main constraint for sustainable use of the resources. Lack of interaction with policy-makers within and outside of the forestry sector was also mentioned as constraints by several countries. To overcome the challenges, the countries saw further strengthening of the national programmes, and development of joint activities on common priority species as the most important objectives for the future work. There was also considerable interest for collaborative research on e.g. vulnerability of forests under climate change.

More information on APFORGEN, including publications and a detailed presentation of the survey results are available at APFORGEN's website at www.apforgen.org

(Adapted from a report prepared by Choo Kwong Yan (k choo@cgiar.org))
APAFRI’s presence at the

**XXIII IUFRO World Congress 2010, Seoul, Korea**

**Pre-congress workshops, 16 – 20 August 2010**

During the week before the XXIII World Congress, the Special Programme for Developing Countries (IUFRO-SPDC) of the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) organized four topical workshops at the Forest Human Resources Development Institute, Namyangju City in the suburb of Seoul. The workshops were designed to cover the following four topics:

- a. forests and climate change;
- b. traditional forest knowledge;
- c. forests and water interactions; and
- d. forests and human health.

Each topical workshop is complemented by two additional training modules, one on science-policy interfacing and one on information management.

APAFRI, being the Asia Pacific Chapter of IUFRO, and its Executive Secretary the Asia Pacific Coordinator of IUFRO-SPDC, assisted in running the Workshop Secretariat and handling the logistics during the week. Ms Syuqiyah Abdul Hamid, APAFRI’s Information Officer, with her many years’ involvement and contributions to IUFRO’s Global Forestry Information System (GFIS), was a resource person sharing her experiences in the information management module.

**APAFRI booth at the XXIII IUFRO World Congress Trade and Exhibition**

APAFRI has set up a booth during the week-long XXIII IUFRO World Congress. On display were posters about APAFRI, the national posters from the seven participating countries of the ITTO Project on forest genetic resources, as well as publications and brochures produced by APAFRI. APAFRI has shipped over 300 kg of materials for display and distribution.
APAFIGR, in technical collaboration with Bioversity International, organized a side-event for the ITTO Project on forest genetic resources. The project implemented by the Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) has contracted APAFRI to carry out some of the project activities such as conducting training courses and workshops. The representatives of all the seven participating countries presented their status reports in this side-event after the opening by the Director General of FRIM, who is also the current Chair of APAFRI Executive Committee. The side-event concluded with several recommendations for sustaining activities initiated by this project in the participating countries, and also extending to others in the Asia Pacific region. The project provided the financial support for the participation of the seven national representatives to the XXIII IUFRO World Congress.

Side-event

23-26 August 2010

APAFIGR, in technical collaboration with Bioversity International, organized a side-event for the ITTO Project on forest genetic resources. The project implemented by the Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) has contracted APAFRI to carry out some of the project activities such as conducting training courses and workshops. The representatives of all the seven participating countries presented their status reports in this side-event after the opening by the Director General of FRIM, who is also the current Chair of APAFRI Executive Committee. The side-event concluded with several recommendations for sustaining activities initiated by this project in the participating countries, and also extending to others in the Asia Pacific region. The project provided the financial support for the participation of the seven national representatives to the XXIII IUFRO World Congress.

Technical sessions

The programme of the week-long World Congress included a sub-plenary session on Conservation and sustainable use of forest genetic resources and a technical session on Advances in the conservation and management of forest genetic resources. The Executive Secretary was the moderator for the sub-plenary session, and APAFRI assisted in compiling all the presentation materials onto compact disc.
Education leaders, researchers, educators, students and forestry practitioners gathered during the International Conference on Forestry Research and Education held on November 23-26, 2010 at the Umali Auditorium, Southeast Asian Regional Center for Agriculture and Graduate Studies (SEARCA), College, Laguna, Philippines.

There were a total of 137 participants from Malaysia, Nepal, India, Indonesia, Iran, United States of America, Korea, Bangladesh, Japan, Belgium, Malawi, Papua New Guinea, Vietnam and the Philippines. The following themes made up the parallel sessions: current developments in forestry research; continuing developments in forestry education; advancing the forestry education and profession; forests and climate change; and forestry education and research interface. The guests and participants were welcomed by the UPLB Chancellor, Dr. Luis Rey I. Velasco, who shared UPLB’s experience in implementing its forestry program and expressed the need to re-orient the forestry and agriculture programs to be more responsive to the current needs of the country and in the region. He also posed the following challenges: promote integration vs specialization, revise or change the curriculum to address market demands; investments in forestry education; collaborative partnership; and the need for forestry policy and advocacy. Forester Neria Andin, Assistant Director of the Forest Management Bureau, delivered the message for the Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). The message emphasized the significance of forestry education in the extension services and capacity building towards the protection and sustainability of forest management efforts. She also highlighted the role of (DENR) in ensuring sustainable forest management through the legislative agenda, where forestry education is one of the components. The FMB Assistant Director shared the need for continuing excellence in forestry education, responsive and relevant research and development programs with support from the scientific community, but without disregarding the local knowledge; and public-private partnership. Finally, Director Andin shared the recommendations that were proposed during the recent senior officials’ meeting which focused on the following themes: climate change and REDD, development of herbal/medicinal plants and institutional forest policies and processes.

The keynote speakers were Dr. Hendryanto, the Dean of the Forestry Faculty of the Institut Pertanian Bogor; Dr. Manuel Guariquata, principal scientist at CIFOR; Dr. Rex Victor O. Cruz, Dean of the College of Forestry and Natural Resources, University of the Philippines Los Baños; Dr. Rodel Lasco, Country Coordinator of ICRAF Philippines; Dr. Don Koo Lee, Professor at the Seoul National University; Dr. Bessie Burgos, Manager, Project Development and Management Department, Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture and Dr. Youquing Luo, Vice President of the Beijing Forestry University, China. During the parallel
sessions there were a total of 39 presentations from the various speakers. After the two day conference, the participants prepared and agreed on a Declaration which includes the following:

1) Review the status of forestry education in universities and institutions with the active participation of stakeholders across the Asia-Pacific region and assess how they can best meet the emerging challenges of sustainable forest management, including sustaining or developing the capacity to deliver sufficient graduates equipped with the competencies required to make sustainable forest management a reality.

2) Formulate and develop a Strategic Framework for Forestry Education and Research Agenda for the Asia-Pacific Region.

3) Call on the government and influence multilateral agencies, intergovernmental bodies and private institutions to provide the resources and investment for the required changes in the forestry education and research.

4) Support the development of a network in forestry education among Asia-Pacific universities as a key organization in advancing Forestry Education and Research in the region in partnership with other relevant regional organization and networks.

5) Develop strong collaboration among the forestry education and research institutions (e.g. faculty and researchers exchanges within and across disciplines in natural resources) towards contribution to sustainable forest management in the Asia-Pacific Region.

(Adapted from a report prepared by Dr. E. Tolentino (eltolentinojr@gmail.com))

SECOND ASIA PACIFIC FORESTRY SECTOR OUTLOOK STUDY
(APFSOS II)
14 December 2010, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

The Second Asia Pacific Forestry Sector Outlook Study (APFSOS II) was initiated in 2006 under the auspices of Asia Pacific Forestry Commission (APFC). The wide ranging study was to provide an overview of status and trends in the forestry sector and also to highlight issues that will shape the future of forestry in the region.

A launching event was organized in Kuala Lumpur on 14 December 2010 to share the views and insights from a series of 20 thematic study reports and 28 country outlook reports. This event was attended by representatives from various forestry agencies including NGOs and individuals active in forestry sector. FAO Officers Simmathiri Appanah and Jeremy Broadhead chaired the event. The launching of reports was preceded by three presentations:

1. The Outlook for Forestry in Asia-Pacific Region – Simmathiri Appanah
2. The Outlook for Forestry in Southeast Asia to 2020 – Jeremy Broadhead
3. An Outlook of Malaysian Forestry Sector in 2020 – Forest Department Peninsular Malaysia

Dato’ Razani Ujang, Director General Forest Department Peninsular Malaysia, also the Vice-chairperson of Asia

Pacific Forestry Commission, launched five volumes of the APFSOS II reports:

1. Asia-Pacific Forests and Forestry to 2020
2. Forest policies, legislation and institutions in Asia and the Pacific: Trends and emerging needs for 2020
3. Southeast Asia Subregional Report
4. East Asia Subregional Report
5. Malaysia Forestry Outlook Study

(For more details, contact Patrick Durst (Patrick.Durst@fao.org))
During recent years, natural disasters – typhoons, rain and snow storms, and drought – had been reported to increase both in terms of magnitude and frequency. These together with the extreme weathers – exceptionally hot summers and severe winters, have been attributed to effects of climate change. Climate change and climate variability are projected to have profound effects and impacts not only in forestry, agriculture and environment but also in almost all areas of life or sectors of the economy. On the other hand, population growth and fast economic development experienced in many countries had contributed to increasing anthropogenic disturbances in various ecosystems which compounded the problem and causing damages which may require many years to rehabilitate.

Increasingly, countries are enhancing their disaster management capacity and capability incorporating more advanced technology to improve the knowledge and/or response to natural disasters. For sustainable development of an area, identification of the most frequent hazards plays vital role in assigning development and rehabilitation priorities. Vulnerability assessment therefore can be effectively utilized in the planning for sustainable development of an area, conserving its natural resources and possibly “climate change proofing” of ecosystems.

A symposium was held from December 7-10, 2010 in Traders Hotel Manila, Philippines to further enhance the capability and capacity of participants in conducting vulnerability assessment of various ecosystems. The symposium was an initiative of the International Union of Forest Research Organization (IUFRO). It was being organized by Asia-Pacific Association of Forest Research Institutions (APAFRI) in technical collaboration with the Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) and the Korea Forest Research Institute (KFRI) and hosted by the Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau (ERDB) of the Philippines.

The symposium was attended by 45 participants from 14 countries, of which half were from outside the Philippines. A total of 24 technical papers including 2 plenary papers were presented during the two-and-a-half-day symposium covering the following themes:

1. Vulnerability Assessment: Application and Models,
2. Vulnerability Assessment of Coastal Zones, and
3. Vulnerability Assessment of Watersheds.

(Adapted from a report prepared by Dr. Antonio Daño (tonydanolb@yahoo.com))

NEW PUBLICATION

IUFRO World Series Volume 27

Asia and the Pacific Forest Product Workshop

Green Technology for Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

Editor: Sim Heok-Choh

For copies write to: syuqiah_apafri@frim.gov.my
At its Eleventh Session in June 2007, the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGRFA) acknowledged the urgency to conserve and sustainably utilize forest genetic resources. The Commission requested that a State of the World’s Forest Genetic Resources (SOW-FGR) report be prepared and presented to the Commission at its Fourteenth Session, in 2013. At its Nineteenth Session (March 2009), the Committee on Forestry discussed and supported the preparation of the SOW-FGR, urging member countries to collaborate with FAO and partner organizations in producing the Report.

The SOW-FGR will be prepared through a country-driven approach. The primary source of data and information for the preparation of the report will be Country Reports on the State of Forest Genetic Resources (FGR). FAO invited member countries to designate National Focal Points (NFP) for the preparation of Country Reports on the State of Forest Genetic Resources. NFPs would serve as the main contact points for FAO during the SOW-FGR preparatory process. Guidelines for the preparation of Country Reports on the State of FGR were made available to countries. The Country Reports should be submitted preferably by July 2011.

The objectives of the workshop are:

- To support the Asian countries National Focal Points in the preparation of their respective Country Reports on the State of FGR.
- To provide the opportunity for participants to discuss and exchange information on importance FGR and their current programmes on their conservation, management and use.

The workshop will bring together the National Focal Points, designated by their Governments to prepare the Country Reports on the State of FGR, from Asian countries including Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, PR China, India, Indonesia, Japan, DPR Korea, Republic of Korea, Lao PDR, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor Leste and Vietnam. The preparation of these reports is an opportunity to review the status, trends, needs and priorities in FGR conservation and management in the countries, to define or update national FGR strategies and programs. NFPs are requested to prepare, as far as possible, first drafts of their Country Reports before the workshop. The workshop will be an opportunity to share experiences, discuss difficulties and constraints encountered during the preparation of the reports and, with the assistance of resource persons, identify options and ways to move forward and finalize the reports.

For further information on the workshop, please contact:

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Upcoming Events

The International Exhibition for Green Growth Professionals
Date: 2–4 February 2011
Venue: Cannes, France
Contact: Anthony Delaire
Person: 5, Rue de la Rampe - 06400 Cannes – France
Tel: 33 (0)483 440 700
Fax: 33(0)493 933 189
Web: http://www.getisgroup.com/

Ninth Dialogue on Forests, Governance & Climate Change
Date: 2–4 February 2011
Contact: Coordinator
Person: 238 Wisconsin Avenue NW, Suite 204, Washington, DC 20007, United States of America
Email: info@rightsandresources.org
Tel: 1 202 470 3900
Fax: 1 202 470 3900
Web: http://www.rightsandresources.org/events.php?id=419

China Tree Planting Day
Date: 12 March 2011
Venue: Beijing, China
Contact: Unit 701, 9/180 Zhou Jin Rd., Shanghai, China, 200010
Email: jiri.gol@seznam.cz
Web: http://www.chinainfoonline.com/

Symposium on ecosystem and landscape-level approaches to sustainability
Date: 22–24 March 2011
Venue: Burgos, Spain
Email: online@globalforum2011.net
Web: http://www.globalforum2011.net/content/seminar

International Forestry Conference
“Planted Teak Forests – a Globally Emerging Forest Resource”
Date: 2–6 May 2011
Venue: Guanacaste, Costa Rica
Email: LDalpra@catie.ac.cr; Walter.Kollert@fao.org
Web: http://www.fao.org/

11th International Conference on Wood & Biofiber Plastic Composites
Date: 16–17 May 2011
Venue: Madison, Wisconsin, United States
Contact: Forest Products Society
Person: 2801 Marshall Court, Madison, WI 53705-2295, USA
Tel: 608 231 1361
Fax: 608 231 2152
Web: http://www.forestprod.org/

National Workshop on Climate and Forests: Planning Tools and Perceptions on Adaptation and Mitigation Options
Date: 16–18 May 2010
Venue: Flagstaff, Arizona
Contact: Christopher Jones
Person: Luleå university of Technology, LTU Skellefteå Forskargatan 1, 931 87 Skellefteå, Sweden
Email: anders.gronlund@ltu.se
Tel: (+46)910-58 53 00
Fax: (+46)910-58 53 99
Web: http://www.ltu.se/ske/IWMS-IWMS-20

20th International Wood Machining Seminar
Date: 7–10 June 2011
Venue: Skellefteå, Sweden
Contact: Anders Grönlund
Person: Luleå university of Technology, LTU Skellefteå Forskargatan 1, 931 87 Skellefteå, Sweden
Email: anders.gronlund@ltu.se
Tel: (+46)910-58 53 00
Fax: (+46)910-58 53 99
Web: http://www.ltu.se/ske/IWMS-IWMS-20

2011 Global Carbon Markets & Green Energy Conference
Date: 10–13 July 2011
Venue: Jumeirah Madinat, Dubai, U.A.E.
Contact: The Notitia Group Administration
Person: 6 Begonia Place, Woongarrah, NSW 2259, Australia
Email: info@notitia.com.au
Tel: 61 2 4350 9600
Fax: 61 2 4350 9696
Web: http://www.2011globalcarbonmarkets.com
### Activities Organized/ Participated by APAFRI in 2010

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<td>IUFRO Kuala Lumpur 2010 Conference on Sustainable Utilization and Conservation of Forest</td>
<td>Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia</td>
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<td>22–25 March</td>
<td>Fourth International Casuarina Workshop</td>
<td>Haikou, China</td>
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<td>8 June</td>
<td>APFISN Workshop on Pathways of Biological Invasion into Forests</td>
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<td>9–11 June</td>
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<td>Thimphu, Bhutan</td>
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<td>5–9 July</td>
<td>Training Workshop on Conservation and Management of Forest Genetic Resources</td>
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<td>27–31 July</td>
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<td>Regional Rattan Conference</td>
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<td>23–26 November</td>
<td>International Conference on Forestry Education and Research for the Asia Pacific Region</td>
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<td>7–9 December</td>
<td>Asia and the Pacific Symposium – Vulnerability Assessments to Natural and Anthropogenic Hazards</td>
<td>Manila, Philippines</td>
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<td>14 December</td>
<td>Second Asia Pacific Forestry Sector Outlook Study (APFSOS II) – Launching of reports</td>
<td>Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia</td>
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Acknowledgements

APAFRI extends its thanks to the followings for their support:

❖ FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations)
❖ KFRI (Korean Forest Research Institute)
❖ DAFF (Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry)
❖ Bioversity International
❖ USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) Forest Service
❖ Forest Research Institute Malaysia

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

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Season’s Greetings & Happy New Year