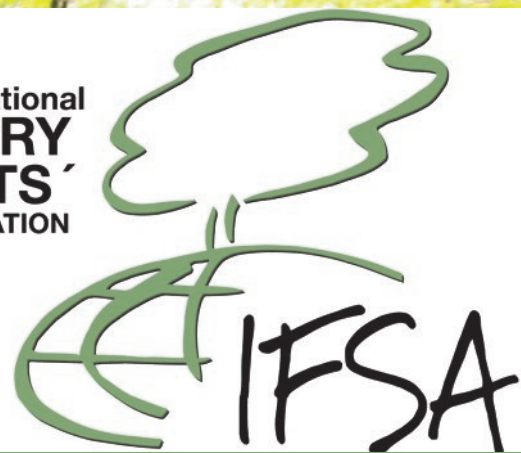


NEWS

International
**FORESTRY
STUDENTS'**
ASSOCIATION



the journal

Forest ecosystem services

No. 57 | April 2014



INTERNATIONAL FORESTRY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

IFSA Secretariat

Tennenbacherstrasse 4
79106 Freiburg im Breisgau
Germany
Phone: +49 761 203 38 01
E-mail: secretariat@ifsa.net
Webpage: www.ifsa.net

IFSA e. V.

Bank: POSTBANK Stuttgart
Bank code: 600 100 70
SWIFT: PBNKDEFF
IBAN: DE2860 0100 7000 0299 4703
Account number: 2 99 47 3

Editor:

Vasja Leban

E-mail: ifsanews@ifsa.net

IFSA News journal is the official journal of The International Forestry Students' Association - the global network for students in forest sciences. It unites approximately 3000 students in about 73 member associations (called Local Committees) in over 54 countries. IFSA is a non-governmental, non profit and non religious organisation entirely run by students for students.

The articles might not reflect the opinion of the editor.

Cover and back photo: Vasja Leban

Inside this issue:

Editorial

| Vasja Leban |

4

President's corner

| Kutelani Tshivhase |

5

IFSA / LCs report

IFSA Interim 2014

| Hugo Pierre |

6

Original paper

Lease, land-use and livelihoods - An oil palm scheme and its social and ecological impacts

| Wilms-Posen N., Boomkens M., d'Appolonia S., Kraus E.M., Klarer A., Tynell L.L. |

8

IFSA / LCs report

New energy in Asia Pacific

| Ethan Lin |

14



Forestry today

A fieldwork season on the edge of North Korea

| Jean-Lionel Payeur-Poirier |

18

IFSA / LCs report

Metsä conference 2013 - Report from IFSA delegation

| Ping-Lian Wu, Andre Purret, Hugo Pierre |

20

Did you know?

StudyPortals - Have you ever thought about doing a Master in Forestry?

| Irem Bezcioglu |

24

Theme related

Overview of latest theme related scientific paper

| Collected by Vasja Leban |

28

Upcoming events

IFSA's & external upcoming events

| Collected by IFSA |

30

Editorial

Vasja Leban | Biotechnical faculty, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

Dear IFSA News readers,

welcome to the first IFSA News issue in 2014. The topic of this issue is related to forests. Forests as one of the greater ecosystems on planet Earth, as a house of biodiversity, as a living space of many people and, finally, as one of the global most important provider of ecosystem services. Forest's existence is essential for people, as well as its provision of manifold services. In a myriad individual's interests exactly that much of demands exists. Ecosystem services can be perceived on an individual, local, regional and worldwide level, where different importance can also be recognized. These services can be interlinked and dependent, reasons and effects. In addition, ecosystem services differentiate subject to many other factors including region, people's demand, development level, etc.

The term 'ecosystem services' was introduced in 1970's report published in Cambridge MIT University. Since then the number of published articles on this topic is increasing. In addition, the whole philosophy that stands behind has gained new dimension of application. Thus, ecosystem services are not only goods or benefits that are derived from forests and other ecosystem services, but rather are a political decision with several (economical) consequences. And since this decision has a wider impact and influence all people, participation of all stakeholders at all levels (i.e. local, regional, national and international) must become a leading principle of future development.

Moreover, all individual cases have one universal thing in common: there is no universal solution for all. Every individual case needs to be treat as unique and not to be leave out of the discussion. Only that way we will follow the path towards sustainable and achieve not only material, but also spiritual welfare.



Photo: Vasja Leban

The concept of ecosystem services is far too broad to be holistically discussed in the journal. Therefore, IFSA News No. 57 compounds also with several IFSA/LCs reports and other interesting topics. I believe anyone will find a page that fits him the most and improve his/her knowledge and wisdom. Furthermore, the most eager-for-knowledge will look for other scientific articles from additional sources.

The IFSA year is slowly ending and only little more than three months separate us from IFSA's greatest event which will be held in Canada. In IFSA year 2014 another IFSA news issue will be published just before IFSS, so I would like to encourage all to participate in actualizing this IFSA's traditional journal. Finally, I wish you a pleasant reading of IFSA News and all the best in your personal life.

Kind regards,
Vasja Leban

President's corner

Kutelani Tshivhase | Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, South Africa

For centuries humankind has benefited in multitude of ways from ecosystems. This includes food and fodder, shelter and survival tools, source of clean drinking water and ecosystem functions, all these are known as ecosystem services. As human civilization took its modern form, there has been bigger environmental problems that have been created. It is true that modern extensions of forest ecosystem services concept include socio-economic and conservation objectives. This without a doubt has made the use of forest ecosystem services more complex than before.

This complexity has posed a big challenge to every society across the world. The big question being, how can we sustainably utilize, manage and conserve forest ecologies? This is a question that boggles many scientists and communities today. With the rapid expansion in population growth there is a certain problem related to space, food and health that will soon need attention. Do we as modern civilization have the capacity to feed, protect and harmoniously leave within our natural environments?

These are tough questions that the modern world faces. Therefore as youth we have a bigger role to play in answering or at least attempting to answer such questions. Our contribution is valuable because the decisions that are made today, relating to the future of forestry ecosystem services will directly impact our tomorrow. IFSA has made 2014 to prioritize youth participation in forestry platforms and events as a youth coordinator. IFSA will take the leading role in all matters that relate to forest and forest education. These are some of the examples just to name a few. The IUFRO world congress in Salt Lake City in October 2014 (IFSA is coordinating youth delegation in collaboration with SAF). The FAO world congress in Durban 2015 (IFSA is coordinating youth delegation). There are many more that are not mentioned including the new IUFRO joint task force in Forest education.

It indicates how critical it is for youth participation in discussions and events that relate to forestry and forest ecosystem services. Not only are we struggling with environmental problems, but socio-economic challenges are rife in forest ecosystem services. Forest and land tenure rights for poor or disadvantaged



Photo: Kutelani Tshivhase

communities across the globe are increasingly becoming a major source of conflict. A new model for management and policy has to be reviewed to accommodate the complex social implication of forest ecosystem services for the disadvantaged communities. The youth will have to contribute to such processes and play a major role in inheriting a better socio-economic forest ecosystem management plans.

Our goal as IFSA is to foster knowledge and informal learning through youth collaborations and professional partnerships in Forestry. Over the past few months of our term, we have focused on strengthening partnerships and collaborations especially with other youth organizations across the world. The discussion among the youth is to create a platform to share new ideas and explore alternative opinions on current hot topics. The road so far has been a great experience and very much educative. It's an exciting time for IFSA, and we are glad the youth are responding positively to the call made by IFSA.

Most sincerely,
Your dedicated President
Kutelani Tshivhase

IFSA Interim 2014

Hugo Pierre | Junior professional officer, IFSA/IUFRO Joint Position, France

The Interim meeting is the midterm meeting of IFSA, where Officials meet to discuss their work since they were elected, share their experiences and their challenges, in order to solve them together. IFSA 7 discusses and plans the work ahead until the next IFSS, and important topics in the association are discussed. Officials are asked for their views and input in interactive and open sessions or workshops. Each and every one's motivation is greatly enhanced, and crucial decisions are taken, hence making Interim one very important meeting in IFSA.

This year's Interim was hosted by the IFSA Local Committee of Freising in Germany, from January 5th to 12th. We gathered in a retreat nearby, in a peaceful countryside surrounded by fields and forests, for a productive week of work.

Officials were invited to share their impressions after four and a half months of work with others in the first session. Later on in the week, any Official could choose the topic they wanted to discuss in the Open Workshops session, and had the chance to listen to other's points of views and ideas. Such topics as fundraising, upcoming partners' meetings and recruitment of new members were addressed. Two sessions dealt with the means of communication within IFSA. One of them aimed at assigning precise goals to the different electronic channels we use

to convey information within the association, while the other tackled IFSA News more specifically. It was agreed that we would create a simple chart summing up the different roles of these manifold ways to communicate, in order to gain clarity for the benefit of everyone in IFSA.

A few important points regarding IFSA as an association were discussed with all Officials present. IFSA 7 asked our inputs on the Goals of the IFSA Strategy, to be reviewed at the next General Assembly in August. This was a good opportunity to get a glimpse of the overall direction towards which IFSA is moving. In the Finances session, Officials were first asked to list all services and benefits IFSA provides to its members, and then to allocate funds for each topic.



Photo: Sami Nivala

Most Interim participants posing for a group picture

Photo: Camille Moyers



Officials at work during a session

This gave our Treasurer some guidance about how to make the best use of IFSA's resources. Another session addressed the possibility for IFSA as a whole to stand for opinions about forestry issues. It was agreed by all participants that Forestry Education shall be the only topic we can have a corporate point of view about. New ways of collaborating with our partners were discussed too, and we set the grounds of a specific project we will carry out hand in hand with IUFRO.

The smooth running of the Officials' work was approached in a session about time management and communication. All attendees discussed how to improve one's communication skills, especially in online communication, a key part of an Officials' work. We shared our experiences in

the very challenging field of time management, and received nice ideas to improve our future work. As well, an important project aiming at the management and transfer of knowledge in IFSA was presented, and Officials had the opportunity to help shape it.

The whole attendance was excited to listen to a presentation of the upcoming IFSS 2014 in Canada by one of the Organizing Committee members. We had an overview of the schedule, and of the wonderful places we will have the chance to visit.

The next steps will be to implement those things we discussed and agreed on, and there is no doubt IFSA 7 will be busy with these various tasks...

Photo: Sami Nivala



The meeting's venue

Lease, land-use and livelihoods - An oil palm scheme and its social and ecological impacts

Nico Wilms-Posen | University of Copenhagen, Kathmandu, Nepal
Mali Boomkens | AgroParisTech, Montpellier, France
Sarah d'Appolonia | University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark
Eva Maria Kraus | University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark
Amanda Klarer | AgroParisTech, Montpellier, France
Lena Lyngholt Tynell | University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark

In the Malaysian state of Sarawak high deforestation rates have been observed over the past decades. At the same time, land under oil palm cultivation increased from 23,000 ha in 1980 to 840,000 ha in 2009 (Drummond & Taylor, 1997; Sarawak Department of Agriculture, 2011). Deforestation and biodiversity loss have, however, been associated with this rapid expansion, and have triggered concerns regarding long term sustainability (Sheil et al., 2009). Despite these concerns and due to the high global demand, oil palm has been vigorously promoted as a lucrative cash crop in Sarawak. The government aims to increase future production and sees it as an important means to promote socio-economic development in rural Malaysia (Cooke, 2006; NEAC, 2010).

Introduction

The Sarawak Land Consolidation and Rehabilitation Authority (SALCRA) scheme was created in 1982-1984 to facilitate this development (Banerjee & Bojsen, 2005). SALCRA is an *in-situ* scheme which aims to convert Native Customary Right (NCR) land into productive oil palm plantations. SALCRA and landowners sign a contract regarding the development of the unregistered parcels of NCR land. Over the contract duration of 25 years, SALCRA develops large-scale oil palm plantations. During this period, customary right holders transfer rights to develop the land to SALCRA who then becomes the factual owner of the land. In return, the native people receive several benefits through the SALCRA scheme. They receive dividends twice a year from their leased lands, of which the amount is in correlation with the profits of the yields from their plot. Furthermore, they are able to pursue work on the SALCRA plantations and receive an official title to the land that provides secure tenure rights after the contract period (McCarthy & Cramb, 2008). We therefore hypothesize that the acquirement of formal land titles via SALCRA, will also have a positive effect on rural livelihood security in Sarawak. Ngidang (2002)

argues that SALCRA does also improve livelihoods by increasing the availability of financial and physical (i.e. infrastructure) capital.

Although the SALCRA scheme is able to provide a direct income for rural people, the sustainability of such large-scale land acquisitions is being debated as conversion of land into large-scale oil palm plantations can have irreversible environmental effects (Cramb, 2013). This study addressed the need for empirical research regarding the long-term effects of the change in factual ownership, through the oil palm scheme on livelihood security and the environment. The study aimed to answer, to which extent SALCRA directly and indirectly influenced land-use changes, supported livelihood diversification and affected soil quality.

Methodology

The study applied a mixed methodology approach to account for the need of an interdisciplinary assessment. A questionnaire, different forms of participatory rural appraisals (resource map, village timeline, livelihood preference ranking, seasonal calendar), key

informant interviews and in-depth household interviews, were conducted to obtain data related to the livelihood security of the local population during two-weeks of fieldwork in March 2013.

To investigate the impact of oil palm on soil quality, soil samples were collected from various sites. Volume specific soil samples of 100cm³ were taken in a 22-year-old non-terraced oil palm plantation in the middle of two palms in a plantation row (inter palm), and between the rows under the frond stacking (intra palm). For comparison among land uses that were previously predominating the land which is now under oil palm cultivation managed by SALCRA, samples were taken from a 22-year-old rubber plantation, a 2-year-old terraced oil palm plantation and an upland rice field after 2 years of fallow. Sites of similar topography were sampled to ensure the standardization of site dynamics, and thus standardizing the soil carbon levels (Bruun *et al.*, 2006). In each site, samples were taken at depths of 0-5cm, 5-15cm and 15-30cm. Soil samples were analyzed for active carbon, using a permanganate oxidizable

carbon (POXC) test. This test allows to assess changes in the labile soil carbon pool. This measure is more sensitive to changes in management practices of the soil and is therefore most suitable for the purpose of this study (Culman *et al.*, 2012). The pH and bulk density of all samples were also measured.

Study area

Mantung Birawan is located in the Malaysian state of Sarawak on the island of Borneo. It has a population of 240 people, living in 52 households. The village was established in 1972, after an amicable split from a larger village 2 km away. Mantung Birawan is completely surrounded by neighboring villages and the land is predominantly under NCR land designation. Around 200 ha of land has been cultivated under the SALCRA scheme since 1989 and a second phase, initiated in 2009, is extending the area with another 150 ha. The demography shows a high proportion of people over 50, due to a trend of migration towards larger cities.



Figure 1: Study area map (source: authors)



Findings and Discussion

Livelihood strategies and land use changes

Major livelihood activities in the community of Mantung Birawan include rice cultivation, as well as livestock and fruit production for subsistence use. Cash income is generated through rubber and oil palm cultivation. Non-natural resource based activities comprise wage labour, participation in the SALCRA scheme, shop keeping and remittances. SALCRA is the main supplier of jobs within the off- and non-farm sector and is therefore a driver of livelihood diversification by diversifying income sources over different sectors. However, as livelihood strategies mainly consist of farming different crops, these non- and off-farm activities play only a minor role for some households.. Additionally, livelihood diversification was indirectly supported through infrastructure development that was induced by the scheme. The improvement of the road network and the establishment of oil palm mills can be especially important for households currently cultivating or planning to cultivate private oil palm and can induce further land use changes. Besides the positive influence on livelihood diversification, also accumulation of savings through SALCRA dividends contributes through livelihood security.

Access to land is perceived to be very important in the village as 94 % of the households cultivate rice for subsistence use. The introduction of the oil palm scheme led to a considerable reduction of area cultivated for up- and lowland rice. Before the land was used for oil palm, 82% of the area of the old SALCRA plantation (1989) was cultivated with rice. Despite the decreased size of the area under rice cultivation and the general shift of agricultural production towards cash crop farming, all but one interviewed household (n=31) still grows rice. Although it cannot really be seen as an on-farm activity, the SALCRA scheme diversified the portfolio of crops grown in 67% of the interviewed households. Thus, in addition to the provision of few jobs, SALCRA increased the number of income sources of the households in Mantung Birawan as it did not reduce on-farm diversity.

On the level of the landscape, diversity in land use was not reduced through the SALCRA scheme. However, a hypothetical question from the questionnaire reveals that land use would be more equally distributed over different crops if SALCRA was not present. When asked about their wishes for the future, most of the landowners (67.7%) wanted to renew their contracts with SALCRA if possible. Cultivation of rice or other cash crops than oil palm was not mentioned. A remarkable difference between

hypothetical land uses if SALCRA was not present, and future wishes was found. The local community also expressed concerns over decreasing soil fertilities in land under oil palm cultivation and reported that they will be unable to grow certain crops on the degraded soil. A perceived reduction in soil fertility could thus be a reason for the difference in the hypothetical land use decisions and was therefore assessed through soil fertility tests of the various different land uses.

Environmental sustainability

Land use changes and livelihood improvements often come at the cost of environmental sustainability. Such negative experiences were also reported by households in Mantung Birawan, in which people attributed to reduced water quality and soil fertility from the oil palm plantations. Results of soil analysis could verify these claims. According to our research, the soil around the oil palms was the most degraded out of any of the land uses examined. By applying the principle of space for time substitution a significant difference was observed between the old oil palm and the rubber, of which the latter contained 170% more active carbon ($p < 0.010$) (see figure 2). It should however be noted that the frond stalking rows which occupied approximately half of the entire plantation had

significantly increased levels of active carbon quite similar to those found in the rubber plantation.

Stacking rows are used as a site for fertilizer application as the increased ground cover increases the nutrient retention of the soil. This practice could potentially decrease the need and cost of inputs while contributing to the longevity of soil quality. The impact of oil palm was seen to be lessened by the use of management practices. However, our study was limited to lands that were already actively being used for other cash crops and therefore this study does not show the change in soil quality if the oil palm plantations were previously primary forest or old fallow lands.

In literature, the long term effects of oil palm are on soil quality are being debated; some research discusses possible irreversible damage (e.g. Hamdan *et al.*, 2000), whereas others report that soils can recover over time (Tanaka *et al.*, 2009), depending on the management practices. The longevity of land resources can be compromised as there are currently no incentives for SALCRA to conserve soil quality in the long run if contracts with landowners are not going to be extended. Agreements between SALCRA and landowners do not provide any rights to landowners for intervention in management practices of the plantation.

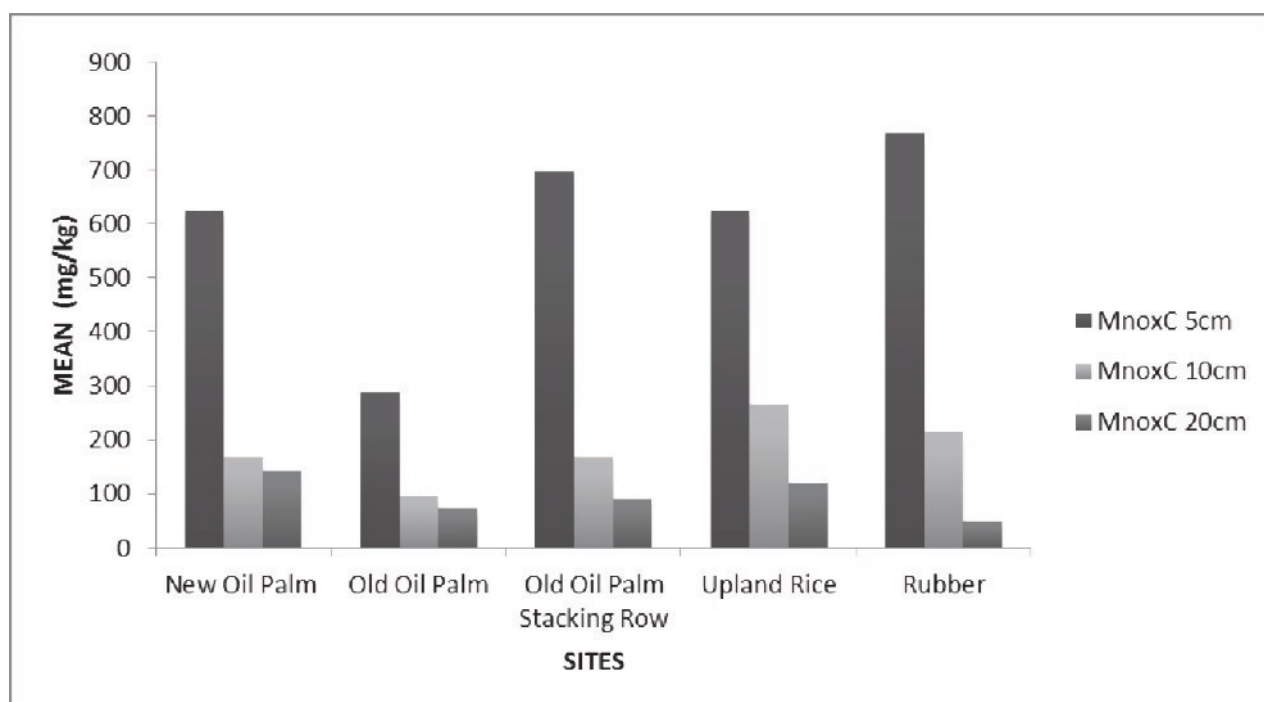


Figure 2: Soil active carbon at different depths of various land uses (source: authors)

Deteriorating soil quality can limit options of future generations to use the land, according to their needs and wishes. Already today, farmers indicated that rice cultivation might be impossible after the user rights of SALCRA on the land expire. This argument is also supported through the future land use wishes of farmers described above. Negative environmental impacts of land use changes and management practices can reduce possible livelihood strategies in the area.

Land ownership

It is remarkable that 22 out of 26 interviewed participants in the old SALCRA scheme had titles on their land, whereas on the new plantation and area under rice and pepper cultivation, only one respondent claimed to have a title on the land. This proves the beneficial effect of SALCRA regarding land tenure for participants. Secure ownership through land titles are an important motive for landowners to participate in the SALCRA scheme. Land ownership is likely to have influenced livelihood security through the security of tenure and indirectly through the means of increased transferability.

Conclusion

This study shows how changed ownership and management of land resources can impact local livelihoods and the environment. The results of this study demonstrate a close relationship between livelihood diversification and security, land ownership and environmental sustainability. Despite the potential negative environmental effects, the SALCRA scheme seems to benefit local livelihoods as it provides additional incomes, diversifies activities, contributes to savings and promotes infrastructure development in the area. In that way, economic vulnerability for shocks will be reduced on the household level. To what extent these benefits will be outweighed by the environmental costs associated with the oil palm development, cannot be assessed here. Incentives for soil quality conservation and application of sound management practices in the plantation will be crucial in relation to creating an environment in which future livelihood options are not harmed, while present generations can still benefit from increased livelihood security. An additional agreement between SALCRA and landowners on the conservation of soil qualities can be recommended and could improve the outcomes of the scheme.



Photo: Nico Wilms-Posen



Photo: Nico Wilms-Posen

References

- Bruun, T.B., Mertz, O., & Elberling, B. (2006). Linking yields of upland rice in shifting cultivation to fallow length and soil properties. *Agriculture, Ecosystems and Environment* 113, 139-149.
- Cooke, F.M. (2006). *State, Communities and Forests in Contemporary Borneo*. Canberra: The Australian National University Press, Canberra.
- Cramb, R. A. (2013). Palmed Off: Incentive Problems with Joint-Venture Schemes for Oil Palm Development on Customary Land. *World Development* 43(3), 84-99.
- Culman, S., Snapp, S., Freeman, M., Schipanski, M., Beniston, J., Lal, R., Drinkwater, L., Franzluebbers, A., Glover, J., Grandy, A., Lee, J., Six, J., Maul, J., Mirksy, S., Spargo, J., Wander, M. (2012). Permanganate oxidizable carbon reflects a processed soil fraction that is sensitive to management. *Soil Science Society of America Journal* 76(2), 494-504.
- Drummond, I. & Taylor, D. (1997). Forest Utilization in Sarawak, Malaysia: A Case of Sustaining the Unsustainable. *Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography* 18(2), 141-62.
- Hamdan, J., Burnham, C.P. & Ruhana, B. (2000). Degradation effect of slope terracing on soil quality for *elaeis guineensis* Jacq. (oil palm) cultivation. *Land Degradation and Development* 11, 181-193.
- McCarthy, J.F., & Cramb, R.A. (2008). Policy Narratives, Landholder Engagement, and Oil Palm Expansion on the Malaysian and Indonesian Frontiers. *The Geographical Journal* 175(2), 112-123.
- New Economic Advisory Council (NEAC) (2010). *Annual Report 2011. Appendix 1: Sustainability and the palm oil industry*. Retrieved on February 10, 2013 from: <http://www.neac.gov.my/publications.php?subcategory=nem%20reports&ID=287&title=part%201%20-%20appendix%201%20-%20sustainability%20and%20the%20palm%20oil%20industry>
- Ngidang, D. (2002). Contradictions in land development schemes: The case of joint ventures in Sarawak, Malaysia. *Asia Pacific Viewpoint* 43(2), 157-180.
- Sarawak Department of Agriculture (2011). *Agricultural statistics of Sarawak*. Kuching: Sarawak Department of Agriculture.
- Sheil, D., Casson, A., Meijaard, E., van Noordwijk, M. Gaskell, J., Sunderland-Groves, J.,
- Wertz, K. and Kanninen, M. (2009). The impacts and opportunities of oil palm in Southeast Asia: What do we know and what do we need to know? *Occasional paper no. 51. CIFOR*, Bogor, Indonesia.
- Tanaka, S., Tachibe, S., Wasli, M.E.B., Lat, J., Semen, L Kendawang, J.J., Iwasaki, K., & Sakurai, K. (2009). Soil characteristics under cash crop farming in upland areas of Sarawak, Malaysia. *Agriculture, Ecosystems and Environment* 129, 293-301.
- Vien, H.T. (2006). Land Privatization and Livelihood Diversification: An Examination from the Southern Uplands of Vietnam. *Contributed paper prepared for presentation at the International Association of Agricultural Economists Conference (August 12-18, 2006)*. Berlin: Humboldt University, Department of Agricultural Economics and Social Sciences.

New energy in Asia Pacific

YI-Chen (Ethan) Lin | College of Bio-Resources and Agriculture, National Taiwan University, Taiwan

In January 2008, Ping-Lian Wu, previous vice president of IFSA, established an IFSA Local Committee in Taiwan, NTUFSA-National Taiwan University Forestry Students' Association. In 2010, NTUFSA organized the very first Asian Regional Meeting in IFSA Asia world, creating the opportunity to gather the IFSA power of Asia. Since then, NTUFSA has kept motivating younger forest students in Taiwan to leave comfort zone and experience the trend of global forestry via participating or organizing IFSA events. In addition, through full participation of IFSA events, Judy Huang and Carolina Yang were selected to be regional representative of Asia in the last two years. As far as I am concerned, I am honor to be selected as the first regional representative of Asia-Pacific region, merged by Asia and Oceania in the 41nd General Assembly in IFSS. For the time being, NTUFSA is an active and sophisticated LC, sparing no effort to dedicate itself to any IFSA event.

In October 2013, after the long wait for almost five years, Taiwan eventually has one new LC, NCHUFSA-National Chung Hsing University Forestry Student Association. National Chung Hsing university is famous for its agriculture and forestry, also receiving great reputation in scientific research. In order to involve this new

LC in IFSA world swiftly, I organized a winter IFSA meeting in Taiwan with our currently NTUFSA president, Bob Chang, and invited NCHUFSA and potential LC-National Chiayi University Forestry Students' Association, to visit Taipei, capital of Taiwan, for a weekend on January 25-26. Among the meeting, I shared



Photo: Ethan Lin

NTUFSA, NCHUFSA and the potential LC-NCYFSA had a meal to discuss about forest issue in Taiwan and executive affairs of each student association



Photo: Ethan Lin

NCHUFSA, newly established LC in Asia-Pacific, and I are sharing the experience of IFSA events with them!

the IFSS and regional representative working experience with them so that they would realize what IFSA is, what IFSA can provide for forestry students all over the world and how valuable to meet forestry students from other nations. In addition, the “older” NTUFSA guided newly established NCHUFSA LC to visit some of the places in northern Taiwan, such as campus of National Taiwan University, Xiangshan mountain, Pingxi traditional street. With the interaction between these two LCs, NCHUFSA is sure to know the true spirit of IFSA and, thus, start to devote themselves in the IFSA Asia-Pacific world, or even whole IFSA world.

Asia-Pacific is an active region in a few decades and the population in our region showcases endless energy to influence the world. The shift in the center of economy and politics to Asia-Pacific region reveals promising growth and plenty opportunities. Thus, catching up this global fashion, I would like to transfer this energy to whole IFSA world, motivating more forestry students and encouraging more students to join IFSA, making my region a sophisticated platform for promoting IFSA.



***In perspective,
South Korea***

Photo: Jean-Lionel Payeur-Poirier



A fieldwork season on the edge of North Korea

Jean-Lionel Payeur-Poirier | PhD student, University Bayreuth, Germany

In 2013, Jean-Lionel Payeur-Poirier spent five months doing fieldwork for his doctoral project in a remote region of South Korea, a few kilometers from the border with North Korea. In this article, he relates stories of his stay and describes daily life along the Korean demilitarized zone.

On March 30th 2013, the North Korean regime declared a “state of war” against South Korea. Two weeks later, I was travelling to the place where I would spend the next five months: Haean, a small South Korean village located three kilometers from the North Korean border ...

Telephone conversation with my mother a few days before I left:

- Me: Yeah, I’m doing good mom and I’m really looking forward to my stay in South Korea!

- My mom: Are you crazy?! Haven’t you heard the news?! Both Koreas are at war and it’s going to be raining missiles over the whole peninsula before the end of the month!!! I order you to stay in Germany!

- Me: Ah, mom ... don’t worry! I promise I’ll use an umbrella if it’s raining missiles! (she didn’t laugh)

... and this is how started the first fieldwork season of my doctoral project. I was going to live and work in the region where the demilitarized zone (DMZ, this “buffer strip” between the two Koreas) is most heavily guarded. This mountainous, forest covered and sparsely inhabited region is the most vulnerable to a military invasion by North Korea, according to South Korean soldiers. Out of the four tunnels crossing the DMZ dug by North Korean soldiers, one was dug in Haean. It was only discovered in the year 1990.

Personally, I wasn’t afraid nor stressed of going to live and work in this region and in this situation, thanks to the discussions I previously had with my Korean colleagues. They clearly explained that this wasn’t the first time North Korea issued this kind of statement, and that the South Korean population is more or less used to unfulfilled threats from the North. And,



Photo: Jean-Lionel Payeur-Poirier

“one of the most stunning features was the quasi-absence of foreigners...”

Photo: Jean-Lionel Payeur-Poirier

*Jean-Lionel with one of the colleagues*

the thought of doing fieldwork for a long period in a forest that I had never stepped in before, an Asian forest, was very exciting. Also interesting for me was the relative similarity of the climate between this part of Korea and the part of Canada where I'm from, Quebec.

Fortunately, I lived surrounded by my colleagues at home and sometimes on the field. Our accommodation was a Korean rural guesthouse made of Siberian tree logs, which we occupied for the entire summer. To relieve the stress that sometimes occurs with unplanned experiment failures, or larger than life extreme weather events, ... we had a trampoline in the backyard! We also spent many wonderful evenings with the owners of the place around an all-traditional Korean barbecue, chatting in Korean, English, German and Spanish about this place and what we loved (or hated!) about it. The guesthouse is located on a road that leads directly to the DMZ. At night, the road is closed and guarded by soldiers, and one can only pass with a special permit. During the day, I would do my jogging on this road and reach the last outpost of the South Korean army before the DMZ!!! Along this road is a high-perched military observatory opened to tourists, on top of a steep mountainous range in which lies the DMZ. North Korean military facilities and soldiers can easily be observed, which gave me the sense of looking through both space, and time.

For me and my colleagues, everyday life brought its load of new teachings and experiences. The monsoon can create extreme weather events which can fairly complicate fieldwork, especially in this steep mountainous terrain where most of us worked. A few car accidents throughout the summer (even one involving the death of a cute white puppy!) revealed that driving in monsoon conditions can be dangerous! In this region filled with barbed wire fences, signs written "stop,

mines", shooting ranges and military bases, the term "danger" is at a higher level. One morning, we realised our guesthouse was surrounded by quiet South Korean soldiers armed with automatic rifles who were hiding and practicing a scenario of defense and attack! All of the soldiers we met were very friendly, helpful and diplomat. We literally co-habited in the same environment as they did, as well as the farmers of the village, going to the same restaurants and shops. I often woke up early to the military chants of the nearby base, or, to the painfully loud blasts of munition of the shooting ranges!

My colleagues and I also had to frequently travel to the cities of Chuncheon, Seoul and Incheon for work purposes, which gave us the chance to experience these vibrant and profoundly Korean cities. In Incheon, I had my first full-seafood dinner ever and, guess what, the food is still alive when being served! As in most Korean restaurants, it must be grilled on a plate at the center of the table. The beach isn't far away either from Haean, with only one hour by car to the Pacific Ocean. The last time I had seen the Pacific was on the other side, in Vancouver, Canada! We also enjoyed rafting on a magnificent river nearby, where the World Rafting Championships were held in the year 2007.

As my colleagues and I were exploring the villages, cities and surrounding region, one of the most stunning features was the quasi-absence of foreigners, who can mostly only be found in Seoul or Jeju Island. This gave me an overwhelming sense of living at the heart of South Korea where mentalities, traditions and lifestyles have barely been influenced by the West. And, as I watched the sun setting over beautiful countryside sceneries, ... I knew a piece of my heart now belonged to this country. Gamsa Hamnida Han Guk - Thank you Korea!

Metsä conference 2013 - Report from IFSA delegation

Ping-Lian Wu | Graduate student, Technical university of Munich, Germany (Taiwan)

Andre Purret | University of Life Sciences, Estonia

Hugo Pierre | Junior professional officer, IFSA/IUFRO Joint Position, Austria (France)

The joint session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (COFFI, formerly “Timber Committee”) and the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) European Forestry Commission (EFC) was held from 9-12 December 2013 in Rovaniemi, Finland. The event was called Metsä2013, with “metsä” meaning forest in Finnish, and was organized in parallel with the second European Forest Week. The joint session focused on market discussions, on engaging the private sectors, and on measuring and communicating the contribution of the forest sector to a green economy. The UNECE region covers more than 47 million square kilometres. Its member States include the countries of Europe, but also countries in North America (Canada and United States), Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) and Western Asia (Israel). Around 450 participants attended the meeting, representing governments, intergovernmental organizations, nongovernmental organizations, academia and the private sector.

Roundtables and discussions

On Monday, some participants, including most of the IFSA delegation, were taken to a pre-congress visit in the city of Kemi. We saw the northernmost pulp and paper mill there operated by the Metsä group. In the afternoon the official opening took place, with a fine ceremony held outdoors, that featured singing from Sami people and the lighting of a fire. It was followed by a heartwarming hot wine in the Arktikum, a place IFSS 2011 participants will remember.

Tuesday morning, a roundtable was held, discussing the latest information regarding trends of forest products trading in the UNECE region. A market statement that summarizes market trends and developments in the UNECE region was adopted in the end.

On Tuesday afternoon, the roundtable focused on *engaging the private sector*, and addressed the following question: “What are the opportunities and challenges in forest product industries that policy makers and others should be aware of to maintain a thriving forest



The IFSA delegation sitting in the room where the discussions took place

Photo: Hugo Pierre

industry?” Eight speakers from different private sector enterprises shared their experiences and views on this question.

On Wednesday morning, the roundtable was entitled “Measuring and communicating the contribution of the forest sector to a green economy”. It presented the Green Economy concept and the work on indicators done by UNEP (UN Environment Programme), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and the World Bank, under the Green Growth Knowledge Platform.

The challenges in measuring progress of the forest sector towards a green economy were outlined, and proposals for possible indicators were made. Participants raised several issues, including the difference between “green economy” and “bioeconomy”.

Same day in the afternoon, the discussions focused on the FAO European Forestry Committee and the UNECE COFFI. In addition to the follow-up of the 10th session of UNFF in April 2013 in Istanbul, Turkey, an Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy was discussed. Participants agreed to name it the “Rovaniemi Action Plan”. It lists principles and activities relevant to the Green Economy, grouped under five pillars: sustainable production and consumption of forest products; a low-carbon forest sector; decent green jobs in the forest sector; long-term provision of forest ecosystem services; and policy development and monitoring of the forest sector in relation to a green economy.

On Thursday, the Integrated Programme of Work 2014-2017 for the COFFI and the EFC was discussed, amended and eventually adopted.

A detailed report, upon which this one is based, can be found online at <http://www.iisd.ca/forestry/metsa/2013/>

Side-events held during the joint conference

During Metsä 2013, apart from the official roundtables and parallel events, many informative and interesting side-events took place as well. The main objective of all 28 different side-events was to encourage experts, stakeholders and delegates from all participating countries to share their views and opinions on a wide scale of important forestry-related topics.

The side-events program started with a meeting on the first day of Metsä 2013, where participants could get insight about raising awareness towards using wood-based products more intensively in the construction sector. The next day was followed by topics such as: global look on the sustainable forest products supply chains; improving markets for forest ecosystem services; possible uses of modern bioactive compounds in medicinal and health-related products; learning to increase resource efficiency along the value added chain of timber processing; delivering ideas and messages of sustainable forestry and forest industry to the youth; overview of Global Plan of Action on forest genetic resources; sharing knowledge on management of forest fires in different countries; examples of overcoming difficulties and challenges related to green economy, based on the Finnish Forest Industry Federation.

The next day, side-events continued to attract Metsä 2013 participants to discuss relevant topics. In many cases, it was hard to make up one's mind about in which meeting to participate, as many side-events were held at the same time. Day started with IFSA-IUFRO co-organized meeting which aimed at raising awareness of the importance of forestry education. Many great ideas and future possibilities were presented. Further information about this side-event can be found on the IUFRO blog: <http://theiufro-blog.wordpress.com/2013/12/19/addressing-the-challenges-of-higher-forestry-education/>

During the same day, interested stakeholders and experts had the chance to learn more about Robinwood Plus program, discussed about carbon efficient wood construction, gathered information about GIS and ICT use in the case of Metsähallitus in Finland, gained insight about Israeli experience concerning afforestation and forest management.

Afternoon session of side-events continued with very interesting themes, such as forestland ownership changes in Europe; future challenges of UNECE/FAO Team of Specialist on the topic of Sustainable Forest Management; increasing the importance of health and well-being benefits derived from our forests; overview of modern innovative wood products and buildings (examples from Canada); how to support private

forest owners regarding to forest services and forest data; discussion on forest ownerships in Finland; developing forest industry and forest sector in a bio-based economy.

Towards the end of this amazing week, program of side-events followed its path to bring together policy makers and interested participants of Metsä 2013.

Thursday started with a meeting on the issue of Natura2000 network, while in parallel to that was held a private side-event (Biennial meeting of Baltic/Nordic Forest statistics Group). As the day went on, side-events highlighted following topics: social values of FSC certification in Scandinavia; implementation of Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) in the pan-European region; and how to integrate international network and forest sector employers in our forestry education system.

Last side-event of Metsä 2013, organized by the Sami Parliament, presented the best practices of cooperation between indigenous people and the state of Finland, considering management and use of state lands in Lapland.

In conclusion, all the side-events held during Metsä 2013 attracted a variety of specialists and every participant had the chance to join favorable meetings. Topics included sustainability, innovation, markets, biodiversity, with examples from different countries as well as global economy and specifically green economy. Thanks to organizers, program of side-events contributed greatly to the overall themes of Metsä 2013 and European Forest Week.

IFSA delegation's opinions

IFSA delegation in Metsä 2013 attended different side events according to their major study field and personal interests. It was a fruitful experience for IFSA delegation, in learning innovation of forest sectors and networking with different professionals. Outside the conference, IFSA delegations were hosted by Finnish students from the Rovaniemi University of Applied Sciences. Contrasting with the coldness in Arctic Circle, IFSA delegation received very warm welcome from our Finnish friends.

This was a very positive experience for our members. Below is the opinion from four of the delegation members about the Metsä 2013 conference.

Dilan Kaplan (Turkey):

"I think the most interesting side event was "Wood in carbon-efficient construction". It was interesting because I am extremely interested about the topic and also Mr. Matti Kuittinen was such a good speaker, the context he introduced was intriguing. During the side events I learned a lot and believe the network I have reached will be useful for my future projects and career."

Jan Kreuter (Germany):

"First I would like to refer to the unbelievable hospitality of the Finnish students, this was really great! The European Forest Week was a successful event. The organization was very good. Particularly I would like to emphasize that the field trip in the last day was really



Photo: Hugo Pierre

Attendance and attention were high during the IFSA/ IUFRO side event on forestry Education

Photo: Hugo Pierre



The whole IFSA delegation with IUFRO Executive Director Alexander Buck, after our successful side-event

interesting and we received good attention from employees of Metsähallitus (Finnish state forest enterprise). Besides, I found the celebration in Science Centre Pilke in the evening of the 11th of December very valuable. We had many great opportunities to talk without barriers to other participants, who are representatives from UNECE member States and staffs of FAO or UNECE. I felt the general context of the conference focused too much on policy and economics. Only four side events in EFW introduce the important subjects, like biodiversity, nature conservation, ecosystem services, etc. From a scientific point of view, I found this was a pity. However, my general opinion of this week is still positive!"

Kathrin Müller-Rees (Germany):

"I liked the most the side event about GIS & ICT (Geographical Information Systems & Information Communication Technology) for

multiple uses of forest sectors. Processing information by computers in forestry-related fields will be more and more important and I will focus my studies more on this topic. I felt myself proud to be in the IFSA delegation and I have to admit that I got a good impression and a general overview of the way policy-making is working. Different delegations from all UNECE member States need to spend hours and hours to discuss. I learnt that there are many important ideas about how we should change our behavior towards Mother Nature. All in all I am very happy to have had this great chance to experience the Metsä Conference 2013 in Rovaniemi!"

Ping-Lian Wu (Taiwan):

"I was really glad to attend our side event, "Future of Education – Future of the Sector? Current issues in Forestry Education" which we organized together with IUFRO (the International Union of Forest Research Organizations). There were more than 80 participants attending it. We received a lot of interesting feedback on forestry education from participants. As a Masters student, I was happy to experience the UN policy-making process. It was so much effort and negotiation behind the statements which were written in the report. Main theme of this conference is wood innovation, which is very closely linked with current business strategy of many Finnish forest industries. Through this conference, Finnish forest sectors demonstrated a great example and solutions for other countries to mitigate challenges from global climate change."

List of the IFSA delegation in Metsä 2013:

Jakob Hörl (Head of Commission Forestry Education, Germany),
Yemi Adeyeye (Liaison Officer FAO, Denmark (Nigeria)),
Hugo Pierre (IFSA-IUFRO Joint Position, Austria (France)),
Torben Hansen (Germany),
Ignacio Arizmendi Romero (Spain),
Kathrin Müller-Rees (Germany),
Jan Kreuter (Germany),
Christian Lankinen (Finland),
Yagmur Bütün (Turkey),
Ping-Lian Wu (Germany (Taiwan)),
Andre Purret (Estonia),
Janne-Perttu Rantonen (Finland),
Vesa Miettunen (Finland),
Sami Nivala (Finland).

StudyPortals - Have you ever thought about doing a Master in Forestry?

Irem Bezcioglu | StudyPortals - The European study choice portal, Eindhoven

Europe is full of opportunities if you want to follow a master's programme in forestry in Europe. You can get involved in laboratory exercises in Czech Republic, experience international and intercultural understanding of tropical forestry in Denmark, specialize in forestry ecosystems in Belgium and help the promotion of landscapes as tourist attraction in Italy. How do we know all of these? StudyPortals offers access to all these facilities and more. Read on and find out how you can find a master's programme in forestry studies!



Use our Website to Find a Master's Programme

StudyPortals offers more than 22,500 master's programmes. Among them, if you want to find a master's study in forestry, you can check the programmes on StudyPortals website. It is quite easy when you have the opportunity to see all of the master's programmes on one page rather than visit each and every university's website for this.

If you click on www.mastersportal.eu, you will see that you can directly "start your search for Masters". However, we advise you to sign up first! By signing up, you can have your own profile in which you can add your favourite programmes, find your last searches, follow your requested information and make use of other facilities.

Okay! Let's begin! First, you should select your discipline. For forestry related masters, you should select "Applied Science, Professions and Arts", and then "Agriculture, Forestry, Animal and Related Sciences". Or, you can just enter the keyword "forestry" and click on "Search".

With the "forestry" as the keyword, you will see a list of current 72 master's programmes available in Europe. In the list, you can check the country of the universities, language of instruction,

tuition fees (EU and Non-EU) and some related information. For more details, please click on "Detailed Description" so that you can learn about the contents of the study, requirements, funding opportunities and more.

Tips to Help You Select the Master's Programme That Fits You Most

You may have a programme and a university in your mind. Is it enough to start? Not always! At this point we have some suggestions that you should take into account when selecting your master's degree.



Photo: StudyPortals

Photo: StudyPortals



You should consider how to finance your studies. You may apply directly to your selected programme if it offers any scholarships. There may be national institutions in your country or in the host country that support students who want to study abroad. Please do not forget to check StudyPortals website for scholarships www.scholarshipportal.eu, and you will be overwhelmed to see the scholarships in Europe worth € 16 billion. Currently there are about 30 institutions that offer scholarships specifically for forestry-related studies.

Besides that, it is good that you make a bit of research on the university and the department, namely, what kind of research is carried out and in which field the department is specialized. As you will be spending most of your time in the department for the following years, it is important that you study on something that you really enjoy and feel motivated. Going there and figuring out that there is no study related to the specific topic you want to get involved will disappoint you.

Studying abroad means changing the way you live at least for a while. You will be moving to a new country in which a new social atmosphere will be waiting for you. You should consider the quality of life, expenses such as food and

accommodation, student clubs at the university, opportunities for international students and so on. Then you will know what is expecting you.

After all, there is a way that you can learn about all of these things through reading first-hand experiences. STeXX.eu, which is the Student Experience Exchange platform, gives you invaluable information that you most probably cannot find anywhere else. You can review other students' experiences and suggestions regarding the food at university, the cheapest accommodation, challenges in public transportation, the most student-friendly cafés and pubs, etc. Of course, after a while, you can also join STeXX and share your own experiences with other students.

A Few Universities Where You Could Study Forestry in Europe

Getting to know a few of the Forestry Programmes in Europe will help. Currently, United Kingdom, Finland and Sweden are the countries that offer most of the forestry programmes. Besides, there are many other countries that offer great opportunities for a master's degree in forestry.

International Master Study Programme (MSc)

Forest Information Technology (FIT)

Connecting forestry knowledge with
current information technologies

Study programme elements

Geographic Information Systems

Remote Sensing

Database Management

Programming

Operational Forestry

Project Planning &

Management

Ecosystem Modelling

Landscape Systems Analysis

Forest Decision Support Systems

All courses are taught
in English.

Application period

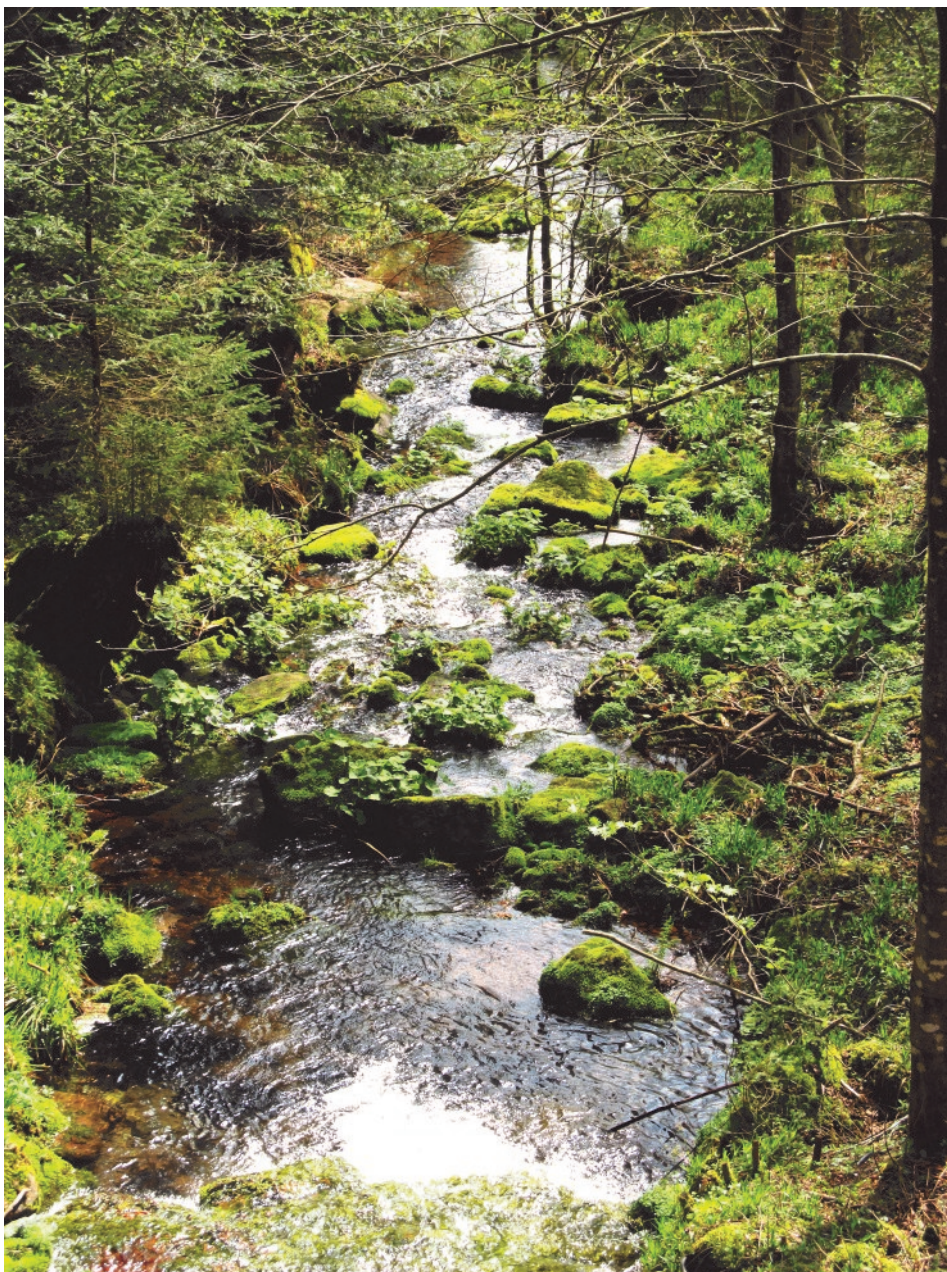
until May 1.



Contact

Ms. Astrid Schilling | Phone +49 3334- 657 167

E-Mail: Astrid.Schilling@hnee.de



Symbiosis

Photo: Vasja Leban

Supporting IFSA News Journal

Dear all,

IFSA News Journal is one of the important medium to inform forestry students around the world with a great scope and variety of articles. The Journal comes out since 1990 at least twice per year. IFSA's vision is to continue this long tradition and make the Journal even better.

If you want to support IFSA News Journal and other IFSA's activities you are welcome to contact us via e-mail: secretariat@ifsa.net

Size of Advertisement	Publication form in the issue	
	Printed + Digital	Digital only
1 page	600 EUR	300 EUR
1/2 page	350 EUR	175 EUR
1/4 page	150 EUR	75 EUR

Overview of latest theme related scientific papers

Collected by Vasja Leban | Biotechnical faculty, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

How Ecosystem Service Provision Can Increase Forest Mortality from Insect Outbreaks

Authors: Sims C., Aadland D., Finnoff D., Powell J.

Journal title: Land economics

Publication year: 2013

Volume: 89

Number: 1

Pages: 154-176



Towards the legal recognition and governance of forest ecosystem services in Mozambique

Authors: Norfolk S., Cosijn M.

Journal title: Potchefstroom Electronic Law Journal

Publication year: 2013

Volume: 16

Number: 2

Pages: 122-183



ECOSEL: Multi-objective optimization to sell forest ecosystem services

Authors: Tóth S.F., Ettl G.J., Könnyű N., Rabotyagov S.S., Rogers L.W., Comnick J.M.

Journal title: Forest Policy and Economics

Publication year: 2013

Volume: 35

Number: /

Pages: 73-82



Valuing forest ecosystem services: What we know and what we don't

Authors: Ninan K.N., Inoue M.

Journal title: Ecological Economics

Publication year: 2013

Volume: 93

Number: /

Pages: 137-149





Attitudes toward forest diversity and forest ecosystem services—a cross-cultural comparison between China and Switzerland

Authors: Lindemann-Matthies P., Keller D., Li X., Schmid B.

Journal title: Journal of Plant Ecology

Publication year: 2014

Volume: 7

Number: 1

Pages: 1-9



Providing preference-based support for forest ecosystem service management

Authors: Czajkowski M., Bartczak A., Giergiczny M., Navrud S., Żylicz T.

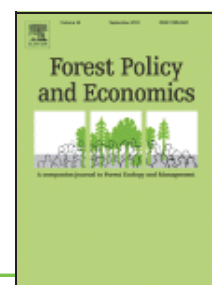
Journal title: Forest Policy and Economics

Publication year: 2014

Volume: 39

Number: /

Pages: 1-12



A forest ecosystem services evaluation at the river basin scale: Supply and demand between coastal areas and upstream lands (Italy)

Authors: Morri E., Pruscini F., Scolozzi R., Santolini R.

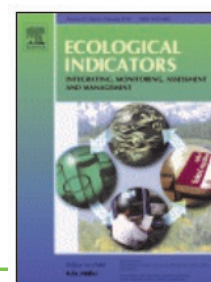
Journal title: Ecological Indicators

Publication year: 2014

Volume: 37

Number: Part A

Pages: 210-219



Evaluating the relative impact of climate and economic changes on forest and agricultural ecosystem services in mountain regions

Authors: Briner S., Elkin C., Huber R.

Journal title: Journal of Environmental Management

Publication year: 2014

Volume: 129

Number: /

Pages: 414-422



IFSA's & external upcoming events

Collected by IFSA

5th AEBIOM European Bioenergy Conference 2014

Place: Brussels, Belgium

Date: 12. - 14. May

Theme: Bioenergy Markets for Europe



IUFRO 3.08 and 4.05 International symposium 2014



Place: Sopron, Hungary

Date: 19. - 23. May

Theme: Adaptation in Forest Management Under Changing Framework Conditions

IFSA Interim 2013-2014

Place: Lausanne, Switzerland

Date: 03. - 07. June

Theme: CROSSING BOUNDARIES: Urban Forests – Green Cities



Forest Science Forum and International Conference on Bio-based Composites in Pan-Pacific Region

Place: Beijing, China

Date: 04. - 07. June

Theme: Green material, beautiful life

COFO - World Forest Week 2014

Place: Rome, Italy

Date: 23. - 27. June

Organized by: UNFAO



International Forestry Students' Symposium—IFSS 2014



Place: British Columbia, Canada

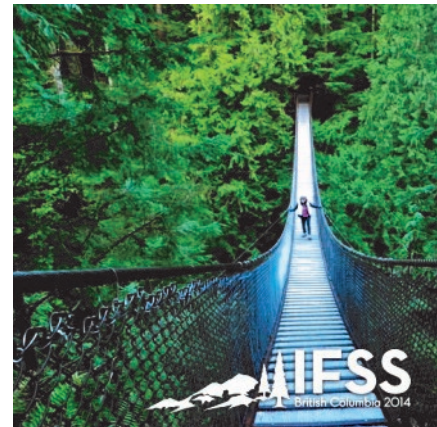
Date: 06. - 21. August

Organized by: IFSA-UBC, IFSA-TRU, IFSA-UNBC

International Forestry Students' Symposium 2014 blurb

Dear IFSA World,

The 42nd International Forestry Students' Symposium is approaching! From August 6 - 21st, over 130 international forestry students from all over the world will come to British Columbia, Canada, to explore the province's forested ecosystems.



The theme of the 2014 Symposium is “***Our Roots, Our Future***”: we aim to highlight the rich history of forestry in BC, and how the province’s forests are so deeply intertwined with its people, its culture, and its future. During the two weeks, we will showcase BC’s forested landscapes, forest practices, and forest management innovations! We will visit and camp at natural parks, logging operations, lakes, old growth forests, and breath-taking mountains.

Student delegates will get a chance to participate in the Plenary Sessions, workshops, discussion forums, networking events with industry and academia, and to present their own research through oral and poster presentations. And of course there will be many cultural and social events, like marshmallow roasting by the fire and the International Night!

Not attending IFSS 2014? Don't worry! You can follow the most exciting forestry event this summer through our interactive Esri Story Map! We will be posting images and videos of the places we visit, as well as the presentations and lectures as they take place.

Don't forget to like us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/ifss2014bc), check out our website (www.ifss2014.ca), and follow us on Twitter (@ifss2014bc) for all the latest information about the Symposium!

IFSS 2014 Organizing Committee from UBC, TRU, and UNBC

Call for articles

Dear IFSA members and IFSA News readers,

the Editorial team thanks to all the contributors for this issue and encourages others to take advantage of participating. Let others know what are you doing... write a report, an article, a story or a résumé of your thesis. Submissions are welcome any time!

Participating is being!

You may write us at: ifsanews@ifsa.net



“People live like birds in the woods: When the time comes, each must take flight.”

Chinese proverb