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CFA Membership

Chairman's Column

The year 2001 was one of exceptional activity on the part of CFA in its major functions and in increasing the Association's reach through wider membership. It is disappointing, though, to have to report a deficit for the year 2001. This is a consequence of heightened activity, but may be seen as an investment in future effective service to an extended membership. I would like to present some of the highlights from my report to the AGM.

In April 2001 the 16th Commonwealth Forestry Conference was held in Fremantle, Australia, in conjunction with the 19th biennial conference of the Institute of Foresters of Australia. The CFA was well represented by members participating and from support by the Australian CFA branch and the CFA regional Chairman, Mr. R L Newman.

Through the auspices of the CFA, UK DFID, Canadian CIDA and the Commonwealth Foundation assisted participation of delegates from several Commonwealth countries who were early to mid-career professionals and others mainly working with NGOs. This support included a one-day satellite workshop on forestry in Small Island Developing States.

Dr. Stephen Bass, Director of Forestry at the International Institute for Environment and Development, London, was selected for

the Year 2001 Queen's Award for Forestry. The presentation was made at the Commonwealth Forestry Conference. Six regional awards were made in 2001.

The four issues of the *International Forestry Review* (incorporating the *Commonwealth Forestry Review*) included a special edition featuring the key papers from the 16th Commonwealth Forestry Conference. The new editor, Alan Pottinger, assisted by Mrs. Pratima Mitchell, has maintained the high standard of the IFR, and is in the process of obtaining refereed journal status for the Review. The generosity of the Commonwealth Foundation enables the CFA to distribute the Review to developing country members. The Newsletter, edited by Philip Wardle, is now a well-established and valued means of communicating with the membership and others interested in the work of the CFA.

A new CFA Handbook 2001-2005 was published in 2001 under the editorship of Peter Wood. With support from UK DFID, Canadian CIDA and Dr Jag Maini (UN Forum on Forests) CFA published *The World's Forests: Rio+8 Policy, practice and progress towards sustainable management* - editors Mia Soderlund and Alan Pottinger. This major book details the international forestry agreements and debates entered into since 1997 and is the third in the series following on from Rio+2, Rio+5.

The international newsletter of the Commonwealth Forestry Association

"To promote the well-being of the world's forests and all who benefit from them."

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Chairman's Column (concluded)

In 2001 an agreement was reached between CFA and the South African Institute of Foresters (SAIF) where the SAIF acts as the regional node for the CFA for the SADCC region countries. This mutually beneficial arrangement is for a trial period of two years.

The Young Professional Forester Exchange Scheme, supported by a grant from the Commonwealth Foundation, was awarded to the southern Africa region, for a south/south exchange of two foresters between Tanzania and South Africa.

The CFA office continues to deal with many wide-ranging enquiries and handles all the correspondence and accounting work. Mrs. Michelle Brooks, Secretary to the Association, was assisted

by Ms Kirsty Leeks. Valuable support was also provided by Virginia Ross, Nel Gibson, and Keith Jeddere-Fisher.

from **JULIAN EVANS**
Chairman CFA

*Professor Julian Evans was elected to Honorary Membership of the Society of American Foresters in February 2002. Honorary members are individuals who have rendered distinguished service to forestry through development, diffusion and application of forestry knowledge, advancement and benefit of the welfare of society through forestry, and development of society's awareness of forestry.

Association News

AGM 2002

The Annual General Meeting of the Commonwealth Forestry Association was held at the Arundell Arms Hotel, Lifton, Devon on Thursday 16th May. An apology for his absence was received from the president H E Mr J.E K. Aggrey-Orleans. The chair was taken by Professor Julian Evans.

The chairman reported on the past years activities (see above). The Hon Treasurer Christopher Latham presented the accounts and reviewed the concern at the past years deficit and resulting reduction in net assets. Steps to balance the budget were indicated.

Mardi MacGregor brought greetings from the International Forestry Students Association. She was attending with two other members of IFSA. She described the lively and stimulating activities of the organisation in communications and in bringing forestry students of many countries together and their good experience for the future in forestry. The collaboration between IFSA and CFA would be mutually beneficial.

Office holders and Council members were elected. The president H E Mr J.E K. Aggrey-Orleans was re-elected. The current chairman Professor Julian Evans stood down for personal reasons. Professor Jeff Burley was elected as chairman. The other office bearers Mafa Chipeta, vice chairman; Christopher Latham, hon. treasurer and the independent examiner, S Brown; were re-elected.

The dues for ordinary members were set at £50. The dues for life members wishing to receive IFR were set at £25. The



Executive committee meets at Trebartha 16th May ▲

recommendation of the executive committee that dues and subscriptions should be reviewed every year for adjustment, to take account of changing costs, was supported.

The next AGM will be held in Quebec, Canada, in conjunction with the XII World Forestry Congress, in the period 21 – 28 September 2003.

New Student Members

We would like to welcome some new student members who, although their homes are in the four corners of the world, are currently studying in England (Oxford and Reading) and Wales (Bangor). They are: Ram Dahal, Agbor Ebot, KZ Hussain, BN Regmi, BC Beckman, S Khan, Kath Saunders, Mary Menton, Sarah Gillett, Richard Snow and Rebecca Latchford.

CFA members Julian Evans, Peter Wood and Keith Jeddere-Fisher took the opportunity to introduce them to the CFA and the benefits of membership to

foresters around the world. They made these presentations either when they were invited to give a lecture to the students or by making a special request to the faculty.

Do you live close to a university teaching forestry or natural resource management? Do you have opportunities to lecture or in some way come into contact with students from these institutions? If so you could enable these students to join this global association of professionals involved in forest management.

This is something that National Branches could take responsibility for, mobilising your members to promote the CFA in colleges and universities. A short series of overhead transparencies, summarising the nature and the benefits of the CFA, were prepared as part of these presentations, and the CFA office can mail or email these to you at your request.

from **KEITH JEDDERE-FISHER**
Membership Secretary

AGM Forestry Tour

On the accompanying forestry tour, 16-18 May, we visited Trebartha Woods where we were guests of the Latham family and under the guidance of the forest manager Bob O'Bryen. Our visit to the Eden Project was lead by Ian Martin, and that to the Duchy of Cornwall woodlands and nursery, was lead by Geraint Richards. On the final day we visited Tavistock Woodlands under the guidance of Mark Snelgrove.

Particular thanks are due to the UK Branch chairman, David Henderson-Howat and to Christopher Latham for the excellent organization of the meeting and the forest tour on the borders of Devon and Cornwall.



CFA at Trebartha ▲



Vice Presidents contemplate the future ▲



Mark Snelgrove with Tavistock wood ▲



Eden's wooden pig ▲



IFSA ▲



Bob O'Bryen answers for Trebartha ▲

Forestry in Small States and Island Nations

Nepal to Melbourne University

Coming from an underdeveloped country like Nepal, it is a great task for any person to adjust completely in the type of society that exists in almost every corner of Australia. Even after staying in Australia (mostly Victoria) for almost 40 months, I still am confused about the way of life people live everyday. And, the feeling of uneasiness (in being among the western people) never goes away no matter how hard I try. However, I am glad to have landed in this great country and I will return to my homeland with the achievement for what I came here for. This is a dream come true.

I was granted a sponsorship from AusAID (Australian Agency for International Development) to undertake an undergraduate degree in Forest Science (4 years) at The University of Melbourne. Presently a final year student, I have finished the three tough years. The first year of general science subjects and the second and the third years of the course are the most enjoyable and demanding at the same time, focused on practical training and field knowledge.

Throughout the course students are given training in the field, which I am sure, will come in helpful when we start our career as professionals. One of the components of the course is

to undertake 16 weeks of work experience with various forestry organizations and learn how the system works out there in the real world, where Theory is put into Practice. I was mainly involved with the survey works during my two outings as a forestry student. But, it never is the case when there is no fire related duties, as fire forms an integral part of Australian forests. There was also some very useful training in practical matters such as - Four Wheel Drive Training, NRE General Fire-fighter, Occupational Health & Safety Regulations and Environmental Care Regulations for Forest Workers, Chainsaw Operations, Generic Chemicals and Biological Control Agent Competencies.

These three years have given me a lot. Not only I had a chance to see Australia, know about its culture, people and religion but also I learnt a great deal in Australian forestry and its influence on most of the sectors. Hopefully, in the coming years wherever I go I will be able to draw in from the skills and experiences I gained during my four years stay in Australia.

from ROSHAN THAPA

Forests of the Solomon Islands

The Pacific Forest explores the use of the forests of the Solomon Islands from the dawn of human settlement some 28,000 years ago with the Melanesians and their gardening within the forest, up to the end of 1997 when much of the exploitable indigenous forest had been logged.

The demands on the tropical rain forests accelerated with the use of the metal-based technology of the West in the early 19th Century in place of stone-age implements. The coming of the plantation economy (e.g. coconuts) under the British Protectorate in the late 19th Century was responsible for limited clearance of the forest, but it was not until the 1920's that the special qualities of certain of the tropical species were valued in Australia. This led to the setting up of a small export oriented logging industry.

Military forces during World War Two utilised local timbers for a wide range of purposes and greatly extended knowledge of their timber properties and their potential in the international timber trade. Post war demand grew and alerted the Solomon islanders, who gained their independence from Britain in 1978, to the cash value of their forests that became a seemingly unlimited and untouched resource for their social development and further participation in the modern world. As the author puts it – “increasingly since 1990 that perception has faded with the realisation of what has been lost in the loggers wake.”

In 1998 the Government accepted an offer of Australian aid and this enabled the drafting of new legislation resulting in the Forests Act 1999. The three-year contract that the Solomons signed with Australia provided aid for a Forest Management Programme with the implementation of the legislation being a prime component of the contract. *Inter alia* the Act enunciates guiding principles to protect the resources of forest and soil; and a clear and predictable legal context ensures security for resource owners and foreign and domestic logging companies. The author is not hopeful that the comprehensive Act and the projected forest policy will be other than “a set of forlorn hopes for this much contested Pacific forest.”

It is pleasing that the importance of the Empire/Commonwealth forestry literature in publicising forestry policies and practices – much no doubt stemming from Empire and Commonwealth Forestry Conferences - is noted and quoted.

from E.G. RICHARDS

Pacific Forest by Judith A Bennett. *A History of Resource Control and Contest in Solomon Islands C 1800 – 1997*. 528 pages. ISBN 1-874267-43-x (White Horse Press); 90-04-11960-4 (Brill Academic Publishers).

Forests, source of life

Forests have sustained life on earth from time immemorial. They supply food, medicine, energy, shelter, wood and non-wood forest products. In addition to representing a source of economic development for individuals and communities, forests and trees provide a way to express social, cultural and spiritual values. Home to many forms of life, they play an essential role environmentally, in particular to conserve soil and water, maintain biodiversity and mitigate climate changes.

As much as forests are part of people's life, the world's forests have also been marked by human evolution. Their survival and their capacity to meet human needs and maintain life depend, to a large extent, on human decisions and actions. Thus, it is crucial that



all the concerned actors build the required capacity to conserve, manage and develop the forests worldwide. In that respect, one of today's greatest challenges is to reconcile the demands of those whose livelihood and well-being depend on the forest and its many resources while maintaining the essential ecological functions fulfilled by the forests.

Centered on the theme of Forests, source of life, the XII World Forestry Congress will be held in Québec City, Canada, from September 21 to 28, 2003. For seven days, participants as individuals and from various government, education and research, private, community and non-government organizations will get together to analyze, discuss and participate in the largest and most important forestry meeting worldwide. Organized in collaboration with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the XII WFC will be an open forum intended for everyone interested by the forest and its multiple facets.

The XII WFC will look at innovative ways to address current and emerging issues, including those of a cross-sectoral and interdisciplinary nature. It will also aim to forge a vision of the future based on a harmonious, balanced approach to sustainable forest management and its many dimensions.

Preliminary information is given below on the topics included in the program. Note that time will be set aside to address the future role of forests and sustainable forest management on an eco-regional basis.

XII CFM Program areas and topics:

A - Forests for People

Address the many expectations that people place on forests and focus on how different socio-cultural values influence the way that forests are perceived, valued and managed:

(A1) Human needs and demands; (A2) Economic aspects; (A3) Social, cultural and spiritual values; (A4) Development of human potential; (A5) Roles and responsibilities.

B - Forests for the Planet

Examine the state of the world's forests and their capacity to provide a wide range of goods and services and fulfill essential functions:

(B1) Status and trends; (B2) Environmental functions; (B3) Conservation, protection and restoration; (B4) Management and development of forest lands; (B5) Agroforestry, trees outside forests, low forest cover.

C - People and forests in harmony

Identify improvements to institutions and policies necessary to move forward:

(C1) Sustainable management models; (C2) Forest related policies and institutions; (C3) Cross-sectoral policies; (C4) Research, technology and education; (C5) Global thinking in action.

Although topics vary widely, provisions will be made to address common elements in every deliberation, including issues of concern for local communities, indigenous people, women and youth; the range of stakeholders; low and high forest cover countries; developing and developed nations.

Call for voluntary papers and posters

Individuals are invited to submit voluntary papers and posters as a means to express new ideas and provide information on practical experiences, conceptual models and interesting initiatives. Select papers will be published in the Congress proceedings and posted on the Congress website. On behalf of the XII World Forestry Congress, we are calling for papers (each with an abstract) or abstracts for posters to be submitted to the FAO Department of Forestry by **September 30, 2002** at the latest.

Detailed guidelines for authors are available on the XII World Forestry Congress website <http://www.wfc2003.org> or by mail, fax or e-mail on request. Abstracts should not exceed 300 words, and papers should not exceed 3,000 words or ten pages, including tables and bibliography. Authors may present posters in a computer-assisted format. Steps will be taken to ensure balanced representation from geographic regions and from differing points of view.

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Around the World

UN Forestry Forum

UNFF 2 took place in the plenary hall of the United Nations General Assembly, New York 4-15 March 2002

Ministerial Declaration 13 March 2002

We, the Ministers, responsible for forests in our countries reaffirm our commitment to the Forest Principles and Agenda 21, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992.

We commit ourselves to the implementation of the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action. While countries have the primary responsibility to implement the Proposals, we underline the importance for the international community to strengthen cooperation on finance, trade, transfer of environmentally sound technology and capacity building.

The following are major points from the Declaration:

- Forests and trees outside of forests cover nearly one-third of the earth's land surface and economic, social and environmental well-being of the planet and humanity is closely linked with sustainable forest management.
- States have the sovereign and inalienable right to utilize, manage and develop their forests.
- The management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests involves reconciling diverse and sometimes conflicting interests and is the concern of governments, public and private owners, managers and other stakeholders - stressing the importance of multi-stakeholder participation.
- Challenges to achieving sustainable forest management include making it self-financing and recognizing the value of the multiple functions, goods and services provided by forests. The importance of trade and national and international public and private sources of finance have complementary roles in achieving this goal. Official Development Assistance, at the levels already agreed, will be required if developing countries are to achieve the internationally agreed development goals and objectives.
- The role that sustainable forest management plays in all countries to eradicate poverty and to achieve sustainable development is

underscored.

We commit ourselves to strengthen the UNFF's leading role, endorse its Plan of Action, Multi-Year Programme of Work, and support the Collaborative Partnership on Forests.

The work of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention to Combat Desertification, the Framework Convention on Climate Change and other relevant conventions, complements and supports the UNFF Plan of Action.

The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) represents a unique opportunity to strengthen political commitment and promote international cooperation in sustainable forest management

We invite the WSSD to:

- a) Advance sustainable forest management as a critical means to eradicate poverty, reduce land and resource degradation, improve food security as well as access to safe drinking water and affordable energy and highlight the multiple benefits of both natural and planted forests and trees to the well being of the planet and humanity.
- b) Enhance political commitment to achieve sustainable forest management
- c) Urge developed countries that have not done so to make concrete efforts towards the target of 0.7% of GNP as ODA to developing countries and 0.15% to 0.20% of GNP to least developed countries (LDCs);
- d) Call for immediate action on domestic forest law enforcement and illegal international trade in forest products;
- e) Call for immediate action at national and international levels to promote and facilitate the means to achieving sustainable timber harvesting;
- f) Call for initiatives to address the needs of those parts of the world that currently suffer from poverty and the highest rates of deforestation;
- g) Create and strengthen partnerships and international cooperation to facilitate: the provision of increased financial resources, transfer of environmentally sound technologies, trade, capacity building, forest law enforcement and governance at all levels, and integrated land and resource management to implement sustainable forest management.

We, the Ministers, pledge our continued commitment to the international arrangement on forests and involvement in the UNFF.

from UNFF

The Economics of Sustainability

Dr. Jeffrey Sachs, a renowned macroeconomist from Harvard, gave a major address to the World Bank on 'The Economics of Sustainability' as part of the Bank's Sustainable Development Month on April 16, 2002.

Sachs began by noting the World Bank has a pivotal role to play in helping meet the Millennium Goal's poverty reduction targets set for 2015. Sustainability, he said, can be defined in three ways. First, as debt sustainability. Second, as project or donor sustainability, so when funding for the start up costs of a project conclude, the project can continue. Third, sustainability of the environment and ecosystems.

Sachs argues that the first two definitions of sustainability, debt and donor, are not viable. He states the developing world's poor are not going to enjoy the benefits of sustainable development through fiscal restructuring and loans. It must come from sizeable resource transfers.

We need to understand the poor are too poor to pay for their own

health care. We need large-scale transfers of up to \$25 billion annually. This analysis for health care needs to be duplicated for other critical development issues including hunger, education, access to clean water and sanitation. Asked who is going to cover these recurrent costs his response is "we are!" at a cost to the rich, industrialized world of one cent for every \$10 of its income.

The third definition of sustainability is environmental and ecological sustainability. Most economists recognize that without breaking the poverty trap, environmental sustainability is not achievable. Much environmental degradation to watershed, forests and biodiversity is poverty driven as the poor use resources to meet their farming and biomass needs. "Don't blame the poor", Sachs says "Help them by ensuring that they have food, clean water and sanitation, and access to health care."

from WORLD BANK

Biodiversity loss to be stopped in 2010

The sixth conference of the Parties celebrated the tenth anniversary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, meeting in The Hague in April. A statement agreed by 120 ministers acknowledged that "biological diversity is being destroyed by human activities at unprecedented rates". The only aim agreed was to have "instruments in place to stop and reverse the current alarming biodiversity loss at the global, regional, sub-regional and national levels by the year 2010".

Agreement was reached on equitable sharing of benefits of genetic resources. The agreed guidelines advise governments on how to set fair and practical conditions for companies, collectors and researchers seeking genetic resources for new drugs or fragrances. In return the users must offer benefits in profits, royalties, scientific collaboration and training. The deal, although voluntary, would set moral rules for companies to follow.

from THE GUARDIAN, April 2002

WOOD FOR AFRICA 2002 Pietermaritzburg, South Africa. 2-6 July 2002

The programme in brief: **Plenary Session Tuesday 2 July** Dr John Job Chairman Sappi Southern Africa - "*Southern African Forestry, The Future Explored*". Dr Bob Scholes, CSIR, SA - "*Climate Change: How It Affects Forestry and How Forestry Helps to Avoid It*". John McPhearson, Canada - "*Forest Privatisations 10 Years Later - Who has Profited?*". Dr M N Salleh, TroBio Research, Malaysia, Human Rights Commission for Asia - "*Politics, Humans Rights and Forestry*". Dr. Sharmane Perrow (MacRae), State Forests of New South Wales, Australia - "*Value Recovery from Genetics and Tree Breeding*". Mr David Bills, DG Forestry Commission GB - "*Forest Certification: The United Kingdom Experience*". Mr Dennis Neilson, DANA Ltd New Zealand - "*Supply and Demand in the International Solidwood Trade*".

Concurrent Conferences: Wednesday 3 July Each with 8-10 speakers: 1. Community & Agro Forestry; 2. Creating, growing trees through innovation and technology; 3. Fire – (with **United Nations** meeting and presentations of working groups: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) and Sub-Saharan Wildland Fire Network.); 4. Certification, Environment & Markets - A Partnership; 5.

Forest Engineering; 6. Saw Milling, Drying & Value-adding. **Exhibition** Thursday –Saturday 4-6 July.

from LOLLY STUART
www.woodforafrica.com

NAFTA and softwood

On March 22nd the US department of Commerce announced that it would slap a tariff of 29% on Canadian softwood (Economist 30.3.2002). In Tropical Timber Market Information (ITTO 7/4 Feb 2002) the long history of this dispute is described where the US claims that the stumpage fees for timber from Canadian Crown Land are subsidized.

Under an agreement in 1986, Canada imposed a tax on exports to counterbalance low stumpage fees. This was cancelled in 1991. Then the US imposed a countervailing duty of 14.48%. In 1996 a new agreement exempted 14.7 billion board feet of lumber with a sliding tariff on volumes over this amount. With the expiry of this agreement in August 2001, an interim 19.3% countervailing duty was imposed and in October the US Department of Commerce added an additional 12.6% anti dumping duty so that Canadian producers were burdened with a 31.9% duty.

Canada has gone to the World Trade Organisation to challenge the punitive duties. The US forest coalition is demanding that Canadian provinces auction two thirds of their harvest and that Canada should lift its log export ban.

from ITTO

Election Results of NFA

Nepal Foresters Association (NFA) got its new executive body elected on 13 April. NFA is one of the oldest professional organizations of Nepal established in 1974. The newly elected executive body is headed by Dr. Keshar Man Bajracharya, a well-known forester and academician of Nepal. The association has more than 700 members throughout the country and abroad.

from GK LUND, Forest Information Update
gklund@worldnet.att.net

Research

Bringing back the forests

Policies and practices for degraded lands and forests. Kuala Lumpur, October 7th-10th 2002

This conference about rehabilitating degraded lands and forests in Asia and the Pacific is organised by APAFRI in conjunction with FAO – FORSPA, FRIM and IUFRO. The aim is to bring together rehabilitation practitioners, researchers, forest managers and policy makers to learn from each other's experiences and get partnerships for the future. We also hope that the conference will help to secure the necessary policy commitment for advancing rehabilitation efforts in the region. <http://www.apafri.upm.edu.my>

from YEANG NYET-POI, Information Officer,
Asia Pacific Association for Forest Research Institutions
(APAFRI), c/o Forest Research Institute Malaysia

The Marcus Wallenberg Prize

The Marcus Wallenberg Prize, an international award, was established in 1980 by the Swedish Forest Company, Stora Kopparbergs Bergslags AB, now merged with the Finnish company Enso as Stora Enso. From January 1, 2002, the Prize will be legally independent from Stora Enso and will be financially dependent on the Marcus Wallenberg Foundation.

The Prize was instituted to recognize, encourage and stimulate research and development of a pioneering nature that significantly increases knowledge and technological progress in areas affecting the forestry and forest products industries.

The winner in 2001 was Dr Robert Evans of the CSIRO Division of Forestry and Forest Products, Melbourne, Australia. He followed Dr Robert Leicester from the CSIRO Division of Building Research who won the Prize in 2000.

Dr Evans developed a practical method and a tool called

SilviScan with which the key properties and distribution of wood fibres can be determined in a large number of wood samples between 100 and 1000 times faster than previous methods. The knowledge gained makes it possible to determine how these trees can be best utilized to maximise their value.

The 2002 prize will be awarded to Dr. Melvin T. Tyree, in recognition of his pioneering scientific discoveries leading to basic understanding of water relation in trees. His pathbreaking research has elucidated the hydraulic architecture and mechanisms of water transport in a wide range of temperate and tropical trees. Dr Tyree graduated in USA and holds a Ph.D. degree in Plant Biophysics from Cambridge University, U.K. At present he is Supervisory

Plant Physiologist at USDA Forest Service, Northeastern Research Station in Vermont, is adjunct professor at the University of Vermont and is adjunct staff scientist at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama.

H.M. King Carl XVI Gustaf will present the Marcus Wallenberg Prize to Dr. Tyree at a ceremony to be held in Stockholm on September 26 this year. This will be the 19th occasion at which the Prize will be awarded.

from Prof JEFF BURLEY, Chairman
Marcus Wallenberg Prize Selection Committee

Special Feature

Forestry Related International Organisations Based in Asia

ITTO Yokohama, Japan

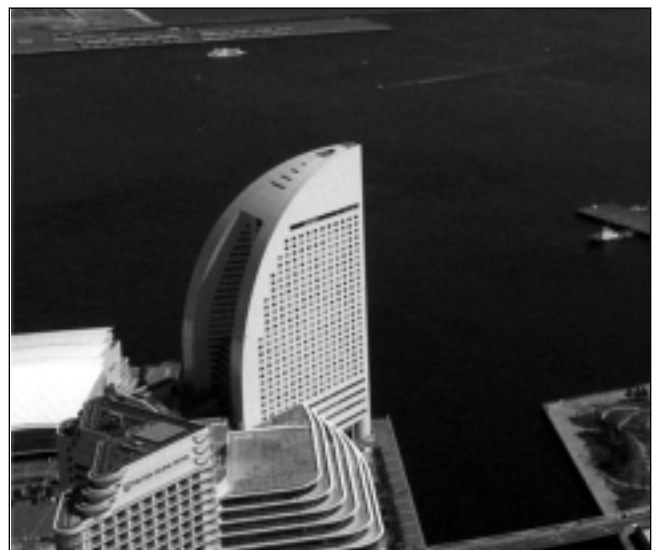
The International Tropical Timber Organization deals with much more than timber. ITTO is an intergovernmental organization with 57 member governments, more than half of which are tropical countries that together contain about 80% of the world's tropical forests.

The agreement under which ITTO operates was perhaps the first international agreement to embody the principles of sustainable development. It recognizes that a sustainable tropical timber trade – an important element in the economic development of many tropical countries – will be based on the sustainable management of the tropical forest resource. Since its beginnings, ITTO has therefore focused on three key areas of work: encouraging the further processing of tropical timber in tropical countries; bringing transparency to the tropical timber trade; and improving the standard of forest management.

ITTO has developed several policies, agreed by all its members, for the sustainable management of natural tropical forests, including guidelines for the conservation of biological diversity in production forests and criteria and indicators for the monitoring of trends in forest management. It has backed up this policy work with a sweeping programme of projects with total value over ITTO's lifetime of US\$230 million. At any one time the Organization employs, through this program, about 500 forestry and conservation professionals in the tropics.

The Organization's sustainable forest management-oriented projects include pilot initiatives in sustainable forest management over about 3 million hectares. ITTO is also developing a significant programme in reduced impact logging training, including a training school in Guyana and plans to establish similar schools in several other tropical countries.

Dr Manoel Sobral invites the President of Indonesia, Megawati Soekarnoputri, to open ITTC in Bali (picture from Andrei Henry IISD) ▾



ITTO in Yokohama ▲

ITTO recognizes the need for involving local people in both the process of forest management and its rewards; at least 50% of its portfolio of field projects has a strong community focus.

Totally protected areas are also an important element of sustainable forest management at the landscape level. ITTO is currently funding projects to establish and manage about 11 million hectares of totally protected areas and their buffer zones in the tropics. Many of these are transboundary, taking advantage of ITTO's ability to bring countries together.

A very large amount of the tropical forest estate has been degraded by logging, agriculture and other agents. The Organization is currently finalizing new guidelines for the management of secondary forests, the restoration of degraded forests and the rehabilitation of degraded forest lands. As part of that process, ITTO recently co-sponsored a workshop on forest landscape restoration in partnership with IUCN, WWF and others. We also have a significant programme in mangrove conservation and sustainable use.

Recently steps have been taken to address illegal logging and illegal trade including global work to increase the transparency of the trade, a new field project in Indonesia and provision of funds to assist governments wishing to strengthen their forest law enforcement capacity.

tfu@itto.or.jp
from ALASTAIR SARRE, ITTO

CIFOR, the Center for International Forestry Research

Is focusing on Tropical Forests, Rural Livelihoods, and Good Governance

- Headquarters in Indonesia and offices in Brazil, Cameroon, and Zimbabwe
- Works in around 30 countries throughout the tropics
- 50 researchers on staff and 250 in partner organizations, mostly in developing countries
- Funding from around 40 governments, foundations & international agencies

Given that producing and processing timber often requires a lot of land and capital, which poor people don't have, and that past investments in forestry and conservation had less impact than hoped - Why Invest in Forest Research?

Forests are Important for the Poor

- Forests provide safety nets to the poorest of the poor.
- The economies of poor regions depend on forest products
- The huge stored wealth in forests could benefit the poor.

And in addition...

- Open debate about forests strengthens governance
- Conflicts over resources in forested areas breed violence.
- Forest sector corruption undermines good government.
- Environmental problems must be solved.

Well-done research about forests and people can:

- Put issues on the policy and scientific agenda;
- Guide on-going processes and provide a

learning component in development and conservation projects;

- Bust myths and redirect scarce resources.

CIFOR focuses on three main themes:

- Livelihoods (cash incomes and subsistence from timber and non-forest products);
- Environmental services (biodiversity, carbon, water, fire, and soil fertility);
- Governance (social learning, negotiations, criteria & indicators, decentralization, conflict, illegal activities).

Approach to Research:

- CIFOR does policy-relevant research grounded in a solid understanding of ecology.
- We target key global institutions, processes, opinion leaders, and dissemination channels.
- We are starting to use national strategies to achieve results at the country level.
- Our local work provides immediate results and ensures we remain grounded.
- Working with national partners helps to build local capacity.

Impact at the Global Level.

- Gaining acceptance for Criteria & Indicators for sustainable forest management.
- Encouraging the GEF to look beyond protected areas.
- Developing the CBD work program on forest biological diversity with a pro-poor focus.
- Helping reach agreement on caps in the climate change convention.
- Promoting a multisectoral approach to forest problems at the World Bank.

Getting the Message Out to

- 7,000 people through CIFOR 'Forest Policy Experts' electronic listserve,



CIFOR HQ ▲

- Influential journals with wide distribution (e.g. Science, World Bank Research Observer, World Development),
- World Bank, FAO, WRI, WWF, IUCN, and ITTO publications,
- Mass media (e.g. BBC, Financial Times, Guardian, International Herald Tribune, National Geographic, Wall Street Journal).

Capacity building

- In-service training for 200-300 collaborators each year,
- Improved methods, writing skills, multi-disciplinarity and experience,
- Workshops disseminate research findings.

Impact at the National Level:

- Raising awareness of the importance of forests to the rural poor in Tanzania.
- Guiding regional policies for bamboo development in China.
- Supporting municipal forest management efforts in Bolivia, Brazil, Honduras and Nicaragua.
- Incorporating secondary forest in Peru's new forestry law.
- Forest debt in Indonesia.

from DAVID KAIMOVITZ
CIFOR

INBAR, Beijing, China

The International Network for Bamboo and Rattan, Director General Dr Ian Hunter, UK, DDG Prof Chen Xuhe China, is a non-profit international organization established by treaty in 1997. It has 22 member countries and 199 affiliates. The headquarters is in Beijing, China and small offices have been opened in Malaysia, India and Ecuador with plans for another in Ghana. In October 2000, INBAR was accepted by the Common Fund for Commodities as the International Commodity Body for Bamboo and Rattan.

INBAR's mission is to improve the well being of producers and users of bamboo and rattan within the context of a sustainable bamboo and rattan base by consolidating, coordinating and supporting strategic and adaptive research and development.

Significant field based activity has been established in Hainan Island, China; in NE India, Ecuador and the Philippines. Projects are being established in Ghana, Tanzania, Bangladesh and Nepal. The aim of all these projects is to alleviate rural poverty by providing improved



INBAR members ▲

sustainable livelihood opportunities. INBAR is currently working with UNEP-WCMC on the distribution of bamboo and rattan species; with TRADA and DFID on bamboo buildings, with ISO to establish international building codes, with FAO on technology assessment and transfer for poverty reduction and with ITTO, EFI and UNSTAT to improve the quality of statistics relating to bamboo and rattan. (See also CFN 7 & 11)

UNU and Forestry, Tokyo, Japan

The United Nations University held an international conference on “forests and sustainable development – the values of forests” in October 2000 and published *The Values of Forests*

in February 2001. The following taken from the UNU statement to UNFF2 summarises its continuing work on forestry.

The United Nations University is making use of its expertise through research and capacity building in order to resolve the pressing global problems in forestry-related areas.

The UNU has the outreaching goal of

advancing knowledge for human security and development. In the area of forest conservation, for example, through the major conference on *The Value of Forests - Forests and Sustainable Development*, held in Tokyo in October 2000, UNU has highlighted the true nature of multiple values of forests in promoting sustainable development.

Building on past work in the area of World Forest, Society and Environment (WFSE), UNU has also initiated a new pilot project to conduct targeted research, and to support networking and

capacity building on the role of forests in sustainable development in developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

A concrete example of UNU's contribution to the UNFF Plan of Action, particularly the National Forestry Programmes (NFPs), is the project to develop NFPs through focusing on the role of research, capacity building and higher education in the countries with economies in transition of Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

from LIBOR JANSKY, UNU

Education

University Forest Education Leaders Meet

At the end of 2001 an Edinburgh meeting was followed by an international gathering in Vancouver, to consider the widely perceived decline in forestry education and the action needed to counter the trend.

Prof Jeff Burley summarised the situation. The number of applications for professional and technical education courses have declined in the UK and the nature and image of the forestry profession has changed substantially in the last decade. A meeting of senior forestry educators and employers considered responses to address these changes, including: broadening the scope of forestry education to include socio-economic aspects with the traditional biophysical subjects, reducing actual teaching loads by increasing self-learning methods and enhancing collaboration between universities and with employers. Forestry teachers must seek to enhance the academic status of forestry within universities and learn to interact with policy-makers, the media, the public and especially schools and school children, to confirm the academic and applied natures of the profession together with the career opportunities available.

To enhance the standing of the forestry profession, the attraction of courses to students, and the academic status of the discipline,

they recommended the following potential responses: -

- Broaden scope of courses
- Reduce teaching load
- Increase self-learning
- Enhance inter-university collaboration
- Encourage university-employer collaboration
- Increase opportunities for placements
- Enhance academic status within universities
- Seek financial support for scholarships
- Introduce continuing professional education
- Consider distance learning courses
- Enhance the awareness of policy-makers, the media, the general public and school teachers and children.

The international group considered the involvement of forestry academics with international fora such as UNFF, IUFRO and FAO and the possible establishment of a consortium for international education. The need for academics to be active in forest policy discussions, the value of short courses to meet foreign countries' needs and the opportunities for exchanges on sabbatical, were particular topics.

The papers and discussions of the international session will be published by UBC

from JOHN INNES

Correspondence

Forcing a Green-Tinted Vision on the Developing Countries

Mikael Grut writes: I think that Mafa E. Chipeta's article 'Green-Tinted Vision' (CFN No.16) was excellent. Please send it to the Department of the Environment, for distribution to all members of the UK team at the 'Rio+10 Earth Summit' in Johannesburg in August.

We in the developed world are forcing our luxury green preoccupations on the peoples in the developing countries and preventing them from using their forests for production and development, as we used ours. In the 1980s I was attending a board

meeting at the World Bank in Washington when a new forestry project in Madagascar was discussed. Speaker after speaker from developed countries said how pleased they were about the nature conservation aspects of the project. Then speakers from developing countries said that that was precisely what they did not like about the project, which they considered a luxury project, and that it was unfair that developing countries should have to borrow money for things like that.

In 1991 I was part of a three-man team at the World Bank preparing the new forest sector policy paper. One day two men from the Finnish Embassy in Washington came to visit us. They had read a draft of our paper, and were alarmed to see that it dealt hardly at all with the productive aspects of forestry. 'Our country

was once poor,' they said, 'and our forests were the lever that raised us out of poverty, and today these forests are more productive than ever before. The same could happen in the developing countries.' But the Bank was too scared of the environmental NGOs and invited them from all over the world to express their opinions about what the policy paper should say, but no representatives of forestry associations or forest industries were invited.

The World Bank's next forest policy paper, called a 'strategy' paper, published in 2000, was much more production and development oriented, perhaps because the leader of the preparation team was from a developing country, but my impression from the World Bank is that words like 'plantation', 'afforestation' and 'logging' are still taboo there, so one has to use words like 'reforestation' and 'harvesting'. Of course production must be environmentally responsible, but production there should be, and the environmental aspects should be relevant to the people in the developing countries.

Poverty alleviation has been the obvious goal of the 'donor' agencies for decades – Robert McNamara stressed the point in Nairobi in 1974 – but the projects still do not reflect it. If we want to reduce poverty, we must promote job creation above all other things. The rest can wait as the poor have short time horizons. Development projects today are very 'fancy', what with biodiversity conservation, livelihood training, workshops, geographic information systems, computers, but they create very few jobs.

Asia-Pacific Logging Bans

John Purey-Cust writes: Responding to Patrick Durst's article in CFN16, in New Zealand's case it certainly isn't true that the remaining natural forest is 'no longer threatened'. The threat from uncontrolled logging has long ceased. The real threat comes from a potent mix of introduced animals - the Australian brush tailed opossum, various mustelids, rats and mice, and several species of deer. These attack both understory and the upper canopy, clean up seed fall, and prey on native birds and other fauna, often to the point of extinction.

Durst's comment no doubt arises from the closing of the only remaining timber harvest in Crown owned natural forest, on the West Coast of the South Island, where world-leading sustainable management methods were being developed on 130 000 hectares of nothofagus forest and, as Peter Allen points out, well demonstrated sustainable management in podocarp (*Dacrydium cupressinum*). All this forest passed from productive use to non-productive lock-up on 1 April 2002.

The declared conservation argument against this was not that it might damage the forest, which was regeneration from old clear felling, but that by succeeding, it would set a dangerous precedent. New Zealand now imports its hardwood timber needs from tropical rainforest with no questions asked about the sustainability of that harvest.

Forest Scenes

Sustainable forestry - more than just management

A.L. Poole, one of our longer standing members, joined the Association 70 years ago in 1932. The following, selected for its international relevance, is extracted from his article in the NZ Journal of Forestry, November 2001.

"Forestry is the art and science of managing forests so as to secure a wide range of environmental and socio-economic benefits" (NZ Institute of Forestry Policy).

This means that forestry is a long term, usually very long term, land use and mainly because of this trained staff are required to manage the forest and to sell its produce. Where there are large forests in a region, that region's social aspects need to be developed because of employment, transport, other local economic structures and public use of the forest itself. Above all, because of the usual long life of trees and the perpetual life of the forest, stable government policies are essential. This means the provision of an effective buffer between forest policies and short-term governments and the comprehensive forest policy must take into account the need of related organizations – wood users, importers and exporters.

Disconcerting happenings in the NZ forestry world during the past two decades make it abundantly clear that the country needs a comprehensive and stable forest policy. The NZ Institute of Forestry has commenced this process. Combinations with organizations of users of forest are needed – a stage we began to reach when the Forestry Development Council was formed in 1972. The need for detailed consideration when making radical changes in forestry is made clear when we remember how forestry affects our lives. It might be through obvious things like wood products and buildings or land use or through scenery, regulation of streams and rivers flowing through protection forest, or the security of soils.

One reason for setting up the Forest Service in 1919 was to introduce 'law and order' into the clearing of native forest from

crown owned potential farmland, and for measuring and selling logs from the clearing. Throughout the Forest Service's whole existence the prices of these logs, with the exception of kauri, were fixed by politicians at low or very low rates, as was the price of sawn-timber. The reason given for this was the need for cheap housing. As native timber supplies dwindled, disparity between these low (fixed) prices and the much higher values became matters of severe criticism. The Forest Service was always blamed – "The Forest Service doesn't pay its way; why does it sell the lovely native logs so cheaply"

Apart from accusations that the Forest Service never paid its way, changes to three-year Government terms prevented completely the sustained management of Crown native forest, yet government voted substantial amounts of money on extensive research into possible management, the development of research officers and research stations.

Remaining areas of kauri forest, forest that can readily be managed to produce valuable wood, are all tightly closed. Westland rimu forest – a wonderful stretch of uneven-aged rimu forest on glacier terrace, non agricultural soils, readily capable of sustained management and for which management plans were once set out – almost completely gone, leaving bogs behind. The weirdest circus of all is being performed around the southern beech forest. Sixty years ago the ecologist, Leonard Cockayne, one of the world founders of the science, wrote to the effect that the country possessed a source of great future wealth in managed beech forest. Fifty years ago the Government voted to experiment with sustained management, which proved to be simple using the unique seeding habit of the tree. Prospects of very large-scale beech management producing substantial quantities of wood were there. Enter the conservationist, short-term politicians and people who live in cities. The devils brew, so now we have constantly changing plans and no management.

While this changing world was taking place, the Forest Service was getting on with its other main task – the establishment of plantations to grow wood by the time the main yields from the native forest clearing came to an end. Politicians took a close and

understanding interest, members asked why planting could not take place in 'their country'. Subsidies for 'farm forestry' were agreed. The time came in the 1980s when preparations were needed to exploit the oldest plantations. It was not possible to separate in the minds of the Treasury and related organizations, the potential buyers, the need for the forest to 'pay its way', as well as the business, drawing its supplies from it, used to cheap native wood. The sale document was concocted in such a way that it amounted to an ever increasing subsidy to industry and a burden to the tax payer.

So here was a further substantial basis for the catch cry "The Forest Service never paid its way" Eventually the Forest Service was disestablished in 1987. A forestry corporation was set up with, in 1989, a major sale of cutting rights. The sale process took no account of almost a century of political effort and taxpayer investment for improving land use and providing for future industry and returns for the taxpayer. The resources contained a store of immediate wealth that must be released - the cutting rights sale for at least a rotation of trees, made mainly to overseas investors, would do the trick.

from A.L. POOLE

ETFRN

The European Tropical Forest Research Network publishes the ETFRN News three times a year. It has a distribution of over 3,600 copies world-wide it is also available online at:

(<http://www.etfrn.org/etfrn/resource/news.html>)

The next issue (Spring/Summer 2002) will focus on Forest resources assessment: issues and perspectives. This will cover the technical aspects of inventory and monitoring techniques, particularly

in developing countries. It will also focus on the socio-economic aspects related to the use of forest resource assessment results to achieve good forest management.

The aim is to provide an overview of the current development stage of forest resources assessment techniques; and to review their effectiveness in achieving expected results, statistical outputs, and a sound appraisal of the manifold functions and values (ecological, economic, social) of tropical forest ecosystems.

giopreto@ats.it

from GIOVANNI PRETO

Model fires

Michael Reeder of The School of Mathematical Sciences at Monash University in Melbourne, Australia and Terry Clark of the National Centre for Atmospheric Research, Boulder, Colorado, USA are trying to create a model of how bush fires behave. Their model is based on equations which describe the speed, direction and temperature of the winds that fan the flames. It also includes mathematical descriptions of turbulence, which take into account how winds vary over different landscapes. Fed with topographical data and a weather forecast it can make a fair stab at predicting the behaviour of a bush fire – at least for small experimental fires.

Though at the moment the model is too slow to be of use in predicting behaviour of a wildfire, accurate computer models of prescribed burns in various weather conditions could take much of the guesswork out of how to set them.

from THE ECONOMIST

12.01.2002

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