

The Forestry Week Gazette

ASIA-PACIFIC FORESTRY WEEK 2016

Clark Freeport Zone, Pampanga, Philippines
22-26 February 2016

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Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



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Other events happening today

- APFISN Workshop on Management of Transboundary Cases of Forest Invasion
- Forests, Agriculture and Climate Change after COP 21 (Paris): An Asia-Pacific Perspective

A glance at APFC's 26th session

The Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission (APFC) will convene its 26th session in conjunction with Asia-Pacific Forestry Week 2016 organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and hosted by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) – Philippines in Clark Freeport Zone, Pampanga, Philippines, February 22-26, 2016.
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Twenty-sixth Session of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission

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The 26th session of APFC is set to gather member-country delegates and observers from international organizations to discuss key forestry issues in the Asia-Pacific region. In addition, the forum will serve as a venue to consider policy issues, review progress of ongoing initiatives and formulate new agendas for the future of the forestry sector at the regional level.

This session will aim to cover a range of relevant topics including forests and climate change, forest restoration, community-based forestry, gender policies, youth and forestry education.

APFC currently has 33 member countries and meets every two years. Its last session was held in Rotorua, New Zealand. The Commission is one of six FAO Regional Forestry Commissions. From a membership of 12 countries, APFC has grown to its current size, which includes the following member countries: Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Fiji, France, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kiribati, Republic of Korea, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Russian Federation, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, United States, Vanuatu, and Viet Nam.

Other APFW events today:

APFISN Workshop on Management of Transboundary Cases of Forest Invasion

Biological invasions are considered to be a major cause of irrevocable habitat loss across the world. When invasive alien species gain entry into natural habitats, it kicks off a cascade of impacts leading to biodiversity loss, declining ecosystem services and economic loss. The workshop will feature presentations on a transboundary case of forest invasive species, the Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer (PSHB) and a report on a project to manage forest invasive species in India and Maldives.

Forests, Agriculture and Climate Change after COP 21 (Paris): An Asia Pacific Perspective

The recently concluded 21st Conference of the Parties (COP21) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is widely seen as a major step forward in addressing the impacts and drivers of climate change. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and RECOFTC - The Center for People and Forests will organize a workshop to gather expert views and stakeholder perspectives on future implications of the Paris Agreement on Asia-Pacific forestry and agriculture sectors.

The 26th session of APFC will be held according to the following:

Monday 22 February

0830-1730

Jasmine Room, Building B, Fontana Convention Center

Wednesday 24 February

0830-1730

Paeonia Room, Building B, Fontana Convention Center

Friday 26 February

0830-1500

Paeonia Room, Building B, Fontana Convention Center

Faces
of the
Day

WHAT ARE YOUR
EXPECTATIONS FOR
APFW?



"Interesting presentations and to meet some interesting people and maybe even make some interviews for my research."

Maximilian Spielberg,
Germany
PhD Student,
Kyoto University



"I would expect to have insights about what the poor sector can expect related to climate change in the period after COP21."

Regan Pairojmahakij,
Thailand
RECOFTC



"Finding distributors and clients and also partnership with big international institutions."

Durey Philippe, France
Exhibitor, PODG Development

Stream Leaders

Asia-Pacific Forestry Week 2016 was made possible through the efforts of the following stream leaders:



ASEAN-ROK Forest Cooperation (AFoCo) is a regional forestry cooperation mechanism between ASEAN member States and the Republic of Korea. It was initiated as the first step towards the establishment of a larger Asia Forest Cooperation Organization (AFoCO).

The Asia-Pacific Network for Sustainable Forest Management and Rehabilitation (APFNet) is a non-profit international organization dedicated to advancing sustainable forest management and rehabilitation in the Asia-Pacific.



ASEAN Social Forestry Network (AFSN) is a government-driven social forestry network in Southeast Asia, with a main goal of strengthening ASEAN cooperation in social forestry through the sharing of information and knowledge.

The Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) is a non-profit, scientific facility that conducts research on the most pressing challenges related to forest and landscape management around the world. CIFOR focuses on addressing emerging issues including forests and climate change on the regional level.



FAO is a United Nations' agency that leads international efforts to combat hunger through improved food security. It monitors and evaluates the state of global natural resources including forests and their roles in alleviating poverty.

ITTO is an intergovernmental organization advocating the conservation and sustainable utilization of tropical forest resources. Its members represent about 80% of the world's tropical forests and 90% of the global tropical timber trade. ITTO assesses and monitors current trends in forest trade and markets in the Asia-Pacific region.



RECOFTC - The Center for People and Forests is an international organization with a vision of local communities actively managing forests in Asia and the Pacific to ensure optimal social, economic, and environmental benefits.

Established in 1947, the Pacific Community (SPC) is the principal scientific and technical organization in the Pacific region. It is an international development organization governed by 26 countries and territory members. SPC works for the well-being of Pacific people through the effective and innovative application of science and knowledge within Pacific cultural contexts.



The World Resources Institute (WRI) is a global research organization that spans of more than 50 countries. Its mandate is to contribute to sustaining natural resources - a key for Asia-Pacific economic development.

Don't forget to set up your poster in Fontana to share your work with other participants.

Kick off Events on February 22:

Participatory Live Art Sessions with AG Saño starts at 09:00
 IFSA Live Graffiti Art Exhibit starts at 09:00
 IFSA Youth Capacity-Building and 10:00-18:00
 Networking Sessions



"My role in this event.."

Ronnakorn Trinaganon
RECOFTC

"The stream itself is the platform where we exchange ideas, but within Asia-Pacific Forestry Week, we try to give voice to ensuring that people recognize local peoples' rights in sustainable forest management."



An artist prepares decorations for the exhibition booths set up at the Fontana Hotel foyer.

KEY APFC AGENDA ITEMS

Forests and Natural Disasters

Natural disasters aggravated by anthropogenic causes are increasing in frequency and intensity, with the greatest impacts affecting the most vulnerable populations (e.g., the poor) and ecosystems (e.g., mountain ecosystems). In mitigating the impacts of these disasters and implementing post-disaster reconstruction and recovery, forests and forestry can play indispensable roles. This agenda item aims to share experiences and provide guidance on developing a regional strategy and action plan regarding forests and natural disasters.

DID YOU KNOW?

- The Philippine archipelago is composed of 7,500 islands and three main geographic groups of islands: Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao.
- Clark Air Base in Pampanga, which dates back to the late 19th century was settled by Filipino military forces. The United States then established a presence at the turn of the 20th century.
- Based on the legal land classification of the Philippines, of the country's total land area of 30 million hectares, around 53 percent of it is classified as forestland, with slopes ranging from 18 percent and above. But not all forestland is covered with forest.



Exchange Rate

1USD = 47.59 PHP
 1EUR = 52.96 PHP

Source: Bloomberg Business

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Weather Forecast



M/Sunny
 Clark, Pampanga

Source: CNN Weather



Gender policies, youth and forestry education

Despite their potential contribution to achieving sustainable forest management, women and youth are often overlooked in forest-related programmes and management approaches. In addition, a modern forestry education that responds to changing needs of the forestry sector is crucial to achieving sustainable forest management.