

United Nations  
Forum on Forests

## PEKKA'S CORNER

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Since the inception of UNFF, country and organization led initiatives have been driving forces in the forest policy dialogue. They have provided opportunities for countries to exchange experiences and information and identify and highlight issues for consideration by the international arrangement on forests. In the lead up to the fifth UNFF session, 6 country and organization led initiatives are planned. This month's issue of the UNFF Newsletter highlights these initiatives:

- A workshop on lessons learnt on SFM in Africa which was held from 18 to 20 October, 2004 in Uppsala, Sweden;
- An expert meeting on traditional forest-related knowledge and the implementation of related international commitments to be held from 6 to 10 December, 2004 in San Jose, Costa Rica;
- A meeting on the future of the international arrangement on forests for the UNFF to be held from 25 to 28 January, 2005 in Mexico;
- A meeting on innovative financial mechanisms: searching for viable alternatives to secure basis for the financial sustainability of forests to be held in March 2005 in San Jose, Costa Rica;
- A global forum on the review of women's progress on forestry management since Beijing 1995 to be held in March 2005, in Kampala, Uganda; and
- A Forest Landscape Restoration Implementation Workshop to be held in April 2005, in Petropolis, Brazil.

For more information on country and organization-led initiatives, visit our website at: <http://www.un.org/esa/forests/gov.html>

Pekka Patosaari,  
Director, UNFF Secretariat

### WORKSHOP ON LESSONS LEARNT ON SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT IN AFRICA UPPSALA, SWEDEN 18-22 OCTOBER 2004

The Second workshop under the Initiative "Lessons Learnt on Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) in Africa" was held in Uppsala, Sweden from 18 to 22 October. The initiative, a joint collaboration of the Forestry Department of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the African Forestry Research Network (AFRONET) and the Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry (KSLA) analyzed and established lessons learnt from positive and negative experiences from countries and projects that have attempted to achieve sustainable forest management.

Participants identified the most urgent issues and concerns for Africa giving priority to international processes such as UNFF and promoting African participation in these processes.

The Workshop was the final stage of the initiative. It looked at case studies on selected experiences of SFM in Africa and the conclusion and recommendations adopted at the first workshop which was held in Nairobi in February 2004.

### COUNTRY-LED INITIATIVE ON THE FUTURE OF THE INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENT ON FORESTS FOR UNFF MEXICO 25-28 JANUARY 2005

The Governments of Mexico and the United States are organizing a country-led initiative in support of UNFF. The two governments plan to hold a two day meeting to discuss the future of the international arrangement on forests. The meeting will focus on particular options for institutional modalities, the financial mechanisms and the desired contributions and influence of a future IAF as a vehicle for significant change in forests.

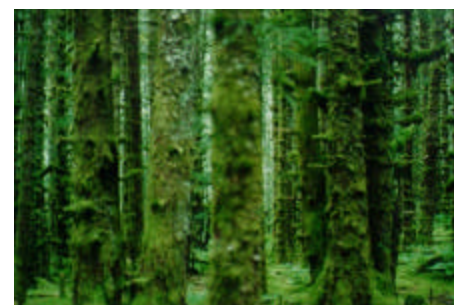
### ORGANIZATION-LED INITIATIVE ON TRADITIONAL FOREST- RELATED KNOWLEDGE SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA 6-10 DECEMBER 2004

The Alliance of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples of the Tropical Forests will organize an expert meeting on traditional forest-related knowledge and the implementation of related international commitments in December 2004. Over 100 participants representing indigenous groups, governments, UN agencies and other interested NGOs and support agencies will identify ways to improve national implementation of international commitments on indigenous peoples, local communities and traditional forest-related knowledge (TFRK).

The meeting will examine challenges and success in fulfilling international commitments on TFRK and related issues and come up with recommendations for improved national implementation. They will identify strategies and best practices for the recognition of indigenous and tribal peoples and effective protection and maintenance of TFRK.

Participants will develop effective implementation models which uphold the rights and roles of indigenous peoples in forest policy making and management. The models will be submitted to the fifth UNFF session, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and other international forest-related processes.

For more information contact Kittisak Ratanakrajangsri: [kittisak@international-alliance.org](mailto:kittisak@international-alliance.org) or Helen Leake: [helen@international-alliance.org](mailto:helen@international-alliance.org)



## CPF UPDATES

### New joint CPF initiative and CPF participation in the UNFF ad hoc expert group

During the thirteenth meeting of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests held on 6 September 2004, CPF members discussed the Global Forest Information Services (GFIS), an internet gateway that provides access to various types of information resources through partnership with information providers. GFIS was endorsed earlier this year as a new joint CPF initiative. GFIS was launched at the Twelfth World Forestry Congress held in Quebec, Canada in September 2003. The current version allows users to locate forest related information through a single entry point and holds more than 120,000 metadata records contributed by 60 forestry institutions. For more information on GFIS, please visit the GFIS website: <http://www.gfis.net>

A majority of CPF members participated, in a resource capacity, in the UNFF ad hoc expert group from 7 to 10 September 2004. Mr. Hosny El-Lakany, Chairman of the CPF made a statement on behalf of all CPF members, in which he highlighted some of CPF's activities and CPF members' readiness to continue working together and with governments to achieve sustainable forest management worldwide.

## GLOBAL INITIATIVE ON FOREST LANDSCAPE RESTORATION

PETROPOLIS, BRAZIL  
4-8 APRIL 2005

Following a series of activities at the national and regional levels, the Global Partnership on Forest Landscape Restoration is organizing a Forest Landscape Restoration Implementation Workshop .

The workshop aims to increase understanding of good practices and opportunities to optimize delivery of the benefits from forest landscape restoration activities. It will stimulate the political support, policy and partnership arrangements and investment needed to implement effective forest landscape restoration activities. In addition, the meeting will catalyze and demonstrate implementation of forest landscape restoration around the world.

For more information go to: <http://www.unep-wcmc.org/forest/restoration/globalpartnership>

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Please visit our website for all forestry related events: <http://www.un.org/esa/forests/2004.html>

To provide input to our calendar, please contact us at: [unff@un.org](mailto:unff@un.org)

## MEETING ON INNOVATIVE FINANCIAL MECHANISMS: SEARCHING FOR VIABLE ALTERNATIVES TO SECURE A BASIS FOR THE FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY OF FORESTS

SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA  
MARCH 2005

In March 2005, the Government of Costa Rica will organize an international expert meeting on innovative financial mechanisms for viable alternatives to secure basis for the financial sustainability of forests.

The Meeting is expected to contribute to the international dialogue on forests. Close to 100 participants from developing and industrialized countries will analyze the opportunities that exist at the national and international levels to mobilize financial resources towards sustainable forest management. They will look at experiences developed by countries that could serve as a mechanism to promote financial sustainability of forest management.

Meeting outcomes will include an exchange of successful experiences on financial and economic instruments and mechanisms to enhance SFM; the identification of mechanisms to further enhance and promote North-South and South-South cooperation; and the identification and consolidation of partnerships among interested parties to promote the use of innovative financial and economic instruments.

For more information on this meeting, contact the Government of Costa Rica, Ministry of Environment and Energy National Forestry Financing Fund.

## GLOBAL FORUM ON THE REVIEW OF WOMEN'S PROGRESS ON FORESTRY MANAGEMENT SINCE BEIJING 1995: TOWARDS A COMMON AGENDA

KAMPALA, UGANDA  
MARCH 2005

The Global Forum in support of UNFF 5 will be held in March 2005 to examine the advances made and challenges met by women in implementing sustainable forest management. Participants will focus on among other things, the contribution of forestry, agroforestry, timber and non-timber forest products in improving family livelihoods. The Forum will review and identify areas where women have gained access and control over forest resources and resource management since Beijing 1995. The Global Forum is co-organized by the Uganda Women's Tree Planting Movement, the Uganda Land Alliance, and the Ministry of Water, Land and Environment, Government of Uganda.

For more information, contact Ms Ruth Mubiru, Uganda Women's Tree Planting Movement, E-mail: [ruthmubiru@yahoo.com](mailto:ruthmubiru@yahoo.com)

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