



XXIV IUFRO World Congress

“Sustaining Forests, Sustaining People: The Role of Research”

Salt Lake City, Utah, USA: October 5-11, 2014

Call for Congress Session Proposals

The Congress Scientific Committee invites submission of session proposals for the 2014 IUFRO Congress. In keeping with the spirit of the Congress title – *Sustaining Forests, Sustaining People: The Role of Research* - the Congress Scientific Committee is developing a program that will highlight the contributions that forest science is making to address the significant environmental, social and economic challenges facing our world. The Congress program will reflect the forest science community’s diverse contributions across the full range of natural and social science disciplines, with special emphasis on key issues and research areas identified in IUFRO’s 2010-2014 Strategy.

Session proposals will be accepted that address one or more of the following Congress themes¹:

- *Forests for People*
- *Forest Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services*
- *Forests and Climate Change*
- *Forest and Water Interactions*
- *Forest Biomass and Bioenergy*
- *Forests and Forest Products for a Greener Future*
- *Forest Health in a Changing World*

Who may submit a session proposal?

All who share an interest in the future of forests and forest science session are invited to submit session proposals. We encourage proposals that involve collaboration between two or more IUFRO Divisions or Task Forces and/or with organizations not formally associated with IUFRO, and from university students at all levels. We strongly recommend IUFRO officeholders and others actively involved in IUFRO Research Groups, Working Parties, and Task Forces communicate with their respective Division representatives on the CSC (or Task Force coordinators) *before* submitting proposals – this will greatly facilitate broader involvement of IUFRO divisional units and Task Forces in the scientific program and avoid overlaps among sessions.

Session proposals from non-IUFRO member organizations are encouraged although preference will be given to those that are prepared jointly with IUFRO Divisional units and Task Forces (see <http://www.iufro.org/science/> for more information) – if assistance is needed to identify appropriate partners within IUFRO, please contact the CSC Chair or other members of the CSC.

¹ A description of each of the Congress themes is attached.

Preparing and submitting a session proposal.

Proposals should be submitted between January and April, 2013, online at www.iufro2014.com using the **Session Proposal Form**. *Proposals will not be accepted after April 30th.*

In addition to providing basic information on session organizer(s), session title, alignment with Congress themes, and a short abstract of the session proposal, those submitting proposals should submit (online) a more complete proposal (as a Word document) that describes the session objectives and content in relation to Congress theme(s), proposed session format (i.e., presentation of individual papers and/or posters, moderated panel discussion, or other forms of presentation) and lists proposed speakers (if known), their organizational affiliations and tentative titles of their presentations. Proposed sessions should be organized to be 2-2½ hours in length. For sessions involving oral presentations, we recommend that each speaker be given a minimum of 15 minutes for his/her presentation.

Please note that the abstract submission process will be open to all, so session organizers may need to include papers or posters that were not originally proposed for their sessions. Please be aware of this possibility and the need for flexibility in designing your session². In the event that the number of accepted abstracts for a particular session exceeds the number that can be accommodated in a single session, organizers may be given an additional session slot in the Congress program.

Criteria for selection.

Session proposals will be reviewed and evaluated by members of the Congress Scientific Committee with primary consideration given to their scientific quality and relevance to the Congress themes. Other factors that will be considered are: the involvement of two or more IUFRO units (Divisions, Task Forces, Research Groups and Working Parties) and/or non-IUFRO organizations; [geographic and gender] diversity of proposed session speakers/presenters; and the involvement of students and young scientists. Proposals will be evaluated as they are received, so we strongly encourage submissions well in advance of the April 30th deadline.

Acceptance decisions will be made no later than June 30th, 2013. An open Call for Abstracts will be issued in July, with online abstract submission until October 15th and acceptance decisions until November 30th (2013)

Responsibilities of session organizers.

Session organizers of accepted proposals are expected to communicate with prospective presenters regarding submission of abstracts (online, from late July to mid-October 2013), and will be asked to review abstracts submitted for their sessions during the abstract review period (i.e., in late October to late November 2013). Session organizers may be asked to assist the CSC in the editing of accepted abstracts. They will also be responsible for moderating sessions (or assigning session moderation responsibilities) and are encouraged to pursue publication options for papers presented in their sessions.

Abstracts of papers and posters presented during the Congress will be published in a special volume of *The International Forestry Review*, as was done for the 2010 Congress in Seoul, Republic of Korea. As

² All oral and poster abstracts will be submitted online between July and October 2013. Individuals submitting abstracts will be asked to select the session(s) that their presentation is most relevant to. During the abstract review process by the CSC in October-November 2013, the allocation of accepted abstracts to specific sessions will be made (with some consultation with session organizers). The *final* program for all sessions will be determined only after the Congress registration deadline for presenters (in May 2014).

formal Congress proceedings with full papers will *not* be published, session organizers should explore alternative publication options (books, special issues of journals, etc.) for their sessions.

We look forward to hearing from you and for your active participation in the design of an excellent scientific program for the 2014 IUFRO Congress in Salt Lake City.

The IUFRO 2014 Congress Scientific Committee

John Parrotta (Chair: jparrotta@fs.fed.us); **Jens Peter Skovsgaard** (Division 1: jps@ess.slu.se); **Yousry El-Kassaby** (Division 2: y.el-kassaby@ubc.ca); **Hans Heinimann** (Division 3: hans.heinimann@env.ethz.ch); **Ron McRoberts** (Division 4: rmcroberts@fs.fed.us); **Andrew Wong** (Division 5: ahhwong@frst.unimas.my); **Tuija Sievänen** (Division 6: tuija.sievanen@metla.fi); **Tod Ramsfield** (Division 7: Tod.Ramsfield@nrcan-rncan.gc.ca); **Robert Jandl** (Division 8: robert.jandl@bfw.gv.at); **Jim Johnson** (Division 9: jim.johnson@oregonstate.edu); **Mike Wingfield** (Vice-President, Divisions: Mike.Wingfield@up.ac.za); **Su See Lee** (Vice-President, Task Forces, Special Programmes, Projects and IUFRO-led Initiatives: leess@frim.gov.my); **Lisa Hansen** (International Forestry Students Association: hansen.lisa.c@gmail.com); **Richard Guldin** (ex-officio; COC Chair)