

The Division 6 Newsletter



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.....Welcome from..... : the Division Coordinator's Corner :

As I write this Coordinator's welcome I find myself in the beautiful city of Vienna for the IUFRO Enlarged Board Meeting (EBM) followed by the All-IUFRO conference titled 'Forestry in a Volatile World'. This is my last Coordinator's welcome, as our colleague Purabi Bose was officially confirmed as the new Division 6 Coordinator by the Enlarged Board. I am very excited about Purabi's new role and the leadership she will bring to our Division. She joined me (online) for the EBM and as always came with some really important and 'fresh' perspectives on the matters discussed. From speaking with fellow officeholders at the EBM I perceived strong appreciation of Purabi and the perspectives and leadership she brings.

The EBM had the usual string of reports from IUFRO officers (including President John Parrotta) and bodies (such as the Divisions). We also talked about the upcoming IUFRO World Congress 2024 in Stockholm. Session proposals are due October 13th, so now is the time to submit your ideas. We want to have a strong Division 6 presence in Sweden! The process of appointing the new Duo Coordinator teams for the Divisions is in full swing, including for our Division. Nominations for this have been solicited and

we already have a few promising candidates. Speaking of candidates: two cities are still in the running for the 2029 World Congress: Edmonton, Canada, and Nairobi, Kenya.

Personally, I was also very excited about the growth of the IUFRO Secretariat's communication work, with new staff having been recruited and a website relaunch scheduled for next year.

Our world today is definitely a volatile place, so the theme of the All-Division conference is timely. In all about 170 colleagues from across the world joined the event in person, with an additional over 500 having signed up for online participation. As we move out of the global pandemic, hopefully, IUFRO needs to carefully consider the format of its future meetings, as one of the advantages of online and hybrid meetings has been their inclusiveness.

In this newsletter you can read more about the All-Division conference, and the forests and human health session in particular. You will also find an interview with one of our experienced officeholders, Marcel Hunziker from Switzerland. I wish you happy reading.

Finally, let me thank you all once again for your engagement as well as for our past collaboration. I am looking forward to working with you in my new role as one of the Division's deputy coordinators. Let's give Purabi all the support she deserves.

Cecil Konijnendijk,
outgoing Division 6 Coordinator

News:

The All-IUFRO Conference in Vienna – Forests in a Volatile World



During 21-23 September 2022, IUFRO hosted the first-ever hybrid All-IUFRO Conference. The event had as its theme “Forests in a Volatile World – Global Collaboration to Sustain Forests and Their Societal Benefits”. It was held at Vienna University of Applied Arts, just around the corner from the IUFRO Headquarters.

The conference started with a field trip to the forests around Vienna, including a stop at the source of the city’s drinking water.

This was followed by two long conference days, with two keynote talks, six plenary sessions on cross-cutting themes, and a closing session. The six thematic sessions all had slightly different formats, but they often included a panel session and a series of ‘flash talks’, either in-person or online. The sessions focused on e.g., gender (un) equality, forests and water, forest degradation, and forests and human health.

Our Division was heavily involved in both the gender and the human health session. The gender session was hosted by the Task Force on Gender Equality in Forestry, led by Gun Lidestav and with contributions from Elias Andersson and others. After several flash talks on gender-related research, the focus was on the Task Force’s analysis of gender equality in IUFRO as an organization. Quite a bit remains to be done here, as less than one-fourth of all IUFRO Board members are women. On the other hand, the share of women officeholders in the Divisions is increasing (but still rather low). **Our Division does better, with 40% of all coordinators and about 60% of deputy coordinator positions filled by women.** In a subsequent panel with the IUFRO President and others, the potential impact of gender imbalance in IUFRO and ways of enhancing gender equality in the organization were discussed. One highlight was the plan for a new IUFRO MOOC on gender issues in forestry.

The ‘Forests and Human Health – a One Health Perspective’ session was hosted by Division 6, together with the Global Forest Expert Panel (GFEP) program and Division 7.

The session was moderated by Cecil Konijnendijk, chair of the GFEP Panel on Forests and Human Health. It started with a presentation of preliminary findings from the GFEP on Forests and Human Health, by Christoph Wildburger (coordinator of the GFEP program) and Cecil Konijnendijk. This was followed by a panel discussion with members of the GFEP panel: Roseline Remans of Biodiversity International, Ranaivo Rasolofson of Duke University, Sierp de Vries of Wageningen Environmental Research, and Liisa Tyrväinen of the Natural Resources Research Institute Finland, together with Christoph Wildburger. The panel discussion touched upon for example, the current state of knowledge and knowledge gaps, the lack of integration of human health aspects in forests and other policies and goals, and the difference in health focus in urban versus rural, and in high-versus low-income countries. The discussions also centred around the One Health framework which connects human health to the health of other species. After a lively debate, a total of eight nine flash talks about research from four different continents.

Key takeaways from the 'Health' session were:

- Forests are essential for our health and well-being, in many ways. Most people-forest relationships result in positive health outcomes, but we also need to manage potential negative outcomes of forest-people interactions.
- Although our knowledge of the relationships between forests and human health is expanding (especially in urban areas in high-income countries) there are still substantial knowledge gaps. We especially need to know more about forest-health relations in low-income countries.
- Emerging frameworks like the One Health approach can help raise the importance of forests for human health within medical and other policy domains. These frameworks can also enhance cross-sectoral collaboration.

For future work, some key questions are:

- How can we better integrate forest and human health aspects into relevant policies, including those at the global level?
- What can be done by IUFRO and other stakeholders to further enhance research on forests and human health, especially also in the Global South?

The Vienna conference had to be organized on very short notice after the cancellation of the planned Moscow conference following the invasion of Ukraine, but it turned into quite a success. The event was attended by close to 170 on-site participants and over 500 registered online delegates. A big thanks to conference chair Don Hodges and the IUFRO Secretariat for hosting an inspiring conference.

Cecil Konijnendijk



All photos in this article are taken by:
Cecil Konijnendijk

Guidelines for nominating IUFRO Division Co-coordinators for 2024 period

As an organization, IUFRO encompasses an international network of more than 15,000 scientists from over 125 countries that are engaged in wide-ranging forest-related research. The demographics of these 15,000 forest scientists from all over the globe represent considerable diversity. Historically, however, this diversity has been reflected in a biased manner in the composition of the officeholders that serve as coordinators and deputies of Divisions, Research Groups, Working Parties and Task Forces. IUFRO recognizes that in order to improve equity and inclusion within the organization, it is critical that the diversity of IUFRO membership be reflected better in the individuals that serve in IUFRO's officeholder positions. Enhancing participation by diverse demographic groups, particularly at the Division level, is vital to fostering a more inclusive organization that better reflects the global nature of its membership. Increased diversity within decision-making bodies such as the voting Board of IUFRO is believed to lead to improved equity and inclusion, greater innovation and sounder decision-making.

In an effort to enhance diversity within the voting Board, the decision was taken at the 2021 IUFRO Board meeting that, commencing from the next board period (beginning 2024), Divisions will be coordinated by two individuals in dual coordinator roles, i.e. co-coordinators.

Nominations will be particularly sought from candidates who:

- (a) identify with one or more underrepresented demographic groups on the voting Board, and/or
- (b) outline a plan for enhancing equity, diversity and inclusion within the Division for which they are being nominated.

Division Nomination process:

The nomination of Division coordinators follows a democratic process, and has been always in particular the responsibility of Divisions. Divisions identify, using democratic principles, a match of two qualified persons that are willing to serve as Division co-coordinators. The individuals selected to the dual co-coordinatorship roles should represent a balance of diversity* considerations as outlined in the footnotes. As one example, the two candidates may balance representation from the Global South and Global North. A nomination package will be prepared for each co-coordinator team to submit to the IUFRO Nominating committee.

*For the purposes of this document, we use the term "diversity" to denote the demographic mix of the global community represented by the IUFRO membership. Diversity comprises, but is not limited to: life experiences; geographic location; cultural background, gender and the full range of gender identities and sexual orientation, including women and members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, two-spirited and other communities; members of racialized and/or ethnic groups; persons with visible or invisible disabilities; Indigenous peoples; age; and research disciplines.

Our Division is progressing well in the nomination of dual coordinators and is in line with IUFRO's guidelines for the 2024 period.

A STORY OF IUFRO's INVISIBLE MENTORS

By **Purabi Bose**, Senior Lecturer in Forest Policy, SLU, and Incoming Division 6 Coordinator.



In Photo: (L to R)
Prof. Björn Hånel and Prof. Cecil Konijnendijk
in Vienna at EBM September 2022

When someone sees more talent and ability within you than what you see in yourself, and that someone helps bring it out of you then that someone is your 'mentor'.

This is the story of that someone who motivated me to take a leadership role in IUFRO.

2019, Curitiba, Brazil. At the IUFRO World Congress, Björn Hånel, Professor at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), and then IUFRO's Vice President for Divisions, was chairing a plenary session on 'Forests for People'. I was one of the two keynote speakers, both women, for his plenary session. Post my keynote speech, Björn politely asked about my future interest in IUFRO. He explained that IUFRO's Divisions need more women and more committed people from diverse geographical backgrounds. For this to happen, I should be taking up a bit more responsible role rather than Working Party Coordinator on Gender in Forest Research (6:08:01).

To my surprise, this confidence in me came from a person who had met me only once before this Curitiba Congress. My previous meeting with Björn was for a max of 30 minutes in his lovely office, together with Gun Lidestav, in SLU, Umeå, Sweden. I was visiting Gun to brainstorm ideas for the Gender and Forest Task Force proposal. In my first meeting with Björn, it became clear to me what it takes to become a leader at IUFRO. Commitment, passion, and mentoring!

Mentoring. Mentoring, especially in its informal and subtle forms, is less known. I am honoured to get that experience, not with one gentleman, but with two. "Would you consider contributing to Division 6 more constructively by joining as one of the four deputies?" asked Björn as always in the most diplomatic way. Though my swift reply was "yes", little did I know what the responsibilities meant! I was introduced to Cecil Konijnendijk, Professor at the University of British Columbia, and IUFRO's Coordinator for Division 6. So far, that was the only time we met in person – a quick one-minute introduction and shaking hands. Björn was glad that I took on the role of deputy coordinator and emailed me: now you will be an Enlarged Board Member of IUFRO. What a trick and I did not even realize it! That's subtle mentoring.

For me, Cecil is the most wonderful person to work at IUFRO – he created this warm atmosphere for everyone in the Division keeping us motivated even during the time of Covid. He welcomed ideas for the Division newsletter and encouraged Ellyn Damayanti and me – two women from the Global South countries – to become Division's representatives for the IUFRO World Congress Stockholm 2024 committees.

The epitome of mentoring. At the Vienna IUFRO Board Meeting, Cecil's short speech about swapping his (Division 6) Coordinator's role highlights the epitome of mentoring – to let go! To be part of IUFRO for over two decades, Cecil's 'to let go' goes to show that being a mentor is not about holding the leadership role but preparing the forthcoming diversity team – the dual coordinators beyond 2024. Björn continues his mentoring support for SLU's hosting mission for the IUFRO Congress Stockholm 2024.

Showing by practising how to hold the torch and how to pass it on are probably the simple indicators of being the best mentors. I am looking forward together with you leading Division 6 with empathy and embracing diversity, and hope you too, just like Björn and Cecil – become invisible yet invincible mentors of IUFRO. Thank you.

Future events



News: Inter-Division Collaboration for The IUFRO World Congress 2024

The IUFRO World Congress 2024 could be a good platform to have a session on the socio-economic and long-term consequences of large biotic disturbances, potentially with a focus on the two aforementioned bark beetles. Mainly to raise the profile of the importance of forest health beyond the health of trees. Would you be interested in co-organizing such a session?

Contact Maartje J. Klapwijk
(Maartje.Klapwijk@slu.se)

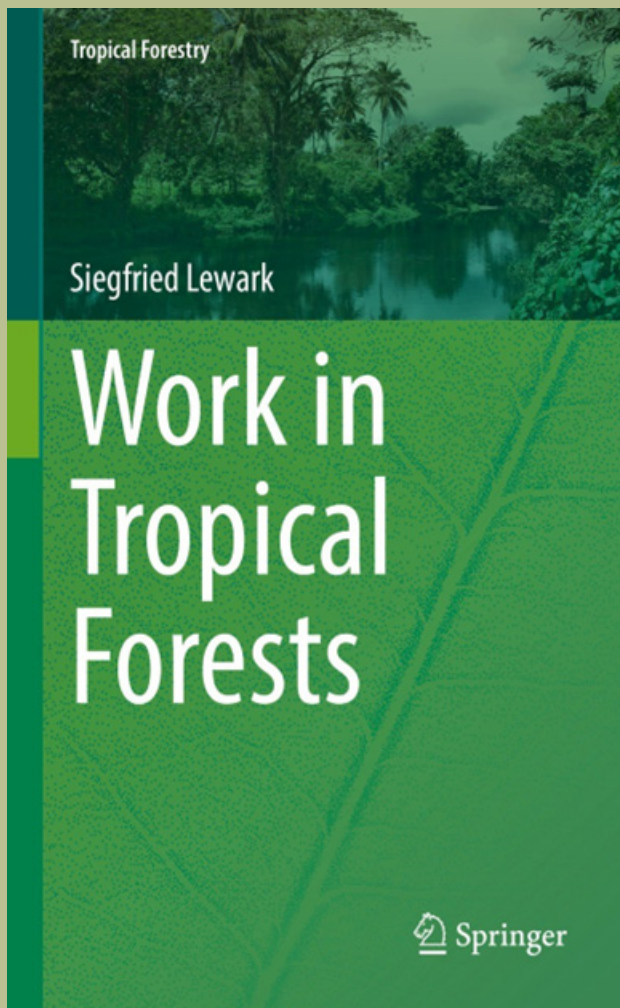


Women in Forestry Association is organizing a final conference on the "Equal chances in forestry" project. The event is planned for October 6th and it will be a hybrid, so any who is interested may join us online. The link will be placed on the website www.kobietylasu.pl

During the conference, we are going to present the results of research covering gender equality in forestry in Poland, share the experiences of study visits, and field trips and discuss the good practices supporting gender equality in forestry. The idea of establishing an international umbrella organization for women in forestry will also be presented.

For more information, contact Iza Pigan
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Publications



Book: Work in Tropical Forests by Siegfried Lewark

This book compiles in an innovative approach a synopsis of work performed in natural and plantation forests in the tropics today, its types, its abundance and the related working conditions. It covers activities of formally and informally employed as well as of self-employed and own-account small-scale forest users, in subsistence and market economy. This includes also the specifics of the substantial work by women and children.

The synopsis is widely based on recently published work studies that are centered around the abilities, needs and efforts of the workers while fulfilling their tasks, resulting in performance and workload. Influencing variables from organizational, technical and managerial sides are considered as much as

included in the publications. In addition to the mostly studied work in tree harvesting and processing also other activities are analyzed, in manual and motor-manual operations, like on-site conversion by pitsawing, primary transport, planting and pruning.

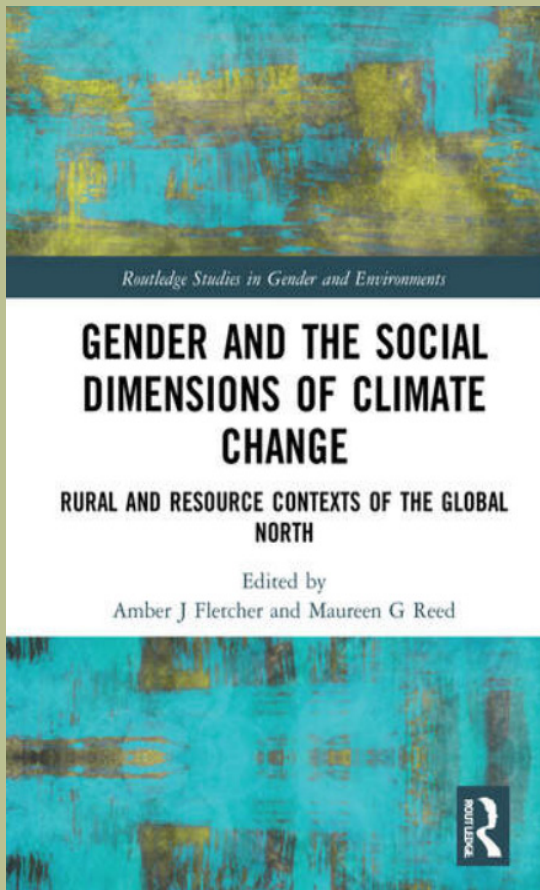
An overview is provided for all interested in work in tropical forests, in particular students and researchers. The work studies described in detail as examples demonstrate the methodical state of the art of ergonomic research. For better understanding of the present orientation and coverage of relevant research a broad background of the development of general work science and forest work science is given. The lasting influence of Taylorism and the role of international agencies, in particular ILO and FAO, are pointed out, as well as the impact of actions by NGOs, e.g. in certification.

The book is based on the broad international experience of the author in countries including Indonesia and China, over many years, and his activities in scientific networks on international level. He was teaching forest work science at university and doing related research, including the supervision of numerous theses, e.g. by Master students and PhD researchers from tropical Africa.

More information

<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-662-64444-7>

Publications



Book: Gender and the Social Dimensions of Climate Change Rural and Resource Contexts of the Global North

(<https://www.routledge.com/Gender-and-the-Social-Dimensions-of-Climate-Change-Rural-and-Resource-Contexts/Fletcher-Reed/p/book/9780367544188>)

Edited by
Amber J. Fletcher and Maureen G. Reed
Series:
Routledge Studies in Gender and Environments

Dispelling the myth that people in the Global North share similar experiences of climate change, this book reveals how intersecting social dimensions of climate change—people, processes, and institutions—give rise to different experiences of loss, adaptation, and resilience among those living in rural and resource contexts of the Global North.

Prof. Maureen G Reed and her colleague, Amber Fletcher, have published an edited volume about gender and social dimensions of climate change in extractive economies of the Global North.

It officially came out in September. A couple of chapters address wildfire in the boreal forest; others focus on other sectors. One thing they did in the book is that they included reflections by practitioners or people with lived experiences with every 'academic' chapter.

Dispelling the myth that people in the Global North share similar experiences of climate change, the book reveals how intersecting social dimensions of climate change—people, processes, and institutions—give rise to different experiences of loss, adaptation, and resilience among those living in rural and resource contexts of the Global North.

Bringing together leading feminist researchers and practitioners from three countries—Australia, Canada, and Spain—this collection documents gender relations in fossil fuel, mining, and extractive industries, in land-based livelihoods, in approaches for inclusive environmental policy, and in the lived experience of climate hazards. Uniquely, the book brings together the voices, expertise, and experiences of both academic researchers and women whose views have not been prioritized in formal policies—for example, women in agriculture, Indigenous women, immigrant women, and women in male-dominated professions. Their contributions are insightful and compelling, highlighting the significance of gaining diverse perspectives for a fuller understanding of climate change impacts, more equitable processes and strategies for climate change adaptation, and a more welcoming climate future.

This book will be vital reading for students and scholars of gender studies, environmental studies, environmental sociology, geography, and sustainability science. It will provide important insights for planners, decision makers, and community advocates to strengthen their understanding of social dimensions of climate change and to develop more inclusive and equitable adaptation policies, plans, and practices.



What's your name and affiliation, and what's your role in Division 6?

My name is Marcel Hunziker, I am a senior scientist and head of the Social Science in Landscape Research Group at the Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow, and Landscape Research. I serve IUFRO as a Coordinator of Working Group 6.01, Forrest Recreation.

How and when did you get involved in IUFRO?

Honestly, this happened rather late. As I started my research career with studies on landscape preferences, I considered forest just as a landscape element, and I was - profession-wise - primarily connected to landscape organizations like the IALE or to disciplinary organizations like the IAPS. A turning point was 2003 when COST-action E33 'Forest Recreation' started, where I represented Switzerland on the management committee. From then onwards I was part of the forest (recreation) community, attended the first Forest for People conference of IUFRO in Alpbach 2012 and the so called MMV-conferences (on monitoring forest recreation), where all the IUFRO-Division-6 people were present as well, and we became colleagues and friends. One of them is Frank Jensen from Denmark, the former Coordinator of working group 6.01. He convinced me in 2018 to take over his role as Coordinator of 6.01 Forest Recreation.

What is the focus of your research and/or teaching?

As mentioned above, a core area of my research (and teaching) has always been landscape-preference research, including forests. Since I have also conducted studies on the acceptance of nature-conservation measures or large-carnivore presence, the more general relationship of people to nature and landscape became my overarching focus. And as my main interest has always been the development of this relationship over time, I am highly engaged in monitoring programs like the Swiss landscape observation program (LABES) and the Swiss socio-cultural forest monitoring (WaMos). The second focus is actually about outdoor recreation behaviour, and in particular experimental evaluations of campaigns that aim at influencing outdoor recreation behaviour towards more nature responsibility

What are you passionate about?

Being a passionate rock climber, mountain biker, and back-country skier, I am personally and professionally convinced that the right of access to nature is fundamental, and represents a kind of a "human right". Only very strong reasons legitimate its restriction. Such a strong reason might be the protection of endangered species; but only if based on scientific evidence and if kept to the minimum necessary restriction. Unfortunately, both are often not the case. Therefore, I try to contribute – with a passion... – by my research to enable the development of less restrictive but nevertheless effective visitor management measures.

How have you dealt with the current pandemic?

In Switzerland, we had the privilege we always being allowed to go outdoors, which I did during this time more or less as much as before. Only in the spring of 2020, we were expected to avoid accidents and hospital stays to conserve the capacities of the health institutions for Covid treatments.



The back-country skiing community, thus, felt morally obliged to stay at home. I followed this commitment – despite the perfect conditions in the mountains that I perceived from photos on social media... But as the weather was great also in the lowlands, there were plenty of opportunities for non-risky outdoor experiences. The latter increased the number of forest-recreation visitors around the big cities. And as we luckily just completed the 3rd WaMos-survey (monitoring of forest-people relationship) two weeks before the lockdown 2020 in Switzerland, we took the chance to repeat the survey with the same respondents (internet-panel survey) during the lockdown in spring 2020 and again during a rather “Covid-relaxed” period in early summer 2021. This has allowed us to study the change in forest-recreation behaviour due to the pandemic (papers submitted and in preparation...)

Do you have some ‘wellbeing tips & tricks’ for your colleagues?

Nothing new from me to add. We should not only care about outdoor recreation professionally at our desks but practice it ourselves.

**The
Communitication Intern’s
Corner**



Hi, Vino here! In September, I’m starting my master’s degree in the International Forestry program at the University of British Columbia. I am still trying to adapt as there are many things that are entirely new to me, either in the academic world or the day-to-day life. Nevertheless, I am happy to start this journey!

**Thank you for reading
The Division 6 Newsletter!**

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