

# Unlocking the Bioeconomy for Nontimber Forest Products



## Transitioning to a Forest-Based Bioeconomy: The Argentina Experience

**Thursday, October 6th**

**1300 UTC • 900 EDT**

To address challenges linked to the forest sector, Argentina crafted ForestAr 2030, a strategic plan to move toward a forest-based bioeconomy. This effort, led by the Ministry of Science and Technology accompanied by Agriculture and Environment, took six years, and involved five Ministries. Concurrently, the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development launched a national program for Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs), that included characterization, statistics, and monitoring the products. Argentina recognized that NTFPs can be of major economic importance at national and local levels by generating employment and trade of unprocessed and processed products. During this effort, the project "Sustainable use of NTFP in northern forests of Argentina" documented cases of sustainable use of forest biodiversity, specifically of nontimber forest products. Examples include the incorporation of native fruits into the national food standard code and fungi commercialization. This presentation describes the process of developing the bioeconomy policy in Argentina, with an emphasis on the forestry sector and presents successful cases of usage and marketing of NTFPs.



**Juan Pablo Moro**, an Agricultural Engineer from the University of Buenos Aires (UBA), is an expert in non-timber forest products from Argentina and across Latin America. His special emphasis is the sustainable use of native fruits, and development of value chains. Since 2013, Juan has been the Technical Advisor in the National Program of Non-Timber Forest Products of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development of the Argentine Nation.



**Sandra E. Sharry** holds a PhD in Natural Sciences from the National University of La Plata - UNLP-Argentina. Dr. Sharry holds a number of positions, including Coordinator of the Experimental Center for Vegetative Propagation, Coordinator of the Project "Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Forests of High Conservation Value" and - Vice-President of ProDiversitas, the Pan American Program for the Defense and Development of Biological, Cultural and Social Diversity. Previously, Dr. Sharry was Coordinator of the Forest Bioeconomy Board of the Ministry of Sciences and a member of the Advisory Commission on Bioeconomy, Secretary of Agriculture and Fisheries of the Nation.

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