Partner Event on Teak

Towards Sustainable Development of the Global Teak Sector in a Changing World

On the occasion of the IUFRO World Congress to be held in Curitiba, Brasil during 29 Sept- 5 Oct 2019, IUFRO Teakwood Working Party (Div 5.06.02) is organizing a Session on Teak under the Theme "Forests and Forest Products for a Greener Future". The session is organized in cooperation with International Teak Information Network (TEAKNET). The deadline for Abstract submission is 31 December 2018.

Background

Teak (*Tectona grandis* L.f.) is one among the major tropical hardwoods with high demand in international markets due to its multifaceted wood quality traits that last for centuries. Supply of teak from natural forests is on continuous decline. The long-term market prospects of plantation grown teak appear promising provided that the wood quality can be improved through the use of superior planting material, proper site selection and best management practices. They need to be managed following a well-defined operational regime to achieve the desired production goals. Teak plantations according to various estimates cover between 4.4 to 6.9 million ha and the global trade of teak roundwood is more than 1 million cu.m on average. In the future, public and private teak producers and processors will increasingly pursue voluntary certification schemes to meet environmental, social and economic standards of responsible forest management and gain better access to high-price in timber markets.
High-yielding forest plantations must be integrated into the wide context of forest landscapes and thus contribute to its restoration as well as the achievement of the global development agenda, particularly SDG 15.

The session will examine the current international situation with respect to the supply of quality plantation teakwood from sustainable sources that can be geared up to meet the rising demand for hardwoods. Major objectives are: Strategies for the sustainable management and conservation of teak genetic resources of both natural and planted forests; Production and distribution of genetically improved planting stock to smallholders for quality teak timber and livelihood enhancement; Develop appropriate processing technologies for quality teak products; Expansion of teak trade from legally harvested and sustainably managed sources.

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Please contact the session chairs if you need any help.