

TEAKNET Partner Event
"Teak Resources for a Sustainable Future"
 in the
IUFRO 2017 All Division 5 (Forest Products) Conference,
12-16 June, Vancouver, BC, Canada

Teak Resources for a Sustainable Future



Session co-organized with the International Teak Information Network (TEAKNET)

Session Chairs: Yafang Yin and Thulasidas PK



As part of IUFRO All Division 5 Conference with the theme '**Forest Sector Innovations for a Greener Future**', TEAKNET in association with IUFRO Teakwood Working Party (Div 5.06.02) organized a Partner Event "Teak Resources for a Sustainable Future" on Friday, 16 June 2017 at Port of Singapore, Hotel Pinnacle Harbourfront, Vancouver. Delegates from the Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and from other regions attended the Partner Event.

Prof. (Dr.) Yafang Yin from Chinese Academy of Forestry and Executive Secretary of International Association of Wood Anatomists (IAWA), Leiden, The Netherlands chaired and moderated the session. In this Session, five oral papers and one poster was presented.

1. Development of Teak market and industry: Challenges and ways forward
Tetra Yanuariadi, ITTO, Japan
2. Genetic gain in clonal deployment of teak (*Tectona grandis* Linn. f.) and operational implications at Novelteak Costa Rica
Mario Espinoza, Novelteak, Costa Rica
3. TEAKNET: a complete networking solution for the teak stakeholders
Sreelakshmy MP, Thulasidas PK; TEAKNET, India
4. Effect of thermo-treatment on the physical, chemical and mechanical properties of wood *Tectona grandis* and *Gmelina arborea* from forest plantations
Roger Moya, Costa Rica

5. Global Teak Support Program for conservation and sustainable use of teak genetic resources
Thulasidas PK (TEAKNET); Michael Kleine (IUFRO); Walter Kollert (FAO)

Poster:

1. Shrinkage characteristics of plantation grown Teak (*Tectona grandis* Linn.) in Edo State, Nigeria
Stephen Amiandamhen, David Izekor, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa

The major highlights of the deliberations were:

Tetra Yanuariadi from ITTO, Japan presented the increasing trade potential of teak wood in international markets. Current trends show that global demand and importance of Teak will significantly increase as a business opportunity for the private sector and thereby providing a means of income for smallholder farmers. Interest and investments in establishing teak plantations in many tropical countries have increased. However, there are a number of challenges in the years to come in ensuring that plantation teak becomes as accepted in the market as teak from old growth forests in Myanmar. It is now essential and urgent for reforming and strengthening forest governance and reigning in illegal logging and trade more efficiently and effectively. ITTO through different interventions facilitates member countries to increase competitiveness in the trade of teak wood.

Mario Espinosa from Novelteak Costa Rica explained the genetic improvement program undertaken by the company for increased genetic gain by commercial volume of 40% in average from their clonal plantations and identified clones with outstanding wood properties that could be used in future to fulfil market expectations.

M. P. Sreelakshmy from the TEAKNET Secretariat made a presentation on the network services provided on a global scale with regard to the dissemination of information on all aspects of teak cultivation and management and its current activities.

Roger Moya from the Technology Institute of Costa Rica presented the results of the effect of thermo-treatment carried out for increased durability and stability of teakwood and Gmelina wood.

P.K. Thulasidas, Coordinator of TEAKNET explained the Global Teak Support Programme currently initiated by TEAKNET, IUFRO and FAO with the objectives to conserve the existing natural teak resources for future genetic breeding programmes and sustainable management of planted teak in view of the imminent threat to its natural gene pool. As part of it, ITTO Japan commissioned a study on the ex-post evaluation and analysis of ITTO funded teak projects in Myanmar. Along with it, a Technical Report was also prepared. The Global Study Report now published includes policy recommendations and guidance for future ITTO teak projects in promoting sustainable management of natural and planted teak in the tropics. He informed the audience that the study report has been published as IUFRO World Series Publication No. 36 and is available online.

The paper by Stephen Amiandamhen, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa highlighted the shrinkage behaviour of plantation grown teak of 15, 20 and 25 years and postulated that plantation teakwood is stable with low shrinkage values and has high resistance to splits and end-checks in outdoor conditions.

Following the presentations by experts on various aspects of teak management, marketing and trade, the participants lauded the joint initiative by IUFRO, TEAKNET and FAO the future efforts to conserve and sustainably manage the world's teak genetic resources.

TEAKNET also set up an exhibition booth together with IAWA for the network activities and membership drive for greater visibility among the forest products community and delegates of IUFRO conference.

*Report by Dr. P. K. Thulasidas
Coordinator, TEAKNET*

Photo Gallery



Presenters and delegates of the Partner Event



Dr. Pekka, IUFRO Div.5 Coordinator at Museum of Anthropology, UBC



Tree-Walk in UBC Botanic Garden



Delegates at UBC Forestry Centre