

Teaknet Bulletin

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Cairns, Australia, 04- 08 June
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of plantation teak imported to India and our regular column on teak prices are included for the benefit of our readers.

We invite your feedback on issues related to teak and articles/news items of interest/research papers etc. of non-technical nature for inclusion in the Bulletin.

S. Sandeep
TEAKNET Coordinator



Partner Event

Teakwood Quality: Global Challenges and Opportunities at IUFRO All Division 5 Conference, Cairns, Australia, 4-8 June 2023

Tuesday 6 June 2023

09:20-10:40 am Room: Auditorium B

Editorial

TEAKNET along with IUFRO Teakwood Working Party (D5.06.02) and ITTO had organized a teak side event during the IUFRO All Division 5 Conference at Cairns, Australia during 4-8 June 2023. The event titled 'Teakwood Quality: Global Challenges and Opportunities' discussed in detail a variety of topics such as promotion of teak timber products through value-addition, establishment of incentive mechanisms to promote legal and sustainable supply chains, adoption of enhanced processing technologies, scaling up networks and ensuring international cooperation and investment in teak plantations.

In this issue, we also bring you a brief report on the **The Social Life of Teak**, a book that tries to connect human interactions with the world's premium tropical timber species, teak. The illustrated anthology has been developed after wide-reaching research and analysing oral histories from a diverse group of stakeholders. The manuscript explores the importance of teak forests and tries to create a cultural history of teak. In addition, market price



Partner Event

SESSION C4- S13

Teakwood Quality : Global Challenges and Opportunities

Organizers

IUFRO
International Union of Forestry Research Organizations
Forests, Science and People
IUFRO Teakwood Working Party (Div5.06.02)

ITTO
International Tropical Timber Organisation, Japan

TEAKNET
International Teak Information Network, India

A Teak Side Event was convened jointly by IUFRO Teakwood Working Party (D5.06.02), ITTO and International Teak Information Network (TEAKNET) during the IUFRO All Division 5 Conference held in Cairns, Australia from 4-8 June 2023.

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Teak (*Tectona grandis* L.f.) is a high priority tropical species for industries and planted forest in Asia-Pacific, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean. The latest reports of the ITTO on wood products production, consumption and trade indicate major disruptions during the Covid-19 pandemic in the global economy to an estimated contraction of 3.3 percent in 2020. In the second half, the global financial situation improved after ease of lifting the lockdown in many countries. The global trade in teakwood is estimated at about 1.02 million m³ per year, dominated by India, China and Thailand followed by marginal volume by Vietnam. About 70 countries have teak plantations and the future world supply is expected to come from 15-25 year rotations.

The IUFRO - ITTO-TEAKNET side-event examined the issue of promoting value chains for teak timber products through value-added product development, establishment of incentive mechanisms to promote legal and sustainable teak supply chains and investment in teak plantations. Other topics included genetically improved planting material for quality timber production, application and adoption of enhanced processing technologies, appropriate trading policies and standards, scaling up international cooperation, partnerships and networking to promote the contributions of sustainable teakwood products in addressing climate change and SDG's.

"Changes in the global trading environment for tropical timbers, including teak, are occurring at a rapid pace," said Dr. Tetra Yanuariadi, Project Manager, ITTO, Japan in his presentation. This requires a longer-term view to enable tropical timber industry policy decisions to be effective. According to Dr. Yanuariadi, demand for tropical primary and secondary wood products is a derived demand, driven by residential, non-residential and public construction activity and by consumer wealth and spending.

Tropical timber producer countries need to regularly assess the competitiveness of their products in international markets to ensure continued maintenance of production and trade of sustainably managed tropical timber products, said Dr. Yanuariadi. Ensuring a sustainable tropical timber trade requires optimizing the utilization and improving productivity of production forests, which will, in turn, benefit conservation and protected forests, in terms of reducing pressures and disturbances.



Dr. Tetra Yanuariadi, ITTO, Japan

Teak represents the best opportunity to produce quality timber and is thus of major importance to their forestry economies, according to Mr. Komlan Houelete, Sector Manager, Silviculture and Forest Management, Togo Forest Development and Exploitation Office. For many tropical countries, establishment and management of planted teak forests have attracted large investment from the corporate sector. Teak wood in Togo is mainly produced by the state owned company and smallholder teak producers and have substantially contributed to the country's economy. India is the main destination country for teak exports from Togo.

Read more on page 3

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Speakers at the side-event also addressed forest biomass utilization for bioenergy industry development. Dr. Jingxin Wang, Director, Center for Sustainable Biomaterials & Bioenergy, West Virginia University, reported an integrated modeling framework for the supply chain management of forest biomass utilization for bioenergy, including components of regional suitability and facility siting assessments and supply chain optimization.

The model indicated 30 industrial sites as the top priority sites for forest biomass-based bioenergy industry development in the high- suitable areas, which accounted for 24.26% of the total area of the entire region. The delivered cost of forest biomass for these sites is assumed to range from \$41.90 -50.17 per dry Mg, with a mean of \$44.77. When the carbon emission of the biomass supply chain is reduced from 0 to 3.3%, the average delivered cost of biomass would increase 13.63% from \$44.77 to \$50.87 /dry Mg, and the average opportunity cost of the carbon emission will be reduced by \$15.37/Mg CO₂ eq.



Dr. Jingxin Wang, West Virginia University, USA



Mr. Komlan Houelete, Togo

During the side-event, Dr. PK Thulasidas, representing TEAKNET, reported that ITTO, Thailand's Kasetsart University and TEAKNET collaborated in implementing the BMEL supported project, *"Enhancing the conservation and sustainable management of teak forests and legal and sustainable wood supply chains in the Greater Mekong Sub-region"*, which was completed in 2022.

The planning of the second phase of this collaboration, which will have a greater focus on the production of high-quality teak timber, is in progress. He detailed the organization of the forthcoming teak side event alongside the IUFRO World Congress in June 2024 in Stockholm, Sweden, and at the Fifth World Teak Conference, which will be hosted by India in 2025.

[Read more on page 4](#)

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The 5- day conference concluded with the post-conference tour on Friday, 9th June to ride on the Skyrail to the Kuranda, flying above the world's oldest tropical rainforest, and to the Walkamin Research Station, to see first-hand 20 years of research trials. The IUFRO All Division 5 conference was attended by over 300 participants from 26 countries.



Audience in teak partner event



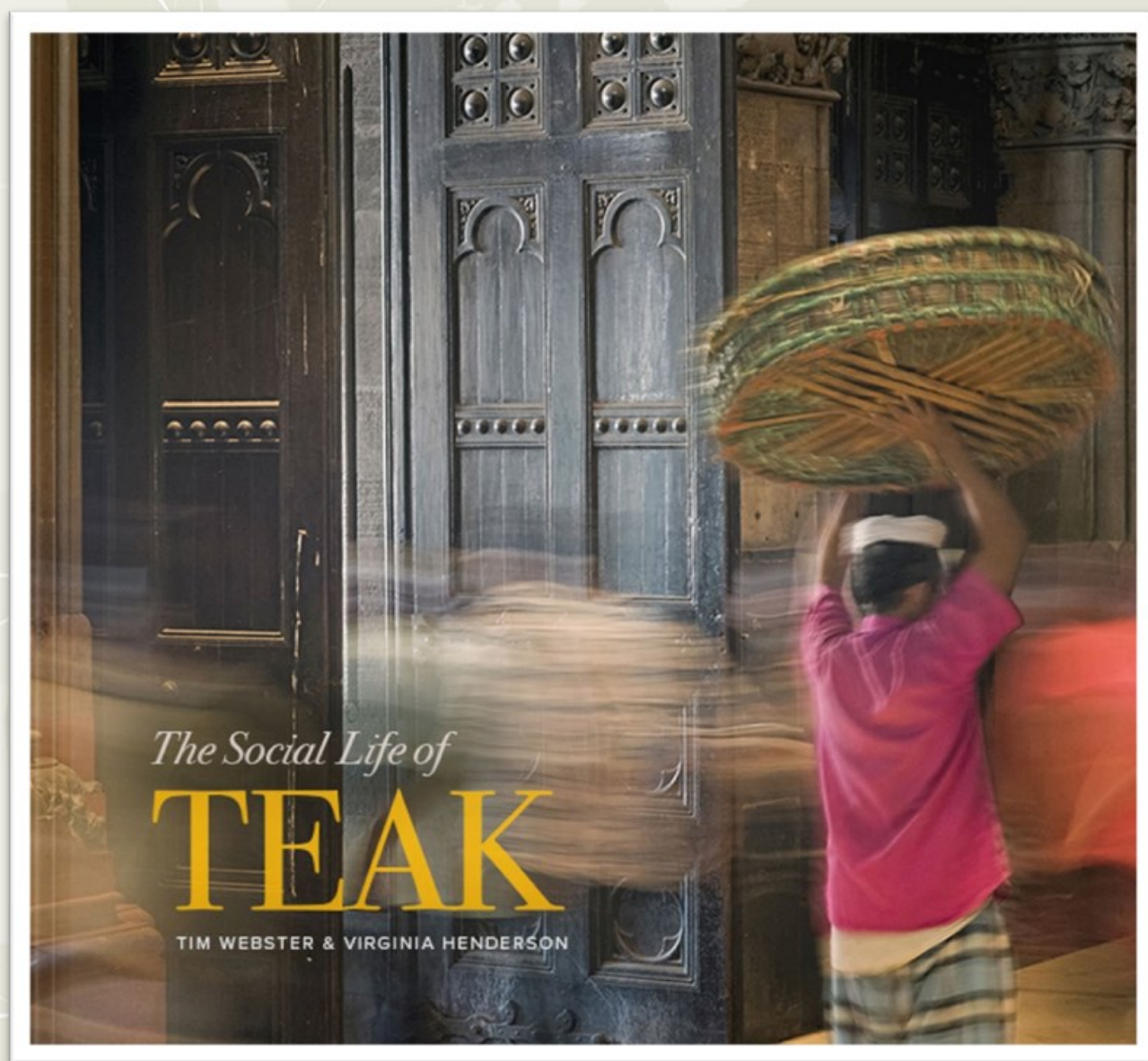
Participants and organizers of IUFRO Partner Event on Teak

Report by

PK Thulasidas, Dy. Coordinator, IUFRO Div5.06.02 and Tetra Yanuariadi, ITTO, Japan

(Photo credit: PK Thulasidas)

Upcoming Release



Tracing human interactions with the world's most famous tropical timber species, *The Social Life of Teak* maps worlds revolving around teak forests, trees and wood.

In this anthology of oral histories, people connected personally or professionally to teak speaks about the survival, change and learning, creativity and destruction, growth and demise of this tropical hardwood species. Woven together, these experiences bring to light the ways that teak has been sought, crafted, cultivated, traded and valued over time.

The Social Life of Teak is coming out in September 2023

To order, please contact

Virginia Henderson: ginwaikaka@gmail.com

Prices of Plantation Teak Imported to India

Prices for recent shipments of plantation teak logs and sawnwood imported to India

Sawnwood	cu.m	US\$ C&F
Benin	79	629
Colombia	112	327
Costa Rica	80	279
Ecuador	155	513
Ghana	151	342
Ivory Coast	96	410
Nigeria	122	321
South Sudan	101	352
Tanzania	125	339
Togo	103	337
Venezuela	118	419

Log	Hoppus cu.m	US\$ C&F
Brazil	-	268
Colombia	111	326
Ecuador	128	224
Ghana	125	260
Ivory Coast	68	488
Nigeria	151	287
South Sudan	84	360
Tanzania	114	287
Laos	115	288

Price range depends mainly on length and cross-sections

Courtesy: ITTO TTM Report 27: 12; 16-30 June 2023

Editorial Committee

Dr. S. Sandeep
Dr. E. M. Muralidharan
Dr. P.K. Thulasidas

Teaknet Bulletin is a quarterly electronic newsletter of TEAKNET brought out through its website. It is intended for circulation among the members of TEAKNET and other stakeholders of global teak sector. The views expressed in the newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the organization. The readers are welcome to express their opinions or pass on information of value to teak growers, traders, researchers or others concerned with teak. However, TEAKNET reserves the right to choose the contributions for publishing and also to make necessary editorial modifications in the articles in consultation with the authors.

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