



INDIA 2025

Kochi
17-20 September 2025

Second Announcement

5th World Teak Conference 2025

Grand Hyatt Kochi Bolgatty, Kerala, India
17-20 September 2025

**Sustainable Development of the Global Teak Sector – Adapting to
Future Markets and Environments**

www.worldteakconference2025.com

Photo Credit: KFRI, India

Organizers



Kerala Forest
Research Institute



International Teak Information
Network (TEAKNET)



International Tropical Timber
Organization (ITTO)



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



MAFF
Ministry of Agriculture,
Forestry and Fisheries

Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry
and Fisheries, Govt. of Japan



International Union of Forest Research Organizations
(IUFRO Teakwood Working Party Div.5.06.02)

Supported by

Context and Rationale

Teak (*Tectona grandis* L.f.) is globally renowned as a preferred tropical hardwood most sought after in the global markets for its beauty, exceptional strength and stability, natural decay resistance. Teak is used in a wide array of applications ranging from exterior heavy duty construction, ship and yacht buildings and housing sectors for furniture, interior joinery, veneers and flooring etc. Teak grows in over 80 countries in tropical regions of the world and its natural occurrence is limited to India, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Thailand. Teak occupies a marginal position in the total volume of global timber production and the global market share of teak is less than 1 percent.

World Teak Conferences (WTC) are being held periodically since 2011 in different parts of the world. The first WTC took place in Costa Rica (2011), and thereafter in Bangkok (2013), Ecuador (2015), and Ghana (2022), attracting more than 300 delegates from over 36 countries, including government officials, cultivators, traders, plantation managers, private enterprises, policy makers and researchers. In 2025, Kerala will host the 5th World Teak Conference (5th WTC). The theme of the conference is '*Sustainable Development of the Global Teak Sector – Adapting to Future Markets and Environments*' and will address the most crucial issues facing the global teak sector.

The conference topics include socio- economic, genetics, silvicultural, technical and environmental concerns that have an impact on the production, marketing and trade of teakwood. Renowned keynote speakers will be invited to the conference and we welcome a selected number of technical papers that provide state-of-the-art overviews of the main topics in focus. The 5th WTC will also be an opportunity for networking in the teak sector and establishing/developing interaction among academicians, researchers, traders, plantation managers, farmers, government officials and other stakeholders related to the teak sector.



Organisers

The 5th World Teak Conference (WTC) will be organized by the Kerala Forest Research Institute, the International Teak Information Network (TEAKNET) and the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) with the support of Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Government of Japan and the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO Teakwood Working Party Div. 5.06.02)

Participants

The conference participants include both public and private sectors concerned with teak plantation management, including small holders, traders, processing industries, forest departments, policy makers and researchers.

Conference Themes

The event is planned to centre around the following major themes:

- Session I : Value addition, markets and legal supply chains
- Session II : Financial analysis on short rotation teak investments in different teak growing regions
- Session III : Recent advances in teak genetics and stand management of natural and planted teak forests
- Session IV : Management models for smallholder teak plantations and agroforestry systems in Asia, Africa and Latin America
- Session V : Environmental protection, biodiversity conservation and forest landscape restoration

Venue and Date

The conference will be held at the **Grand Hyatt Kochi Bolgatty**, which is a luxurious waterfront 5-star hotel nestled on the picturesque Bolgatty Island overlooking the backwaters of Vembanad lake, Kochi, Kerala, India. The property offers stunning views of the backwaters and the city's skyline. The conference will be held during 17-20 September 2025. In September, Kochi's tropical monsoon climate brings occasional rains, pleasant weather, with average temperature of 31°C (88°F) and low of 23°C (73°F).



Photo credit: Grand Hyatt, Kochi

Sponsorship Options

Different sponsorship options are available to those who are interested to be part of this event .

Type of sponsorship available:

- Diamond Sponsors : USD \$25,000 (allow 5 delegates to participate)
- Platinum+ Sponsors : USD \$15,000 (allow 5 delegates to participate)
- Platinum Sponsors : USD \$10,000 (allow 5 delegates to participate)
- Gold Sponsors : USD \$5,000 (allow 3 delegates to participate)
- Silver Sponsors : USD \$3,000 (allow 2 delegates to participate)



Exhibition

The exhibition offers a very diverse exhibition space that will be the gateway to your area of specialisation and expand your knowledge, find new partners, build relationships and explore future career paths for your company. WTC is a global event that attracts more than 300 participants from across the world and the conference will host exhibitors, including research organizations, educational institutions, non-governmental organizations, forest products industries and processors among others.

Are you interested in participating as an exhibitor? (Contact: infowtc2025@gmail.com)



Financial support for participation

Limited funds for selected delegates will be available to support participation in the 5th WTC.

Important deadlines

Abstract submission deadline	28 Feb 2025
Registration opens	01 Feb 2025
Early-bird Registration deadline	30 Apr 2025
Registration deadline	31 July 2025
Conference starts	17 Sep 2025



Conference web page

All announcements and information about the conference are available at www.worldteakconference2025.com

Official language of the Conference

The official language is English

Keynote speakers

Eminent experts in various fields of tropical timber development and businesses have been invited from around the world to deliver Keynote address in each of the five major themes of the conference.

In addition to keynote speeches, presentations will include country reports, plenary papers, invited status papers and papers which directly address the theme of the conference with newly emerging issues or recent research breakthroughs.

Submission of abstract

Abstracts are required to be submitted online only. Please visit our website www.worldteakconference2025.com to submit your abstract. Authors will be notified by the scientific organising committee on the acceptance of the submitted paper as oral or for poster presentation.

Guidelines for authors

Abstract: The abstract is an abbreviated, accurate representation of the paper. It should be no more than 300 words long, summarize the essential information in lay terms and be able to stand on its own. It should contain the title, the authors, and the authors' affiliation.

A maximum of 6 keywords should be identified.

Poster Session

Poster presentation sessions will take place in a designated E-poster area. Each poster will be presented as a single PDF page. Authors will receive detailed instructions on submitting their digital E-poster, including specifications and templates, upon acceptance of their paper as a poster.



Registration Instructions

Registration form

Online registration is available at the Conference Website www.worldteakconference2025.com. For any clarification please contact the Conference Secretariat at infowtc2025@gmail.com

Registration form

Please note the Early-bird Registration deadline. Take advantage of the savings by filing your registration on or before 30 April 2025.

The registration fee includes:

- * Welcome reception
- * Lunches and refreshments during program breaks
- * Final Program
- * Programme booklet in digital format

Item	Early Bird 30 April 2025	31 July 2025
Registration (Delegates)	US\$ 200	US\$ 250
Registration (Students)	US\$ 75	US\$100
Post-Conference Tours		
Athirappilly Waterfalls	US\$ 60	
Alappuzha Backwaters	US\$ 60	
Nilambur Teak Museum and teak preservation plot	US\$ 120	

Post Conference Tour Options

Option 1: Athirappilly waterfalls

Athirappilly is a popular and scenic waterfall located in the Thrissur district of Kerala, India, nestled in the Western Ghats. These two falls are close to each other, making them a popular destination for tourists seeking the serene beauty of Kerala's natural landscapes. The area is also home to rich biodiversity, including several endangered species including wild elephants.

Transport time one way: Approx. 2 hrs (67.0 km)



Option 2: Alappuzha backwatercruise

Alappuzha, often referred to as the "Venice of the East," is famous for its picturesque backwaters and houseboat experiences. Located in the heart of Kerala, Alappuzha's backwaters consist of a network of serene canals, lagoons, and lakes, offering a tranquil retreat amidst coconut groves and paddy fields.

Transport time one way: Approx. 2 hr 5 min (60 km)



Option 3: Nilambur Teak Museum

The Nilambur Teak Museum is a unique museum dedicated to teak and is located in Nilambur, in the Malappuram district of Kerala, India. It is the first of its kind in the world and showcases the history, cultivation, and various uses of teak, one of the most valuable timber trees. Visit to the adjacent old-growth teak preservation plot will be an added attraction.

Transport time one way: 5 hr 44 min (200 km) - Overnight Stay



Payment

All payments must be made in US dollars online through the conference website. Online registration facilitates payment by Visa/MasterCard. The participants will get notification of confirmation of registration immediately after successful completion of payment.

Indian Rupee (Currency in India) account is also available for Wire transfer within India. Kindly bring your invoice receipt to present at the registration desk to receive your name badge and registration kit.

Confirmation

Once the payment is successful, a confirmation message will be sent, along with an invitation letter for those who require it for visa application.

Cancellation and Refund Policy:

- Registrations cancelled more than 30 days before the start of the event are eligible for 75% refund of the registration fees paid.
- The remaining 25% of the fee contributes to administration costs incurred.
Registrations cancelled less than 30 days before the event are not eligible for a refund.

Important: Refunds are processed within 5–10 business days after approval by the conference secretariat. The refund will be issued via bank transfer, and any associated bank charges will be borne by the registrant

Tentative Program at a Glance

	Wednesday 17 September 2025	Thursday 18 September 2025	Friday 19 September 2025	Saturday, 20 September 2025 Field trip
08.00-10.00	Registration	Presentations	Presentations	
10.00-11.00	Opening Ceremony	Presentations	Presentations	
11.00-11:30	Break/ Cultural Display			
11:30-12:00	Keynote address from India	Presentations	Presentations	
13.00-14.00	Lunch/ Poster- Photo Exhibition			
14.00-14.30	Plenary session	Plenary session	Plenary session	
14.30-15.30	Presentations	Presentations	Presentations	
15.30-16.00	Break			
16.00-17:00	Presentations	Presentations	Closing ceremony	
17:30-19:30	Welcome Reception	TEAKNET SC Meeting		

Local Organizing Committee

Chairman : Kannan CS Warriar, Director, Kerala Forest Research Institute, Kerala, India

Co-Chair : S. Sandeep, TEAKNET Coordinator, Kerala Forest Research Institute, Kerala, India

Scientific Organizing Committee

Chairman : Hugh Brown, TEAKNET Chairman, Forestry Commission of Ghana, Ghana

Co-Chair : S. Sandeep, TEAKNET, India

Session I: Value addition, markets and legal supply chains

Tran Lam Dong, Deputy Director General, Vietnamese Academy of Forest Sciences, Hanoi, Vietnam (Session Chair)

Yongyut Trisurat, Professor, Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University, Bangkok, Thailand

Valerie Fumey Nassah, Director of Operations, Forest Plantations Forest Services Division, Forestry Commission, Ghana

Session II: Financial analysis on short rotation teak investments in different teak growing regions

Walter Kollert, WaKa-Forest Investment Services AG, Portugal (Session Chair)

Illias Animon, Forestry Officer, FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, Thailand

Anitha V, Principal Scientist, Kerala Forest Research Institute, India

Session III: Recent advances in teak genetics and stand management of natural and planted teak forests

Lars Graudal, University of Copenhagen, Denmark (Session Chair)

Mauricio Jerez-Rico, Professor Emeritus, University of Los Andes, Venezuela

Anto Rimbawanto, Professor, National Agency of Research and Innovation (BRIN), Indonesia

Session IV: Management models for smallholder teak plantations and agroforestry systems in Asia, Africa and Latin America

Markku Kanninen, Professor Emeritus, University of Helsinki, Finland (Session Chair)

K.C. Chacko, Scientist F (Rtd.), Kerala Forest Research Institute, India

Nelly Grace Bedijo, FAO's Sawlog Production Grant Scheme (SPGS), Uganda

Session V: Environmental protection, biodiversity conservation and Forest Landscape Restoration

Michael Kleine, Senior Advisor, IUFRO HQ, Vienna, Austria (Session Chair) Kenichi Shono,

Forestry Officer, FAO HQ, Rome, Italy

John Alvin Stanturf, Visiting Professor, Estonian University of Life Sciences, Estonia



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Contact

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Photo credit: KFRI, India