Dendrochronology and IUFRO: History, Recent Activities and the Future

Margaret S. Devall
Center for Bottomland Hardwoods Research
Stoneville, MS, USA
The Global Network for Forest Science Cooperation

- IUFRO, the International Union of Forest Research Organizations, is a non-profit, non-governmental scientific institution founded in 1892.

- IUFRO is open to organizations and individuals involved in forest research and forest-related sciences.

- IUFRO unites more than 15,000 scientists in about 700 member organizations in over 110 countries.
OUR VISION

Science-based management, conservation and sustainable development of the world’s forest resources for the benefit of present and future generations.
OUR MISSION

Promote global cooperation in forest-related research and enhance the understanding of the ecological, economic and social aspects of forests and trees.

Disseminate scientific knowledge to stakeholders and decision-makers and contribute to forest policy and on-the-ground forest management.
OUR STAKEHOLDERS

- Research organizations and universities
- Individual scientists
- NGO’s
- Decision-making authorities and administrations
- Forest land-owners and other forest-dependent people
HOW DOES IUFRO WORK?

- IUFRO attains its objectives by networking activities including the generation, exchange and dissemination of scientific knowledge.

- IUFRO provides a global structure for global forest-related science cooperation on a voluntary basis. The structure allows IUFRO to address research needs and priorities of its stakeholders.
The IUFRO scientific activity is spread in 8 permanent Divisions, sub-divided into Research Groups and Working Parties.

- Silviculture
- Physiology and Genetics
- Forest Operations Engineering and Management
- Forest Assessment, Modelling and Management
- Forest Products
- Forest Health
- Forest Environment
- Social, Economic, Information and Policy Sciences
SCIENTIFIC DIVISIONS

The Union’s **scientific** activity is spread over a number of **Divisions** and has several functions:

To **support** researchers in **collaborative work**

To **provide** an **organizational link** among Research Groups, their associated Working Parties and also between the IUFRO Board.
The aim of Task Forces is to strengthen IUFRO activities in specific areas.

They contribute to international processes and activities.
SPECIAL PROGRAMMES & PROJECTS

Special Programme for Developing Countries (IUFRO-SPDC)

*Capacity development in economically disadvantaged countries*

Special Project on World Forests, Society and Environment IUFRO (IUFRO-WFSE)

*Active participation in forest-related policy processes*
Global Forest Information Service (GFIS)

Internet gateway for forest information worldwide
www.gfis.net

Global Forest Expert Panels (GFEP)

Assessment of available scientific information on forest-related issues of high concern
IUFRO BENEFITS (1)

- Global **networking** opportunities in forest research and related sciences
- Advantage of IUFRO’s **representation** at regional, national and international fora
- Free IUFRO **publications** such as newsletters, reports, proceedings, training materials, and unrestricted access to the IUFRO **website**
- Eligibility to IUFRO **awards** in recognition of scientific achievements and services to IUFRO.
IUFRO BENEFITS (2)

- **Make global connections** by participating in 8 Divisions, 65 Research Groups, 11 Task Forces, or more than 200 Working Parties.

- **Attend IUFRO World Congresses** that take place every five years and attract more than 2,000 participants.

- **Participate** in or organize any of the about 70 IUFRO conferences and workshops per year.

- **Benefit from joint activities and partnership agreements** with national governments as well as regional & global organizations and NGO’s.
NETWORKING IN IUFRO

Fernanda Scheffer de Lima and Raquel Partelli Feltrin, two forestry engineering students from Brazil who did an internship in our lab because of IUFRO connection.
KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION

- Scientific summaries, proceedings and other publications
- IUFRO Officeholders and their fields of expertise
- IUFRO Units and their activities
- IUFRO newsletters and latest news
- Calendar of meetings
- Much more!

www.iufro.org
IUFRO has identified **six key issues** defining the future orientation of the organization and the IUFRO Strategy 2010-2014.
KEY EMERGING ISSUES

- Forests and people
- Forests and climate change
- Forest bio-energy
- Forest biodiversity
- Forests and water
- Resources for the future
• These key issues will be an important part of the IUFRO Strategy 2010-2014.

• IUFRO will work towards implementing these six emerging themes through its divisions, Task Forces and Working Parties.
5.01.07 – Tree ring analysis

Coordinator: [Margaret Devall](mailto:Margaret.Devall@unitedstates.gov), United States

Deputy: [Paolo Cherubini](mailto:Paolo.Cherubini@switzerland.org), Switzerland

![Image of a person measuring a tree]
To increase the visibility of tree ring research in the forest science community. Connecting people interested in tree rings worldwide by exchanging knowledge and ideas.
History of Unit 5.01.07

• "Tree Ring Analysis" was established as a Project Group in 1989 during a Conference in Sao Paulo

• In 1992 well-attended sessions were held during the All-Division 5 Conference in Nancy, France

• A tree-ring-analysis-in-tropical-trees workshop was organized in Kuala Lumpur with IAWA in 1994

• Various meetings have been held since then
History of Unit 5.01.07 continued

**IUFRO Unit 5.01.07** was one of the sponsors of the 7th International Conference on Dendrochronology – Cultural Diversity, Environmental Variability, held in Beijing June 11-17, 2006.
History of Unit 5.01.07 continued

The unit was also a sponsor of Eurodendro 2008
The Long History of Wood Utilization;
Hallstatt, Austria;
28 May – 1 June 2008

And a sponsor of Eurodendro 2009:
Challenges, Developments, Advances;
26-30 October 2009, Cala Millor, Mallorca, Spain
Tree Ring Analysis group
- present

IUFRO Unit 5.01.07 is one of the sponsors of this conference: WorldDendro 2010 Climate change and sustainable forests: a dendrochronological perspective
Our Working Party has published a book

**Tree Ring Analysis: Biological, Methodological and Environmental Aspects**

53 authors from 17 countries have contributed to this volume.
Thank you for listening!

Hope to see you at the XXIII IUFRO World Congress in Seoul, Korea, 23-28 August 2010!

www.iufro2010.com