

The pre-World Forestry Congress regional meeting on people and forests



Date: 8-10 July, 2015
Location: Bangkok, Thailand

The XIV World Forestry Congress will be held 7–11 September 2015, in Durban, South Africa. The XIV World Forestry Congress will be a key occasion for the world's foresters and forest supporters to gather, to share their expertise and experience, and to project a new vision for the future of forests and forestry. The theme of the Congress is 'Forests and People: Investing in a Sustainable Future.'

To leverage opportunities to advocate for community forestry at the XIV World Forestry Congress, RECOFTC and partners will host a regional meeting to develop ways to 'put people at the heart of the WFC' by working together with leaders representing different rights groups from the Asia-Pacific region: indigenous peoples (IPs), community forest members, and smallholders.

Objectives

The overall aim of the Pre-WFC regional meeting is - through a participatory process in the lead up to WFC - to empower local community leaders from the region to develop their own messages and presentations on why forest decision-makers should invest in them. The main participants of the meeting will be representatives of smallholders, IPs and CF members from Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, Viet Nam, Lao PDR, Thailand and Nepal. These representatives will come together and discuss forest issues that are priorities for them, recognizing that their management of their forests is of benefit on local, national and global levels. Mr. Trevor Abrahams, Secretary General of the XIV World Forestry Congress based in South Africa, will open the meeting.

The messaging and presentations developed in the Pre-WFC meeting will form the basis for activities at the WFC, including presentations by local community representatives during the 'Building Momentum' WFC pre-event; WFC plenary/parallel session(s); RECOFTC and partners paper presentations; and the WFC side event 'Invest in Us'.

For more information:

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