



**Asia and the Pacific Forest Products Workshop –
Green Technology for Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation
14-17 December 2009
Colombo Sri Lanka**

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

Climate change is a global problem, with global causes and effects. Climate change affects the basic elements of life for people around the world – access to water, food production, health, and the environment. Hundreds of millions of people will potentially suffer from hunger, water shortages, and more frequent severe natural disasters such as droughts, typhoons and floods, as the climate changes. Addressing climate change and dealing with the impacts requires urgent efforts by all. Actions will require commitments and responsibilities to invest in capacity and capability building to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

There is strong evidence that climate change is happening and that unabated emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases are its main cause. Several nations, over the past decade, have initiated various mitigation and adaptation measures to cope with future climatic conditions. Efficient utilization of forest products, especially wood, which has carbon as its main element, offers significant opportunities to reduce carbon in the air and thereby contribute to climate change mitigation.

Many of the chemicals used in wood products manufacturing, such as preservatives, finishes and adhesives, release harmful greenhouse gases and volatiles, which pollute the air and threaten the health of workers. Wood waste, including saw dust, shavings, off-cuts and rejected timber, contributes to inefficient and unsustainable timber utilization. Inefficient processing of wood, improper treating/storage practices and inadequate drying, compound the problem. Energy consumption of the industry is high since much of the processing machinery is old, with low efficiency, and not very environmental friendly. Improper factory layout, poor attention on house-keeping, poor storage and waste management, lack of regular maintenance of machinery and equipment, and poor attention to personal protective equipment, contribute to enormous environmental, safety and health problems.

There is a growing awareness of the need for an efficient processing technology and full (maximized) wood utilization. This constitutes a major component in the *green* business strategy designed to conserve resources, reduce impacts to the environment and human safety and health, and promote greater overall efficiency. These would involve improving production techniques and technologies; including substituting different materials and energy sources, modifying equipment and redesigning products. The ultimate objective is to improve carbon reduction, carbon sequestration and carbon conservation leading to overall carbon emission reduction for climate change mitigation and adaptation. In addition to environmental, health and safety benefits, many green technologies can provide opportunities for positive financial returns.

Purpose of the workshop

The main objective of the workshop is to provide a forum for linking various international, regional and national agencies and institutions dealing with climate change issues in forest products processing and utilization, and to share strategies, experiences and knowledge, related to green forest products technology. The workshop will provide an opportunity for individuals and their associated agencies, organizations and networks to build collaborative linkages and better align programmes to capture synergies. The workshop will also provide an opportunity for various organizations including IUFRO, to assess capacity-building needs in terms of research and extension related to green forest products research, development and utilization in the Asia-Pacific region.

Who should attend?

The workshop is open to all interested participants. It will be of particular relevance to representatives of international and regional organizations, programmes, networks and projects dealing with green technologies in forest products industries. Individuals working in policy, research and operations related to forest products, environmental services, and industries will find the workshop especially useful. A wide range of government officials, scientists, industry representatives and private sector officials, from across the Asia-Pacific region are expected to attend.

Programme

The workshop will focus on two broad topics: energy reduction and carbon emission reduction – the two main objectives of *green* technologies. There will be two main sessions: *green* technologies in manufacturing and *green* products development.

Green technologies in manufacturing

- Wood waste reduction in wood processing
- Green adhesives and coatings technologies
- Recyclable packing technologies
- Energy reduction in wood processing
- Process and material optimization

Green products development

- Chain-of-Custody Certification and Life-Cycle-Assessment – Impetus for green products development
- New environmentally friendly products from the composite/panel industry
- Challenges for environmentally friendly products
- Biofuels

The working language of the workshop will be English.

If you wish to present a paper, or exhibit a poster, send your abstract of 300–500 words to Sim HeokChoh (simhc@frim.gov.my; sim@apafri.org). Abstracts should include the full names, addresses of authors, and e-mail address for the corresponding author.

Deadlines: Submissions of abstracts – **30 September**
 Notification of acceptance – **15 October**
 Final Papers/Presentations – **30 November**

Venue

Colombo, Sri Lanka

Sources of Funding

Participants should seek their own resources to attend the workshop. Efforts are being made to mobilize resources to support a limited number of invited participants, especially from developing countries in Asia and the Pacific. Those who are interested in participating in the workshop, but do not have their own funding, are still encouraged to register. The workshop organizers will attempt to provide partial support.

Organization

The workshop is an initiative of the International Union of Forest Research Organization (IUFRO). It is being organized by the Asia Pacific Association of Forest Research Institutions (APAFRI) in technical collaboration with the Sri Lanka Forest Department, Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM), and the Korea Forest Research Institute (KFRI).

Registration

The deadline for registrations for the workshop is 15 November 2009.

Contact for Enquiries

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REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete this form and send one copy to each of the following addressees as soon as possible (preferably no later than 15 November 2009).

Sim Heok-Choh
 Asia Pacific Association of Forestry Research Institutions
 c/o Forest Research Institute Malaysia
 Kepong 52109 Kepong, Selangor, Malaysia
 Fax: 60 3 6277 3249

E-mail: simhc@frim.gov.my

DELEGATE DETAILS

Prof/Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss/Other: Family Name:.....
 Given Name:.....
 Company/Organization:.....
 Department:.....Position:.....
 Mailing Address:.....
 State:.....Postcode:.....Country:.....
 Telephone:..... Facsimile:.....Email:.....

ACCOMMODATION

Please organize my accommodation as follows: Arrival:.....Departure:.....
 Single, Double or Twin share:.....
 I wish to share with:.....
 Special Dietary Requirements:.....

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Arrival: Flight:.....Time:.....Date:.....
 Departure: Flight:.....Time:.....Date:.....

PASSPORT INFORMATION

Passport No:Date of issue:.....Date of expiry:.....
 Issuing Authority:.....Date and place of birth:.....