

FORTHCOMING EVENTS



SEVENTEENTH SESSION OF THE FAO COMMITTEE ON FORESTRY (COFO)

ROME, ITALY
15-19 MARCH 2005

This 17th biennial session of COFO will convene at FAO headquarters, bringing together heads of forest services and other senior government officials to identify emerging policy and technical issues and advise FAO and others on appropriate action.

For more information, please contact:
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www.fao.org/forestry/site/2962/en

GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE AND TRADITIONAL MEDICINE

JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA
16-18 MARCH 2005

The main objective of this conference is to review current indigenous knowledge laws and to recommend changes and amendments wherever necessary. It will also give participants a chance to educate indigenous healers on how to develop and protect their medical products, process and procedures; and also to promote collaboration between indigenous healers, conventional medical practitioners and corporate institutions for joint development and sharing of intellectual property rights of medicinal products, processes and procedures.

For more information, please contact:
J. William Danquah, President & Chief Executive Officer, Africa First LLC, 517 Asbury Street, Suite 11, Saint Paul, MN 55104, USA.
Fax: +1 651 6443235;
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TRAINING WORKSHOP-CUM-SEMINAR ON POVERTY ALLEVIATION THROUGH BAMBOO-BASED DEVELOPMENT: POLICIES, STRATEGIES AND STAKEHOLDERS

ZHEJIANG, CHINA
18-28 APRIL 2005

Bamboo is a fast-growing and regenerating species. Shortly after planting, annual profits occur without negative environmental effects. It is an ideal non-timber forest product for sustainable development. Beyond traditional handicrafts and practical daily products, China's bamboo sector has become a fast emerging rural industry. It plays an important role in reducing timber consumption, protecting natural forests, poverty alleviation, employment/income generation, environmental improvement and rural socio-economic development. Many developing countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America have rich bamboo resources, but poor utilization, especially in terms of industrial processing.

This training workshop provides an opportunity for policy-makers, rural development practitioners, and entrepreneurs in bamboo-producing countries to learn about the potential of bamboo in sustainable development, and to study the Chinese experiences elaborating development strategies and the sustainable management of enterprises.

The course will be carried out jointly by INBAR and the Bamboo Industry Associations of Lin'an and Anji counties

in Zhejiang province, China. It will focus on policies and case studies from the two counties, where impressive developments have taken place over recent years. Course modules will include: bamboo development policies and strategies; bamboo in rural development and poverty alleviation/income generation; private sector and community partnership models; household/micro-enterprise development; farmer-market linkages; multistakeholder participation; efficiency of raw material utilization; product development, etc.

Workshop structure

Lectures by bamboo development experts (2 days)
Field studies in villages, households, factories, markets (5 days)
Group discussion with local government officials, entrepreneurs, technicians (1 day)

For more information, please contact:
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NINTH NORTH AMERICAN AGROFORESTRY CONFERENCE — 2005

ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA, USA
12-15 JUNE 2005

The theme for this conference, "Moving agroforestry into the mainstream", is intended to attract those people interested in the production and environmental benefits of agroforestry.

Printed and CD-ROM versions of the proceedings will be published.

For more information, please contact:
Dean Current, CINRAM, 115 Green Hall, 1530 Cleveland Ave. North, St Paul, MN 55108-6112, USA.
E-mail: curre002@umn.edu;
www.cinram.umn.edu/afta2005

FORTHCOMING EVENTS



THE 2005 CHILDREN'S WORLD SUMMIT FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

AICHI, JAPAN
26-29 JULY 2005

The summit will bring together 1 000 children between the ages of 10 and 14 from more than 150 countries. Now in its sixth year, the summit is held based on the recognition that the children of today will be responsible for the global environment of the future, and can contribute their valuable experiences and opinions as part of an ongoing dialogue. The summit aims to inspire children to think globally, and empowers them to initiate action in their own communities. It is being hosted by Japan Organizing Committee for the 2005 Children's World Summit for the Environment (JOC) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

For more information, please visit:
www.children-summit.jp/eng_t/index.html



FORESTS IN THE BALANCE: LINKING TRADITION AND TECHNOLOGY – XXII IUFRO WORLD CONGRESS

BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA
8-13 AUGUST 2005

For more information, please contact:
Chair Gary Bacon, Congress Organizing Committee, Queensland Department of Primary Industries, GPO Box 46, Brisbane, QLD 4001, Australia.
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<http://iufro.boku.ac.at/>

SYMPOSIUM ON NON-TIMBER FOREST PRODUCTS, COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND FOREST CONSERVATION: A FUTURE BENEATH THE TREES

VICTORIA, BRITISH COLOMBIA, CANADA
25-27 AUGUST 2005

The Centre for Non-Timber Resources at Royal Roads University in Victoria, Canada will host an international gathering of NTFP researchers, resource managers and resource users to discuss and assess the impact of the commercial development of NTFPs on rural livelihoods and forest conservation.

The purpose of the symposium is to assemble the world's experts on the commercial development of NTFPs and the implications of such development for rural livelihoods and forest conservation, in order to:

- share the principal lessons learned in tropical and subtropical regions over the past two decades;
- assess the relevance of experience in the "South" for the "North";
- share the experience to date of the commercial development of NTFPs in industrialized societies;
- develop an action-oriented agenda for NTFP development in temperate and boreal regions of the world, including policy recommendations; and
- support the development of a global network of NTFP interests in the public, private, indigenous, academic and non-profit sectors.

For more information, please contact:
Dr Darcy A. Mitchell, Director, Centre for Non-Timber Resources, Royal Roads University, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada.
E-mail: ntfp@royalroads.ca;
www.ntfpconference.ca;
www.royalroads.ca/cntr

THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL MEDICINAL MUSHROOM CONFERENCE

PORT TOWNSEND, WASHINGTON, USA
12-17 OCTOBER 2005

During the past few years, the body of evidence confirming the medicinal properties of mushrooms has expanded significantly. Researchers are discovering the mushroom genome is surprisingly complex in its molecular constituents and the manner in which they interact with human and environmental health. As sources for new antibiotics (both antibacterial and antiviral), immunomodulators, enzymes, enzyme-inhibitors and other medicines, mushrooms play a unique role in complementary therapies.

For more information, please contact:
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