


 **EUROPEAN FOREST WEEK**
EUROPEAN COUNTRIES
20-24 OCTOBER 2008

The European Forest Week was marked by events in Brussels, Rome and throughout Europe. The week highlighted the contribution of European forests in mitigating the effects of climate change, providing wood and renewable energy, promoting freshwater supply and protecting the environment.

The European Forest Week, declared by ministers responsible for forests in 46 European countries, is jointly organized by the European Commission, FAO, the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, in close collaboration with the Presidency of the Council of the European Union (EU) at the time of the event, France.

Rome events (21-24 October) featured discussions on forests and climate change, energy, water and "working together for forests". Brussels events included a high-profile EU Presidency event (20 October), programmes by other European stakeholders and the European Economic and Social Committee (23 October). In-country activities held simultaneously in participating countries throughout the region highlighted the means of fully utilizing the potential of European forests.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
efw@unece.org; www.europeanforestweek.org/

 **CULTIVATED AGARWOOD IN VIET NAM: A GUIDED FIELD TOUR OF SUCCESSFUL AGARWOOD PRODUCTION IN THE MEKONG DELTA**
VIET NAM
1-4 NOVEMBER 2008

Organized by Seven Mountains Co. Ltd, Viet Nam, this field trip and seminar in An Giang Province focused on agarwood inducement technology, plantation management, processing, markets, yields and products.

For over 14 years, the Seven Mountains Region in An Giang Province has been the research site for cultivated agarwood development. Seven Mountains Co. Ltd has now started cultivated agarwood commercial operations in the area. It was at this rural location in the heart of the *Aquilaria* plantations that this agarwood

seminar and plantation field trip were conducted to provide in-depth information on the latest results and trends in cultivated agarwood development.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
dungnguyen@baynui.com/
(For additional information on international cultivated agarwood development, please see CA Companies updated Web site at:
<http://cultivatedagarwood.com/>)

 **IUFRO CONFERENCE ON GENDER AND FORESTRY. GENDER ISSUES IN NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT – PERCEPTION AND EXPERIENCES IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE WORLD**
DEHRA DUN, INDIA
16-19 NOVEMBER 2008

On behalf of the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) units Gender Research in Forestry and Education, and Gender and Forestry, the Forest Research Institute (FRI), Dehra Dun, India, hosted this conference.

The conference explored experiences with gender sensitivity and gender analysis in forest management and organizations in the forestry sector as well as challenges to the sustainable livelihoods of forest dwellers and users all over the world.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:
www.iufrogenderindia.info

 **CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS**
GUILDFORD, UNITED KINGDOM
20 NOVEMBER 2008

The diminishing wood resource and restrictions imposed on felling in natural forests have focused world attention on the need to identify a substitute material that should be renewable, environmentally friendly and widely available. In view of its rapid growth, a ready adaptability to most climatic and soil conditions and properties comparable with many fast growing woods, bamboo emerges as a very suitable alternative.


Climate Change and Sustainable Livelihoods included a success story of an integrated bamboo development programme to create sustainable livelihood opportunities for the rural poor of India. The core activity was the cultivation of bamboo under plantation conditions and the complete utilization of bamboo, using both traditional methods and high technology processes.

The design and implementation of the programme focused on the support needed for the beneficiaries to achieve their livelihood goals, within an overall framework of environmental and economic sustainability.

Lionel Jayanetti, speaker at the event, has been working mainly on the use of renewable building materials, specializing in bamboo development as a sustainable livelihood for the poorest of the poor in the developing world.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
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 **9TH NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE, POLICY AND THE ENVIRONMENT: BIODIVERSITY IN A RAPIDLY CHANGING WORLD**
WASHINGTON DC, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
8-10 DECEMBER 2008

There is an urgent need for scientists, conservationists and policy-makers to re-examine the biodiversity issue. We must look both retrospectively at a quarter century of "modern" conservation efforts – what has worked well and what has not, but also prospectively at the greater challenges of the next quarter century. We need to look broadly at the many scientific discoveries and the many issues involving the use, abuse and conservation of biodiversity, including cultivated as well as wild species and ecosystems.


This National Council for Science and the Environment (NCSE) conference brought together some 1 000 scientists, conservationists and policy-makers to develop a strategy to guide a new United States administration and others working to conserve biodiversity around the world.

It developed an approach for biodiversity management and conservation in a twenty-first century context, including: strategies for biodiversity, conservation and sustainable utilization; scientific needs for understanding biodiversity values, losses and consequences; and expanding understanding: information, education and communication.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
Dr David Blockstein, National Council for Science and the Environment (NCSE), 1101 17th Street NW, Suite 250, Washington DC, 20036, United States of America. Fax: 202-628-4311; e-mail: david@NCSEonline.org/; http://ncseonline.org/conference/biodiversity/

 **COFO 2009/WORLD FOREST WEEK**
 ROME, ITALY
 16-20 MARCH 2009

(Please see page 58 for full information on this event.)

 **SHEA 2009: OPTIMIZING THE GLOBAL VALUE CHAIN**
 QUAGADOUGOU, BURKINA FASO
 25-27 MARCH 2009

Between 2004 and 2008 the shea industry has effectively doubled. How will we continue that growth while addressing key challenges?

Firms from more than 12 African countries will join experts, international buyers and regional service providers to explore fundamental and cutting-edge issues in the shea industry. Topics to be discussed include: environmental and social issues; production sales; product quality and management of shea parklands; impact of cultivation of biofuel crops; consumer trends; quality standards and regulation; and value of an industry alliance.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
Vanessa Adams (Director) or Dr Peter Lovett (Shea Butter Technical Advisor), West Africa Trade Hub, 4th Street, Kuku Hill, Osu, Accra, Ghana. E-mail: plovet@watradehub.com; www.watradehub.com; www.globalshea.org/



HONEY – THE SWEET STUFF BECOMING A SOUR ISSUE – INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
 GLOUCESTERSHIRE, UNITED KINGDOM
 26-27 MARCH 2009

Honeybee numbers in the world are dropping for understandable reasons: habitat loss and fragmentation, infestation of apiaries by parasites and widespread use of agricultural chemicals, including industrial pollution. Being animal keepers and food producers, beekeepers have to follow the legal prescriptions.

This conference will not only cover honeybee reductions around the world, pesticide and antibiotics excessive usage issue, guidelines and regulations updates, authenticity and adulteration problems, but it will also educate and create awareness of practices in different countries, new developments on the markets, clean labels and sugar substitution, food safety aspects and many more.

Our speakers will cover different areas of concern and approaches from beekeeping farms, factories, processing plants, manufacturing processes, retailers' perception, legal labelling issues, consumer analysis, laboratories and bee inspectors' view.

The conference will be filled with real life case studies and guidelines on food safety, sustainability and global sourcing.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
Campden and Chorleywood Food Research Association, Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire GL55 6LD, United Kingdom. Fax: +44 (0) 1386 842100; e-mail: info@campden.co.uk



SECOND WORLD CONGRESS OF AGROFORESTRY (INCLUDING SPECIAL SESSION ON NTFPS)
 NAIROBI, KENYA
 23-28 AUGUST 2009

NTFPs have long been collected for food, medicine, income and pleasure, and play an important role in rural households. Some have well-established domestic and international markets. Peoples from around the world have been nurturing native plants found in their forest lands for these products. In recent years, concerns have been raised about the sustainability of these resources

because of reduced habitat and possible overharvesting. Today, forest farming is promoted and recommended for ecological and economic reasons, to provide alternative income sources while conserving forested landscapes.

There will be a special session topic at the Second World Congress of Agroforestry focusing on NTFPs, namely: Forest Farming in Temperate Climates with Non-Timber Forest Products: Opportunities, Challenges, and Solutions. This session will explore research and extension activities that promote opportunities and address challenges in producing NTFPs through forest farming in temperate climates.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
Jim Chamberlain, Ph.D., CF, Research Scientist, Non-Timber Forest Products, US Forest Service, SRS-4352, National Agroforestry Center, 1650 Ramble Road, Blacksburg, VA 24060, United States of America. Fax: +1-540-231-1383; e-mail: jchamber@vt.edu or jchamberlain@fs.fed.us; www.sfp.forprod.vt.edu or www.srs4702.forprod.vt.edu/

 **INTERNATIONAL TRADITIONAL AND DESIGNER BASKETRY COMPETITION**
 TENERIFE, CANARY ISLANDS
 4-6 SEPTEMBER 2009

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:
www.pinolere.org

 **XIII WORLD FORESTRY CONGRESS**
 BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA
 18-25 OCTOBER 2009

(Please see page 60 for full information on this event.) ♣

