



XV WORLD FORESTRY CONGRESS

The International Commission
on Poplars and Other Fast-Growing Trees
Sustaining People and the Environment

Deploying fast-growing trees to support family farmers and restore ecosystems: how the IPC helps people and our planet

5 MAY 2022, 10:00 - 11:30 AM (KST), HALL E1

Side-event in English



Keynote speaker: Bob Kazungu

Principal Forest Officer, Monitoring and Assessments, Ministry of Water and Environment of Uganda



Kyu-Suk Kang

Professor, Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Bioresources, Seoul National University (SNU) and IPC Executive Committee member



Tiina Vähänen

Deputy Director of the Forestry Division at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)



Joris Van Acker

Professor, Laboratory of Wood Technology, Ghent University and IPC Working Party Chair



Martin Weih

Professor of Plant Ecology, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences and IPC Chairperson



Patrick Worms

President, European Agroforestry Federation and member of the IPC Executive Committee



Event moderator: Thais Linhares-Juvenal

Team Leader Sustainable Forestry, Value Chain Innovation & Investments, Forestry Division at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

CONTEXT

Fast-growing trees are a fundamentally important component of forestry and agricultural systems worldwide, often owned by small-scale farmers to support their livelihoods. They are a major part of wood-based value chains. Fast-growing trees also have important environmental applications and can play a critical role in advancing landscape restoration.

The International Commission on Poplars and Other Fast-Growing Trees Sustaining People and the Environment (IPC) has the mission to reduce poverty and improve ecosystem services worldwide by fostering the sustainable management of fast-growing trees. IPC has contributed, for example, to the establishment of outgrower schemes on more than 450,000 hectares in India; and to the Chinese 'Great Green Wall' or Three-North Shelterbelt.

Until 2019, the IPC worked with poplar, aspen, cottonwood and willow. Its mandate was then expanded to provide for work on all fast-growing tree species that sustain people and the environment.

The IPC's contribution is particularly significant for fostering innovation and developing scientific evidence to support decision-making at policy level, and improving livelihoods and ecosystem services on the ground. The side-event will bring in different perspectives in order to:

- Raise awareness on the work of the IPC, its new mandate, and relevance to the global forest agenda;
- Highlight potential areas of innovation and ways forward for the use of fast growing-species.

More on the IPC and its new strategy available here: <https://www.fao.org/ipc/en/>.

AGENDA

10:00 – Welcome address, T. Vähänen

10:05 – Introduction to the IPC, its historical founding, and its new strategy, M. Weih

10:20 – Keynote address: Perspective from a non-Member country on the importance of fast-growing species, B. Kazungu

10:30 – Views of the panel

- **How can IPC's scientific work guide decision-making for innovative uses of fast-growing species?**
J. Van Acker
- **Innovative uses of fast-growing species: success stories and lessons learned from the Republic of Korea's National Reforestation Programme**, K. S. Kang
- **The importance of fast-growing trees for family farming and agroforestry**, P. Worms

11:00 – Discussion moderated by T. Linhares-Juvenal

11:25 – Conclusion and closure, T. Vähänen

For more information on this event please contact faustine.zoveda@fao.org