

R20AWS Breakout Session

FOREST RESPONSES TO CLIMATE CHANGE: Why African Forests Matter

Date/ Time: May 29th / 09:00 – 13:00

Location: Kleiner Festsaal, Vienna University, Universitätsring 1, 1010 Wien

Organizers:

Austrian Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism (BMNT)

Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research (BMBWF)

International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO)

Background & Objectives

In this session policy makers and scientists will discuss the role of forests and trees and their sustainable conservation and management in limiting climate-related risks in the context of the Paris Agreement and the UN Sustainable Development Goals. In particular, the importance of forests in Africa will be underlined and examples of cooperation between Austrian and African partners will be highlighted. Three renowned experts from Africa will talk about the opportunities and challenges for people and the environment related to forests, trees and forest products in the face of climate change. The Austrian Minister of Education, Science and Research, Mr. Heinz Faßmann, will present new science cooperation initiatives between Austria and partners in Africa. This is followed by a panel discussion which will look into the expectations of research and science cooperation as well as into opportunities of collaboration to support sustainable forest management. Concrete examples of forest research and development cooperation projects will finally be presented during a poster session organized by the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna.

Speakers

Moderation: Alexander BUCK, IUFRO Executive Director, Austria

In alphabetical order:

Emma ARCHER VAN GARDEREN, University of Pretoria, South Africa

Johan ELIASCH, CEO, HEAD and founder, COOL EARTH

Heinz FABMANN, Austrian Federal Minister of Education, Science and Research

Ingwald GSCHWANDTL, Austrian Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism (BMNT)

Hubert HASENAUER, Rector, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, Austria

Albert van JAARSVELD, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), Austria

Ramni JAMNADASS, World Agroforestry Center (ICRAF), Kenya

Maria PATEK, Austrian Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism (BMNT)

Wubalem TADESSE, Ethiopian Environment and Forest Research Institute, Ethiopia

Kevin WAFULA NYONGESA, Kenya, PhD Student at BOKU/Vienna

Program

Moderation: Alexander Buck, IUFRO Executive Director

08:30 Registration

09:00 Introduction

Maria Patek, Director-General for Forestry and Sustainability, Austrian Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism (BMNT)

Austria's global responsibility for addressing climate change and the sustainable management of forests

Johan Eliasch, CEO, HEAD and founder, COOL EARTH

Welcome message as R20 speaker

Kevin Wafula Nyongesa, Kenya, PhD Student at BOKU/Vienna

Now is the time to act – a message from the youth

09:30 Keynotes: Forests and Climate Change – The African Perspective

Emma Archer van Garderen, University of Pretoria, South Africa

Climate change impacts and adaptation in Africa – An overview

Ramni Jamnadass, Co-Leader, Tree Productivity and Diversity, World Agroforestry Center (ICRAF), Kenya

The role of forests and trees for the livelihood of African people in a changing climate

Wubalem Tadesse, Senior Scientist at the Ethiopian Environment and Forest Research Institute (EEFRI), Ethiopia

Forest Landscape Restoration– Experiences on the ground from Ethiopia

Questions from the audience

10:15 Panel Discussion: How Austria promotes science cooperation and networking with Africa

Heinz Faßmann, Austrian Federal Minister of Education, Science and Research

Introductory statement

Panellists (in alphabetical order):

Emma Archer van Garderen, University of Pretoria, South Africa

Ingwald Gschwandtl, Head of International Forest Policy, Austrian Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism (BMNT), Austria

Hubert Hasenauer, Rector, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, Austria

Albert van Jaarsveld, Director General and Chief Executive Officer, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), Austria

Ramni Jamnadass, World Agroforestry Center (ICRAF), Kenya

Wubalem Tadesse, EEFRI, Ethiopia

Discussion with the audience; Wrap-up by the moderator

11:30 Moderated Poster Session

12:00-13:00 Networking Lunch and Refreshments