

“Trees Connecting People: In Action Together”

Bogotá, Colombia
29 July 2008 - 1 August 2008

1st Announcement for Participants and Papers

1. INVITATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

We are pleased to announce an FAO International Meeting on Urban and Peri Urban Forestry.





This international meeting gathers worldwide institutions and experts, interested in collaboration and partnership in support to the capacity building of developing countries and in transition with the aim of optimizing the role of forests and trees for healthy cities.

The meeting will stimulate exchange among international and local stakeholders interested by decision making process, best practices, expertise acquired, lessons learned as well as opportunities for action. Another objective is to assist FAO in setting priority actions in its programme of work in urban and peri-urban forestry; it will also give recommendations to participating institutions. The participants will explore and define institutional ways of collaboration and partnership to implement coherent and good practices for a healthy urban development. Finally, the meeting will give strategic advice on the way to raise the profile of forests and trees on national, regional and world urban agendas. The vision is the contribution towards human settlements, and cities in harmony within their environment and improved livelihoods for all.

The meeting will be open to a wide range of interest groups concerned by the development of cities of various dimensions. Practitioners, policy and decision makers, scientists and civil society representatives, with interest at local, national and international levels, will find a forum of dialogue to cross perceptions of needs and build together short and long term options. Discussions will focus on thematic and regional issues, in part based on the background material prepared for the meeting as well as on the papers voluntarily shared by participants. Examples of proposed subjects are: the synergy between agriculture, forestry and greening in urban and peri-urban areas; wood energy; forest and tree inventory; participatory decision making; watershed management and payment for environmental services; carbon sequestration for mitigation of and adaptation to climate change; guidelines for municipal policy and decision making on urban forestry.

PROGRAMME

The programme of the four-day meeting will be organized as follows:

-  The 1st day will be dedicated to oral presentations from keynote, and other, speakers, followed by a poster session.
-  The 2nd day will provide a forum of discussions by working groups.
-  The 3rd day will begin with a half-day field trip, followed by other working group sessions.
-  The 4th day will bring the conclusions and recommendations in plenary and the closure of the event.

Each day, the programme will give special space to working groups and plenary sessions on Latin American issues.

The main results of the meeting will be conveyed to FAO and other international events related to urban issues.

AGENDA, VENUE & DATE

A "Second Announcement for Participants and Papers" will be announced on 30 June 2008 and posted on the FAO Website on Urban Forestry: <http://km.fao.org/urbanforestry/>. The venue and the preliminary agenda will be posted at that time.



2. ANNOUNCEMENT FOR PAPERS, ABSTRACTS & POSTERS

Participants are invited to submit abstracts on development, research and funding activities that are relevant to the event. The Advisory Committee will make a selection of abstracts for oral presentation during the sessions. There will also be an opportunity to present posters.

Abstracts for presentations should be submitted by 30 June 2008, by attachment to e-mail (.doc and PDF format only). Abstracts should be limited to 300 words. Please organize the abstract as follows: (1) title of the presentation; (2) authors(s) name(s) and affiliations; (3) email address and telephone number for the author to whom correspondence should be addressed; (4) the text of the abstract; (5) your choice of oral or poster presentation (we will try to accommodate this preference, but reserve the option to ask for presentations to be given as posters, if necessary).

Please, send your abstracts, posters and papers to: urban-forestry@fao.org.

Regarding oral presentations, the selected authors will be notified on the decision of the Advisory Committee by 7 July 2008.

Selected papers, abstracts and posters will be considered for publication.



SPONSORS OF PARTICIPANTS

If you are interested in sponsoring a participant, the Organizers can be of assistance in this selection.



REGISTRATION FEES

No registration fees are requested.



WORKING LANGUAGE

English.



For a world without hunger

ORGANIZATION

The meeting is organized by the FAO - Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN, in collaboration with IPES - Promoción del Desarrollo Sostenible (Peru).

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE & SECRETARIAT

- *Michelle Gauthier, FAO*
- *Gunther Merzthal, Promoción del Desarrollo Sostenible - IPES*
- *Francesca Gianfelici, FAO*

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