
International Council of Forest & Paper Associations (ICFPA)

Activity Report – June 2013

The International Council of Forest & Paper Associations (ICFPA) is an organisation of national and regional forest and paper industry associations whose purpose is to serve as a forum for global dialogue, coordination and cooperation across the industry.

ICFPA works collaboratively with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation's (FAO) Advisory Committee on Sustainable Forest-based Industries to develop research that can inform government policies by recognising forestry's potential as a solution to global needs such as food, fuel, fibre and medicines.

Member associations agree on key policy statements on behalf of the global industry, which are presented to government leaders around the world by ICFPA members and highlighted in various international meetings such as Conferences of the Parties, United Nations sessions and other forums.

Working together, we advocate on behalf of the industry and its sustainability story, by transparently reporting on global industry progress related to our 2006 commitments.

The following provides an overview of the ICFPA's recent activities.

ICFPA Annual Meetings

2013 ICFPA Annual Meeting *upcoming event*

June 4, 2013

São Paulo, Brazil

At the annual meeting in São Paulo, ICFPA plans to review and update existing policy statements and consider proposed new statements. Follow up action is expected on governance and membership issues discussed in 2012.

The Council will discuss opportunities for cooperation with the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) – Forest Solutions Group, prepare recommendations to the FAO Advisory Committee on Sustainable Forest-based Industries, and review expected outcomes for the 2013 CEOs Roundtable.

2012 ICFPA Annual Meeting

May 23, 2012

New Delhi, India

The Council held a successful annual meeting in bustling New Delhi. Council members took steps to enhance the group's governance and financial footing with a dues system to support common projects such as preparation of the semi-annual *ICFPA Sustainability Progress Report*. ICFPA members also initiated planning in preparation for the 6th CEOs Roundtable in 2013.

ICFPA Task Forces

- A new Task Force on Planted Forests, chaired by Bracelpa, has been established and interested members have been asked to participate in the development of activities in support of forest plantations. The Task Force will discuss issues and develop common documents, agreements and action regarding forest plantations.
- ICFPA Task Forces on Water and Climate also shared information and updates throughout 2012 and 2013, keeping members informed of global opportunities.

ICFPA CEOs Roundtables

ICFPA 6th CEOs Roundtable *upcoming event*

June 6, 2013

São Paulo, Brazil

Industry leaders from around the world will meet in São Paulo, Brazil, to discuss how the industry can meet the growing global demand for forest products; global actions the industry can take to enhance its sustainable and innovative role and position; and opportunities for industry collaboration on government policies.

The 4th biennial *ICFPA Sustainability Progress Report* will be presented at the CEOs Roundtable. The *Progress Report* provides a global snapshot on five performance indicators related to the 2006 CEO Leadership Statement commitments. This year, the focus of the report is on the industry's contribution to the Green Economy by providing member case studies highlighting progress towards the Green Economy on national and regional levels.

ICFPA 5th CEOs Roundtable

May 26, 2011

Montreal, Canada

The ICFPA 5th Global CEOs Roundtable gathered about 30 industry leaders from around the world in Montreal, Canada.

The CEOs' discussion focused on assessing trends in government interventions; trade; the bioeconomy; potential game changers; and the ICFPA's sustainability performance.

The participants noted market trends, including the increased interdependence of global supply chains and the growing levels of government intervention, and the importance of free trade to the growth of jobs in the sector.

At the Roundtable, the ICFPA presented the *2011 Sustainability Progress Report* – its 3rd biennial sustainability report – which highlights member association activities and performance in creating solutions to global climate change and energy supply; promoting sustainable forest management worldwide; combating illegal logging; fibre use and recovery; environmental management; and investing in workers and communities.

International Conferences

COFO and World Forest Week

September 24-28, 2012
Rome, Italy

The ICFPA Working Group met in Rome during the FAO Committee on Forestry and World Forest Week.

Elizabeth de Carvalhaes (Brazilian Pulp and Paper Association – Bracelpa) chaired the session “Forests and Forest Products at the Heart of Sustainable Production and Consumption”, where Donna Harman (American Forest & Paper Association – AF&PA) spoke on behalf of the ICFPA about forest products in the green economy and the perspective of large-scale forest industries. At the session “Broadening the Financial Basis for Sustainable Forest Management”, Teresa Presas (Confederation of European Paper Industries – CEPI) spoke about the development of the forest-based bioeconomy in Europe.

FAO’s Forestry Department and Bracelpa co-organised the side event “The Role of Planted Forests in the Future We Want” that focused on the commercial uses of forest plantations and their significance in a sustainable economy.

Rio+20 Conference Side Event “Forests: The Heart of a Green Economy”

June 18, 2012
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

At the United Nations Rio+20 conference, the ICFPA, FAO and Bracelpa organised and co-hosted the side event titled “Forests: The Heart of a Green Economy,” which emphasised the role forestry plays in sustainable development and poverty eradication.

A range of high-level speakers and experts participated in panels highlighting the potential of forests in the bio-economy to boost global economic sustainability, the role of forest certification programs in the green economy, and the contribution of the forest industry to rural development and livelihoods.

“We all must ensure that we realize the full potential for forestry as a solution to the world’s needs for necessary products that improve the quality of life for our generation and for those to come.”

Eduardo Rojas-Briales,
Assistant Director General
of the FAO Forestry Department

ICFPA Seminar at World Water Week

August 25, 2011
Stockholm, Sweden

At the seminar, the ICFPA, AF&PA and CEPI presented information covering the forest products industry’s unique water use and stewardship activities.

The speakers emphasised that most water used in production processes returns to the environment; it is not consumed.

The industry uses wood as raw material and implements high-standard practices in terms of forest management tools, while adopting modern effluent treatment systems.

ICFPA Member Activities HIGHLIGHTS

Africa

The Paper Manufacturers Association of South Africa (PAMSA) called on businesses to change their attitude to paper during Green Office Week by shredding the misconceptions they have about paper use.

Americas

The American Forest & Paper Association (AF&PA) is working with partners to develop the Paper Check-off: a promotion, research and information program that will tout the sustainability benefits of paper and paper-based packaging products.

The Brazilian Pulp & Paper Association (Bracelpa) presented the social aspects of industry at the Social Value of Forest Plantations workshop held during the annual summit of the New Generation Plantations, a WWF initiative that brings together knowledge and good forestry practices to promote proper management of plantations.

The Forest Products Association of Canada (FPAC) launched www.thegreenestworkforce.ca, a resource tool that provides information on the direction of the industry and career opportunities available across the country.

Members of the Chilean forest industry (Corporación Chilena de la Madera - CORMA) received the Clean Production Certification in the wood pulp and paperboard segments. The eleven mills that were included represent 70 percent of Chile's annual wood pulp and paperboard production.

Asia

In accordance with Japan Paper Association's (JPA) Environmental Action Plan, member companies agreed to improve their environmental performance and promote international cooperation in the field of research and development of resources and energy-saving technologies.

Europe

The Confederation of European Paper Industries (CEPI) launched the Two Teams Project, where two competing multidisciplinary teams are set to identify breakthrough concepts of technologies and processes that make the current pulp and paper manufacturing process more efficient, while reducing CO₂ emissions and creating more value.

The Spanish Association of Pulp and Paper Manufacturers (Aspapel) launched www.graciaspapel.es, a website dedicated to the world of paper and the environment, and a social media initiative – #quieropapel – that highlights paper as an indispensable and beloved product in communication, marketing, education, transport, hygiene etc.

Austropapier hosted the annual Austrian Paper Conference, which included over 40 presentations by national and international experts about strategies and technologies for the future.

The Russian Association of Pulp & Paper Organizations and Enterprises (RAO BUMPROM) was involved in the preparation of "The Russian Federation Forest Sector Outlook Study to 2030" by the UN FAO.

The Swedish Forest Industries Federation (SFIF) branded all its activities related to the promotion of wood, wood products and wood construction together under the name Swedish Wood, which aims to increase the use of wood in Sweden and selected international markets.

Oceania

"Woodscape", a joint effort between the New Zealand Forest Owners Association (NZFOA), the government and the national forest science research institute will identify leading technology options to be adopted in the New Zealand forest processing sector.



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