



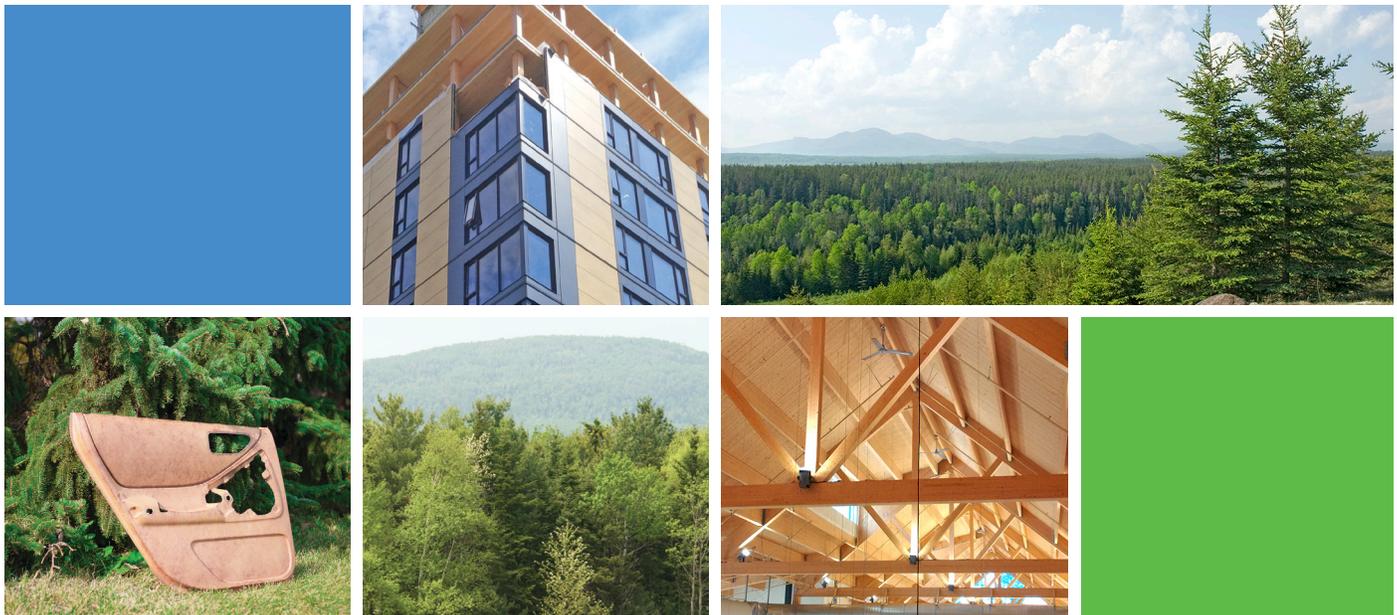
COFFI 2018

BUILDING THE FUTURE WITH FORESTS

5-9 NOVEMBER 2018 | VANCOUVER | CANADA

76th Session of the UNECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (COFFI)

MEETING BOOK



UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section

UNECE and FAO work together at the implementation of the Warsaw Integrated Programme of Work. For more info, see www.unece.org/forests/ipow

Canada 



UNECE

MINISTERS MESSAGE

I am delighted to welcome you to beautiful Vancouver for the 76th Session of the UNECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry.

The theme of this year's session, *Building the Future with Forests*, is both timely and important. Timely, because the world is embracing new clean, renewable energy and important because wood – from sustainably managed forests – is poised to play a key role in that evolution.



The theme also captures the essence of the circular economy – one that replaces a “take, make and dispose” approach with a model that looks to “reuse, regenerate and restore.”

Here in Canada, we understand the opportunity for forest products to help address climate change. That's why we are investing in green construction – including tall wood buildings, where Canada is a global leader.

In fact, the tallest wood hybrid building in the world – a student residence at the University of British Columbia – sits here in Vancouver. Both an engineering and architectural showpiece, it is also an environmental game-changer, storing over 1,700 metric tonnes of carbon dioxide and saving nearly 700 metric tonnes in greenhouse gas emissions.

We have also developed a national plan to capture the opportunities of the emerging bioeconomy, with a focus on biomass, which could replace fossil-based products and usher in a new model for global economic growth.

All of this gives us a glimpse into the future – our collective future. A future built with forests.

We're delighted you've joined us to accelerate the possibilities.

The Honourable Amarjeet Sohi,
Minister of Natural Resources

Contents

COFFI 2018 at a Glance	5
COFFI 2018.....	6
Overview.....	6
Vancouver Invitation	6
Opening Ceremony.....	6
Youth Engagement	7
Synergies.....	7
Evening Reception	7
Provisional Daily Programme.....	8
COFFI Market Discussion	10
COFFI Market Statement and the Drafting Committee	11
Panel Discussion on Forests and the Circular Economy	12
Panel Discussion on the Use of Wood in Construction: Technical and Policy Developments.....	15
Panel Discussion on the Private Sector’s Perspective	18
Panel Discussion on the Role of Forest Management in Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals	22
Side Events	27
Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Products.....	28
Circumboreal Cooperation – The Way Forward	28
New Green Forest Jobs in the Circular Economy: Skills and Competencies for Innovative Circular Forest Businesses	28
Increasing the Availability of Wood Design and Construction Courses in Professional Academic Programs: Best Practices From Educator and Employer Perspectives	29
Forests are the Answer - Valuing Forest Supply Chains Beyond Certification	30
Future Forestry Leaders Symposium	30
Field Trips	32
Trip 1: Half-day tour around Stanley Park (09:00 – 12:00).....	33
Trip 2: Full-day forestry tour of UBC Malcolm Knapp Research Forest, Maple Ridge (9:00 – 16:00).....	35
Trip 3: Half-day tour to explore wooden architecture in Vancouver	36
Practical Information	38
The Venue.....	38
Information and Registration Desk.....	39
Interpretation	39
Catering	39

COFFI 2018 at a Glance

The following colour code applies to the tables below:

COFFI 2018
Opening Ceremony
Side Events
Evening Activities

Monday, 5 November 2018

Time	Event	Location	Page
08:00–12:00	Registration	Registration desk	39
12:00–14:00	COFFI 2018 – Opening Ceremony	Plenary	6
14:00–17:00	COFFI 2018 – Adoption of Agenda, Vancouver Invitation, Reports	Plenary	6
17:00–18:30	Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Products	Room 7	28

Tuesday, 6 November 2018

Time	Event	Location	Page
09:00–12:00	COFFI 2018 – Market Discussion – Forest Products Trends and Development	Plenary	10
12:15–13:45	Circumboreal Cooperation – the way forward	Room 7	28
12:15–13:45	New Green Forest Jobs in the circular economy: Skills and Competencies for innovative circular forest businesses	Room 16	28
14:00–17:00	COFFI 2018 – Panel discussion on forests and the circular economy	Plenary	12
17:30–19:30	Evening Reception (together with Wood Works! BC and Passive House Canada)	Convention Centre West	7

Wednesday, 7 November 2018

Time	Event	Location	Page
09:00–12:00	COFFI 2018 – Panel discussion on the use of wood in construction: Technical and policy developments	Plenary	15
12:15–13:45	Increasing the availability of wood design and construction courses in professional academic programs: best practices from educator and employer perspectives	Room 16	29
12:15–13:30	Future Forestry Leaders Symposium – A Graduate Research Showcase	Ballroom A	30
12:00–14:00	Market Statement Drafting Committee	Plenary	11
15:00–18:00	COFFI 2018 – Panel discussion on the private sector's perspective	Plenary	18

Thursday, 8 November 2018

Time	Event	Location	Page
09:00–12:00	COFFI 2018 – Panel discussion on the role of forest management in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals	Plenary	22
12:15–13:45	Forests are the Answer - Valuing Forest Supply Chains Beyond Certification	Room 7	30
12:15–13:45	Future Forestry Leaders Symposium – Interactive Career Forum	Room 16	30
14:00–14:30	COFFI 2018 – Vancouver Invitation on Sustainable Forest Products for a Better Future	Plenary	6
14:30–17:00	COFFI 2018 – Adoption of the report and closure of the session	Plenary	6

COFFI 2018

Overview

COFFI 2018, the 76th session of the UNECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (COFFI), is being held in Vancouver, Canada, from 5 to 9 November 2018. Under the title *Building the Future with Forests*, the meeting focuses on the transition towards a more sustainable society and a circular economy, based on the provision of forest products from sustainably managed forests.

The official venue of COFFI 2018 is the Vancouver Convention Centre East, 1055 Canada Place, Vancouver, British Columbia (www.vancouverconventioncentre.com / Tel.: +1-604-689-8232). The main plenary will be held in ballrooms B and C.

This year's Committee session will focus on the importance of forests, and forest products, for shaping a sustainable future. Panel discussions will bring together experts, policy-makers, and business leaders as well as national delegates, concentrating primarily on the challenges and opportunities for wood and forest products markets, as well the role of forests in the circular economy. In addition, the panels will feature voices from students, who represent the next generation of forest leaders. Participants can take part in a range of interesting side events, including the Future Forestry Leaders Symposium, a youth-led event hosted by the UBC chapter of the International Forestry Students' Association (IFSA-UBC) and the UBC Forestry Graduate Student Society (FGSA). You will find more information on all side events on page 27.

The week will end with the option of attending one of three field trips on Friday, 9 November. See page 32 for more information on these.

The joint UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section provides the Secretariat to the UNECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the FAO European Forestry Commission and works to implement the UNECE/FAO Integrated Programme of Work (IPoW).

Vancouver Invitation

Building the Future with Forests also means recognizing the value of sustainably produced wood products as environmentally friendly material choices. In order to strengthen this message, COFFI will consider the **Vancouver Invitation on Sustainable Forest Products for a Better Future**. The invitation was developed at the initiative of the Government of Canada with support and input from the COFFI bureau and the UNECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management. The version currently available online (ECE/TIM/2018/3) reflects an initial round of inputs. The Vancouver Invitation is a statement of intent, meant to gain supporters after its approval by COFFI, to create a larger community of like-minded stakeholders in support of sustainable forest products as a key element of a green economy to achieve the relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Given its technical content, the document will be reviewed and discussed by COFFI. Earlier it was circulated as a note to UNECE Executive Committee (EXCOM) members (Geneva-based Permanent Missions) for information. Delegations can provide their suggestions and comments during the COFFI session.

Opening Ceremony

To mark the host country's deep-rooted connection to its Indigenous inhabitants, COFFI 2018 will be opened by Indigenous Elder Bob Baker, who will be leading the opening prayers and "Talking Stick" ceremony. The ceremony will also involve an Indigenous cultural demonstration with Bob Baker and the Eagle Song Dancers and will be followed by formal remarks on behalf of the federal Government of Canada, the Province of British Columbia, the City of Vancouver and UNECE.

The keynote address is delivered by **Ms. Susan Jones**, who is the founder and principal architect of *atelierjones*, an architecture firm founded in 2003 in Seattle. Ranked number 7 in Design by Architect Magazine in 2017, the firm's design award-winning work brings together design excellence, research, and community engagement to create projects of reclamation – of forgotten urban sites and buildings and of waste or scrap materials to create renewing and beautiful architectural buildings and spaces. Over the past seven years, the firm has led ground-breaking work with mass timber in the US. Her book, *Mass Timber | Design and Research* was published in 2017 by ORO Editions. A native of Washington state, Susan became a Fellow of the AIA in 2010, is Affiliate Associate Professor at the University of Washington, and has been working for architects since she was 16.



Youth engagement is a key focus for this year's COFFI. In his keynote speech, the President of the UBC chapter of the International Forestry Students' Association (IFSA), **Mr. Samuel Adeyanju**, will speak on behalf of the numerous students who are contributing to this conference. He is a second-year graduate student in the Master of Science in Forestry programme at the University of British Columbia and a recipient of the UBC MasterCard Foundation Scholarship. His research interests revolve around forest certification systems, community forestry, forest policy and governance.



Youth Engagement

Throughout the conference, students will have the chance to engage in various panel discussions and are encouraged to ask questions and network with industry leaders, delegates, and policy-makers. We are grateful for the following students, who will take an active role during the COFFI panel discussions: Mr. Adam Polinko; Ms. Chunny Varaich; Ms. Rosa Corbet; Ms. Emily Doyle; Mr. Li (Leo) Peiyang; Mr. Emmanuel Adoasi-Ahyiah; Mr. Samuel Ayenleye. In addition, students show their invaluable support by volunteering their time to support the conference behind the scenes and make COFFI a success.

Synergies

In order to enhance collaboration between the relevant players in the region and to collaboratively find sustainable solutions that transform how we build, the COFFI meeting shares the venue with two other wood-focused conferences: the annual *Wood Solutions Conference of Wood Works! BC*, a Canadian Wood Council-led program with funding support from the wood industry, the federal government and provincial governments across Canada and the *Passive House Canada conference*, which this year is focused on the theme *Partnering for Transformation*.

Evening Reception

An evening reception will take place on Tuesday, 6 November 2018, from 17:30 to 19:30, giving participants from all three conferences the opportunity to network, exchange ideas and partner up for a more sustainable future. The evening programme will feature remarks from the organizers Wood WORKS! BC, as well as representatives of Passive House Canada, the UNECE, and sponsors. Hors d'oeuvres and drinks will be served.

Provisional Daily Programme

Monday, 5 November

COFFI 2018 – Opening Ceremony

12:00–14:00		Introduction by the Co-Chairs
		Opening prayer and “Talking Stick” Ceremony led by Indigenous Elder Bob Baker
		Indigenous Cultural Demonstration by Bob Baker and the Eagle Song Dancers
		Co-Chairs accept the Talking Stick and formally welcome participants
		Remarks on behalf of the Government of Canada
		Remarks on behalf of the Province of British Columbia
		Remarks on behalf of the City of Vancouver
		Remarks on behalf of UNECE
		Keynote address by Ms. Susan Jones (Architect)
		Voices from Youth, presented by Samuel Adeyanju (University of British Columbia)
	Wrap-up by Co-Chairs	

COFFI 2018 – Adoption of Agenda and other matters

14:00–17:00	Item 1	Adoption of the agenda
	Item 2(b)	Vancouver Invitation on Sustainable Forest Products for a Better Future
	Item 4(a)	Report from the 13th session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF13)
	Item 4(b)	Twenty-fourth session of the FAO Committee on Forestry
	Item 4(c)	Regional Forum on Sustainable Development 2018
	Item 5(a)	Report of the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management
	Item 5(b)	Review of 2018 activities and activities planned for 2019
	Item 5(c)	Report of the Ministerial roundtable on forest landscape restoration and the Bonn challenge in the Caucasus and Central Asia, 21 to 22 June 2018, Astana, Kazakhstan
	Item 5(d)	Global Forest Resources Assessment 2020 (FRA2020): Enhanced and streamlined international reporting
	Item 5(e)	State of Europe’s Forests
	Item 6	Draft rules of procedure for the Committee
	Item 7	Reform of the United Nations planning and budgeting process

Tuesday, 6 November

09:00–12:00	Item 3(a)	Market Discussion – Forest Products Trends & Development
14:00–17:00	Item 3(b)	Panel discussion on forests and the circular economy

Wednesday, 7 November

09:00–12:00	Item 2(c)	Panel discussion on the use of wood in construction: Technical and policy developments
14:00–17:00	Item 2(d)	Panel discussion on the private sector’s perspective

Thursday, 8 November

09:00–12:00	Item 2(e)	Panel discussion on the role of forest management in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals
14:00–14:30	Item 2(b)	Vancouver Invitation on Sustainable Forest Products for a Better Future
14:30–17:00		Any pending COFFI matters from Monday
	Item 8	Election of officers
	Item 9	Date and place of the next session
	Item 2(i)	Any other business
	Item 5	Adoption of the joint session report and closure of the joint session

Friday, 9 November

Three different options for the field trip are offered:

Field Trip 1 (Friday, 9 November, 09:00–12:00) – Half-day tour around Stanley Park

Field Trip 2 (Friday, 9 November, 09:00–16:00) – Full-day forestry tour of UBC Malcom Knapp Research Forest, Maple Ridge

Field Trip 3 (Friday, 9 November, 08:15–12:45) – Half-day tour to explore wooden architecture in Vancouver

For more information about the field trips, please see page 32. To register for a field trip, please visit the information desk.

COFFI Market Discussion Forest Products Trends & Developments

6 November 2018, 09:00–12:00, Plenary

Scope and objective of the panel discussion

The UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section organizes annual market discussions to present and discuss trends of forest products in Europe, North America and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). The main objective of these discussions is to share knowledge on market trends and policies and their potential impacts on forest products' production, trade, consumption and outlook in the region.

Being held in Vancouver, on the shore of the Pacific Ocean, the COFFI 2018 Market Discussion will focus on economic links, challenges and opportunities in trading wood and wood products with countries in Asia Pacific, namely China and to some extent Japan, South Korea and Vietnam. Countries and experts are invited to share information on the economic relationship in forest products between your country and countries located in the region.

Experts will provide an overview on recent market developments, current trends and possible developments of the markets in the coming year. They will also discuss how forest products markets in their respective sub-regions (Europe, North America and the CIS) are influenced by developments in countries in the Asia Pacific region. The plenary is invited to discuss the items raised during the opening presentations by the panelists, and delegates are invited to provide statements. Participants will include a wide range of stakeholders, including official delegations from UNECE member states, representatives of the private sector, forest stakeholders, academia and the media.

The UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section provides a current dataset before the discussion, which includes data on forest products production, trade and consumption for 2017 (collected in May/June 2018); the country forecast tables,; which provide an outlook until the end of 2019 (collected in October 2018); individual country reports; and the *Forest Products Annual Market Review 2017–2018*.

Programme

Shifting sourcing of North American timber – resources, markets, regulations and strategies

09:00–10:30

North American forest products markets	Mr. Bruce Glass (Campbell Global)
North American sawn softwood market	Mr. Russ Taylor (Wood Markets/FEA)
Strategies in changing economic and environmental markets	Speaker (tbc)
Experiences and viewpoints from a medium-sized forest products company	Speaker (tbc)

The current and future role of forest products markets in Asia Pacific for the UNECE sub-regions

10:30–12:00

Russian Federation's perspective	Mr. Aleksandr Sidorenko (Dalexportles)
European perspective Forest products / CLT / Export markets	Mr. Magnus Niklasson (Skogsindustrierna)
Future Drivers of Wood Use in Asia-Pacific	Mr. Paul Newman (Canada Wood Group/Cofi)

Further Information:

www.unece.org/forests/coffi2018

Contact at the Joint UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section

Mr. Florian Steierer

Email: florian.steierer@un.org; Tel: +41 22 91714 09

Acknowledgements

The UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section would like to thank the Finnish Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry for their financial support for compiling the *Forest Products Annual Market Review 2017–2018*. The UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section would also like to express its gratitude to all entities and companies for their in-kind contributions by enabling their experts to attend, moderate or present during the session.

Biographies of speakers

Dr. Bruce Glass, Senior Forest Economist for Campbell Global, LLC. Dr. Glass is responsible for economic and forestry research and price forecasting. He also chairs the Price Forecast Committee. Prior to joining Campbell Global, Dr. Glass was a member of Weyerhaeuser's Market and Economics Research group, focusing on price forecasting and finished products research. Before that, Dr. Glass served as Lead Economist for the Washington State Department of Natural Resources for eight years and was a research scientist and economist at the New Zealand Forest Research Institute for 16 years.

Mr. Paul Newman joined Canada Wood in 2003 and prior to that worked for the council of forest industries (COFI) for 12 years. He also has experience working for a forest products firm and with the Canadian banking sector. Paul is a graduate of the University of British Columbia in wood science and Simon Fraser University in Business Administration. Paul is responsible for Canada Wood's Asian programs.

Mr. Magnus Niklasson is a Master of Science in forestry. Since 2000, Magnus has worked at different positions analyzing the markets of forest industry products. Since 2008, he has been in charge of wood products analysis at the Swedish Forest Industries Federation.

Mr. Aleksandr Sidorenko is a General Director of Smena Trading Co., Ltd and a Chairman of the Association Dalexportles. Smena Trading is a reliable strategic partner for many timber companies of the Far East region of the Russian Federation and Siberia. During the years of his leadership, more than once Smena Trading has become one of the largest timber exporters of the Far East region of the Russian Federation. Association Dalexportles, headed by Aleksandr, is the leading non-commercial organization representing the timber industry complex of the Far East region of the Russian Federation. The main goal of the Association is the coordination on foreign markets. Dalexportles members are leading forest exporters, transport organizations, and banks, etc. Aleksandr is engaged in studying the conjuncture of the forest market of the APR countries, the issues of pricing in the export of timber, actively cooperating with the Japan Association of Forest Importers. Being a chairman of the Association Dalexportles, he has established himself as a highly qualified specialist in the forestry sector and a conscientious leader, taking initiative in matters aimed at improving the timber industry of the Russian Federation.

Mr. Russ Taylor led the WOOD MARKETS team starting in 1992 and, as of August 2017, manages the FEA-Canada's office, publications and business. Russ conducts wood products marketing analysis/intelligence and business assessment/investment projects for many global industry clients and travels extensively. As well, he manages numerous multi-client reports that involve strategic insights and outlooks for global markets.

COFFI Market Statement and the Drafting Committee

The COFFI Market Statement is an official document agreed upon by consensus about forest products market developments and policies affecting forest products markets. The Drafting Committee will be invited to review the official draft document (ECE/TIM/2018/4). The Secretariat will amend the draft Market Statement based on information provided by member states prior to the meeting (country market statements/forecast information for the forthcoming year), as well as on interventions and presentations during the Market Discussion on Tuesday morning. The Secretariat will circulate an amended version of the draft on the morning of 7 November 2018 (Wednesday). Delegates and participants to COFFI are then invited to attend the Drafting

Committee Session to finalize the Market Statement. This will take place on Wednesday at 12:00 in the plenary room. The meeting will be held in English, without interpretation. Delegates may submit their proposed revisions to the Secretariat before the beginning of the Drafting Committee. The final version of the Market Statement will be provided on Thursday morning and will be annexed to the meeting report.

Panel discussion on Forests and the Circular Economy

6 November 2018, 14:00–17:00, Plenary

Background and objective of the panel discussion

There is an increasing interest in integrating economic concepts with environmental ones to provide enhanced benefits to society and the environment. Several terms have emerged to describe this integration, including “bio-economy,” “green economy,” and “circular economy.”

Despite their different operationalization strategies, the three concepts are linked by the common idea to reconcile economic, environmental and social goals. They are currently mainstreamed in policy-making as key sustainability avenues supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Green economy can be considered an “umbrella concept” as regards environmental sustainability, which includes elements of circular economy and the bio-economy, such as eco-efficiency or nature-based solutions. Circular economy and the bio-economy appear to be more resource-focused, while green economy is also more inclusive of social aspects. Various synonymous concepts (industrial ecology, green growth, bio-based economy) are also used to describe these ideas.

Forests and forest-associated industries are strategic to unfolding the potential of the green, circular and bio-economy. Being a resource-based, material sector rather than a service sector, it has inputs, outputs and environmental externalities resulting from the production processes. In addition, the forest sector has a pivotal role in climate regulation, water resources management, biodiversity and cultural values preservation as well as in the development of local communities.

The circular economy, which will be the focus of this session, revolves around principles of integrating technological innovation (including eco-design), recycling and eco-efficiency. In the forest sector, these principles are incarnated by Sustainable Forest Management – implying resource saving and the prominent role that wood-based products play in substitution of non-renewable materials.

However, while the forest sector provides resource-efficient products with highly rated environmental performance, including durability, the new products’ cycles need to consider other functions of forest services in order to avoid unnecessary pressures on ecosystems. For instance, while residual biomass can be transformed into biochemical compounds with the support of new technologies, consideration of other potential uses of such residual streams is crucial in determining whether such transformation at a large scale can be sustainable in the long term. A certain proportion of forest biomass, for example, may better serve sustainability by being left in the forest and contributing to the local ecosystem.

The potential role that forests can play in the circular economy needs, therefore, to be placed in the context of all forest values. For that reason, apart from emphasising circularity aspects, such as eco-design, the use of innovative bio-resources and closing the loop from waste to resource, this session will also consider social consequences of new business models and the question of integration among the green, circular and the bio-economy as a way to achieving the sustainability of the forest sector in the long term.

Delegates will be invited to contribute to the discussion by showcasing their own experience on the topic.

Programme

Introduction and presentation of key concepts

Introduction by the moderator

Ms. Kathy Abusow, President and CEO, Sustainable Forest Initiative Inc.

Circular economy and the bio-economy – concepts and implications for the forest sector

Mr. Pekka Leskinen, Head of Bioeconomy, European Forest Institute

Innovation, recycling and eco-efficiency at the heart of the circular economy

Panel discussion

Case study: Engineering circular lifestyles

Speaker (tbc)

Case study: Making circularity new business ethics

Mr. Paolo Scommegna, Gruppo Mauro Saviola

Case study: Designing new fibres for life

Mr. Robert van de Kerkhof, Chief Commercial Officer, Lenzig AG

Case study: Innovating for sustainable future

Mr. Lars Sandberg, Project Manager, Innovation, BillerudKorsnäs

Forests and the circular economy

Plenary discussion

Implications of the circular economy on the forest sector

Conclusions and closing of the session

Further Information:

www.unece.org/forests/coffi2018

Contact at the Joint UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section

Ms. Alicja Kacprzak

Email: alicja.kacprzak@fao.org; Tel: +41 22 917 13 75

Biographies of speakers

Ms. Kathy Abusow is President and CEO of SFI Inc., a non-profit sustainability leader dedicated to future forests. SFI works at the intersection of responsible purchasing of forest products, elevating the conservation value of managed forests and engaging diverse communities to promote sustainability. Under Kathy's leadership, forests certified to the SFI® Forest Management Standard have grown to more than 300 million acres/120 million hectares across public and private lands from Canada's boreal forest to the US South.

Since joining SFI, Kathy has led the development of several signature programs including the SFI Forest Partners® Program, which is composed of National Geographic, Meredith, Macmillan Publishers, Pearson, Hearst Enterprises and Boy Scouts of America,

and is investing in the future of our forests by making multi-year commitments to increase certification throughout the forest supply chain; the SFI Conservation and Community Grants Program, which has, together with leveraged funds from partners, invested \$14 million in forest research in collaboration with conservation and community groups; Acquiring Project Learning Tree (PLT), an award-winning education program that educates teachers and youth about forests and the environment; as well as establishing PLT Canada, a non-profit that will grow future forest and conservation leaders through environmental education and a green jobs initiative.

Kathy has led, moderated, and spoken at well-respected international forums including the Greenbuild International Conference, “Women in Green Power breakfast in DC”, the Economist’s World Forest Summit in Stockholm, the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, Fortune Brainstorm Green, and at TEDxWilmington, where she gave a talk called [Be a Forest Hugger](#).

Mr. Robert van de Kerkhof is Chief Commercial Officer of Lenzing AG. In his role, Van de Kerkhof is heading the performance of Marketing and Sales, Corporate Sustainability and Supply Chain. A veteran in the fiber industry with over 25 years of experience, he is also the President of the Austrian Fiber Institute and Vice-President of CIRFS, the European Man-made Fibres Association. Robert’s comprehensive expertise in the international textile industry came from his many years of experience at various international companies and business functions. He began his career as an aeronautical engineer at Fokker Aircraft, and since then, he has taken up roles in Ten Cate, DuPont de Nemours and INVISTA. In addition to building expertise in various manufacturing components, fibers and raw materials, over the years, Robert also held multiple leadership roles across different business functions. He has successfully led the growth of various business units, including marketing and sales, manufacturing, financial controlling, product development and strategic business development. He also has extensive experience in transforming organizations through technology innovation and value chain optimization. Robert is married with three children. He holds a B.Sc. in aeronautical engineering from Inholland Hogeschool Netherlands and an MBA in International Management

Prof. Pekka Leskinen is Head of Bioeconomy Programme and Professor at the European Forest Institute (EFI). Among others, the Bioeconomy Programme will advance knowledge on sustainable bioeconomy and bioeconomy markets. Prof. Leskinen has broad research experience in the fields of sustainable use of natural resources, lifecycle assessment and multi-criteria decision analysis. Before EFI, he worked as a Research Professor at the Finnish Environment Institute and in a joint professor position at the Finnish Environment Institute and University of Eastern Finland, School of Forest Sciences.

Mr. Lars Sandberg has a background in the Scandinavian forest and packaging industry working with Tetra Pak and Stora Enso. His main interest has been bio-based packaging and material development together with consumer research and new business innovation. In 2009 to 2015, Lars worked as senior consultant within user involvement in innovation, a business that now lives on as the innovation hub/wood product-only store TRÄ. He received a guest assignment as Entrepreneur in Residence for one year in Vancouver in 2015 with FPIInnovations. Since March this year, Lars has been working with Scandinavian BillerudKorsnäs, with special responsibility to develop and drive bio-based innovation strategy.

Mr. Paolo Scommegna was born in Trieste on April 7, 1968. After studying humanism, he worked for 10 years in social services, monitoring workplace integration projects for people with autism spectrum disorders and mental health problems. In 2001, he joined the Mauro Saviola Group as wood procurement manager for Northwest Italy. In 2003, he was sent to Southwestern France to expand the supply chain, and after 10 years, he was appointed director of two French subsidiaries, the operations of which were merged. He has been a member of EPF’s Raw Material Task Force since 2014 and takes part in its associative affairs. Paolo has chaired the GES BOIS (Wood Procurement Meeting) Brussels since April of 2016. He has led the commercial development of the European market supply since 2016.

Panel Discussion on the Use of Wood in Construction: Technical and Policy Developments

7 November 2018, 09:00–12:00, Plenary

Scope and objective of the panel discussion

Wood has been used as a basic building material for centuries. With years, the scale and the way of using wood for construction changes but thanks to its unique and versatile characteristics, wood is still seen as an attractive material not only to build houses, but also for a variety of other constructions and products, e.g. furniture, boats and bridges.

More recently, the construction of tall buildings from timber, such as the Brock Commons – Tallwood House in Vancouver, indicates a growing interest in building with wood at a height and scale not previously attainable.

Many researchers now consider the use of wood from well-maintained forests as one of the most important solutions for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The greenhouse gases emitted to produce one tonne of sawn wood are about 13 per cent of what is required for the same weight of concrete and less than 5 per cent of what is required for the same weight of steel. Aside from the low environmental impact of production, construction wood is easily recyclable to make other products, and at the end of its useful life, it can be turned into fuel for renewable energy production.

The supply chains for each common construction material – steel, concrete, brick, timber, cement, sand, aggregate – are quite distinct. But the supply chain for timber is unique compared to most other materials. While all other construction materials require rocks, ores or soils to be mechanically removed from the ground through landscape-demolishing open cast excavation, timber, in contrast, requires that soil remains intact, seedlings can germinate, and forests continue to grow after any timber is harvested. Carbon sequestration is part of this lifecycle.

Even the longest forestry rotations are just a blink on any geological time scale, i.e. the time scale for the replenishment of the Earth's resources (rocks, ores, soils) required in the supply chain of other construction materials. In that regard, timber is the only widely used building material that can be considered truly renewable. Yet, increasing forest resources to supply more timber is a long-term commitment and needs to be embedded in sustainable forest management practices that harness the benefits of forest products and services.

This session will explore holistic aspects of building with wood; it will highlight the functions, types and technologies of wooden buildings (large structures; residential buildings, earthquake-resistant structures, etc.). Experts will also address the policy challenges and opportunities of building with wood (social, environmental and economic issues such as building codes - e.g. prescriptive vs. performance-based, environmental performance, bio-economy, costs).

This session is part of the 76th session of the UNECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry. Delegates will be invited to contribute to the discussion by showcasing their own experience on the topic.



Programme

Introduction and presentation of key concepts

Welcome by the moderator. introduction of the topic and the panellists
Mr. Harald Aalde, Norwegian Ministry of Agriculture and Food

Setting the scene – The Canadian WoodWorks Model: template to advance wood globally?
Mr. Peter Moonen, National Sustainability Manager for the Canadian Wood Council

Series of presentations on the use of wood in construction: technical and policy developments; each presentation followed by Q&A

Resilience to disasters: the case for wooden structures
Prof. Jose Torero, Director of the Center for Disaster Resilience at the Clark School of Engineering, University of Maryland
Q&A

Indigenuity in Architecture
Mr. Alfred Waugh, Architect AIBC, MRAIC, LEED AP, and founder of Formline Architecture
Q&A

Policy developments in North America and Europe
Ms. Helen Goodland, Managing Principal at Brantwood Consulting
Q&A

Challenges and opportunities for the wood construction industry in North America
Dr. Guido Wimmers, Associate Professor in Integrated Wood Design, University of Northern British Columbia
Q&A

Wood construction: The role of research and education in overcoming barriers to growth
Mr. Iain Macdonald, Associate Director of the TallWood Design Institute
Q&A

Panel discussion

Open floor for the plenary

Conclusions and closing of the session

Further Information:

www.unece.org/forests/coffi2018

Contact at the Joint UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section

Ms. Leonie Meier

leonie.meier@un.org; Tel: +41 (0) 22 917 43 85

Biographies of speakers

Mr. Harald Aalde has been a senior adviser at the Norwegian Ministry of Agriculture and Food since 2004. He gained his M.Sc. in forestry from the Norwegian University of Life Sciences in 1994 and worked at the Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy from 1994 to 2004. His experience ranges from forest inventory and management of state ownership to domestic and international forest policy. He was involved in the development of several governmental policies and strategies, including white papers on agriculture and forestry policies to the Norwegian Parliament and the Norwegian Bioeconomy strategy. He was also part of the secretariat of SKOG22, a national strategy for the forest and wood sector in Norway.

Ms. Helen Goodland is the managing principal of Brantwood Consulting, to which she brings over 30 years of experience working on transformative solutions for the real estate and construction industries in Canada and around the world. She is co-founder of Building Technology Innovations through which she provides advice and mentorship to start-ups focused on the construction industry. She is also an executive in residence for the BC Tech Association and she serves on the National Zero Waste Council's construction taskforce. Helen is an architect registered in the United Kingdom and has an M.B.A. from the University of British Columbia. She is also one of the BC Sustainable Energy Association's climate action heroes and has been nominated as a YWCA Woman of Distinction. In 2017, she received the Vancouver Regional Construction Association's Outstanding Woman in Construction Award.

Mr. Iain Macdonald is Associate Director of the TallWood Design Institute (TDI). He has worked in business development and training roles in the forest industry for 19 years, prior to which he was involved in export marketing of forest products to Asia Pacific markets. Iain led the Centre for Advanced Wood Processing (CAWP) at the University of British Columbia, Canada, for nine years, prior to joining TDI, a partnership between the Oregon State University Colleges of Forestry and Engineering and the University of Oregon College of Design. TDI conducts applied research, offers professional education programs and undertakes industry testing and product development focused on the use of wood-based products in buildings. Iain holds degrees in marketing and professional education. He has significant experience globally in the design and delivery of technical and business education to workplace and professional learners in North America, Europe, Africa and the Caribbean and in creating programs to stimulate innovation, entrepreneurship and business development. He is a past Chair and Director of the Wood Manufacturing Council.

Mr. Peter Moonen has a degree in Marine Biology and Zoology from UBC and has used that as a technical communications specialist to advance a better understanding of wood and the forest sector. He has more than 30 years' experience dealing with regulatory, environmental, sustainability and operational issues. Peter is National Sustainability Manager for the Canadian Wood Council, the national association that represents manufacturers of Canadian wood products used in construction and that provides technical support to build a strong wood culture in Canada through education, training and awareness.

Peter regularly presents on achieving greater sustainability and the appropriate use of wood in Asia, Europe and throughout North America to design professionals, educators and building officials. His work supports various industry associations, export marketing groups and both provincial and federal government departments, including support of Canada's Corps of Trade Commissioners and overseas marketing groups in their work to sell Canadian products and services and opportunities for investment in the sector. He was a market reviewer specializing in wood and the green economy for the Forest Products Annual Market Review published by the UNECE Forestry and Timber section. He lives in Roberts Creek on the Sunshine Coast of BC.

Prof. José Torero holds the John L. Bryan Chair and is the Director of the Center for Disaster Resilience at the Clark School of Engineering, University of Maryland. He works in the field of fire safety engineering where he specializes in the behaviour of fire in complex environments such as forests, tall buildings, novel architectures, tunnels, aircraft and spacecraft. He holds a B.Sc. from the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú (1989), and an M.Sc. (1991) and Ph.D. (1992) from the University of California, Berkeley. He received a Doctor Honoris Causa by Ghent University (Belgium) in 2016. José is a Chartered Engineer (UK), a Registered Professional Engineer in Queensland, a fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering, the Royal Academy of Engineering (UK), the Royal Society of Edinburgh (UK), the Queensland Academy of Arts and Sciences, the Institution of Civil Engineers (UK), the Institution of Fire Engineers (UK) and the Society of Fire Protection Engineers (US).

Mr. Alfred Waugh specializes in culturally and environmentally sensitive projects and has extensive experience with First Nations, cultural societies, and educational institutions. His firm is dedicated to developing solutions that reflect the culture, community, and geographic regions specific to each project. The designs are a direct response to site context, topography, climate, and regional materials. And as part of a sustainable design philosophy, Alfred aims to maximize comfort, longevity, functionality, and energy efficiency.

Alfred is Status Indian and part of Treaty 8. He was born and raised in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, Canada, and was the first Indigenous person to graduate with honours from UBC School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture in 1993 and become LEED certified and a registered architect. He is influenced by native culture, the northern climate and frontier architecture and his connection to, and respect for, nature is inherent in his work. In 2005 Alfred established Alfred Waugh Architect (now called Formline Architecture), a 100 per cent Indigenous-owned architecture practice. The firm has developed a reputation for finely crafted cultural and sustainable buildings including the Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre completed in 2008 and the First Peoples House at the University of Victoria on Vancouver Island.

Dr. Guido Wimmers is Associate Professor and the Chair of the Master of Engineering Program in Integrated Wood Design. He holds a master's degree in Architectural Engineering and a Ph.D. in Engineering Science from the University of Innsbruck. Prior to moving to Canada in 2007, he was leading the building physics department of Energie Tirol and worked on modern timber design and Passive House Projects in Austria, Germany, and Italy, including large non-residential buildings. He was also involved in various research projects in the field of massive timber construction and prefabricated building envelopes. Guido is one of the initiators of Canada's first Passive House, Canada's first CLT application and Canada's first DLT application and has worked on sustainable projects all across Canada.

Panel Discussion on the Private Sector's Perspective

7 November 2018, 14:00–17:00, Plenary

Scope and objective of the panel discussion

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) can only be reached through the cooperation of all stakeholders including governments, international and regional organizations, businesses, academia and civil society. COFFI 2018 provides an excellent opportunity to strengthen partnerships between the private construction and housing sector and governments, by providing a platform for actors from the private sector to share their perspective on how to further improve performance, reduce environmental pressures and use resources more sustainably.

The concept of "green" buildings is not new, and many stakeholders are aware of the impacts of buildings on the environment, especially in terms of energy efficiency and carbon emissions. Traditionally, policies have focused on minimizing the on-going impacts of building operations (such as in-use energy, water use, maintenance impacts); the promotion of specific "green" materials; and limiting the worst effects of materials through measures such as banning toxic products. Progressive policies are now being put in place to consider the upstream environmental burdens of materials with which a building has been constructed. This is especially important when considering the environmental benefits of wood products, which can only fully be understood from a holistic "lifecycle" approach.

Such policies have an impact on how the private sector operates. The array of private sector actors involved in wood construction is diverse, ranging from land planners, architects, construction companies and engineers to developers and investors, and the list goes on. All those actors have different perspectives and interests when it comes to building, possibly with wood.

COFFI, which gathers representatives of Governments, society, businesses, provides a convenient opportunity for the private sector to voice their perspectives and share the opportunities, risks and challenges it faces. It also offers a platform for engagement and stimulation of constructive and forward-looking dialogue with Governments and relevant stakeholders.

This session is part of the 76th session of the UNECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry. Delegates will be invited to contribute to the discussion by showcasing their own experience on the topic.

Programme

Introduction and presentation of key concepts

Welcome from the moderator, introduction of the topic, panellists and panel

Mr. Peter Moonen

Series of presentations on the private sector's perspective; each presentation followed by Q&A

Strategies for a wider use of timber in urban buildings

Mr. Stefan Zöllig

Q&A

Moving the needle – How to move forward with pre-fabrication

Mr. Craig Mitchell

Q&A

Reaching new heights with wooden buildings (draft title)

Ms. Karla Fraser

Q&A

Natural capital accounting in the forest products sector – How companies are making better decisions by valuing impact and dependencies on the environment

Ms. Laura Plant

Q&A

Exploring innovations, market trends, and collaborative leadership across the design and construction sectors

Mr. Andrew Bowerbank

Q&A

Challenges and opportunities of integrating green building strategies (draft title)

Mr. Oliver Lang, Architect and founding principle of LWPAC and CEO of Intelligent City

Q&A

Panel discussion

Open floor for the plenary

Conclusions and closing of the session

Further Information:

www.unece.org/forests/coffi2018

Contact at the Joint UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section

Ms. Birgit Lia Altmann

E-mail: birgit.altmann@un.org; Tel.: +41 22917 4252

Biographies of speakers

Mr. Andrew Bowerbank is well-known to the energy, infrastructure, and cleantech sectors in Canada and internationally. Through his experiences, he has developed the ability to identify new market opportunities and demonstrate the effectiveness of collaboration across industry sectors to achieve results. Today, Andrew is the National Vice President, Sustainability & Energy at WSP, one of the largest engineering consulting firms in the world. Prior to joining WSP in 2018, he held executive positions across a number of well recognized corporations including EllisDon and Magna International. He has also acted as a representative for Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs at international events and he has held board seats on public agencies

including the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. Andrew is the former CEO of the World Green Building Council (2007–2010), where he successfully worked with Council members to grow the WorldGBC from 8 founding nations to over 60 member countries. During his tenure with the WorldGBC, he had the fortunate opportunity to work as a member representative for the United Nations Environmental Programme, with a specific goal to deliver a global framework for major carbon reductions in buildings.

Ms. Karla Fraser is Project Manager at Urban One.

Mr. Oliver Lang is a German-Canadian architect and urban entrepreneur with over 25 years of experience who is a recognized leader in design innovation and integration of complex urban projects, mixed-use housing, advanced prefabrication and green building strategies. He is a graduate of Columbia University, Graduate School of Architecture Planning and Preservation, with a Master of Science in Advanced Architectural Design, and he holds a professional degree, Diplom-Ingenieur Architektur, from the University of Technology Berlin with two-year studies at the ETSA Barcelona UPC. He is the founding principal of LWPAC and CEO of Intelligent City. LWPAC, Lang Wilson Practice in Architecture Culture, is a Vancouver-based multidisciplinary architecture and design firm that engages at the interface between architecture, urban culture, and technology. Intelligent City is a product-based technology company creating Platforms-for-Life, an end-to-end generative housing system that combines urban livability and sociability with carbon-neutral sustainability, affordability, and scalability.

Mr. Craig Mitchell is an experienced modular building technical sales professional. A graduate of both UBC and BCIT, Craig has been in the building industry for over 25 years with the past 20 years being devoted to the modular building industry in British Columbia. Craig is currently Director, Innovative Solutions with Metric Modular, an innovative, award-winning modular builder. He is currently on the Board of Directors for the Modular Building Institute (MBI) and is also a board member of the Vancouver Regional Construction Association (VRCA). In his spare time, he enjoys cycling and trail running and last year completed his first ultramarathon.

Mr. Peter Moonen has a degree in Marine Biology and Zoology from UBC and has used that as a technical communications specialist to advance a better understanding of wood and the forest sector. He has more than 30 years' experience dealing with regulatory, environmental, sustainability and operational issues.

Peter is National Sustainability Manager for the Canadian Wood Council, the national association that represents manufacturers of Canadian wood products used in construction and that provides technical support to build a strong wood culture in Canada through education, training and awareness. He regularly presents on achieving greater sustainability and the appropriate use of wood in Asia, Europe and throughout North America to design professionals, educators and building officials. His work supports various industry associations, export marketing groups and both provincial and federal government departments, including support of Canada's Corps of Trade Commissioners and overseas marketing groups in their work to sell Canadian products and services and opportunities for investment in the sector.

Peter was a market reviewer specializing in wood and the green economy for the Forest Products Annual Market Review published by the UNECE Forestry and Timber section. He lives in Roberts Creek on the Sunshine Coast of BC.

Ms. Laura Plant is an impact economist in PwC's Sustainable Business Solutions practice. She is also representing the World Business Council for Sustainable Development's Forest Solutions Group.

Mr. Stefan Zöllig is founder and CEO of Timbatec AG, which is a timber technology engineering company based in Switzerland and Austria. He has completed an apprenticeship as Joiner in St. Gallen, Switzerland, and studied Timber Engineering at BFH Biel.

Panel Discussion on the Role of Forest Management in Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals

8 November 2018, 09:00–12:00, Plenary

Scope and objective of the panel discussion

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a collection of 17 global goals set forth in the UN resolution “Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” (otherwise known as “the 2030 Agenda”). While the SDGs are broad and interdependent, expressing global aspirations for human development and for nature, each goal has separate targets and indicators addressing specific dimensions of sustainable development. The sustainable management of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, forests among them, can contribute substantially to achieving many of the SDGs. Likewise, the pursuit and ultimate fulfilment of the SDGs will affect forests through both the protection and the sustainable use of these important ecosystems. The exploration of the many ways in which forests can contribute to the SDGs and the management actions needed to achieve these contributions are the central focuses of this session.

The UNECE region encompasses 1.89 billion hectares of forest lands, or 42 per cent of the world’s total. The amount and types of benefits these forests provide to people across the region varies considerably, ranging from direct economic benefits from forest products to the provision of a diverse set of ecosystem services and preservation values. Many of these benefits are under-recognized if they are recognized at all. And, in general, forests are an undervalued asset in achieving the SDGs and the aspirations they embody. Some examples of forest contributions to the SDGs to be considered in this session include:

Clean water and sanitation (SDG 6). Trees and shrubs influence water filtration, stream flows, precipitation, evapotranspiration, infiltration and groundwater recharge. The opportunity and challenge here is to better integrate the supply of water-related ecosystem services into forest management actions (and related funding schemes) without compromising other forest values and uses.

Affordable and clean energy (SDG 7). Wood energy is the most important source of renewable energy in the UNECE region. In many places, notably in rural areas in countries in economic transition, wood is the only affordable source of energy for heating and cooking. Despite its importance, wood energy is often under-used or misused, resulting in air pollution and the degradation of forest resources. Better utilization of forests can directly contribute to achieving SDG 7, but this will require attention to sustainable forest management precepts and the impact of increased wood demand on resource and land-use patterns.

Sustainable cities and communities (SDG 11). Trees in cities serve as natural air conditioners, cooling the air by as much as eight degrees Celsius, help filter harmful pollutants from the air, sequester carbon, and have been linked to improved physical and mental health. Urban (and rural) planning policies in the UNECE region support the expansion of green spaces in and around human settlements. Also, innovative technologies are being developed to use wood as a sustainable, low-carbon construction material for urban multi-storey structures. These are still at an early stage of development, and the future potential of wood as a renewable construction material is large.

Responsible consumption and production (SDG 12). The sustainably managed forests of the UNECE region provide more than 65 per cent of the global production of industrial roundwood, which is used as a raw material for paper and wood products. Wood from the UNECE region has a small ecological and carbon footprint – forests of the region are a net sink of greenhouse gases. Paper can be recycled up to seven times, with more than 70% of paper recycled in many member states, and recycling of solid wood is becoming increasingly common.

Climate Action (SDG 13). Forests are a safe, natural means of carbon capture and storage and therefore an essential strategy to address climate change. At the same time, however, changing conditions are negatively impacting forest health and disturbance processes in some places and could undermine the climate benefits from sustainable forest management, while in other places they may accelerate forest growth. These facts point to the complex challenges and opportunities facing forest managers as climate change, and our responses to it progress over the coming decades.

These are just a few examples. As our understanding of forest ecosystems increases so too does our recognition of the ways in which forests benefit humanity in general and the ways in which they can contribute to the SDGs in particular. These benefits are felt at the economic, social and even spiritual level, and they often accrue to some of our most vulnerable populations living in rural and Indigenous communities. In some cases, the benefits flow automatically, but in others they require specific management actions. Likewise, sometimes there are trade-offs between different objectives and stakeholders, but in many cases win-win solutions can be found. Finding these solutions and thereby achieving the full potential of forests for humanity will require specific management actions guided by knowledge, wisdom and the consideration of the interests of all people and perspectives. “Maintaining and enhancing the economic, social and environmental values of all types of forests, for the benefit of present and future generations” is the challenge and core objective for sustainable forest management, a topic which is explicitly addressed in **SDG 15—Life on Land**.

Speakers in this session will address the linkages between forests and the various goals set forth in the SDGs, focusing on the ways in which forests and forest management may contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and on the risks, trade-offs, and opportunities involved. The discussion section will consider the processes that will be needed to realize the forest sector’s full potential. Since this is not just an issue for national governments alone but will require the voluntary actions of private citizens and local bodies across the region, the perspectives of forest owners (both private and public) relative to the SDGs will also be addressed.

Programme

Introduction and presentation of key concepts

Welcome from the moderator, introduction of the topic, panellists and panel

Mr. Hosny El Lakany

Setting the scene – Forests and sustainable development goals – keynote

Mr. Guy Robertson

Series of presentations on the contribution of forests to SDGs; each presentation followed by Q&A

SDG 6 – Clean water and sanitation – forests and water (study)

Mr. Alessandro Leonardi

Q&A

SDG 7 – Affordable and clean energy – forests and energy (study)

Mr. Francisco Aguilar

Q&A

SDG 11 – Sustainable cities and communities – forests and cities

Ms. Matilda Van Den Bosch

Q&A

SDG 13 – Climate action – forests and climate

Mr. Werner Kurz

Q&A

SDG15 – Life on land – reaching the SFM and SDGs from ownership perspective (study)

Ms. Zuzana Sarvašová, Mr. Andrzej Konieczny

Q&A

Panel discussion

Kick-off statement for the discussion – youth perspectives

Mr. Adam Polinko

Questions will be determined by the moderator and focus on:

Forests and the SDGs – Expectations, risks and possibilities

Opportunities and challenges from the forest owners/managers perspective

...

Open floor for the plenary

Conclusions and closing of the session

Further Information:

www.unece.org/forests/coffi2018

Contact at the Joint UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section

Roman Michalak / Theresa Loeffler

Tel.: +41 229172879 / +41229174157

E-mail: roman.michalak@un.org / theresa.loeffler@un.org

Biographies of speakers

Dr. Francisco Aguilar is an Associate Professor of Forest Economics and lead author of the UNECE/FAO Forest Products Annual Market Review chapter on Wood Energy. He studies sustainable wood utilization including energy and material uses applying various econometric techniques accumulating 20 years of experience in the forest sector and over 50 scientific publications. He is the sole editor of the book “Wood Energy in Developed Economies” published by Taylor & Francis, Associate Editor with *Forest Science* and has consulted on wood energy development projects with the European Commission and the UN Development Account among other private and public agencies. He has served on the Board of Invest Microfinance since 2007 promoting sustainable microfinance around the world. To here

Dr. Hosny El-Lakany is an Adjunct Professor at the Department of Forest Resources Management and Director of International Program, Faculty of Forestry, UBC. He is also a Distinguished Forestry Professor at Alexandria University, Egypt. Dr. El-Lakany holds a B.Sc. in Agriculture and an M.Sc. in Forestry from Alexandria University, Egypt; a Ph.D. in Forestry from UBC and a D.Sc. from Laval University, Quebec. His professional career spans over 40 years, as professor at Alexandria University and the American University in Cairo, then as the Assistant Director-General / Head of the Forestry Department of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). Part of his responsibilities as ADG was to advise the FAO Director-General on policy and political matters related to Forestry and Sustainable Development. He was the inaugural chair of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), comprised of 14 International Organizations in support of the United Nations Forum on Forests.

Dr. Werner Kurz is a Senior Research Scientist at the Canadian Forest Service (Natural Resources Canada) in Victoria, British Columbia. He leads the development of Canada's National Forest Carbon Monitoring, Accounting and Reporting System and the Forest Carbon Management Project of the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions. His research focuses on carbon dynamics in forests and harvested wood products and the opportunities of the forest sector to contribute to climate change mitigation. Dr. Kurz co-authored eight reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), published over 140 peer-reviewed scientific papers, and many other reports. He serves as adjunct professor at the University of British Columbia and at Simon Fraser University. He obtained his Ph.D. in Forest Ecology from UBC and an honorary doctorate from the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences. He is an International Fellow of the Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry.

Dr. Alessandro Leonardi is the Managing Director and co-founder of ETIFOR | Valuing Nature (www.etifor.com). He holds a Ph.D. in environmental economics, is currently a Project Manager at University of Padua, and has been a consultant for the UNECE. He specializes in integrated financing and market-based instruments for nature conservation, with a specific experience on water-related ecosystem services. Since 2015, Alessandro manages the ECOSTAR | Natural Talents initiative, a partnership among universities and environmental business across the European Union and the US, promoting entrepreneurship in forestry and nature-based businesses, through training and start-ups acceleration (www.ecostarhub.com).

Mr. Adam Polinko is a Ph.D. candidate in the Forest Resources Management department at the University of British Columbia. His research background spans from the dry, ponderosa pine forests of the American Southwest to reclaimed mine sites in the Athabasca oil sands region of Alberta. Adam's interests include silviculture, stand dynamics and forest modelling. His Ph.D. research investigates wood quality as a way to meet sustainable forest management objectives, using British Columbia, Canada, as an example.

Dr. Guy Robertson is the National Sustainability Program Leader with the U.S. Forest Service's Research and Development Office in Washington D.C. His main area of expertise is forest economics, but more recently his focus has shifted to broad-scale resource assessments using criteria and indicators to consider the ecological, social and economic dimensions of forest sustainability. Guy grew up in Portland, Oregon, and did his graduate work at the University of Washington in Seattle (M.A. in international studies, Ph.D. in forest economics). Since then he has worked for the U.S. Forest Service in Juneau Alaska and Washington D.C.

Dr. Zuzana Sarvašová has worked as a senior researcher at the department of Forest Policy, Economics and Forest Management at the National Forest Centre in Slovakia since 2003. Her main interests are forest policy instruments and their implementation and evaluation analysis. She is a member of the expert group on Valuation of and Payments for Forest Ecosystem Services and represents Slovakia in the pan-European process Forest Europe. She was leading the development of several working packages dealing with cross-sectoral relationships of forestry with rural development and nature conservation in the frame of international and national research projects. She is a co-author of two EFI/FAO Forestry Policy and Institutions Working Papers on Forest Owners' Organizations in Eastern European Countries and she was the lead-author of the chapter "Organization of Private Ownership" of the UNECE/FAO/COST FACESMAP study on Forest Ownership in the UNECE Region.

Dr. Matilda Van Den Bosch is a doctor in medicine as well as in landscape planning and public health. She works as an assistant professor at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada, where she holds a joint appointment between the School of Population and Public Health and the Department of Forest and Conservation Sciences. She investigates how exposure to natural environments can protect and improve human health and how this displays in various populations across various socioeconomic conditions. Results from her studies may be used for healthier urban planning with improved conditions for both people and natural ecosystems. Dr. Van Den Bosch works as a consultant for numerous international organizations, including WHO, the UN Environmental Program, the US Environmental Protection Agency, and the Climate Change and Innovation Bureau at Health Canada. She is the editor of the recently published *Textbook of Nature and Public Health* by Oxford University Press.

Short introduction of related UNECE/FAO publications

Forests and Water Valuation and payments for forest ecosystem services

This study seeks to improve the understanding about the ways in which payments for ecosystem services schemes can be applied to forests, in particular focusing on forests' hydrological functions for the mutual benefit of both humans and the environment. In addition, the study covers advances and challenges facing these schemes and provides practical guidance for policy-makers and practitioners. Among other things, the study contains the most comprehensive currently available database of case studies on water-related payment for forest ecosystem services schemes in the UNECE region.

Wood Energy in the ECE Region – Data, trends and outlook in Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States and North America

This publication highlights the use of wood for energy and includes the most recent statistics on wood energy markets across the UNECE region. It aims to communicate the relevance of wood energy in the region and help bridge information about the forest and energy sectors. It also intends to offer some of the best-available information on the role that wood energy can play in various sectors to support environmental, energy, and socio-economic strategies toward a greener economy. It focuses on commercial wood energy uses in the UNECE including the energy generated for cooking, heating and electricity generation.

The State of Forest Ownership in the ECE Region

While forest ownership may at first appear to be a relatively straightforward concept, it is actually quite complex, entailing different rights, responsibilities, organizational procedures and understandings that vary considerably depending on country and context. These differences, in turn, will profoundly affect the way forests are managed and thereby the benefits that can be derived from them. The UNECE region is characterized by one of the most diverse ownership structures in the world. Within the two broadest categories of ownership, public and private, forests are owned and managed through a variety of forest ownership and tenure arrangements. Based in large part on national owner surveys, this study seeks to improve our understanding of forest ownership and its linkages to forest management. In particular, the study presents recent information on forests, forest policies and forest management under different ownerships, and it provides descriptions of different public and private forest owners along with their perspectives on forest management.

Side Events

Event	Date & Time	Location
Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Products	5 November 17:00–18:30	Room 7
Circumboreal Cooperation – The Way Forward	6 November 12:15–13:45	Room 7
New Green Forest Jobs in the Circular Economy: Needed Skills and Competencies for Innovative Circular Forest Businesses	6 November 12:15–13:45	Room 16
Increasing the Availability of Wood Design and Construction Courses in Professional Academic Programs: Best Practices From Educator and Employer perspectives	7 November 12:15–13:45	Room 16
Future Forestry Leaders Symposium – A Graduate Research Showcase	7 November 12:15–13:30	Ballroom A
Market Statement Drafting Committee (see page 11)	7 November 12:00–14:00	Plenary
Forests are the Answer - Valuing Forest Supply Chains Beyond Certification	8 November 12:15–13:45	Room 7
Future Forestry Leaders Symposium – Interactive Career Forum	8 November 12:15–13:45	Room 16

Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Products

Location: Room 7

Organizer: UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Products

Discussion on the expected work of the Team for the 2018–2021 period and review of outputs and current work within the forest products marketing work area

Circumboreal Cooperation – the way forward

Location: Room 7

Organizer: Swedish Forest Agency

Programme:

1. Short introduction to boreal forests (speaker tbc)
2. General introduction - What is circumboreal cooperation and why?
 - Summary of the work so far (speaker: **Peter Blombäck**, Swedish Forest Agency)
3. Science-policy interface: the cooperation between IBFRA (International Boreal Forest Research Association) and policy-makers from the boreal countries
 - Update on the IBFRA insight process (from science to policy on forests and climate change), decided at the IBFRA conference, in Laxenburg, Austria, (17–21 September 2018) (speaker: **Werner Kurz**)
4. Why a Team of Specialists on Boreal Forests would add value
 - Presentation by boreal countries

New Green Forest Jobs in the circular economy: Skills and Competencies for innovative circular forest businesses

Location: Room 16

Organizer: UNECE/FAO/ILO Team of Specialists on Green Jobs in the Forest Sector

The theme of this year's COFFI - *Building the Future with Forests* - hints at the important role that forest products will play in meeting our climate targets and creating more resilient communities as the world transitions to a clean-growth economy. In the side-event, we will ask ourselves what kind of skills and education and what kind of jobs are needed in order to keep the stated promise.

The side event will bridge the concepts of circular economy with new forestry and forest education and training. During this side event, the UNECE/FAO/ILO Team of Specialists on Green Jobs in the Forest Sector (Joint ILO/UNECE/FAO Expert Network) will show results of their work and discuss the consequences of these findings with a special focus on circular economy and the role of forest professions within the wood value chain.

Increasing the Availability of Wood Design and Construction Courses in Professional Academic Programs: Best Practices From Educator and Employer Perspectives

Location: Room 16

Organizer: Canadian Wood Council

The Canadian Wood Council will introduce the Advanced Wood Education Road Map and its key strategies as an example of Canada's coordinated response to the need to expand the curriculum of professional academic programs. This strategic plan or road map was developed over many years with input from stakeholders representing the wood products manufacturing, post-secondary education, and the building design, engineering and construction sectors.

This presentation will be introduced by the CWC, delivered by post-secondary educators and an architect, engineer and/or construction manager. The panel will be moderated by a Canadian engineered wood products manufacturing executive (Weyerhaeuser). The main theme that connects the presentations is the opportunity to expand advanced wood education at post-secondary education levels in the areas of architecture, engineering and construction management, driven by the confluence of many factors including urban densification, market preferences, innovation, cost competitiveness and sustainable construction goals and commitments.

Panellists will address the topic and consider how their presentations are linked to the central themes of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry programme where appropriate (*Building the Future with Forests*). Panellists have been asked to consider how others can foster engaged and committed champions to help create a larger build with wood community and how increasing wood content in education can create opportunities to make wood a key material for a sustainable future and healthy business sector.

Moderator:

Andy Teasell, Engineering and Technical Support Manager, Canada, Weyerhaeuser

Panellists:

Dr. YH Chui, Professor, Engineering Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of Alberta; **Shelley Craig**, B.E.S, A.A.DIPL, MAIBC, FRAIC Urban Arts Architecture (UAA); **Dr. Guido Wimmers**, Associate Professor, Masters of Engineering in Integrated Wood Design, University of Northern British Columbia, **Ron Kato** (Invited, to be confirmed), Faculty, School of Construction and the Environment, BCIT

A light lunch and beverages will be available in the room.

Forests are the Answer - Valuing Forest Supply Chains Beyond Certification

Location: Room 7

Organizer: Sustainable Forestry Initiative

Forest certification serves to reduce risk and assure performance in forest-based supply chains and helps to gain market acceptance and access. However, forest certification labels have the potential to contribute even more than this, with programs ranging far beyond assurances for water quality protection and species at risk.

In this event, Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) President and CEO, Kathy Abusow, will moderate an open dialogue with UNECE region stakeholders and members of the SFI community, discussing SFI's ongoing work to reach beyond certification assurances in support of many UN Sustainable Development Goals targets. SFI initiatives include providing green jobs, educating youth, engaging Indigenous communities, and engaging and collaborating with the scientific community to improve understanding of the value of working forests to maintain ecosystem services, conserve biodiversity, and mitigate the effects of climate change.

Future Forestry Leaders Symposium

Location: Ballroom A & Room 16

Organizer: UBC chapter of the International Forestry Students' Association (IFSA-UBC) and the UBC Forestry Graduate Student Society (FGSA)

The Future Forestry Leaders Symposium is a youth-led side event hosted by the UBC chapter of the International Forestry Students' Association (IFSA-UBC) and the UBC Forestry Graduate Student Society (FGSA). The event will include a symposium centered on showcasing graduate student research and an interactive career forum.

The interactive career forum provides students with the opportunity to meet UNECE delegates, as well as experts from industry, government, and academia for a discussion about sustainable forest products and the future workforce.

November 7, 2018**Future Forestry Leaders Symposium – A Graduate Research Showcase**

Vancouver Convention Centre East Building, Ballroom A

12:15–12:30 Welcome

12:30–13:30 Student poster viewing

November 8, 2018**Future Forestry Leaders Symposium – Interactive Career Forum**

Vancouver Convention Centre East Building, Room 16

12:10–12:40 Welcome and introduction of panelists

12:40–13:30 Interactive session

13:30–13:40 Session wrap-up and closing remarks

Session moderators:

Meike Siegner (IFSA-UBC) and Emily Murphy (FGSA)

Panelists:

Ms. Lynn Embury-Williams (BC Executive Director Wood *WORKS!*); **Ms. Helen Goodland** (Managing Principle Brantwood Consulting); **Ms. Alicja Kacprzak** (Forestry Officer at the UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section); **Dr. M. Hosny El-Lakany** (Professor and Director, International Forestry Program, Faculty of Forestry, University of British Columbia); **Dr. Guido Wimmers** (Associate Professor and Chair of the Master of Engineering Program in Integrated Wood Design, University of Northern British Columbia)

Field Trips

Field Trip 1 (Friday, 9 November, 09:00–12:00)
Half-day tour around Stanley Park

Field Trip 2 (Friday, 9 November, 09:00–16:00)
Full-day forestry tour of the UBC Malcom Knapp Research Forest, Maple Ridge

Field Trip 3 (Friday, 9 November, 08:15–12:45)
Half-day tour to explore wooden architecture in Vancouver



Please visit the COFFI 2018 information desk for further information and in case you would like to register for a field trip. Places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.



Comfortable and sturdy walking shoes are recommended for the tours, as well as rain gear if the weather requires it.

Field trips are kindly sponsored by:

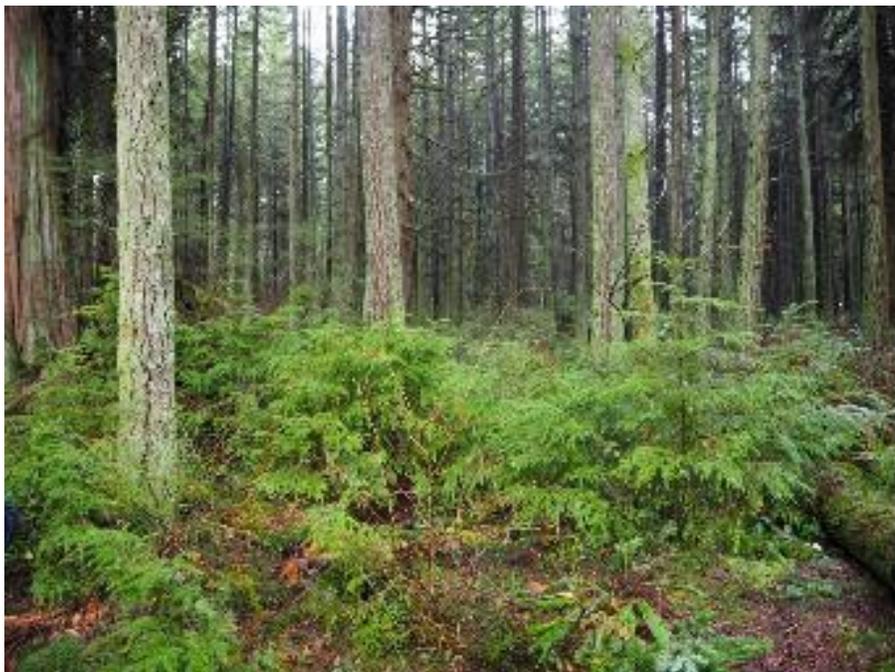
Canadian
Wood
Council

Conseil
canadien
du bois



**Forestry Innovation
Investment®**

Trip 1: Half-day tour around Stanley Park (09:00–12:00)



Douglas fir planted as part of the restoration of the 1962 Typhoon damage

On the traditional territories of the Tsleil-Waututh, Musqueam and Squamish First Nations people, Stanley Park is Vancouver's first, largest, urban park, consisting of 400 hectares of natural west coast rainforest. From its grand opening in 1888 to current day, three ongoing themes remain important in the story of Stanley Park:

- Preserve and protect the ecology of Stanley Park
- Ensure the sustainability of Stanley Park
- Enhance Vancouver's livability through the enjoyment of Stanley Park

Enjoy a half-day tour of this green oasis in the midst of the urban landscape of Vancouver. Participants will visit areas of restoration and forest management to learn how the park is managed and how the City has responded to help the forest recover from multiple devastating natural events.

The tour will be hosted by Paul Lawson of the faculty of forestry at the University of British Columbia and is kindly sponsored by Forestry Innovation Investment Ltd.

9 November	
09:00:	Depart in front of the Pan Pacific Hotel, 300-999 Canada Place. Sturdy footwear and outdoor attire recommended.
09:20:	Arrive at Prospect Point picnic ground parking lot, Stanley Park. Introduction by host Paul Lawson, RPF, Director, UBC Research Forests.
Field presentation of History of Stanley Park; Rehabilitation of 2006 storm damage – 10-year-old plantings; Rehabilitation of 1962 typhoon Freda damage – 55-year-old plantings; Forest management plan for the park; Urban forest, recreational use.	
11:30:	Depart Stanley Park
12:00:	Arrival at the Pan Pacific Hotel

Background

In December 2006, a devastating windstorm struck Stanley Park. The storm levelled 41 hectares of forest, causing extensive damage to the seawall and creating a crisis situation that required an organization-wide response. Staff developed a restoration plan and set out to enlist the help of a diverse range of experts. Creative partnerships were formed, and leaders from a broad range of fields were recruited to assist in developing and implementing the plan. The public concern for the park resulted in a level of financial and in-kind support that made the \$10-million restoration achievable. Volunteers of all ages came out to help plant seedlings.



Restoration of the 2016 wind damage

Trip 2: Full-day forestry tour of the UBC Malcolm Knapp Research Forest, Maple Ridge (09:00–16:00)



The Malcolm Knapp Research Forest is located on the traditional territory of the Katzie First Nation. The 5,157 hectare forest is located in the foothills of the Coast Mountains, approximately 60 km east of Vancouver.

The University of British Columbia (UBC) took over the management of the forest in 1949, and since then research and education became the main focus of the area. Besides research, operations in the forest include timber harvesting, silviculture and a small sawmill. On Loon Lake, the largest lake on the forest, UBC built the Loon Lake Lodge and Retreat Centre that is used as a year-round outdoor education centre and during the summer months is home to Camp Goodtimes, a summer program for remarkable kids fighting cancer.

Enjoy a full day tour of the Malcom Knapp Research Forest and visit areas of active forest management and research. The tour will be hosted by Cheryl Power, Assistant Manager of the Malcom Knapp Research Forest. This tour is kindly sponsored by Forestry Innovation Investment Ltd.

9 November
09:00: Depart in front of the Pan Pacific Hotel, 300-999 Canada Place. Sturdy footwear and outdoor attire recommended.
10:15: Arrive at the UBC Malcom Knapp Research Forest, 14500 Silver Valley Road, Maple Ridge. Meet with host Cheryl Power, RPF, Assistant Manager, UBC Malcom Knapp Research Forest. She will present the history of the research forest, ongoing research activities, and forest harvesting.
12:00: Lunch will be provided at Loon Lake Camp.
12:30: Field presentations on forest regeneration (various ages to 50 years); stand tending; recreational and educational use of the forest; visit to the sawmill in the forest.
14:45: Depart research forest
16:00: Arrive at the Pan Pacific Hotel

Background

Before the Research Forest was managed by UBC, there were two major forces that significantly impacted the land base, fire and logging. Although the climate of the forest is quite wet, fire is still the most important natural disturbance in this area, with large fires typically re-occurring every 200 years or so.

In 1868, a large fire swept through the western side of the forest, burning everything but the wettest pockets of land around lakes and in stream basins. Most of this area is now covered with 120-year-old forests made up of a mixture of Douglas fir, western red cedar and western hemlock, although some parts of the old growth that the fire did not burn remain intact.

The Malcolm Knapp Research Forest has a thriving research community that includes professional researchers and students from several UBC faculties, Simon Fraser University, the Province of B.C., and from the Government of Canada. Researchers from other universities and from outside Canada also use the forest for research in their particular fields. Since the establishment of the Research Forest, over 800 research projects have been initiated on the land base, and more than 100 of these are still active. Many of these active projects are long-term in nature, spanning close to 50 years and including some of the most extensive datasets in western North America.

Trip 3: Half-day tour to explore wooden architecture in Vancouver (08:15–12:45)



Enjoy a stroll around the campus of the University of British Columbia (UBC), which is at the forefront of revitalizing wood construction. Integrating wood, a renewable material that stores carbon, into buildings, reflects UBC's commitment to sustainability and pioneering new building technologies which expands the market for B.C. forest products.

The tour will feature visits to the Bioenergy Demonstration Facility, which is the first large Cross-Laminated Timber (CLT) project using local CLT; the Centre for Interactive Research on Sustainability, which was designed to be the most sustainable building in North America upon completion; the Earth Sciences Building and the Brock Commons Building, both of which were built with innovative CLT technologies, and the latter being one of the tallest timber structures in the world.

You will be joined by various experts who will share with you their insights and give you a unique perspective on building with wood. This tour is kindly sponsored by the Canadian Wood Council.



9 November

08:15: Pick up at the East Vancouver Convention Centre & transfer to UBC for a tour. Comfortable walking shoes are recommended for the day! Rain gear if the weather requires it.

08:50: Arrive at the UBC Forest Sciences Centre. Tour the building and Centre for Advanced Wood Processing (CAWP)

09:30: Leave the Forest Sciences Centre and walk to the Bio Energy Demonstration Facility

09:40: Learn more about the facility

9:55: Short stroll to the Centre for Interactive Research in Sustainability (CIRS) Building, tour of the Building

10:25: Walk over to the Earth Sciences Building (ESB) for a tour of the building

11:00: Short walk over to NEST – tour and explanation

11:10: Leave NEST. Walk to Brock Commons.

11:20: Tour and presentation on Brock Commons

12:00: Bus departs Brock Commons

12:45: Arrive back at the Vancouver Convention Centre



Practical Information

The Venue

Vancouver Convention Centre East
 1055 Canada Place (East building)
 Vancouver, B.C.
 Email: www.vancouverconventioncentre.com
 Tel.: +1-604-689-8232.

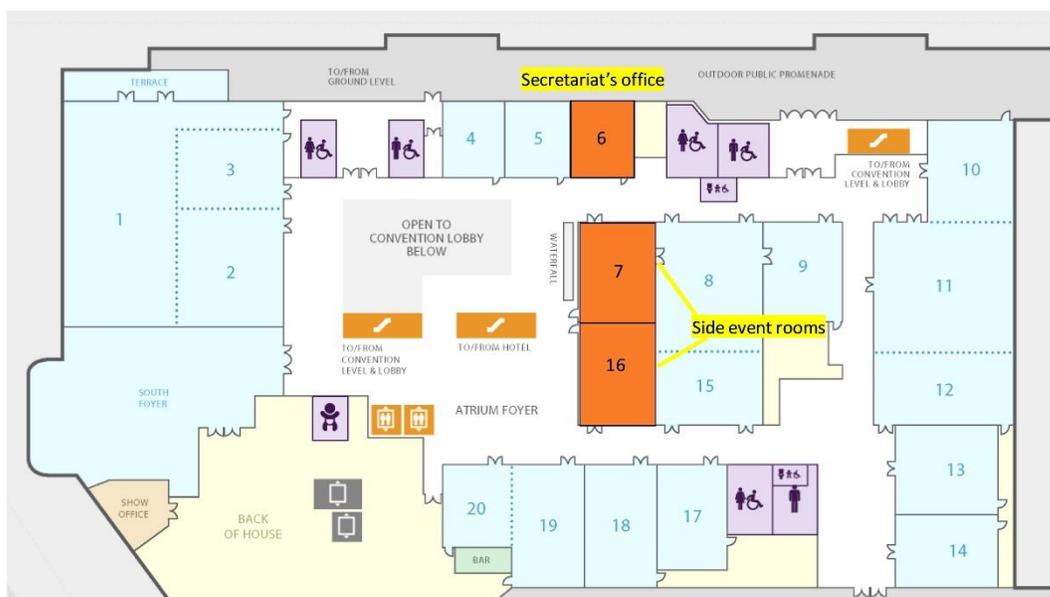
There are two wings of the Convention Centre; the COFFI meeting is located on the East Convention Level, ballrooms B and C. Ballroom A serves as a networking space, where participants can serve themselves with coffee and tea during the meeting.

Convention Centre: East Convention Level



The side events will take place on the East Meeting Level, rooms 7 and 16.

Convention Centre: East Meeting Level





Information and Registration Desk

The registration and information desk can be found at the foyer of the Convention Centre throughout the week. At the information desk, you may find various publications of the UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section, as well as information on the sign-up for the field trips.

Interpretation

Interpretation is available at the Session in English, Russian and French.

Catering

Coffee: Coffee and other refreshments will be available outside the Plenary room in the morning and afternoon.

Lunch: Participants may choose to have lunch à la carte at the hotel restaurant or visit the food court below the Convention Centre, which offers a wide selection of breakfast and lunch options. Some side events may offer lunch options as well.

Dinner: Participants may dine at the hotel or discover Vancouver's restaurant scene.

The Team of the UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section thanks you for your support!



The UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section at the Palais de Nations, Geneva 2018

Pictured left to right (front row): Ekrem Yazici, Paola Deda, Birgit Lia Altmann, Jans Mynbayeva, Alex McCusker

(back row): Kalle Greis, Karen Taylor, Alicja Kacprzak, Markus Stolze, Roskolana Shelest, Florian Steierer, Roman Michalak, Theresa Loeffler, Matthew Fonseca

(not pictured): Leonie Meier

Thank you for attending COFFI 2018!