



2nd World Congress of Agroforestry

20th – 24th August 2009; Nairobi, Kenya



The World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF) is pleased to announce that the 2nd World Congress on Agroforestry will be held 24-29 August 2009 in Nairobi, Kenya. The 2nd WCA will be held under the theme ***Agroforestry – The Future of Global Land Use***.

Background

Agroforestry began to attain prominence in the late 1970s, when the international scientific community recognized it as a scientific practice and realized its potential in the tropics. During the 1990s, its relevance was acknowledged in industrialized nations too, where intensive agriculture and forestry have led to reduced biodiversity and wildlife habitat, increased land degradation, pollution of ground water and rivers, greenhouse gas emission and the deterioration of family farms.

Today, agroforestry is receiving increasing global attention as a sustainable land-management option and is at the heart of key global conventions goals (climate change, biodiversity, and desertification) and the Millennium Development Goals. As a discipline, it offers an important framework for generating and delivering knowledge innovations that will help harness the complex role of trees in livelihoods and environment.

The 1st World Congress of Agroforestry held in June – July 2004 in the United States was attended by delegates from 82 countries, representing numerous regional, national and international organizations. It provided a global forum for agroforestry professionals to share knowledge, experiences, and ideas, and plan future strategies in agroforestry research, education and training, and development.

A 2nd World Congress on Agroforestry is essential for sustaining this momentum of knowledge sharing and supporting the enormous crescendo of interest in agroforestry that is building up worldwide.

Congress Objectives

The congress will assess opportunities to leverage scientific agroforestry in promoting sustainable land use worldwide and serve as a platform and forum for agroforestry professionals from around the world to :

- Share knowledge, experiences, and ideas that will help influence decisions that impact on livelihoods and the global environment.
- Plan future strategies in agroforestry research, education & training, and development.

Program

The overall Congress theme is “Agroforestry – The Future of Global Land Use.”

Plenary, concurrent and poster sessions will be organized around major topics, including the following:

- Markets as opportunities and drivers of agroforestry land use
- Tree-based rehabilitation of degraded lands and watersheds
- Climate change adaptation and mitigation
- Multifunctional agroforestry for ecosystem services
- Policy options and institutional innovations for agroforestry land use

Expected Outputs

Planned publications include a summary document, a book of abstracts, journal articles, special journal issues and books. A declaration that embodies the essence of Congress deliberations will be developed as a tool for discussions with policy makers and donor agencies to advance the cause of agroforestry worldwide.

Who Should Attend

- Academicians
- Development Professionals
- Environmental Consultants
- Extension Specialists
- Farmers/Land Owners
- Government Officials
- Land Managers/Consultants
- Natural Resource and Forestry Professionals
- Non-Government and Private-Voluntary Organizations
- Policy Makers
- Private Sector Representatives
- Scientists
- Students

Sponsorship

The Congress will be organized as a collaborative effort by a diverse group of institutions worldwide. The World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF) based in Nairobi, Kenya, will be the principal organizer. A strong commitment of support has been secured from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) also based in Nairobi, and from the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) of the University of Florida. Financial and professional support is solicited and expected from a large number of institutions worldwide. Please contact the organizers if you are interested in becoming involved in this effort.

Contact Information

Further details about the organization, call for papers, field trips, congress website, registration fees, hotels, and a preliminary congress programme will be circulated in the Second Announcement.

For information about participation and sponsorship interests, contact any of the following:

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