



NORTHERN FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Roadmap to UNFCCC COP 29/30
and beyond

Thematic session of the 45th session of the
Joint FAO/UNECE Working Party on Forest
Statistics, Economics and Management

Date: Thursday, 23 May 2024

Time: 10:30 CET

Location: Room III, Building C, Palais des
Nations, Geneva

PROGRAMME

BACKGROUND

All eyes of the forests sector are on the 30th Conference of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Hosted by Brazil in 2025, this will be one of the greatest opportunities for the forest sector to communicate key messages to negotiators and the global public.

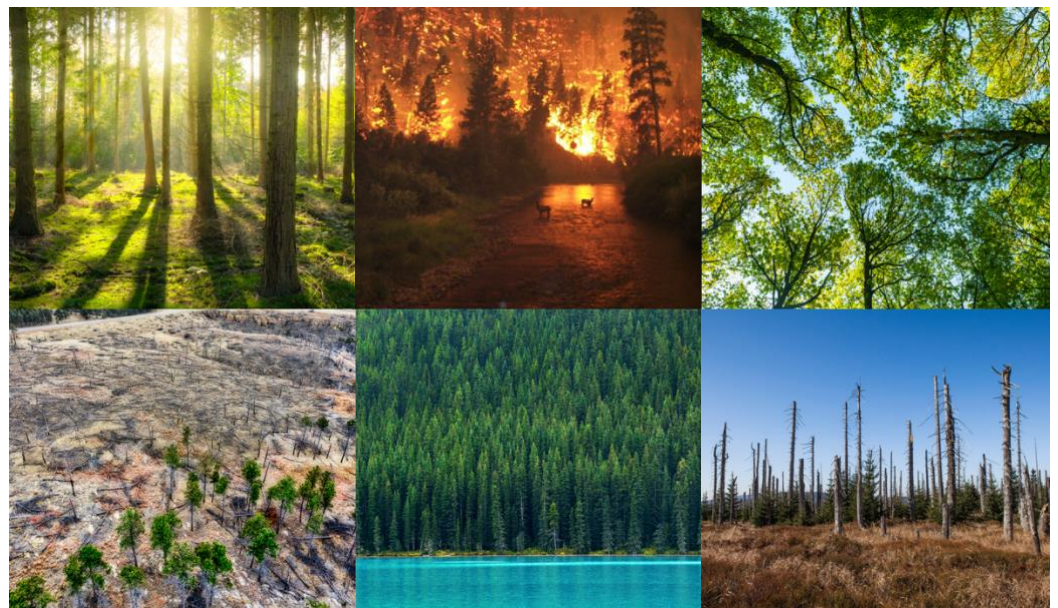
The joint UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section invites all stakeholders from the forest and forest-based industries sector to join them in starting preparations for this unique opportunity.

The event will feature a welcome note by Brazil, host country of the COP30 in 2025, followed by a keynote address and country examples. Participants are invited to actively engage in the discussions on the Northern forests to help raise their profile and showcase the benefits of their sustainable management in adapting to, and mitigating of, climate change worldwide.

The event is held in-person at the Palais des Nations of the United Nations in Geneva.

[Registration](#) is open until 22 May 2024.

In case you missed it – UNECE/FAO team has also recently published UN Forest Podcast “[Climate change and forests](#)” hosted by Oscar winning Michelle Yeoh.



SPEAKEERS



KEITH ANDERSON (moderator) has a bachelor's degree in political science and a master's degree in regional planning. He worked in the Amazon and Central America in tropical forestry and agroforestry from 1989 to 2007. Since 2008 he negotiates forest policy in Swiss delegations in global and European processes. He has special focus on Swiss support for forests, including REDD-plus, finance for forest and nature solutions, digitalizing forest information, and trees in cities.

WENDEL TRIO is a climate policy expert supporting non-governmental organisations in translating climate science into policy proposals. He worked as Director of Climate Action Network (CAN) Europe for 10 years and prior to that he served as head of the Political and Business Unit at Greenpeace International, Campaign Director at Greenpeace Belgium and policy coordinator of Oxfam in Flanders. He also co-founded (and worked for) the Flemish Support Group for Indigenous Peoples and the European Alliance with Indigenous Peoples. He worked in campaigning, advocacy and management positions and engaged in human rights, environment and development issues all along his career.



TALHAD SADIQ With a Master's in Public Policy from the University of Toronto, Talha has over 9 years of experience in public sector, non-profit, and international settings. As a Senior Policy Analyst at the Canadian Forest Service, Natural Resources Canada, Talha has represented Canada in negotiations at the United Nations and other multilateral fora, shaping policies on forests and land-use. His expertise in policy analysis, project management, and stakeholder engagement has facilitated various partnerships for sustainable forest management initiatives.

MICHAL SYNEK has been working on different positions in the Forest Management mainly in data processing and analysis. FMI is responsible for National Forest Inventory in the Czech Republic and serves as an information and data center for forestry and game management. He has a long record of cooperation with UNECE/FAO on behalf of the Czech Republic, e.g., as member of the Team of Specialists on Forest Sector Outlook and previously Team of Specialists on Forest Products and Wood Energy Statistics. Michal has a master's degree in forestry and a doctoral degree in Applied Geoinformatics.



SPEAKERS

MAGDALENA WOLICKA-POSIADAŁA is the Counsellor in the International Cooperation Division in the Department of Forestry and Hunting, Ministry of Climate and Environment in Poland. For the last 10 years she has been dealing with international forests and forestry topics, including sustainable development and international reporting. In 2022-2023, she served as the Chair of the Joint UNECE/FAO Working Group on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management. Magdalena is a graduate of the Interfaculty Studies of Environmental Protection at the Warsaw University of Life Sciences, and currently pursuing doctoral research in the field of European forest policy at the Forest Research Institute.



DAMIAN ZIELIŃSKI has been working in the General Directorate of the State Forests from 2008. Since then, he has held positions related to the planning and implementation of tasks in the field of forest management and its certification. Damian specializes in topics related to forest silviculture and management, forest management certification in leading compliance systems and social aspects of forestry. He is a representative of the General Directorate of State Forests on the Council of PEFC Poland and working groups at the European State Forests Association (EUSTAFOR). He has a degree in forestry from the Warsaw University of Life Sciences.

TIINA RYTILÄ is currently working as a Senior Ministerial Advisor on Forestry in the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Finland. She has a background in forestry from the University of Helsinki. Tiina has extensive experience in high-level advisory positions both from private and public sector.



Introduction by the Secretariat / Moderator

Moderator: **Keith Anderson**, Forest & Climate Policy Officer, Federal Office for the Environment, Switzerland

Keynote speeches

Brazil (recorded)

Wendel Trio, Policy Coordinator Northern Forests and Climate Change Project

Talhad Sadiq, Senior Policy Analyst, Multilateral Affairs, Natural Resources Canada, Canadian Forest Service

Country Experiences

CZECHIA - **Michal Synek**, Branch Director, Forest Management Institute

POLAND - **Magdalena Wolicka-Posiadala**, Counsellor, Division of International Cooperation, Department of Forestry and Hunting, Ministry of Climate and Environment, and **Damian Zieliński**, chief specialist of the Forest Service, Forest Silviculture Department, General Directorate of the State Forests

FINLAND - **Tiina Ryttilä**, Senior Ministerial Advisor, Forestry, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Department of Natural Resources

Group Work

Questions

What are your national priorities in the forest sector regarding climate change mitigation and adaptation?

What policy and other tools support the implementation of these priorities at the national level?

What kind of support would you need from the UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section in achieving these priorities, looking to COPs 29, 30 and beyond? What would your country recommend and how could it contribute?

Reporting/Discussion

Decisions