



WORLD FOREST WEEK

24 - 28 SEPTEMBER 2012

SIDE EVENT

28 September 2012, from 13h00 to 14h30 –Lebanon Room (D-209)

Refreshment will be served before the opening of the side-event (at 12h30)

Green Cities for Health and Wellbeing – The key role of trees and forests for resilient cities

Cities are facing complex challenges related to increasing population and development of buildings and infrastructures, while they have to face impacts of crisis and emergencies: financial crisis, soaring food and energy prices, climate change and extreme weather events (island heat effect, rain and wind storms, floods and drought). In many countries, migration due to war and civil unrest add to the complexity. Consequences on food and nutrition security, poverty and environmental degradation, including depletion of biodiversity, need to be faced. Pollution and sedentary lifestyles are also affecting human health of urban dwellers. Optimization of forest and trees as green infrastructure is a key element of more resilient and healthy cities for all. FAO is supporting countries in putting in place multi stakeholder platforms of dialogue, between sectors and disciplines that still do not work together (citizens, local authorities, forestry, health, urban agriculture). The FAO “Food for Cities” priority initiative on urban issues facilitates an integrated approach. Forestry Department also supports the development of strategic planning tools in urban forestry responding to local needs (e.g. Strategies and Priority Action Plans with special attention to woodfuel demand and supply, urban watershed management, desertification control). FAO is also developing guidelines for policy and decision making on urban and peri-urban forestry. Invited speakers from municipalities, international organizations, and governments will present the solutions they are putting in place in order to design, implement and manage greener cities within integrated landscape approach. They will share their experiences on how it contributes to addressing food and nutrition security, health, and green economy challenges. The objective is to share on the priorities in order to green the urban agendas and urbanize the green and forestry agendas.

Organized by:

FAO, Forestry Department (Urban and Peri-urban Forestry)

In collaboration with:

“Food for the Cities” multi-disciplinary initiative

Partners:

European Forum on Urban Forestry (EFUF); Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP)

Programme

- Welcoming: *Eduardo Rojas, Assistant Director-General, Forestry Department, FAO*
- Presentations:
 - ❖ “Cities in Crisis – Food for Cities: Strategic integrated approach for food security”
Julien Custot, Natural Resources Department, FAO
 - ❖ “The role of trees and forests for cities – International context and FAO Actions”
Michelle Gauthier, Forestry Department, FAO
 - ❖ “Green Cities and Healthy Cities: Facts & Figures, Strategic Aspects and Perspectives”
Giovanni Sanesi, Italy
 - ❖ “Cities in Forest or Forests in Cities? A green vision for our Central African Cities”
Donatien Nzala, Director-General of Forest Economy, Republic of Congo
- Discussion – Interventions from the plenary
- Closing panel
 - ❖ *Dilip Kumar, Director-General of Forests and Special Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests of India*
 - ❖ *August Temu, Deputy Director-General, ICRAF*
- Closing remarks: wrap-up and recommendations to COFO
- Closure

Working language: English and French (interpretation)



Contact

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