

21st Forum Forestier Lémanique

Wednesday 6 June 2018 at the Hepia University in Geneva and in the Pays de Gex

How are local communities involved in sustainable forest management?

Across the world, local communities and indigenous peoples share a close link to the forests that surround them. This link can be stronger or weaker, according to these peoples' dependence on forest resources, their history, knowledge, and experiences, and their attachment to the forest, but also according to the recognition and authority that they possess as decision makers, owners and/or managers of these forests.

The importance of the involvement of local communities in land management, including forest, has been acknowledged at the international level. In addition, governance by indigenous and local communities has been indicated by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and the Convention on Biodiversity as comprising a separate category in the structure of governance of protected sites.

With the example of a people of the Amazon, one of whose representatives will be with us, we will see how property rights and community usage are acknowledged in other areas, and what are the constraints and the benefits to community involvement in forest management in Africa and Latin America. Then we will discuss the same questions as they affect towns and forest communities in the Lake Lemman area.

We are interested in the regulations and the scope for manoeuvre for these communities compared to public and private owners. We seek to understand their interests and difficulties, how they are organized and what are the results for management of their forests.

The Forum Forestier Lémanique for its 21st meeting day will cover the involvement of local communities in sustainable forest management. It will have the opportunity to welcome international speakers who will discuss their projects in African and Latin American communities. For the Lake Lemman region we will also have the opportunity to welcome representatives of municipalities and communities, forest associations and collectives, to share their experience in managing Swiss and French forests. After a morning of conferences and discussions, the participants will have lunch in Divonne and then have the chance to visit the forests of Mont Mourex and Mont Mussy in the Pays de Gex. Mont Mourex has an unusual forest management with a strong involvement by local people.

Whether you are part of the forest community – or environmental protection – involved with local communities or indigenous peoples, member of a communal council or just interested in these questions at the local, national or international level, you are welcome to join us for a day of sharing and exchanges. The registration form is available below and on our website at www.f-f-l.org.

What is the Forum Forestier Lémanique ?

Created in spring 1999, the Forum Forestier Lémanique (FFL) is a meeting point bringing together numerous actors and managers in forestry and natural resources living in the Franco-Swiss arc of Lake Léman. Its mission is to facilitate contacts and to promote exchanges between professionals and experts active at the local, regional and international levels. For this purpose it organises thematic meeting days and field visits open to all. These events are intended to provide opportunities for getting together and sharing experiences on topics of common interest. You will find more about the FFL on www.f-f-l.org

Program and speakers

Hepia University, Servette, Geneva

- 9:00 - 9:15 Welcome by the FFL
Alex McCusker
and facilitator
Jean-Marie Samyn, forest engineer, independant consultant
- 9:15 - 9:45 IUCN project with African communities
Gretchen Walters, IUCN
- 9:45-10:15 Community project, Surui people, Brazil
Thomas Pizer, Aquaverde, Almir Surui, leader Surui
- 10:15 - 10:45 Break
- 10:45 - 11:15 Communal forest owners of the Canton of Valais
Patrick Barman, president of Forêt Valais and vice-president of the commune of St-Maurice
- 11:15 - 11:45 Association of communal forests Haute Savoie
Bernard Besson, representative of Saint André de Boège and Amélie Quarteroni, expert, Association of communal forests Haute Savoie
- 11:45 - 12:15 Discussion with speakers and *Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend, APAC (Territories and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities)*
- 12:15 – 14:15 Bus transfer and lunch**
- 14:15 Travel to the forest of the commune of Divonne
- 14:30 -15:30 Presentation on the challenges for a communal forest and forest visit
Bernard Bole (ONF) and Nathalie Houlier (Divonne)
- Travel to the forest of Mont Mourex
- 15:45 - 16:45 Presentation on the challenges for a community of wood cutters and visit to the communal forest
Olivier Hymas, expert in human ecology
- 16:45 - 17:00 Review and closing
Alex McCusker
- 17:30 Return to Geneva (airport and center)

Registration form for FFL 6 June 2018

Hepia University, Geneva (Servette) and Pays de Gex, France

Please return form at the latest by 1 June 2018

By email to

secretariat@f-f-l.org

Last name,
First name

Organization

Address

Email

Telephone

Total cost of registration

CHF 50 or € 40

- Student/intern price (please indicate your status in the commentary box below) : CHF 20 or € 15
- This covers the participation for the day of conferences, travel to Divonne, the afternoon visit and lunch.
Vegetarian meal (check here if you request a vegetarian meal)
- The registration costs should be paid at the meeting room on 6 June 2018.

As the FFL is an informal platform for information exchange, participants are asked to assign the risks of an accident or damage to their own insurance or that of their employer, if they are participating as part of their work.

Maps and logistical plans for the day will be sent prior to the meeting.

We will have a bus for our travel from Geneva to the Pays de Gex and will return to the airport and center as needed.

Please indicate which form of transport you plan to use.

Private car

public
transport

Comments (if
necessary)

Date

Signature