

# Working across Sectors to Halt Deforestation and Increase Forest Area FROM ASPIRATION TO ACTION



**Theme: Innovative instruments to upscale progress: Financing, Technologies and Research**

## Session 16: The role of science and research

Thursday, February 22 11:00-12:30, Green Room (tbc)

**Hosts:** CIFOR, ICRAF, IUFRO

**Moderator:** Dr. John Parrotta, Vice President IUFRO, US Forest Service

As changing land use is an important driver of deforestation, predicting and monitoring these changes is critical to understanding and halting negative changes including deforestation and degradation. Landscape monitoring also allows us the ability to determine the success of reforestation, afforestation and restoration activities. Emerging innovative technologies provide the ability to significantly improve how we monitor and assess land. These technologies not only include innovations in satellite-based monitoring, but include ground-based measurements such as terrestrial LiDAR, sonic recording and sensor webs, and tree/timber DNA tracking. Tools include robotics and drones with a wide-range of instrumentation. Crowdsourcing and related handheld devices, location and communication are also revolutionizing land monitoring, while decision support systems such as GEO Walls aid in improving the utility of the data for policy and decision makers, and land managers. This session will explore the use of available and emerging technologies as pathways to halting deforestation and increasing forest health and extent in a sustainable fashion. While these emerging innovations have the possibility to revolutionize how forests and landscapes are monitored, it is equally important to address challenges as to how technologies are mainstreamed in society and made accessible including enabling their use in local languages.

### Key questions or discussion points:

1. What role should be given to science and research with a view to increasing coherence and consistency of these arrangements, informing their implementation, and ensuring accountability and credible, consistent and transparent monitoring of actions and their impacts?
2. How does science and research itself address the issue internally, and what lessons can it provide for the policy arena? Are there practical examples of recommended approaches and instruments that have the potential to bring sectors together?
3. What lessons can be learned from agroforestry as an example of a cross-sectoral solution?

### Confirmed speakers:

Name	Title
Daniela Kleinschmit	Professor of Forest and Environmental Policy International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO)
Vincent Gitz	Director CGIAR Research Program on Forests, Trees and Agroforestry
Avery Cohn	Assistant Professor Environment and Resource Policy Tufts University
Pablo Pachecho	Team leader, Value chains, Finance and Investment, Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR)