Dear All,

Please find the most recent version of the English newsletter below. As discussed in the meeting last week, I am keen to make future newsletters as exciting and interesting as possible so welcome any suggestions you have. I am aware that due to a problem with our mail server the newsletters have unfortunately not been reaching APFNet email addresses, however in future the newsletter will be directly linked to the new APFNet website once it is up and running so should be easy for everyone to see.

Best regards,

Ben

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Welcome to the APFNet Newsletter! It's been a busy year so far, with a range

of activities taking place across the Asia-Pacific region. Click the links below to find out more about some of the things that we've been up to:

- Promoting natural regeneration: how can we better understand the challenges and opportunities for natural forest regeneration in Asia-Pacific and promote its inclusion as a major component of large-scale restoration initiatives? This was the focus of discussions at the recent Natural Regeneration Workshop, co-organized by APFNet and FAO. <u>Read more here</u>.
- Strategic forestry cooperation in Greater Central Asia: economies in Greater Central Asia face forest degradation and desertification.
 APFNet's latest activities aimed at tackling these issues in the region include the 3rd Regional Workshop on Strategic Forestry Cooperation in the Greater Central Asia Region, which set out to address how foresters can work together to address common challenges. <u>Read more here</u>.
- Remote sensing in Mongolia: landsat data can play a vital role in informing foresters how forest ecosystems change over time. This data can be used for forest planning and management practices, as has been done successfully in Mongolia. <u>Find out more here</u>.
- Restoration techniques in Greater Central Asia: vegetation restoration and management of forest resources in Inner Mongolia can be used as a model for economies in Greater Central Asia due to the similarity of its natural features and ecotypes. <u>Read more here</u>.
- Watershed management in Cambodia: the Prek Thnot watershed supports many communities living downstream, however it faces serious challenges from deforestation, land conversion and ongoing development programs. The APFNet-funded "Integrated Forest Ecosystem Management Planning and Demonstration Project in Greater Mekong Sub-region (Cambodia)" has been launched to address these issues. <u>Read more here</u>.
- Strengthening forest management in the Greater Mekong
 Subregion: the Lancang-Mekong watershed is one of the largest river systems in the world and provides livelihoods to many of the 60 million people living in the Lower Mekong Basin. Developing effective Forest Management Plans is vital to ensuring its sustainable management. <u>Read more here</u>.
- Forest reform in northeastern China: reforming state-owned forest management in China is a key aspect of China's push to build an

"ecological civilization". APFNet recently organized two activities to see how reform can be carried out in practice. <u>Find out more here</u>.

- APFNet Forestry Planning Network (FPN) at APFC: in order to better understand the state, gaps and needs of forestry strategic planning in Asia-Pacific economies, APFNet's Forestry Planning Network (FPN) will host a side-event at the 27th session of Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission on 25 October 2017. <u>Read more here</u>.
- APFNet call for proposals 2017: six project concept notes have been selected by the APFNet Project Appraisal Panel for development into full project proposals. <u>Read more here</u>.
- APFNet Scholarship Program: the APFNet Scholarship Program has expanded to welcome students from Greater Central Asia. <u>Read more here</u>.
- Events and activities: recent and upcoming activities and events, including APFC in Colombo, Sri Lanka and the 4th Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Forestry (MMRF4) in Seoul, Korea, <u>can be found here</u>.



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