

OCTOBER 2025 VOL 03

Newsletter





September 2025

APFNet Welcomes
New Executive
Director
Dr. Wang Chunfeng

APFNet is pleased to announce the appointment of **Dr. Wang Chunfeng** as its **new Executive Director**, effective 19 September 2025.

Following a unanimous decision by the Selection Committee, Dr. Wang officially assumed office as the **third** Executive Director of APFNet.

Before joining APFNet, Dr. Wang served as Executive Director General of the International Cooperation Center and Deputy Director General of the Department of International Cooperation at the National Forestry and Grassland Administration of China (NFGA), where he gained extensive experience in international forestry cooperation, policy dialogue, and project management. He has played an active role in promoting multilateral engagement and advancing sustainable forest management in the Asia-Pacific region.

Dr. Wang was also engaged in the preparatory phase of APFNet, contributing to its early development. Dr. Wang holds a Bachelor's, Master's, and Ph.D. degree in Water and Soil Conservation and Desertification Control from Beijing Forestry University, China.

With his expertise and vision, APFNet looks forward to further strengthening regional cooperation and advancing sustainable forest management under his leadership.



The Fourth Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Forestry in Greater Central Asia Concludes in Darkhan, Mongolia

August 2025



From 19–21 August 2025, ministers and senior delegates from seven Greater Central Asia economies met in Darkhan, Mongolia for the 4th Ministerial Meeting on Forestry Cooperation.

The meeting adopted the GCA-FCM Action Plan 2026–2027, prioritizing ecosystem restoration, transboundary management, capacity building, and livelihood improvement.

A Letter of Intent was also signed between APFNet and Mongolia's National Forest Agency, with support from NFGA of China, to install a Forest Watch early warning system to strengthen Mongolia's forest fire monitoring capacity.



APFNet representative Mr. Lu De and National Forest Agency of Mongolia representative Mr. Byambasuren Oyunsanaa signed a Intention Letter



International Training Workshop on Vegetation Rehabilitation Held in Ordos, China

July 2025



Indoor training session covering vegetation rehabilitation techniques for dryland sustainable development

From 12–18 July 2025,
APFNet, in collaboration
with regional forestry
institutions, held an
international workshop
on "Vegetation
Rehabilitation and
Sustainable
Development in Arid
Regions of Greater
Central Asia" in Ordos
City, China.

Participants from Mongolia and Uzbekistan explored desertification control, carbon credit monitoring, and the Green Great Wall Project through expert lectures and field visits to desert restoration sites, afforestation stations, and renewable energy bases in the Kubuqi Desert.



Field Study on Straw Checkerboard Sand Barrier Implementation





7th AP-FECM General Assembly Advances Forestry Education Collaboration

July 2025



During the "keynote lectures + panel discussions"

Hosted by Northeast Forestry University from 7-11 July 2025, the 7th General Assembly of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Education Coordination Mechanism (AP-FECM) gathered over 50 participants from 16 economies. Discussions focused on technological innovation in forestry education, development of micro-certificate programs, and interdisciplinary curricula.

Participants agreed on a shared vision: advancing modern, inclusive, and innovation-driven forestry education in the Asia-Pacific region.

Promoting the Value Transformation of Ecological Products

APFNet Co-organizes Side Event at the 5th World Congress of Biosphere Reserves

September 2025

Held from 22–26 September 2025 in Hangzhou, China, the 5th World Congress of Biosphere Reserves brought together 4,000 participants from over 150 economies.

APFNet co-organized the side event "Promoting Ecological Product Value Conversion for High-Quality Sustainable Green Development", showcasing practical pathways to link ecological protection with economic benefits.



APFNet shared experiences from its Myanmar mangrove project integrating restoration with livelihoods, alongside successful models from Nepal and China that foster forest-based enterprises and eco-industries. These efforts highlight how ecological value transformation can create sustainable income while conserving ecosystems.

Mangrove Restoration and Sustainable Livelihoods in Myanmar – Project Completion



A mangrove forest in 2018



The same forest in 2020 after thinning and enrichment planting



Local community members working in the nursery

Since 2018, APFNet, together with the Forest Department of Myanmar and the University of Queensland, has implemented a project titled "Integrated Planning and Practices for Mangrove Management Associated with Agriculture and Aquaculture in Myanmar."

By 2025, the project had successfully restored over 87 hectares of mangroves trained 600+ local residents on sustainable aquaculture restoration techniques. Innovative models, such as mudfattening shrimp crab and production, improved local incomes while enhancing biodiversity.

Two nurseries now produce 700,000 seedlings annually, ensuring ongoing community-led restoration. The project highlights how ecosystem restoration and sustainable livelihoods can thrive together through community participation and capacity building.





Participants discuss their experiences and learnings from the camp

The 2nd Undergraduates Summer Camp for forestry universities in the Greater Mekong Subregion took place from 8–14 September 2025 in Pu'er City, China.

Bringing together 26 students and teachers from six economies along the Lancang-Mekong River Basin, the camp combined field learning and classroom sessions on sustainable forest management, under-forest economy, and forest product processing. As part of the Presidents' Forum annual activities, the camp continues to strengthen youth capacity and regional cooperation in forestry education.



AP-FECM Monthly Webinar

July Smart Teaching for Forestry Education and Practices in China

August

Brief introduction on the production of wood-based panels in China and the discussion on the cultivation of talents in the Wood Science and Technology major

Visit
APFECM
website for
more
information.









Second Pu'er Forum on Asia-Pacific Forests: Building a Green Future Together

28–30 October 2025 Pu'er City, Yunnan, China

The Second Pu'er Forum on Asia-Pacific Forests will gather senior officials, researchers, and private-sector leaders to discuss sustainable forest management, biodiversity conservation, and green economy pathways.

In addition to the main forum, sub-forums will explore topics such as policy, education, value-chain integration, and nature-based education. Field visits will feature ecological restoration and community-driven forest enterprises, demonstrating practical examples of sustainable development in action.



Co-organized by the College of Forestry, Northeast Forestry University in China, the 2025 AYSA 3MT competition invites senior undergraduate and graduate students in the Asia-Pacific region to showcase their research in the engaging Three Minute Thesis (3MT) competition.

The registration and submission deadline: **26 October 2025** at 11:59 pm PT

Join APFNet Side event

Healthy Forests for Future: Collaborating for Restoration, Livelihoods, and Resilience @ 31st Session of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission

Wednesday, November 5th 17:00 – 18:00

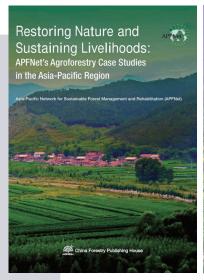
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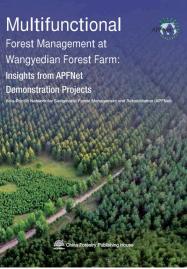


New Publications

In Multifunctional Forest Management at Wangyedian Forest Farm: Insights from APFNet Demonstration Projects, APFNet shares its fifteenyear journey of introducing APFNet shares its and demonstrating multifunctional forest management through a science-based, close-tonature approach at Wangyedian, a stateowned forest farm in Northern China.

In Restoring Nature and Sustaining Livelihoods: APFNet's Agroforestry Case Studies in the Asia Pacific Region, concepts, key practices and experiences from fifteen-years of agroforestry demonstration in the Asia-Pacific region. LEARN MORE >>>





Want to share latest forestry developments in your home economy or organization with our forestry community in the Asia-Pacific region?

