



Newsletter

DECEMBER 2025

VOL
04

Special
Issue



第二届普洱亚太林业论坛
The Second Pu'er Forum on Asia-Pacific Forests



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The Second Pu'er Forum on Asia-Pacific Forests

2025年10月28-30日 | 云南·普洱
October 28 - 30, 2025 | Pu'er, Yunnan



第二届普洱亚太林业论坛

The Second Pu'er Forum on Asia-Pacific Forests

The 2nd Pu'er Forum, building upon the success of its inaugural edition, convened from October 28-30, 2025, in Pu'er City, Yunnan Province, China. Under the theme "Strengthen Sustainable Forest Management, Promote Harmony Between Humanity and Nature," the Forum has solidified its position as a premier regional platform for high-level policy dialogue and practical cooperation.



Pu'er City, Yunnan Province, China

加强森林管理 促进人与自然和谐共生
Strengthen Sustainable Forest Management, Promote Harmony Between Humanity and Nature

Forum in Numbers: A Growing Platform

300 Participants

Doubling attendance from the first forum, reflecting its expanding influence.

20+ Economies

Broadening engagement across the region.



6+

Sub-forums

Covering policy, industry, biodiversity, carbon sequestration, nature education, and the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS) cooperation, etc.

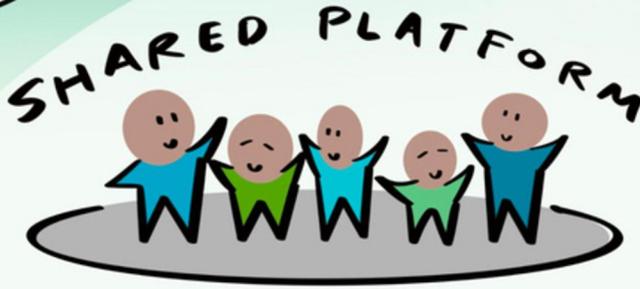


5+ Agreements

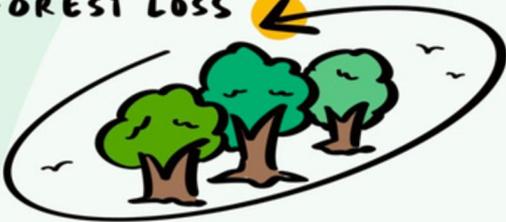
Signing of key MoUs to translate dialogue into actionable partnerships.

OPENING CEREMONY:

Strengthening Forest Management,
Promoting Harmonious Co-existence
Between Humans and Nature



REVERSE REGIONAL
FOREST LOSS



PRACTICE
NATURE-BASED
SOLUTIONS



HARMONY WITH
THE FOREST



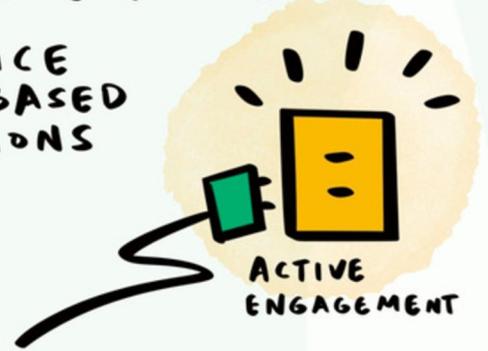
STRENGTHEN
INTERNATIONAL
COOPERATION



DEEP UNDERSTANDING
FOR OUR FORESTS



CLIMATE CHANGE
AFFECTS OUR
FORESTS



ACTIVE
ENGAGEMENT



TOGETHER FOR
THE FUTURE





Opening Ceremony

The Opening Ceremony of the Second Pu'er Forum on Asia-Pacific Forests was held on 28 October 2025 at the Jianhua International Hotel in Pu'er City. The session was chaired by Dr. Wang Chunfeng, Executive Director of APFNet, and brought together senior leaders from China, Myanmar, and the host municipality, who reaffirmed their shared commitment to advancing sustainable forest management and regional cooperation.

In his welcome remarks, Dr. Wang highlighted the Forum's theme, "Strengthening Forest Management and Promoting Harmony Between Humanity and Nature," and emphasized its importance in supporting global commitments under the UN 2030 Agenda, the Global Development Initiative, and regional biodiversity and climate strategies. He called for deeper policy coordination, strengthened information exchange, and enhanced cooperation projects that generate tangible ecological and social benefits across the Asia-Pacific region.



Mr. Guo Dajin, Vice Governor of Yunnan Province, welcomed participants to Pu'er and underscored the province's role as a crucial ecological security barrier in China.



Mr. Li Yunqing, Deputy Administrator of the National Forestry and Grassland Administration of China, emphasized the irreplaceable role of forests in addressing global climate and biodiversity challenges.



Mr. Hla Maung Thein, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation of Myanmar, highlighted Myanmar's efforts to advance SFM, reforestation, biodiversity conservation, and climate mitigation.



Mr. Li Qingyuan, Secretary of the Pu'er Municipal Party Committee, extended a warm welcome to participants and highlighted Pu'er's achievements in ecological protection, conservation of flagship species, and development of green industry pathways.



A Signing ceremony formalized two cooperation agreements between China and the Lao People's Democratic Republic.



High-Level Segment

The High-Level Officials Meeting, held under the theme “Building a Green Future: New Pathways for Sustainable Forestry Development in the Asia-Pacific” brought together senior government representatives and international experts to exchange experiences and policy perspectives on advancing sustainable forestry in the region. The session was chaired by Mr. Zhao Shucong, President of the Chinese Society of Forestry. It featured eight keynote reports by delegates from China, Cambodia, Fiji, Indonesia, Myanmar, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, international experts, and Yunnan Province. Each presentation highlighted national priorities, innovative approaches, and opportunities for regional collaboration toward a greener and more resilient Asia-Pacific.



Mr. Hu Yuanhui delivered the opening report of the High-Level Officials Meeting, presenting China’s progress in forest and grassland conservation and its cooperation with Asia-Pacific economies.



Mr. Suon Sovann emphasized forum’s importance as a regional platform for strengthening cooperation and sharing innovative approaches to sustainable forest management.



Mr. Tevita Bulai shared Fiji’s national perspectives and recent progress in advancing SFM, emphasizing the country’s vision of “Sustainable Forests, Our Future.”



Mr. Anugerah Widiyanto presented on Promoting Bioeconomy for the Sustainable Forestry, highlighting Indonesia’s vision of advancing SFM through science, innovation, and inclusive growth.



Mr. Hla Maung Thein emphasized that Myanmar is transitioning from resource-intensive development to low-carbon, green growth, with forestry serving as a key sector for nature-based solutions to climate change.



Mr. Sohail Khan, on behalf of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), stressed that no country can meet these challenges alone and underscored the need for stronger multilateral action.



Mr. Patrick Durst presented an overview of the key trends shaping forestry development in the Asia-Pacific region, drawing on recent FAO assessments and regional data.



Mr. Guo Dajin presented Yunnan’s achievements and priorities in promoting sustainable forestry and green development under the theme “Strengthening Forest Management and Promoting Green Development.”

Pu'er Day

KEY



BEAUTIFUL
LANDSCAPES &
TRANQUIL CHARM

» Session Two of the main forum programme was dedicated to the Pu'er Day Theme Event, a signature component of the Pu'er Forum designed to showcase the city's unique ecological resources, vibrant coffee culture, and its emerging green development pathways.

HAVE
BETTER
HUMAN
NATURE

TO UNDERSTANDING FOREST MANAGEMENT THROUGH COFFEE

GFN Strategic Advisory Workshop



APFNet holds first strategic advisory workshop for Global Network for Sustainable Forest Management (GFN) in Pu'er. The workshop was held as a high-level, by-invitation event during the Second Pu'er Forum on Asia Pacific Forests. It served as an essential step in strengthening the GFN and refining its strategic direction for the coming years. A key outcome was the formal establishment of the GFN Advisory Group, which provides a structured mechanism to guide future program priorities, strengthen partnerships, and ensure coordinated support for SFM across the region.

At the workshop, Dr. Wang Chunfeng, Executive Director of APFNet, officially inaugurated the GFN Advisory Group and appointed its inaugural members. The Group comprises 16 high-level experts and officials from 12 member economies and international partners including RECOFTC and WWF, who will serve in a personal advisory capacity.

Participants discussed and adopted in principle the Advisory Group's Terms of Reference and reviewed progress under the GFN program, including case studies on the Asia-Pacific Forestry Technology Training Center for Pacific Island Economies in Fiji and the Southeast Asia Fire Management Mechanism.

In a forward-looking session, members exchanged views on future GFN priorities and flagship initiatives, aligning them with APFNet's 2026–2030 Strategic Plan. The workshop concluded with a shared commitment to scale up tangible results in sustainable forest management.



Special Meeting of the Board of Directors

The 2025 Special Meeting of the APFNet Board of Directors was held in Pu'er, Yunnan Province, on 30 October 2025. During the meeting, members of the Board unanimously elected Dr. Liu Guohong, Administrator of the National Forestry and Grassland Administration (NFGA) of the People's Republic of China, as the third Chair of the APFNet Board of Directors.



The Board also appointed Dr. John Innes, former Dean of the Faculty of Forestry, University of British Columbia, as the Vice-Chair. The election marks an important step in strengthening APFNet's leadership and enhancing its role in advancing sustainable forest management, ecological restoration, and regional cooperation across the Asia-Pacific. Under the new leadership, APFNet is expected to further promote collaborative actions, knowledge exchange, and innovative solutions to address the region's forestry and environmental challenges.

Forest Policy Sub-forum

From October 29 to 30, 2025, the Forest Policy Sub-forum of the Second Pu'er Forum was successfully held at the APFNet Pu'er Base. Focusing on "Policy Innovation and Economic Synergy," the event brought together officials and experts from across the Asia-Pacific region.



A key roundtable focused on balancing economic development and forest conservation, resulting in a consensus to strengthen regional collaboration. The forum concluded with a shared commitment to advance policy coordination and green economy transitions, offering concrete pathways for sustainable forest management that harmonize ecological integrity with socio-economic progress across the Asia-Pacific.

During the indoor sessions, representatives from Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Fiji, Mongolia, Thailand, and Vietnam presented national experiences, covering themes such as SFM, policy reforms, forest landscape restoration, desertification control, biodiversity conservation, carbon neutrality strategies, climate resilience, and forest-based food systems.



Tropical Forestry Research Institute



APFNet Pu'er Base

Through a field visit to the Tropical Forestry Research Institute and focused thematic sessions, participants exchanged practical insights on forest landscape restoration, carbon finance, eco-product value chains, and integrated governance models.



During the forum, participants engaged in various activities. Professor Kevin Messenger from Nanjing Forestry University gave a presentation themed "Insights from Amphibious Life: Nature Education and Ecological Action from a Global Perspective", discussing the connection between humans and nature as well as the value of nature education.



Experts also reviewed China's nature education development, looked into its future trends, and shared local practices. Experiences from Beijing's nature education efforts, Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden's urban nature education approaches, and models from the APFNet bases such like Wangyedian Forest Experience Base were shared, offering practical references for other regions.



In the working group discussion, experts discussed the sustainable development of the Pu'er Base and Wanzhangshan Forest & Nature Experience Center, putting forward practical ideas on curriculum design, activity innovation, brand building and resource integration.

Forestry Education Sub-forum

The Forestry Education Sub Forum, convened as the **Second Presidents' Forum of Forestry Universities and Institutes in the Greater Mekong Sub Region**, was held on 29 and 30 October 2025 in Puer City as part of the Second Puer Forum on Asia Pacific Forests.

Co organized by Southwest Forestry University and APFNet, the Sub Forum brought together presidents, senior faculty members, researchers, and experts from leading forestry universities, research institutions, and regional organizations across the Greater-Mekong Subregion.



Guided by the theme "Technology Leads, Talent Drives, Industry Empowers: New Pathways for Forestry Synergistic Development", the Sub Forum provided a platform to strengthen cooperation in forestry higher education and promote closer integration among education, research, and industry. More than forty delegates from Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam, and the Mekong Institute participated in a two-day programme that included field visits, keynote speeches, technical exchanges, institutional dialogues, and progress reviews under the Presidents' Forum.

Over the past two years, the forum has achieved remarkable results: successfully organizing two sessions of the Undergraduate Summer Camps, conducting tea farmer training programs for Laos and Thailand respectively, and the APFNet Scholarship Program has sponsored 12 students to pursue master's degrees at Southwest Forestry University. Dr. Wang Chunfeng stated that he hopes to take this forum as a new starting point for deepening cooperation, further optimize the forestry higher education cooperation mechanism, expand diversified cooperation initiatives, strengthen mutual learning, and deepen scientific research and talent collaboration. This will provide solid talent and technological support for the sustainable forestry development in the GMS.



Forest Industry Sub-forum

The Forest Industry Sub-Forum Co-organized by the China National Forest Products Industry Association and the Pu'er Municipal Forestry and Grassland Bureau, the session brought together policymakers, business leaders, researchers, and representatives of international organizations from across the region.

The sub-forum provided an important platform for policy dialogue and industrial cooperation under the theme "Global Forest Products Trade Dynamics and Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation."



Sustainable Forest Management and Carbon Sequestration Sub-forum



Jointly organized by the Yunnan Academy of Forestry and Grassland, APFNet, and the Forestry and Grassland Administration of Pu'er City, the sub forum brought together more than eighty participants.

Representatives from government agencies, research institutions, international organizations, and the private sector across the Asia Pacific region. Discussions focused on emerging trends, technological innovations, and practical experiences related to strengthening SFM and enhancing forest carbon sinks.

Biodiversity Conservation Sub-forum

Organized in collaboration with WWF China, the sub-forum brought together representatives from government agencies, protected areas, research institutions, universities, conservation organizations and the private sector to exchange scientific knowledge and practical experiences on advancing biodiversity conservation across the region.



The programme comprised two thematic sessions. The first focused on Asian elephant protection and featured insights from national research institutions, protected-area managers, transportation experts, and international organizations. The second session explored synergies between habitat restoration, forest landscape restoration, and SFM. The session also launched a new initiative to enhance biodiversity in non-protected forests by improving technical support and expanding community participation.

Key Insights



The Second Pu'er Forum on Asia-Pacific Forests brought together a broad spectrum of policymakers, technical experts, practitioners, researchers, and development partners to examine the evolving role of forests in regional ecological and economic systems. Across all sessions, including policy dialogue, industry, education, nature education, biodiversity conservation, SFM, and the GFN Strategic Advisory Workshop, participants articulated a shared commitment to strengthening regional cooperation and advancing SFM as a foundation for long-term ecological security and inclusive development.



Forests as a Strategic Asset for Regional Development

Regional Cooperation and the Role of APFNet

The Need for Integrated, Cross-Sector Approaches

Community-Centered and Inclusive Forest Management

Innovation and Knowledge as Drivers of Transformation



第二届普洱亚太林业论坛

The Second Pu'er Forum on Asia-Pacific Forests

Way Forward

The Pu'er Forum concluded with a clear message: economies across the Asia-Pacific region are committed to accelerating progress toward SFM, ecological restoration, biodiversity conservation, and green development.

The Forum provided a consolidated platform for collective learning and partnership-building and demonstrated the continued relevance of Pu'er as a venue for regional forestry dialogue.

December 2025



Group Photo of The Fifth Steering Committee Meeting

2025 SANFRI Meeting

In 2025, the Sino-ASEAN Network of Forestry Research Institutes (SANFRI) continued to play a pivotal role. The Fifth Steering Committee Meeting and the Fourth Early Career Academics Forum under this mechanism were successfully held from December 3rd to 5th in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



Delegates Engage in Discussions and Exchange at the Forum

The Fifth Steering Committee Meeting:

Progress of the 2024–2025 Young Scholars Exchange Program was reviewed, the 2026–2027 Work Plan was adopted, and Indonesia and Thailand were elected as the rotating chair and vice-chair for 2026–2027, respectively. It was also decided that the Sixth Steering Committee Meeting will be held in Indonesia in late 2027 or early 2028.



Delegates Visit the Antong Coffee Mill

The Fourth Early Career Academics Forum:

Over 20 young scholars from eight economies presented their research findings in areas such as natural forest restoration, tree species management, and pest and disease control. They also introduced the key priorities of their respective forestry research institutions and shared regional cooperation needs from the perspective of young scholars, providing new insights for cross-border collaboration.



Field Trip:

Participants undertook a field study at the Matang Mangrove Forest Reserve, the largest mangrove reserve in Malaysia. The tour also included a visit to the sustainably managed Kuala Sepetang charcoal factory, a nocturnal wildlife observation experience at the Taiping Zoo, and a tour of the Antong Coffee Mill. This excursion deepened the participants' understanding of forest conservation and sustainable use, promoting the integration of theory and practice.

» LEARN MORE



2025 Greater Mekong Sub-region Tea Producer Training Held in Pu'er

November 2025



From Nov 10-16, 2025, the Greater Mekong Sub-region Community Tea Producer Field Training was held in Pu'er, Yunnan. To boost the GMS tea industry's sustainable development and regional cooperation, it was supported by APFNet and co-hosted by APFNet Kunming Center and Pu'er Forestry Industry Association. Seven Thai representatives joined to exchange ideas on tea planting, processing, ecological management and marketing.



The Thai delegation visited the Pu'er Tea Museum, Wanzhangshan Ecological Tea Garden, breeding bases and organic processing firms. They learned about Pu'er's work in tea breeding, ecological management, green pest control, standardized processing and organic production. At the International Tea Market, they also saw how brand building, product design and diversified marketing boost competitiveness, and praised Pu'er's full-chain standardized system for regional industry upgrading.



Impressed by Pu'er's advanced tech and ecological management, especially its forest-tea symbiosis and green production experiences, the Thai delegates hoped to cooperate with China on planting optimization, processing upgrades and market expansion, and invited Chinese experts to Thailand. This training, part of APFNet's cross-border efforts, strengthened regional tech sharing and lifted the sub-region's tea production capacity, management standards and competitiveness.

[WATCH VIDEO](#)





APFNet @ APFC31 and Asia-Pacific Forestry Week 2025

November 2025

The 31st Session of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission (APFC31) and Asia-Pacific Forestry Week (APFW) concluded in Chiang Mai, Thailand, with a call for strengthened regional collaboration on forest restoration, climate resilience, and sustainable livelihoods. Hosted by the Royal Forest Department of Thailand, the event brought together all the members, over 15 side events, focusing on advancing the bioeconomy and the role of healthy forests in securing a sustainable future for the Asia-Pacific region.

Side Event "Healthy Forests for Future"

As part of the APFW, the APFNet organized a key side event titled "Healthy Forests for Future: Collaborating for Restoration, Livelihoods, and Resilience" on 5 November. The event, co-organized with the International Society of Tropical Foresters (ISTF), showcased successful models of regional collaboration that foster forest restoration, community empowerment, and sustainable livelihoods across the Asia-Pacific region.



SEA FiMM - Fire Dialogue continues in Chiang Mai

At the side event organized by RECOFTC "Igniting change in Asia-Pacific: Food security through fire-free commodities and nature-based solutions in community forestry", APFNet was invited and shared information about the collaboration on SEA-FiMM, and CBFiM guidelines and initiatives.



Exhibition Booth: A Hub for Networking and Collaboration

APFNet also set up an exhibition booth, where visitors could explore recent publications, information on the 2nd Pu'er Forum, and APFNet's ongoing projects. The booth served as a hub for networking, where both new and longstanding partners, forestry professionals, and stakeholders exchanged ideas, explored collaboration opportunities, and discussed the latest developments in forest restoration and sustainable forestry.





VISIT



December
2025

Northwest Agriculture and Forestry University Visits Secretariat Hold Talks to Promote Forestry Talent Development

November
2025

APFNet Executive Director Wang Chunfeng visited Chifeng to inspect the outcomes of the APFNet-funded projects in Inner Mongolia



November
2025

A Delegation from the Royal Forest Department of Thailand Visits APFNet Secretariat to Forge Enhanced Collaboration

October
2025

APFNet and IUFRO Explore Future Collaboration Pathways



[» LEARN MORE](#)

SEASON'S GREETINGS!

APFNet

Wishing you a prosperous New Year!

From Executive Director Dr Wang Chunfeng
&
APFNet Secretariat

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



March 2025 Issue 16

APFNet ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

The Official Newsletter of the APFNet Alumni Network

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