



Joint Session of the ECE Timber Committee and the FAO European Forestry Commission

Antalya, Turkey – 10-14 October 2011



Thesis Award

Paola Deda, Chief of Forestry and Timber Section



Thesis Award

- Idea of IYF 2011 (International Year of Forests) to better involve Academia in ECE/FAO work
- Successful attempt to bridge to private sector interested in Sustainable Forest Management (Pictet)
- A way to open “old” UN work to new generations
- A way to discover new talents that can make a meaningful contribution to UN work



Where from?

- About 50 thesis/requests, of which 34 receivable
- Authors from: Austria, Belgium, Bosnia Herzegovina, Canada, China, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iraq, Iran, Israel, Italy, Netherlands (The), Norway, Portugal, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Ukraine, USA
- Universities: Austria, Belgium, Bosnia Herzegovina, Canada, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Norway, Portugal, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Ukraine, USA.



Topics (1)

- Natural disturbances
- Forest-related agreements / Legal frameworks
- Climate change
- Bioenergy / Wood fuel energy systems
- SFM Indicators
- Taxonomy
- Species-Biodiversity
- Climate change mitigation
- Governance for SFM
- Paludification
- Sustainability of forests products
- Pests (Insects)



Topics (2)

- Carbon storage in wood panels
- Species genetic variation
- Forest policy & SFM
- Integrated timber and energy production
- Carbon payment from dry land afforestation
- Forest certification
- Remote sensing
- Biodiversity conservation
- Cost effectiveness of wood production
- Aerial laser scanning applied to trees detection
- Timber harvester operators / Forest work
- Silvicultural tools
- Forestry contribution to the economy
- SMF & multifunctionality of forests



The selection process

- All abstract sent to secretariat
- Paola Deda only saw names
- Abstracts without names were sent to the Panel
- Panel was led by Prof. Paschalis plus five other academics in Europe (approved by EFC and TC Bureaux)
- Panel assessed abstracts and selected the “Best 5”
- Paola Deda asked authors of “Best 5” to send full thesis
- Thesis were anonymous
- Panel read all thesis and provided scores and rationals for assessments
- Highest scores wins
- Winner has highest score (in total) plus highest percentage of highest scores



Five Finalists

- Mart-Jan Schelhaas (Dutch), University of Joensuu
- Berit Hauger Lindstad (Norwegian), Norwegian University of Life Sciences
- Yun Wu (Chinese), North Carolina State University
- Bernhard Wolfslehner (Austrian), University of Life Sciences and Natural Resources of Vienna
- Hongyu (Helen) Ding (Chinese), University of Padova



The winner



- Hongyu (Helen) Ding
- China
- “University of Padova, Italy - Dept. TeSAF - Land, Environment, Agriculture and Forestry”

Prof. Paschalis to present and award

