



COP30 FOREST PAVILION:

A Shared Commitment to Our Planet

2025 UN Climate Change Conference (UNFCCC COP30)

10-21 November 2025, Belém, Brazil

Forests and Bioeconomy: Advancing Sustainable Solutions for Climate and Nature

Monday 10 November, 2:30pm – 6pm

Lead: ISFC and Co-lead: FSC

Format: In-person only or Hybrid

Concept Note

I. Background

[Provide brief background information on the daily/half-day session]

Session 1 (2:30-4:00pm) - The creation of sustainable bioeconomies offers a critical pathway for that transformation. Forests and forest products are central to economies worldwide and key focus of the COP30 presidency agenda. Drawing on its global Natural Capital Accounting Project – supported by the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) and the Capitals Coalition – ISFC will demonstrate how robust valuation of forest assets can unlock new streams of sustainable finance.

Session 2 (4:30-6:00pm) - The forest-based bioeconomy offers transformative pathways to simultaneously advance climate action, the sustainable use of biodiversity, sustainable development, and economic growth. By integrating sustainable forest management with innovative bio-based solutions, countries and communities can create resilient value chains that support, among others, livelihoods, the sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity, and carbon sequestration. However, unlocking the full potential of the forest-based bioeconomy requires multi-stakeholder collaboration, inclusive governance, and knowledge co-creation.

Join this session to discover how sustainable forest-based bioeconomy approaches can contribute to ensure the sustainable use of forests and trees, including tackling the increasing demand of forest products, and how certification can support the transition towards de-carbonised economies.

II. Objectives

[Describe main objectives and expected outcomes of the daily/half-day session]

Session 1 (2:30-4:00pm) - This session will bring together leaders and experts from forest sector and the circular bioeconomy to explore the unique contribution that sustainable timber, non-timber forest products, circular-use innovations, and biotech applications can make toward a nature-positive circular bioeconomy. Insights from Natural Capital Accounting will inform dialogue on policy and practice pathways, fostering international collaboration and co-creation of resilient, scalable solutions aligned with 2030 climate, biodiversity, and sustainable development goals.

Session 2 (4:30-6:00pm) - This session aims to:

1. Showcase successful approaches and innovations in the forest-based bioeconomy from diverse geographic and governance contexts.
2. Facilitate dialogue between stakeholders, including governments, private sector, civil society, and research organizations on co-creating sustainable and equitable forest-based bioeconomies.
3. Identify opportunities, challenges, and actionable pathways to scale-up forest-based bioeconomy solutions.

III. Programme/Schedules of Events/Speakers

[Provide a list/schedule of events to be held during the daily/half-day session, including brief description of each event, modality (panel, launch, interviews etc.), and names of speakers]

We are aiming for two 90-minute panel sessions with 30 minutes break in between.

Session 1 - 2:30-4:00pm “Financing the Climate and Nature Smart, forest based circular bioeconomy” Proposed speakers:

- Dr David Brand, Independent Chair, ISFC (10-minutes speech in the beginning)
- Ross Hampton, Chief Executive Officer, ISFC (moderator)
- Hiroyuki Isono, President & Group CEO, Oji Holdings
- Malu Paiva, Sustainability, Communication and Brand Executive Vice-President, Suzano
- Rayne van den Berg, Chief Value Officer, Value Australia
- Markus Müller, Managing Director, Chief Investment Officer Sustainability & Global Head of Chief Investment Office Deutsche Bank

*No interpreter needed

Session 2 - 4:30-6:00pm “Co-creating Thriving Forest-Based Bioeconomy Approaches”

A 90-minute interactive session combining:

- Insights from country experiences and initiatives, including, Austria, Brazil and Japan.
- Insights and lessons learned from international organizations and other stakeholders such as CIFOR, FAO and FSC.

- Audience engagement through interactive Q&A and reflections to foster dialogue and co-creation of ideas.

Moderator: Amy Duchelle, Senior Forestry Officer, Team Leader, Forests and Climate, Forestry Division, FAO

Proposed speakers:

- Elson Fernandes, Director of FSC Brazil, FSC
- Garo Batmanian, Director General, Brazilian Forestry
- Yutaka Kawashima, Senior Policy Analyst for International Affairs of Forestry Agency, Japan
- Austria (name to be communicated)
- Sven Walter, Senior Forestry Officer, Team Leader Forest Products and bioeconomy Team, FAO (virtual)
- CIFOR (name to be communicated)
- Jane Molony, Executive Director, Paper Manufacturers Association South Africa. ACSFI

Please note that these events will seek diversity and balance over the course of the afternoon with voices from women, youth, First Nations, global south and global north.

IV. Expected main messages

[Provide up to 2-3 expected main messages of the daily/half-day session]

Session 1

1. A nature-positive circular bioeconomy is an essential pathway to achieve the 2030 climate, biodiversity, and sustainable development goals.
2. Innovative financing solutions, grounded in robust Natural Capital Accounting, can unlock and scale investment in forest-based bioeconomy sectors while delivering social, economic, and environmental co-benefits.
3. International, cross-sector partnerships – exemplified by contributions from governments such as Australia and Japan, as well as multilateral institutions, industry leaders, and civil society – are critical to mainstreaming finance and practice for a nature-smart, climate-smart circular bioeconomy.

Session 2

1. Enhanced understanding of practical and innovative approaches to forest-based bioeconomy solutions.
2. Identification of collaboration opportunities across sectors, stakeholders and regions.
3. Recommendations to support policy frameworks, financing mechanisms, and knowledge sharing for sustainable forest-based bioeconomies.

V. Focal Point/Contact

[Provide the name and contact information of the focal point(s) of the daily/half-day session]

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