

12-16 October 2023

FLARE 2023 | NAIROBI

9th Annual Meeting
on Forests and Livelihoods



KEOUGH SCHOOL OF
GLOBAL AFFAIRS



PROGRAM AT-A-GLANCE

This document presents an overview of the 9th Annual Meeting of the Forests & Livelihoods: Assessment, Research, and Engagement (FLARE) Network in Nairobi, Kenya, October 12-16, 2023.

The Annual Meeting is hosted by CIFOR-ICRAF in partnership with the Keough School of Global Affairs at the University of Notre Dame, home to the FLARE Secretariat. The Meeting will be held at the Nairobi Campus of CIFOR-ICRAF.

Annual Meeting Theme: Linking Research and Action for Thriving Forests, Trees, and People

Research can play a key role in advocacy and action to address climate change, reduce vulnerability, conserve forests, and foster human development. For example, evidence accumulated over decades has demonstrated the critical role of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in protecting and sustainably managing forests and, in turn, helped lead to government recognition of community land rights and new funding flows. More generally, impact assessments of different forest-related interventions have helped improve policy design.

Yet too often research has been ineffective in fostering change – or reforms benefitting communities and forests inspired and honed by research have been clawed back by forest services and other interested parties. Even when research reveals options and abuses, key findings are hidden behind a paywall, suppressed by threatened parties, or are couched in specialist language that obscures their practical relevance, among other barriers. The result is that knowledge relevant to tackling the urgent challenges of climate change, biodiversity loss, poverty alleviation and other social ills often remains unused. What can we do to confront such obstacles? How can research—and researchers—make a difference?

FLARE 2023 will explore these questions and seeks to make concrete progress toward better harnessing research for action. Doing so will require dialogue and collaboration among scientists, government officials, concerned citizens, activists and advocates, business leaders, journalists, and others.

Annual Meeting Sub-themes:

- Bioeconomy, finance, and innovation for sustainable energy transitions
- Democracy, journalism, and forest livelihoods
- Joining climate and biodiversity goals through forests and trees
- New directions in understanding forest-poverty dynamics
- Youth movement: demographic change and next generation leadership on forests, climate, and development

- Trees across rural-urban systems
- Social Justice in the Forest: Rights, Power, and Collaboration
- Circular economy, markets, and forest livelihoods
- Reforestation challenges and opportunities

2023 FLARE Annual Meeting Team

FLARE Secretariat

Daniel C. Miller, University of Notre Dame, FLARE Coordinator
Brian Wanbaugh, University of Notre Dame, FLARE Program Manager
Katia Nakamura, University of Notre Dame, Postdoctoral Research Associate
Beverly Ndifoin, University of Notre Dame, Graduate Student Research Assistant
Valena McEwen, University of Notre Dame, Graduate Research Assistant

Coordination Committee

Festus Amadu, Florida Gulf Coast University
Juan Pablo Sarmiento Barletti, CIFOR-ICRAF
Rayna Benzeev, University of California, Berkeley
Ida N. S. Djenontin, Pennsylvania State University
Houria Djoudi, CIFOR-ICRAF
Michael Dougherty, CIFOR-ICRAF
Amy Duchelle, Food and Agriculture Organization
J.T. Erbaugh, Dartmouth College
Forrest Fleischman, University of Minnesota
Anja Gassner, Global Landscapes Forum
Pamela Jagger, University of Michigan
Daniel C. Miller, University of Notre Dame
Doris Mutta, African Forest Forum
Katia Nakamura, University of Notre Dame
Pete Newton, University of Colorado at Boulder
Johan Oldekop, University of Manchester
Rose Pritchard, University of Manchester
Pushpendra Rana, Indian Forest Service
Jesse Ribot, American University
Laura Sauls, George Mason University
Etotépé Sogbohossou, University of Senghor & University of Abomey-Calavi
Judith Sonneck, Global Landscapes Forum
Gladman Thondhlana, Rhodes University

Jennifer Zavaleta Cheek, South Dakota State University

Thursday, October 12, 2023

17:00 – 18:00

Annual Meeting Check-In

Front Gate – Nairobi Campus of CIFOR-ICRAF

18:00 - 20:00

Joint FLARE-GLF Reception

Please join us for appetizers, refreshments and lively conversation in a festive environment.

This reception will mark the end of the GLF Nairobi Conference and the beginning of the FLARE Annual Meeting.

Friday, October 13, 2023

8:00 – 9:00

Annual Meeting Check-In

Outside the Conference Hall

9:00 – 9:15

FLARE Welcome and Housekeeping Items

Daniel Miller, FLARE Coordinator

Conference Hall

9:15 – 10:30

Track 1: Parallel Sessions 1-4

10:30 – 11:00

Coffee/Tea Break

11:00 – 12:15

Track 2: Parallel Sessions 5-8

12:15 – 13:45

Lunch

Student and Early Career Mixer (optional)

Students, postdoctoral researchers and others early in their careers are invited to meet one another to share ideas and experiences.

Facilitated by: Sarah Castle, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign & Apurva Duddu, Yale University

13:45 – 15:00

Track 3: Innovative Sessions 1-4

15:00 – 16:00

Poster Session and Coffee/Tea Break

Poster presenters will share their work outside of the Conference Hall. Posters will be showcased through the Annual Meeting.

16:00 – 17:30

Plenary Event – Conference Hall

“Linking Research and Action for Thriving Forests, Trees, and People”

Eliane Ubalijoro, Chief Executive Officer of the Center for International Forestry Research and World Agroforestry (CIFOR-ICRAF) and Director General of ICRAF

Jane Njuguna, Acting Director/CEO, Kenya Forestry Research Institute

Alex Pfaff, Ph.D., Professor of Public Policy, Economics, and Environment, Duke University

Other participants TBC.

Saturday, October 14, 2023

8:30 – 9:00

Check-In

9:00 – 10:30

Plenary Event – Conference Hall

“The Contribution of Forests and Trees to Livelihoods and Sustainable Economies in Africa”

Discussant: **Hon. Honorine Wainachi Nengto**, Member of Parliament, Republic of Cameroon

Presenters: **Doris Mutta**, Ph.D. Senior Programme Officer, African Forest Forum, Kenya

Chemuku Wekesa, Ph.D. Landscape Ecologist, Kenya Forestry Research Institute, Kenya

Lizzie Mujuru, Ph.D. Lecturer, Bindura University of Science Education, Zimbabwe

Rukia Kitula, Ph.D. Lecturer and Coordinator of International Relations and Partnerships, University of Dar es Salaam, Institute of Marine Sciences, Zanzibar, Tanzania

10:30 – 11:00

Coffee/Tea Break

11:00 – 12:15

Track 4: Parallel Sessions 9-12

12:15 – 13:30

Lunch

FLARE Cohort Meeting

13:30 – 14:45

Track 5: Innovative Sessions 5-8

14:45 – 15:15

Coffee/Tea Break

15:15 – 16:30

Track 6: Parallel Sessions 13-16

16:30 – 17:45

Track 7: Parallel Sessions 17-20

19:00 – 21:00

FLARE Dinner at Jiko, Tribe Hotel (Advanced Tickets Required)

Sunday, October 15, 2023

8:30 – 9:00

Check-In

9:00 – 10:30

Plenary Event – Conference Hall

“Leveraging Grassroots Data to Advance Local Livelihoods and Strengthen Community Tenure and Governance”

Moderator:

Liz Alden Wily, Fellow, Rights and Resources Initiative/ Van Vollenhoven Institute of Law, Governance and Society, Leiden School of Law, The Netherlands/ Katiba Institute, Kenya

Presenters:

Lawrence Kiplagat, Projects' Coordinator, Kerio Valley Community Organization/Team Leader, CRICL (Committee for Responsible Investment on Community Lands)

Apurva Duddu, Ph.D. Student, Yale University (FLARE's CommFor tool)

Chemutai David, Coordinator, Benet Mosop Indigenous community Association Uganda

Reem Hajjar, Associate Professor in Integrated Human and Ecological Systems, Department of Forest Ecosystems and Society, Oregon State University

10:30 – 11:00

Coffee/Tea Break

11:00 – 12:15

Track 8: Parallel Sessions 21-24

12:15 – 13:30

Lunch

13:30 – 14:45

Track 9: Innovative Sessions 10-13

14:45 – 15:15

Coffee/Tea Break

15:15 – 16:15

Track 10: Lightning Talk Sessions 1 & 2

16:15 – 17:30

Closing Plenary Event – Conference Hall

Interactive Wrap-Up session with Student Awards, announcement of the 10th FLARE Annual Meeting location, and concluding remarks by **Robert Nasi**, Chief Operating Officer, CIFOR-ICRAF

Monday, October 16, 2023

8:30 – 9:00

Check-in for Workshops

9:00 – 12:00

AM Workshop Session – ICRAF HOUSE Board Room

"Working with FLARE's CommFor tool to address local to global challenges"

Organizer: Ashwini Chhatre, Indian School of Business

12:00-13:00

Lunch (not provided by FLARE)

13:00 – 15:00

PM Workshop Session – ICRAF HOUSE Board Room

“How are we doing? A learning tool for more inclusive participatory processes”

Organizer: Juan Pablo Sarmiento Barletti, CIFOR-ICRAF

End of 2023 Annual Meeting