



**17-20**  
**SEPTEMBER**  
**2025**

# 5<sup>th</sup> WORLD TEAK CONFERENCE

**GRAND HYATT KOCHI, BOLGATTY,  
KERALA, INDIA**

**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE GLOBAL TEAK SECTOR -  
ADAPTING TO FUTURE MARKETS AND ENVIRONMENTS**

**PROGRAMME  
SCHEDULE**





**WEDNESDAY, 17 SEPTEMBER, 2025**

**08:00-09:00**

**Registration at Liwa Hall, Grand Hyatt, Kochi**

**08:30-09:00**

**Inaugural Session**

- Welcome address : **Kannan C.S. Warriar**  
Director, Kerala Forest Research Institute, Kerala
- Presidential address : **K.P. Sudheer**  
Ex Officio Principal Secretary,  
Dept. of Science & Technology Government of Kerala
- Inaugural address : **Rajesh Ravindran IFS**  
Principal Chief Conservator of  
Forests & Head of Forest Force,  
Kerala Forest Department, Government of Kerala

**09:00-10:30**

- Opening remarks : **KB Singh IFS**  
Inspector General of Forests,  
SU Division, Ministry of Environment,  
Forest and Climate Change, Government of India  
  
**Sheam Satkuru**  
Executive Director,  
International Tropical Timber Organization, Japan  
  
**Hugh CA Brown**  
Chief Executive Officer - Forestry Commission, Ghana  
Chairman - Scientific Organizing Committee, 5<sup>th</sup> WTC &  
Chairman of TEAKNET
- Statements : **Kenichi Shono**  
Forestry Officer, FAO, Rome  
  
**Honda Tomoyuki**  
Deputy Director, Wood Products and Trade Office,  
Forestry Agency of Japan  
  
**Michael Kleine**  
Senior Advisor, IUFRO HQ, Austria
- Word of thanks : **S. Sandeep**  
TEAKNET Coordinator

**10:30-11:10**

**Cultural display**

**11:10-11:40**

**Tea Break**

## SESSION I & II (COMBINED):

### Financial Analysis, Value Addition, Markets And Legal Supply Chains

Session Chair : **Walter Kollert**  
WaKa-Forest Investment Services AG, Portugal.

11:40-12:00

**Thematic keynote: Analysis and evaluation of global trade flows in major teak producing countries**

**Arvydas Lebedys**  
Forestry Officer, FAO-HQ, Rome

**Walter Kollert**  
WaKa-Forest Investment Services AG, Portugal

12:00-12:15

**Wood characteristics of teak (*Tectona grandis*) cultivated in Kaptai, Bangladesh**

**Sarwar Jahan**  
Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Bangladesh

12:15-12:30

**Optimal technical and financial management scenarios for timber production in planted teak stands in Venezuela**

**Mauricio Jerez-Rico**  
Professor, School of Forestry and Environmental Sciences,  
University of Los Andes, Venezuela

12:30-12:45

**Artificial intelligence (AI) powered framework for plantation volume estimation: a case study in teak (*Tectona grandis*)**

**Ani A. Elias**  
ICFRE - Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, India;  
Helix Omics Analytics LLP., India

12:45-13:00

**Discussion**

13:00-14:00

**Lunch**

## ITTO-BMLEH TEAK SESSION

Session Chairs : **Tetra Yanuariadi**, Projects Manager  
International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), Japan  
**Paula Sarigumba**, Communications and Outreach Officer  
International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), Japan

14:00-14:10

### Introduction and Opening remarks

**Sheam Satkuru**

Executive Director, International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)  
Japan

14:10-14:20

### ITTO-BMLEH Teak Project Achievement and Way Forward

**Yongyut Trisurat**

Regional Project Manager, Faculty of Forestry,  
Kasetsart University, Bangkok, Thailand

14:20-14:30

### The role of smallholder teak plantations in Indonesia's forestry sector: models for sustainable development

**Anto Rimbawanto**

ITTO Consultant, National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN),  
Yogyakarta, Indonesia

14:30-14:40

### Teak plantation in Cambodia

**Cheat Vinchet**

ITTO Consultant, Department of Forest Plantation and Private  
Forest Development, Cambodia

14:40-14:50

### Smallholder teak plantations: bridging the demand and supply gap in India

**R. Yasodha**

Chief Scientist, ICFRE-Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree  
Breeding (IFGTB), Coimbatore, India

14:50-15:00

### Promoting high-value teak timber for sustainable supply chains in Vietnam

**Dang Thinh Trieu**

Silviculture Research Institute, Vietnamese Academy of Forest  
Sciences, Vietnam

15:00-15:10

Teak clonal test plan for selecting superior mother trees for commercial plantation in Thailand

**Somporn Khumchompoo**

Senior Scientist, Royal Forest Department, Thailand

15:10-15:20

Monitoring adaptation and productivity of teak plantations in Guinean Zone of Togo: A comparative study of historical and newly introduced provenances

**Adzo Dzifa Kokutse**

Forestry Research Laboratory, University of Lome, Togo

15:20-15:30

Precision control and management of teak borer (*Xyleutes ceramica* Walker) in Thailand

**Wattanachai Tasen**

Associate Professor, Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University, Bangkok, Thailand

15.30-15:40

Bridging the financial gap for teak smallholders: a review of financing models in South Asia, Southeast Asia and West Africa

**Sven Günter**

Head of Forestry Section Worldwide, Thünen Institute of Forestry, Germany

15:40-15:55

Q & A: All Speakers

15:55-16:00

Wrap up and Closing Remarks / Group Photo

16:00-16:30

Tea Break

## PREPARATION OF BUSINESS MEETINGS

**Moderator** : **P. K. Thulasidas**  
Deputy Coordinator (IUFRO Div.5.06.02) Teakwood Working Party

16:30-16:45

### Wood Products and Trade flow

**Honda Tomoyuki**

Deputy Director, Wood Products and Trade Office, Forestry Agency of Japan

### Teak in India: A National Perspective

**Jitesh Kumar**

Assistant Commissioner of Forests, SU Division, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India

16:55-17:05

### TEAKNET: Achievements, Activities, and Future Perspectives

**Sreelakshmy M.P**

TEAKNET, India

17:05-17:15

### "Social Life of Teak" Book Presentation

**Tim Webster and Virginia Henderson**

Authors and Oral Historians, Australia & New Zealand

17:15-17:25

### Teakwood in Transition: Trends, Challenges, Sustainability & Future of Teak

**Raja Sekhar**

Managing Director, Jayaraj Timbers, India

## BUSINESS TO BUSINESS (B2B)

Preliminary pitch talk session of planters, traders, saw millers, property developers and Certification bodies

17:25-18:30

**Moderators** : **K.C. Chacko**  
Scientist (Rtd.), Kerala Forest Research Institute, Peechi, India  
**Sanjay Poddar**  
Managing Director, Sree Rani Sati Overseas Private Limited. New Delhi, India

19:00 - 21:00

### Welcome Reception & Cultural Performances

## THURSDAY, 18 SEPTEMBER 2025

### SESSION III

Recent advances in teak genetics and stand management of natural and planted teak forests

Session Chair : **Olman Murillo**  
Professor, Instituto Tecnológico de Costa Rica

09:00-09:30

**Thematic Keynote: Development and management of teak genetics through micropropagation**

**Doreen Goh**  
YSG Bioscape, Sabah, Malaysia

09:30-09:45

**Revolutionizing teak production: 19 new cultivars driving genetic and technological innovation in Brazil**

**Leonarda Grillo Neves**  
Universidade do Estado de Mato Grosso, Brazil

09:45-10:00

**Genetic insights into drought tolerance through QTL mapping and SNP discovery in plus trees of *Tectona grandis* L.f.**

**Ashwath M. N.**  
University of Agricultural Sciences, Karnataka, India

10:00-10:15

**Genomic adaptation in teak (*Tectona grandis*) associated with local climatic conditions and insights for planting strategies to achieve higher resilience on Java Island**

**Naoki Tani**  
Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences, Japan

10:15-10:30

**Teak Breeding in Latin America: where do we stand?**

**Olman Murillo**  
Professor, Instituto Tecnológico de Costa Rica

10:30-11:00

**Discussion**

11:00-11:30

**Tea Break**

## Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Session on Responsible Sourcing of Teak: EUDR and Beyond

Moderator : **Suresh Gairola**  
FSC India Country Director

11:30-11:35

### Welcome and introduction to the session

**Aakriti Tomar**  
Communications Manager, FSC India

11:35-11:45

### Keynote address: FSC global strategies for responsible sourcing Release of FSC Teak Certification Video

**Cindy Cheng (TBC)**  
Regional Director, FSC Asia Pacific

11:45-11:55

### FSC solutions to promote forest sustainability

**Suresh Gairola**  
Country Director, FSC India

11:55-12:10

### Teak supply chain integrity risks and remedies (Virtual)

**Elena Tveritinova**  
Programme Manager (Supply Chain Integrity), FSC International

12:10-12:25

### EUDR's Impact on the Teak Value Chain and FSC Traceability Solutions for Compliance

**Anuj Sharma**  
Deputy Country Director, FSC India

12:25-12:35

### Linking the demand and supply for responsible Teak in the APAC region

**Neha Simlai**  
Head of Market Development, FSC Asia Pacific

12:35-12:40

### Auditing process for responsible sourcing

**Aadarsh Mohandas**  
Regional Director-South Asia, PBN

12:40-12:50

### FSC certification experience of Teak forests

**Sanjeev Gaur IFS**  
Former MD, Forest Development Corporation of Maharashtra

12:50-13:00

### Q&A : Moderator

13:00-14:00

Lunch



## PANEL DISCUSSION

### Global teak resources, market assessment and trade

**Moderators** : **CTS Nair , IFS**  
Former Chief Economist, Forestry Division, FAO

**Reinhold Glauner**  
Managing Director, WaKa Forest Investments AG, Switzerland

14:00-14:15

**Walter Kollert**  
WaKa Forest Investment Services AG

14:15-14:30

**Balasatish**  
Vice President, MES Builders Association of India  
(Industrial and Commercial use of wood)

14:30-14:40

**Sreenivasan**  
Chief Architect of the Western Command, India  
(Design and Use of wood in Government Sector)

14:40-16:00

**Sheam Satkuru**  
Executive Director, International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)  
Japan

**Sanjay Poddar**, Sree Rani Sati Overseas Pvt. Ltd. India

**Samuel Dalla Costa Figueiredo**, TRC - Teak Resources Company, Brazil

**Interactive Q & A Session**

16:00-16:30

**Tea Break**

## BUSINESS TO BUSINESS (B2B) MEETING (IN PRE-BOOKED CUBICLES)

Participants interested in business-to-business (B2B) interactions are encouraged to utilize the designated B2B Meeting Cubicles available in the Exhibition Area on 18.09.2025. These cubicles are designed to facilitate focused discussions, networking, and partnership opportunities among industry professionals, suppliers, buyers, and stakeholders.

16:30-18:00

**Availability**

 **Location: Exhibition Area**

 **Time: 16:30-18:00 hrs on 18.09.2025**

**Poster Session (in exhibition area)**

17:00-18:00

**TEAKNET Steering Committee Meeting (On Invitation)**

FRIDAY, 19 SEPTEMBER 2025

## SESSION IV

Management models for smallholder teak plantations and agroforestry systems  
in Asia, Africa and Latin America

Session Chair : **Markku Kanninen**  
Research Director & Professor Emeritus  
University of Helsinki, Viikki Tropical Resources Institute (VITRI), Finland

09:00-09:30

**Thematic Keynote: Smallholder teak plantations in  
Africa-Kilombero Valley Teak Company's experience**

**Irvine Kanyemba**  
Kilombero Valley Teak Company (KVTC), Tanzania

09:30-09:45

**Evaluating growth performance and volume of teak coppice  
management systems - Case of intermediate zone, Sri Lanka**

**Patrick Gomas**  
Forest Department -Sri Lanka

09:45-10:00

**Managing small holder teak plantations through the Modified  
Taungya System for landscape restoration and climate change  
mitigation and adaptation**

**Valerie Fumey Nassah and Kwame Agyei**  
Forestry Commission, Ghana

10:00-10:15

**Site management models for optimum yield of *Tectona grandis* Linn.f  
plantations in Southern Nigeria**

**Peter Ige**  
University of Ibadan, Nigeria

10:15-10:45

**Discussion**

10:45-11:30

**Tea Break**

## SESSION V

### Environmental protection, biodiversity conservation and Forest Landscape Restoration

Session Chair : **Michael Kleine**  
Senior Advisor, IUFRO HQ, Vienna, Austria

11:30-11:50

**Thematic Keynote: Potential benefits of diversification of monoculture plantations – state of knowledge and ways forward**

**Sutthathorn Chairuangsrri**

Education Director & Research Advisor, Chiang Mai University, Thailand

11:50-12:05

**Evaluating the environmental resilience of teak plantations: a geospatial analysis of carbon storage, wildfire and water stress**

**Aswathy K. Vijayan**

Department of Science & Technology (DST) Wise Fellow,  
Kerala Forest Research Institute, Peechi

12:05-12:20

**Monoculture (teak) plantations in the context of Uganda**

**Nelly Bedijo**

FAO Uganda

12:20-12:35

**Social and environmental aspects of the Lama Teak Forest landscape in Benin**

**Gisèle Sinasson Sanni** University of Abomey-Calavi, Benin

12:35-13:00

**Discussion**



## PANEL DISCUSSION

### The role of planted teak forests in building resilient landscapes

**Moderators** : **Michael Kleine**  
Senior Advisor, IUFRO HQ, Vienna

**Promode Kant, IFS**  
Director, Institute of Green Economy, India

14:00-15:00

#### Panellists

**CTS Nair, IFS**  
Former Chief Economist, Forestry Division, FAO

**Yongyut Trisurat**  
Kasetsart University, Thailand

**Pramod G. Krishnan, IFS**  
Chief Wildlife Warden, Government of Kerala

**N. Krishnakumar, IFS**  
Former Head of Forest Force, Tamil Nadu Forest Department and  
Former Director, IFGTB

**Reinhold Glauner**  
Managing Director, WaKa Forest Investments Services AG,

15:00-15:30

Tea Break

## CLOSING CEREMONY

15:30-15:45

### Welcome by

**Kannan Warriar**

Director, Kerala Forest Research Institute, India

15:45-15:55

### Special Guest

**Kanchan Devi IFS**

Director General, Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education,  
Dehra Dun

15:55-16:05

### Closing Remarks by

**Pramod G. Krishnan, IFS**

Chief Wildlife Warden, Government of Kerala

16:05-16:15

**K.B. Singh, IFS**

Inspector General of Forests, SU Division, Ministry of Environment,  
Forest and Climate Change, Government of India

16:15-16:25

**Tetra Yanuariadi**

Projects Manager, International Tropical Timber Organization, Japan

16:25-16:35

**Kenichi Shono**

Forestry Officer, FAO, Rome

16:35-16:45

**Michael Kleine**

Senior Advisor, IUFRO HQ, Austria

16:45-17:10

### Presentation of awards to sponsors

17:10-17:20

### Recommendations & closing report by TEAKNET

17:20-17:30

### Formal Closing Address by

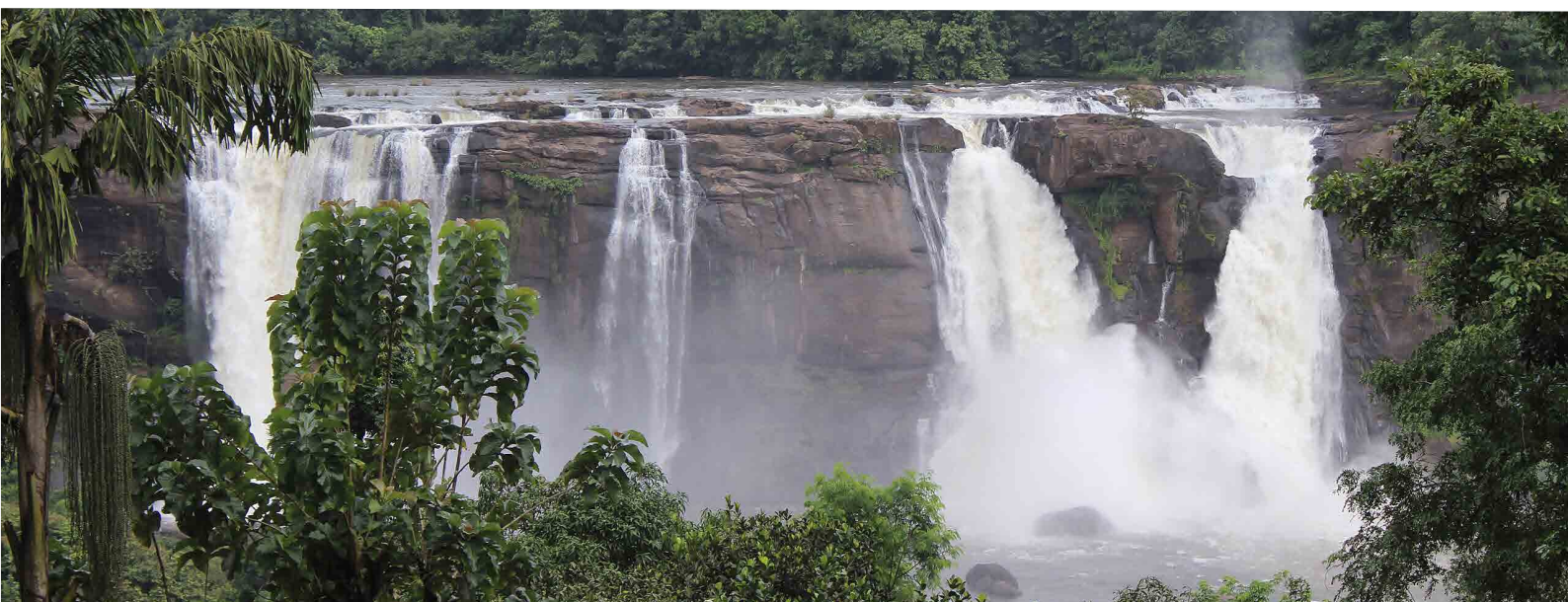
**S. Sandeep**

TEAKNET Coordinator

**SATURDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER 2025**

**\*Field trip/Excursion Optional**

## Option 1: Athirappilly Waterfalls



Athirappilly is a popular and scenic waterfall located in the Thrissur district of Kerala, India, nestled in the Western Ghats. These two falls are close to each other, making them a popular destination for tourists seeking the serene beauty of Kerala's natural landscapes. The area is also home to rich biodiversity, including several endangered species.

**07:30 AM**

### Assemble at

**Grand Hyatt Kochi lobby; departure by air-conditioned coach/car.**

**07:45 AM– 10:15 AM**

Drive to Athirappilly

**10:15 AM– 12:30 PM**

Visit Athirappilly Waterfalls (the “Niagara of India”), short guided walk to viewpoints

**12:45 PM– 01:30 PM**

Transfer to Vazhachal Waterfalls (5 km upstream) enjoy views and photography.

**01:45 PM– 02:45 PM**

Lunch at a nearby eco-friendly resort / restaurant

**03:00 PM– 04:00 PM**

Visit Thumbboormuzhi Hanging Bridge & Butterfly Garden (on return route).

**04:15 PM– 06:45 PM**

Drive back to Kochi.

**07:00 PM**

Arrive at Grand Hyatt Kochi Bolgatty.



# Teak Museum Nilambur



## Option 2: Nilambur Teak Museum

The Nilambur Teak Museum is a unique museum dedicated to teak and is located in Nilambur, in the Malappuram district of Kerala, India. It is the first of its kind in the world and showcases the history, cultivation, and various uses of teak, one of the most valuable timber trees.

## Proposed Itinerary: Kochi – Nilambur – Kochi

### Day 1 – 19th September (Friday)

06:00 PM

Assemble at Grand Hyatt Kochi Bolgatty

06:00 PM – 11:00 PM

Drive to Nilambur (Approx. 220 km, 5 to 6 hrs)

11:30 PM

Arrival at Nilambur, check-in at Hotel

Pre-arranged dinner en route & rest.

### Day 2 – 20th September (Saturday)

08:00 AM – 11:00 PM

Nilambur Teak Museum & Bioresource Nature Park

11:00 AM – 01:30 AM

Connolly's Plot Exploration

01:30 PM – 02:30 PM

Lunch at hotel

02:30 PM – 05:00 PM

Nedumkayam Timber Depot & Forest Walk

05:00 PM

Refreshments & departure for Kochi.

## Key Notes

Total travel time: ~10–12 hrs (round trip)

Carry comfortable walking shoes, water, and light clothing

Accommodation and dinner on Day 1, breakfast & lunch on Day 2 to be pre-arranged

## Organizers



## Supported by



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



JAPAN GOV  
THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN

**MAFF**  
Ministry of Agriculture,  
Forestry and Fisheries



## Sponsors

Platinum +



Gold Sponsors



Silver



INDIA 2025  
Kochi  
17-20 September 2025



[www.worldteakconference2025.com](http://www.worldteakconference2025.com)