

- to develop a draft project proposal suitable for submission to international donor agencies for funding.

A total of 17 invited delegates from the selected 9 African and Latin American countries participated in the two-day workshop, which was sponsored by IUFRO under the Special Programme for Development of Capacities (IUFRO-SPDC) and moderated by SPDC Coordinator, Dr. Michael Kleine of IUFRO Headquarters, Vienna, Walter Kollert of FAO of the United Nations, Rome and Lars Graudal of the University of Copenhagen, Denmark.

A preliminary project logical framework was prepared in the workshop with the active inputs of the participating countries for a possible future collaboration on conservation of teak genetic resources at the global scale and it is anticipated to develop it into a full-fledged project application document seeking international funding. The project

aims at developing capacity building for the sustainable management and genetic conservation of planted teak resources in the participating African and Latin American countries. FAO and IUFRO-SPDC agreed to jointly formulate the project proposal. Once realized, TEAKNET will facilitate the implementation of the project in the respective countries in the region.

*Workshop Participants. Photo provided by P.K. Thulasidas*



## Unlocking the Power of Forest Products

170 delegates from 13 countries attended the Forest Products Society (FPS) 69th International Convention: *Unlocking the Power of Forest Products* held on June 10-12, 2015 in Atlanta, Georgia. This year's annual meeting was hosted alongside the SFPA 33rd Forest Products Machinery & Equipment Exposition - EXPO.

"The FPS Convention is an important event for seasoned professionals and students alike, because it creates a platform for individuals at all stages of their professional life to forge lasting relationships and inspire collaboration through the sharing of best practices and research," said FPS President and Owner of Woodlife Environmental Consultants, LLC Maureen Puetzman.

The 2015 Convention was chaired by **Richard Vlosky**, Director, Louisiana Forest Products Development Center, who is Deputy Coordinator of [IUFRO 5.10.00](http://www.iufro.org) – *Forest products marketing and business management*.



## 85th Anniversary of the Forest Research Institute (IBL) in Poland

On June 17-18 2015 the Forest Research Institute in Poland celebrated the 85th anniversary of its founding. The history of the Institute goes back to the year 1930, when the Experimental Department of the State Forests was organized. Four years later it was transformed into the Research Institute of the State Forests and after World War II reformed into the Forest Research Institute.

From the beginning the Institute, which has been an IUFRO member since 1933, has consistently implemented its scientific mission of developing research programs which enrich our knowledge that is needed for managing forest resources. The Institute is also a place where past connects with present and science with practice cooperating for the good of Polish forests.

The Institute consists of 6 scientific departments and 3 laboratories that carry out scientific research and developmental work in the fields of forest afforestation and reforestation, tending, utilization and protection, ecology, nature conservation, genetics, forest economics, policy and remote sensing.

The 85th anniversary provided the occasion to summarize and reflect, and also to draw up plans for the future and to set courageous goals for the development of forest science. The event included an honorary session of the Scientific Board as well as the international conference "Challenges and opportunities of forestry in the 21st century" with a poster session. **Alexander Buck**, IUFRO's Executive Director, attended the celebrations and during the conference gave a speech on "The National Forest Programmes in Shaping Forestry of the XXI Century".

Information about the Jubilee can be found at: <http://www.jubileusz.ibles.pl>

*Photo provided by: Instytut Badawczy Leśnictwa / Forest Research Institute, Sękocin Stary, Poland.*