



2015 세계산불총회
INTERNATIONAL
WILDLAND FIRE CONFERENCE
PYEONGCHANG, KOREA

CONFERENCE NEWS

VOLUME NO.1 TUESDAY 13 OCTOBER 2015

Fire of the Past, Fire of Future

The 6th International Wildland Fire Conference: the First in Asia!



The 6th IWFC officially kicked off yesterday with participants from around the world. The very first conference to be held in Asia attracted interests of both domestic and international organizations. At the Exhibition Hall, the official opening of the exhibition was held in presence of invited guests and local people from Gangwon Province. The opening ceremony started off with welcome remarks from the Minister of Korea Forest Service. In his statement, Minister Shin called for strengthened international cooperation. The humorous governor of Gangwon

Province delivered welcome remarks. Now, everyone knows it's PYEONGCHANG, not Pyeongyang! The Secretary-General of the United Nations sent a welcome message emphasizing the importance of wildland fire management in achieving the newly adopted Sustainable Management Goals (SDGs). The Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea and the UNISDR also conveyed their congratulatory messages. After an array of speeches, participants enjoyed an energetic, powerful performance of the Painters Hero.





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VOLUME NO.2 WEDNESDAY 14 OCTOBER 2015

International Arena of Knowledge Sharing Experience and Expertise



South Africa, took the podium to send a strong message that **fire can be a bad master, but a good servant**. During the following Q&A session, it was highlighted that fire needs to be controlled particularly considering the social, cultural, and biological conditions of each region.

The second plenary session was moderated by Mr. Sang Man Jeong, President of the Korean Society of Hazard Mitigation. Dr. Sarah McCaffrey started the session with her presentation, **Understanding the Social Dynamics of Fire Management: a review of social science research since 2000**. She stressed that communities are key part of fire adaptation and we all need to be cautious of 'imagined public'. Her findings also revealed that three influential dynamics are Knowledge, Trust, and Interactive communication. She was followed by Mr. Pieter van Lierop of FAO. His presentation was on **Challenges for Community-based Fire Management (CBFiM)**. Among challenges he highlighted, one of them was financing CBFiM. In order to get investment in CBFiM, the economic costs and benefits need to be quantified and demonstrated. The last presentation was by Joseph C. Kreidi of UNESCO on **Wildfire Threats and Fire Management in UNESCO World Heritage**. He mentioned that not only World Heritage Sites, but also wooden heritage structures can be put in danger of wildland fire, giving an example of the loss of Naksan Temple in Yang Yang in 2005.

Opening the second day of the 6th IWFC, plenary sessions were held to shed light on the dynamics between wildland fire and humankind. The first plenary session on "Legacy of Fire" started early in the morning and was moderated by Brett Shields, Asia Pacific Team Director of Spatial Informatics Group. The first keynote speaker, Stephen J. Pyne, Regents Professor at Arizona State University, elaborated on the long history of fire and its relationship with humanity. He particularly provided profound explanation on how the meaning of fire has changed through time and that we should properly understand the relationship to cope with fire by diverting efforts to restore good fire into actions against bad fire. Next, based on his 40 years of study on fire in African Grasslands and Savannas, Winston S.W. Trollope, Research Adviser of the Working on Fire in





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VOLUME NO.3 THURSDAY 15 OCTOBER 2015

Experience is the Teacher of All Things!



Yesterday morning, the Korea Forest Service demonstrated its Aerial Fire Suppression System. Conference participants enjoyed formation flying of eight helicopters. The demonstration was attended by more than 1,000 forest fire experts from a number of government ministries and organizations from the Ministry of Public Safety and Security to the Korea National Police Agency. Under the scenario of large

wildland fire set off in Pyeongchang, total 13 helicopters and two fixed-wing aircraft of the Korea Forest Service, the Ministry of Public Safety and Security, the Korea National Police Agency, and the Republic of Korea Air Force were mobilized to control the fire. In addition to aerial fire suppression, 300 fire fighters demonstrated on ground suppression utilizing Korea's advanced Information and Communication Technology(ICT).





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VOLUME NO.4 FRIDAY 16 OCTOBER 2015

Bringing Regions Together Demand for Stronger International Cooperation



Led by Dr. Johann Georg Goldammer, at the Global Wildland Fire Network Session, chairs of five sessions delivered outcomes and recommendations of each regional session. Some of the key points raised by multiple regions were enhancing international cooperation, promoting community participation, financing fire management, and integrating fire management in climate change issue. The chair of Mediterranean and Near East Cluster, Elena

Hernandez from Forest Fires Service of Spain stressed that educating and raising awareness of politicians, public and media is crucial in wildfire management. Dr. Johann Georg Goldammer urged governments to take all necessary measures to develop integrated fire management concepts and put in place capabilities to manage fire at landscape level. After reports from each regional cluster, results of side events were shared with participants.

Engaging Our Youth Future of the International Wildland Fire Management



For the first time in the International Wildland Fire Conference history, the 6th IWFC has invited 18 teams of students from 12 countries to present their theses at the Youth Program. From forest fire risk assessment dynamics of silvopasture, interesting studies were shared at the program. Four teams will be recognized and awarded at the closing ceremony.

Youth Interview

“I was a bit nervous to present at an international event for the first time; however, it has been a memorable experience great opportunity for me.” – Jae-hee Lee (Republic of Korea)

“It was a great opportunity to meet my peers from different countries and peer review our papers.” – Mina Jang (Republic of Korea)

“This is my first time to be abroad. I felt nervous and was worried. But this was a great opportunity. I learned about many researches of other students.” – Libo Zhang (China)