

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FORESTS

21 MARCH 2024

#IntlForestDay



THURSDAY

21 March 2024

10 a.m – 1 p.m. EST

TRI | [UN Web TV](#)

The theme of the 2024 International Day of Forests is “Forests and Innovation”.

This year’s celebration aims to highlight how we can promote innovation to help the world’s forests, and how innovations in science and technology are supporting sustainable forest management around the world.



Opening Session

Opening remarks: Ms. Juliette Biao, Director, UN Forum on Forests Secretariat, DESA

- **H.E. Ambassador Zéphyrin Maniratanga**, Chair of the UNFF19 Bureau
- **Mr. Li Junhua**, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, DESA

Video: *Forests and innovation – new solutions for a better world* (FAO)

Panel Session

Chair: Ms. Leticia Zamora Zumbado, Vice-Chair of the UNFF19 Bureau

- **Mr. QU Guangzhou**, Director, FAO Liaison Office, New York
- **Ms. Anna Rathmann**, Executive Director, Jane Goodall Institute
- **Ms. Jie Min Heng**, International Forestry Students’ Association, IFSA
- **Mr. Ronald S. Zalesny Jr., Ms. Elizabeth R. Rogers, Mr. Ryan A. Vinhal**, USDA Forest Service
- **Mr. Derek Nighbor**, President and CEO of the Forest Products Association of Canada
- **Mr. Kai Lintunen**, Head of International Communication, Finnish Forest Association and Team leader, UNECE_FAO Forest Communicators Network

General Discussion

Chair: Mr. Javad Momeni, Vice-Chair of the UNFF19 Bureau

- Statements by Member States, accredited IGOs, United Nations entities and Major Groups.

Forest film showcase

Chair: H.E. Ambassador Zéphyrin Maniratanga, Chair of the UNFF19 Bureau

Short films from the [2024 World Wildlife Day Film Showcase](#) (CITES and Jackson Wild)

- *How Old Cell Phones Are Protecting the Rainforest*
- *This New AI Forensic Tool is Fighting Illegal Logging*
- *NASA Joins Jane Goodall to Conserve Chimp Habitats*

Moderator: Mr. Minoru Takada, Deputy Director, UN Forum on Forests Secretariat, DESA

Closing session

Chair: H.E. Ambassador Zéphyrin Maniratanga, Chair of the UNFF19 Bureau

Closing remarks: Ms. Juliette Biao, Director, UN Forum on Forests Secretariat