



# The Fire Hub: Connecting the Global Fire Community

*26 July 2024, 12:30-14:00, FAO Headquarters*

*Organizer: FAO*

*Co-organizers: Canadian Forest Service (CFS), Korea Forest Service (KFS), The International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), Portuguese Agency for Integrated Management of Rural Fire (AGIF), Permanent Mission of Brazil*

## **Brief introduction**

The cross-cutting aspects of the root causes and impacts of the wildfires, along with the complexity and uncertainty they bring, demand robust institutions and their articulation mechanisms, strong commitment from stakeholders, innovative and encompassing tools of communication and engagement, all supported by the best scientific knowledge in risk assessment and evaluation. We must also acknowledge the importance of revitalizing traditional fire management techniques, which have historically provided sustainable solutions for fire management and contributed to food security.

## **Background**

Each year, approximately 340-370 million hectares of land are affected by wildland fires. To combat this, a shift from reactive responses to proactive, prevention-focused measures through Integrated Fire Management is essential. In May 2023, FAO and UNEP launched the Fire Hub at the 8th International Wildland Fire Conference to enhance countries' capacities in implementing these strategies, aiming to reduce the adverse impacts of wildfires on livelihoods, landscapes, and the global climate.

A key pillar of the Fire Hub is promoting wildfire-resilient communities through technological and social innovations, integrating scientific advancements, technology, and local and

traditional knowledge. This event aims to explore innovative solutions and collaborative efforts in managing fires more effectively and sustainably. It will provide background on the Fire Hub, its progress so far, and offer a platform for discussion among stakeholders, including governments, organizations, Indigenous Peoples, and other local knowledge holders, to define a path towards better Integrated Fire Management globally.

**This session aims to:**

- Bring together key partners of the Global Fire Management Hub (Fire Hub) to discuss the promotion and scaling up of integrated initiatives, experiences, and knowledge.
- Integrate insights from Indigenous Peoples, local knowledge holders, and scientific advancements into fire management strategies.
- Foster collaboration and share best practices to enhance global wildfire resilience and reduce the negative impacts of wildfires on communities and the environment.

**Side event agenda, speakers and format**

**Agenda**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Agenda item</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
12:30-12:32	Moderator	On-site
12:33-12:40	<b>Opening remarks and update on the Fire Hub:</b> Mr Zhimin Wu, Director of FAO Forestry Division	On-site
12:40-13:20	<p><b>The Global Fire Management Hub:</b></p> <p><i>Ms Monique Frison, Director-General, Trade, Economics and Industry Branch, Natural Resources Canada</i></p> <p><i>Ms Katalin Solymosi, Senior Advisor, The Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL), Germany</i></p> <p><i>Mr Tiago Oliveira, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Portuguese Agency for Integrated Rural Fire Management (AGIF)</i></p> <p><i>Mr Song Hee Nam, Director-General, International Affairs Bureau, Korea Forest Service</i></p> <p><i>Ms Stephanie Savolaine, Director- Office of Field and Response Operations, Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance/USAID</i></p> <p><i>Mr Randy Moore, Chief, US Forest Service</i></p>	On-site

	<p><i>Senator Nelsinho Trad, chair of the Amazonian Parliament (PARLAMAZ), Brazil</i></p>	
13:20-13:50	<p><b>Panel: Importance of bridging technological and social innovation in integrated fire management</b></p> <p><i>Ms Lara Steil, Fire Management Officer, FAO</i></p> <p><i>Mr Juan Carlos Jintiach, Executive Secretary of the Global Alliance of Territorial Communities (GATC)</i></p> <p><i>Ms Gabriela Saavedra, Chairperson of the Latin America and Caribbean Forestry Commission, Ministry of Environment, Ecuador</i></p> <p><i>Mr Johann Goldammer, Executive Director, Global Fire Monitoring Centre (GFMC)</i></p> <p><i>Ms Mireille Atallah, Chief, Adaptation and Resilience Branch, Climate Change Division, UNEP</i></p> <p><i>Ms Sheam Satkuru, International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)</i></p>	
13:50-14:00	<b>Closing – Moderator</b>	On-site