



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



©FAO/Brett Shields

Global Fire Management Hub (Fire Hub)

2nd Technical Workshop – Summary Report

19 –21 March 2024

FAO Headquarters

Rome, Italy

CONTENTS

BACKGROUND	3
SUMMARY OF THE MEETING NOTES.....	5
DAY 1: OPENING SESSION	5
DAY 1: DIALOGUES WITH REGIONAL NETWORKS	6
• <i>The International Model Forest Network (IMFN).....</i>	<i>6</i>
• <i>International Fire Aviation Working Group (IFAWG).....</i>	<i>7</i>
• <i>Expert Groups on Forest Fires in Europe and Latin America; Global Observations of Forest Cover and Land-use Dynamics (GOFCC-GOLD)</i>	<i>7</i>
• <i>North America Network.....</i>	<i>7</i>
• <i>Australasian Network.....</i>	<i>7</i>
DAY 2: GFMC REGIONAL NETWORKS AND CENTERS OF THE GLOBAL WILDLAND FIRE NETWORK.....	8
REGIONAL CHALLENGES	9
SUGGESTIONS FOR THE FIRE HUB FROM INSTITUTIONAL AND REGIONAL PERSPECTIVES	9
<i>Challenges and opportunities for the Fire Hub.....</i>	<i>10</i>
DAY 3: TECHNICAL SESSION – DISCUSSION OF INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN THE FIRE HUB AND THE REGIONAL CENTERS/NETWORKS	12
ANNEX 1: AGENDA.....	14
ANNEX 2: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS	19
CONTACTS	24

Background

With seed funding from the Federal Republic of Germany through the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture, FAO is hosting three technical workshops and consultations throughout 2023 and 2024 to develop the Global Fire Management Hub (Fire Hub). The Fire Hub aims to bring together key partners and initiatives to strengthen countries' capacities to implement Integrated Fire Management (IFM) with the major impact of reducing the many negative effects of wildfires on people, landscapes and the global climate. The IFM approach helps to ensure that fire activities are integrated into national policies and plans, are cross-sectoral, and involve diverse stakeholders. The approach, championed by FAO through the 5Rs (Review and Analysis, Risk Reduction, Readiness, Response, and Recovery), aids governments in understanding wildfire causes and seeking sustainable solutions using established principles and best practices, such as the Fire Management Voluntary Guidelines and the more recent Guiding Principles of the Landscape Fire Governance Framework. The outcomes of the three Fire Hub workshops will be presented at the 27th Session of the FAO Committee on Forestry (COFO 27) in July 2024.

The First Technical Workshop, held in Rome from 14–16 November 2023, laid the groundwork for the Fire Hub. Discussions revolved around integrating the Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC) into the Fire Hub and identifying its five key pillars – Knowledge and Data Sharing, Capacity Building, Fire Risk Reduction, Wildfire Resilient Communities and Policy Support.

The Second Technical Workshop, held in Rome from 19–21 March 2024, focused on leveraging the expertise of the regional networks and centres of the Global Wildland Fire Network (GWFN), and other partners, to advance IFM globally.

The main discussions and elaborations of the Second Technical Workshop were devoted to understanding regional challenges in fire management, such as diverse ecosystems and socio-economic factors driving wildfires, to assess where the Fire Hub could support in upscaling IFM approaches. Ultimately, regional participants envisioned the Fire Hub as a catalyst for technical expertise exchange, financing activities, and knowledge sharing across diverse landscapes, with a focus on stakeholder engagement and political advocacy.

The following were highlighted as primary areas of focus:

- **The Fire Hub as a framework for global collaboration:** Partners and regional networks and centres in attendance emphasized the Fire Hub's role in connecting existing networks and leveraging successful models to build global capacities under a unified framework.
- **Connecting technical expertise and building capacities:** Regional networks and actors have extensive skills, experience and knowledge, which could be leveraged by joining the Fire Hub to exchange know-how and build capacities.
- **Knowledge with a science focus:** Discussions underscored the importance of a science-oriented Fire Hub to promote IFM through user-friendly access to data, methodologies, and guidance

by creating a repository of core and critical reference documents, updating and revising existing global and regional guidance, and applying the substantial data available.

- **Knowledge sharing, particularly South-South:** Much can be learned from each other by promoting knowledge sharing across different cultural landscapes, including Indigenous practices, as part of an integrated approach to fire in the landscape. This could include translation of fire materials into local languages, developing a standardised methodology for acquiring fire data in regions and countries, and facilitating discussions on land management across sectors, including on land tenure.
- **Political awareness and engagement with a variety of stakeholders:** Elevating IFM on political agendas and drawing attention to its connection with international agreements (e.g. Rio Conventions) is required for the Fire Hub to be a success. It must involve a variety of stakeholders, including governments, researchers, and technical professionals in the field.

Moving forward, the Fire Hub will build on these outcomes as it consolidates its work plan and operational framework, which will be further discussed at the Third Technical Workshop on 28–30 May 2024.

Appreciation is extended to Prof. Dr. Johann Georg Goldammer for integrating the expertise and tools developed by GFMC and GWFN over more than 25 years into the Fire Hub, enabling this initiative to support global efforts in fire management, reducing fire-related damages and losses as well as promoting benign and sustainable cultural burning in land use and the integration of natural fires in ecosystem management.



©FAO/Maryia Kukharava

Summary of the Meeting Notes

Day 1: Opening Session

The opening session provided background information on and objectives for the Fire Hub, with reflections from FAO, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), GFMC, and other key Fire Hub partners. The speakers and participants are listed in Annex 2.

Partners discussed the Fire Hub's potential objectives, which can be categorized into **three primary focus areas**:

- **A framework for collaboration, bringing together the various networks and agencies around the world working on integrated fire management:**
 - UNEP noted that the Fire Hub is a framework for collaboration, and speakers noted the International Model Forest Network (IMFN) as a strong, feasible example of global collaboration that can be built upon, bringing together powerful capacities and networks under a single umbrella.
 - It was made clear that the aim of the Fire Hub is not to merge existing initiatives but to connect them to work together globally.
 - USAID sees a role for the Fire Hub in identifying post-fire impacts, working on smoke related health issues, and supporting the humanitarian side and partners on fire issues.

- **An opportunity to combine the available information, data and metadata on landscape fire, making it available in one place for all to access:**
 - UNEP noted that the Fire Hub should have a science focus. Science is the foundation of the Fire Hub, supporting policy decision-making and providing contacts for support and advisory services.
 - The Fire Hub will provide a user-friendly platform for exchange of data, materials, methods, guidance and linkages for IFM. The Fire Hub can help everyone to improve their fire knowledge and obtain input, ideas and guidance.
 - There is more data needed on the value of environmental services, and a need to address restoration after fires. Local stakeholders need to be involved and buy-in from local communities is necessary for this.
 - There is abundant information and data on landscape fires and IFM, but it needs to be made available to and be used by stakeholders to address their needs in relation to fire to trigger a focused response on drivers, causes of fires, links to food security and risk of fuels on landscapes. Socio-economic factors are a major means of understanding the fires we need to manage.
 - For example, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) noted its collaboration with UN agencies on the risk posed by wildfires, creating an action plan to prevent them through the Early Warning for All initiative, which improves warning services worldwide. A majority of fires are set or caused by humans, so an aspect of early warning is necessary to identify those areas with the highest fire risk due to human activity. This is in line with the Fire Hub pillars involving risk reduction and resilient communities.

- **A chance to heighten the political awareness of fire management:**
 - It is important to show that fire is connected to the three Rio Conventions (Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)), keeping in mind that fire has both positive and negative impacts.
 - Discussion highlighted the calculation of costs, damages and losses for wildfires, including in the context of the new Loss and Damage Fund under the UNFCCC.
 - At pan-European level, the decisions of the Ministerial Council of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) of 2014 and 2021 underscored the importance of fire management in addressing climate change and security. Similarly, the Council of Europe, through the Secretariat of the European and Mediterranean Major Hazards Agreement (EUR-OPA), highlighted the role and offered cooperation with its Network of Specialised Centers in addressing disaster risk reduction in general as a crosscutting issue, and in fire management in particular.
 - The Agency for the Integrated Management of Rural Fires (AGIF) referred to the guiding principles of the Landscape Fire Governance Framework and referenced how they aligned with the Fire Hub's key pillars.



©FAO/Maryia Kukharava

Day 1: Dialogues with regional networks

The first day's afternoon session was an opportunity to hear from representatives of regional fire networks and centres affiliated with the GFMC, who shared their perspectives on regional challenges, the status of networks and centres and gave suggestions for consideration during the Fire Hub's development process, including regional needs and opportunities. Speakers included:

- **THE INTERNATIONAL MODEL FOREST NETWORK (IMFN)**

Richard Verbisky, Head of the International Model Forest Network Secretariat, and Toni Ventre and Elisabetta Gravano, from the Mediterranean Model Forest Network Secretariat, described the IMFN and noted some useful similarities with the Fire Hub, brainstorming ideas for implementation and interaction by providing an example of running a network internationally and regionally for the Mediterranean.

Suggestions for FAO included:

- Networking can speed up IFM using the 5Rs and the governance framework.
- IMFN is open to collaboration and partnership with the Fire Hub.
- There are some parallels between IMFN and the Fire Hub, including principles, parallels, and engagement. It was noted that, as with the activities of the IMFN, the provision of fire suppression support between countries was based on trust.

- **INTERNATIONAL FIRE AVIATION WORKING GROUP (IFAWG)**

Riccardo Filippi from the IFAWG Secretariat noted that critical issues for aerial fire management could be standardised through a coordinated global effort through the Fire Hub, adding that International Fire Aviation Guidelines have been developed with emphasis on enhancing the safety, effectiveness and efficiency of aerial firefighting. The working group is voluntary in nature and to date has not gained sufficient attention by regional and international actors. A transition to the Fire Hub could be a “win-win” including for the IFAWG to reorient its focus from Aerial Firefighting to Aerial Fire Management.

- **EXPERT GROUPS ON FOREST FIRES IN EUROPE AND LATIN AMERICA; GLOBAL OBSERVATIONS OF FOREST COVER AND LAND-USE DYNAMICS (GOFC-GOLD)**

Jesús San-Miguel-Ayanz, Senior Researcher at the European Commission’s Joint Research Center, gave some background on the EU Expert Group on Forest Fires (EGFF), which was established in 1998 and led to the development and ongoing availability of the European Forest Fire Information System (EFFIS) now covering 43 countries. In relation to the Fire Hub’s development, the EGFF is an example of a network with a formal mandate that is funded for its role in fire management in the region.

- **NORTH AMERICA NETWORK**

Gordon Sachs, Acting Delegation Head of the North American Forestry Commission (NAFC) Fire Management Working Group (FMWG), explained that the NAFC FMWG has been a long-term formal working group of an FAO Statutory Body. The network deals with regional challenges in North America, which include specific landscape fire problems and health and wellbeing. He highlighted the gaps and shortcomings in landscape fire science, management and policies which could be addressed by the Fire Hub. Furthermore, in relation to the Fire Hub, it was noted that there is an opportunity for global collaboration since global wildfire support could become the norm, as evidenced by the hundreds of personnel from Canada and the United States of America that were deployed to Australia in 2019/2020. There is no longer a traditional ‘fire season’ and this is an important shift that is affecting fire management as a whole. It was also noted that it would be increasingly important to include local communities and Indigenous Peoples in planning, knowledge sharing and management.

- **AUSTRALASIAN NETWORK**

Sandy Whight from the Australasian Fire Authorities Council (AFAC) and Stefan de Haan, Coordinator of the Australasian Forest Fire Management Group (FFMG), outlined the Australian situation, actors and processes with regard to bushfire. Similar to other networks, important points for the Fire Hub

included the Australasian challenges of increasing wildfire frequency and intensity in the region, as well as conflicting policy frameworks, which mitigate prevention efforts – noting that this could be an opportunity for the Fire Hub.



©FAO/Maryia Kukharava

Day 2: GFMC Regional Networks and Centers of the Global Wildland Fire Network

The remaining sessions were devoted to presentations and inputs from the regional networks and centres operating under the GWFN/GFMC and focused on discussion of these centres in relation to the Fire Hub. The presentations had a similar structure and covered:

- (a) Regional challenges,
- (b) Status of networks and centres,
- (c) Suggestions for FAO:
 1. Needs from the regional/institutional perspectives.
 2. Challenges to and opportunities for the Fire Hub.

The key points from the presentations and the rich discussion arising from them are set out below. The networks that presented were:

- **Central Asia Network & RFMRCCAR** – Oyunsanaa Byambasuren, Coordinator, Head of FMRC-CAR
- **South East Asia Network & RFMRC-SEA** – Bambang Hero Saharjo, Director (RFMRC-SEA), Coordinator, Regional South East Asia Wildland Fire Network
- **South Asia Network** – Sundar Prasad Sharma, Coordinator
- **Eurasia/Eastern Europe & REEFMC** – Oleksandr Soshenskyi, on behalf of Coordinator Sergyi Zibtsev
- **Southeast Europe/Caucasus Network & RFMC** – Nikola Nikolov, Coordinator, Regional Southeast Europe / Caucasus Wildland Fire Network & Director, RFMC
- **Mediterranean Network** – Elena Hernandez Paredes, Coordinator, FAO Silva Mediterranea Forest Fire Working Group
- **Euro-Alpine** – Harald Vacik, Coordinator
- **Western Africa-FMRC** – Lucy Amissah, Head
- **Subsahara/Eastern Africa & REEA-FMRC** – Speaker: Harifidy Rakoto Ratsimba
- **South America Network & RFMRC-SAR** – Mariana Senra de Oliveira, Coordinator, Regional South America Wildland Fire Network and Divaldo Rezende, RFMRC-SAR

REGIONAL CHALLENGES

The presentations identified a series of regional challenges:

- Regional challenges are diverse due to ecosystems, socio-economic and land use factors.
- Wildfires are emerging as one of the most common disasters in the last decade aggravated by human intervention in ecosystems.
- The negative impacts of wildfires are increasing, including transboundary fires and haze.
- Fire continues to be used by communities to sustain livelihoods.
- The use of fire in large-scale forest conversion is a major issue and affects health, biodiversity, land use, and is a source of GHG emissions.
- Some countries do not have a database of fire occurrence, and there is a need to improve fire records, notably of fires that are not detected by satellites, such as in the European Alpine Region.
- A big problem is the failure to link all situations and data. There is a need to evaluate the impacts of wildfire, learn from experiences in the field and communicate these impacts. It is also important to link fire to other themes more clearly – for example, climate change and the corresponding impacts on ecosystem services, linking also between stakeholders and with policymakers. It is important that all available tools are being used and shared to improve institutional capacity building and policy development.
- A single top-down agency will not address the governance problem because it does not engage at the local level, which is where agencies need capacity and engagement.
- Other challenges include: an absence of by-laws to promote effective integrated fire management; lack of local weather stations to develop and support fire danger rating indices; lack of focus on fire research at universities; Inadequate firefighting tools in local communities; lack of funding to engage and organize regional and national meetings and exchange of researchers that would allow further collaboration.

Suggestions for the Fire Hub from institutional and regional perspectives

According to the regional networks and centres, the Fire Hub could play a key role in **three main areas**:

- **Connecting technical expertise and building capacities**, specifically through:
 - Promoting exchanges;
 - Creating a repository of focal points;
 - Upscaling capacity building for countries in the regions to address challenges in fire management;
 - Developing and promoting of model guidelines and frameworks for exchange – probably based on existing arrangements – North America, Australasia, Western Balkans and the European Commission;
 - Establishing and promoting information sharing opportunities and contact lists;
 - Connecting grassroot actors to policy makers;
 - Connecting to the Landscape Fire Management Governance Framework; and
 - Boosting opportunities to expand diversity and inclusion through the women’s wildfire network.

- **Financing activities:**
 - Discussion noted that finance is an important topic in fire management, for both the Fire Hub and related network and centres, including financing for routine operations, administration, maintenance and enabling as well as on-the-ground work; and
 - There is potential for access to finance to be enhanced by recognition of the networks and centres as partners of the Fire Hub, beyond what they can do at present.

- **Knowledge sharing**, specifically through:
 - Creating a repository of reference documents – participants noted that it would be useful to translate the existing materials, such as the EuroFire Competency Standards and Training Materials, into local languages, and regional networks and centres could help here;
 - Updating and republishing the Fire Management Voluntary Guidelines and the International Fire Aviation Guidelines;
 - Promoting knowledge sharing across different cultural landscapes, including Indigenous practices, as part of an integrated approach to fire in the landscape – much can be learned from each other;
 - Developing a standardised methodology for acquiring fire data in regions and countries; and
 - Facilitating discussions on land management cross the different sectors - including on land tenure.

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE FIRE HUB

General discussion found that it is important to elevate the importance of IFM at a political level. This has already started: IFM is part of the official agenda of COFO 27, and the FAO Fire Management Voluntary Guidelines are being updated. Furthermore, a UN Forum on Forests Country-led Initiative, hosted by the Government of India in Dehradun in October 2023, put forth valuable recommendations concerning IFM, and specific mention of the Fire Hub in the context of disaster risk reduction was noted at the United Nations General Assembly in November 2023. There are countries and regions working to bring the fire issues higher up in the agenda, highlighting the importance of engaging a full mix of actors in the Fire Hub.

Discussion highlighted that it is important for the Fire Hub to connect with stakeholders and the wildfire community generally. Offering opportunities for knowledge sharing, networking and experience exchange, and developing some key messaging on fire, would be good ways to do this.

Regional networks also noted that FAO's presence in the regions; working hand-in-hand with counterparts should be more real and sound in activities related to fires, both directly and indirectly.

In terms of the Fire Hub's practical development, the following ideas were discussed:

- There is a lot to learn from the International Forest Model Network (IFMN) - the Model Forest pillars and their approach were noted as positive and understood by the actors for collaborating and building partnership. IFMN is as straightforward as possible, and the Fire Hub could follow this model and work from the UN technical agency mandate it has on fire management. Other global actors and UN agencies will join in time.
- Three words that are important in creating a global IFM community: Creativity, Commitment and Partnership.

- The Fire Hub can play a role in promoting the importance of direct government participation in the network, encouraging official recognition, facilitating dialogues, and offering continued support for training of local communities and authorities.
- There is a need to define targets for the centres and the Fire Hub, and it is important to identify these in order to focus the efforts appropriately and develop a common understanding of the drivers.
- Generating straightforward messages that are easily understood is important, and the first step to transforming proposals into action.
- Integrated landscape management should be emphasized through the Fire Hub, including Community-Based Fire Management (CBFiM).
- The Fire Hub could propose an annual “International Wildfire Safety Day” to raise awareness.
- Fires are creating a risk for REDD+ and Forest Landscape Restoration investments through degradation of forests and other ecosystems and should be accounted for in such strategies.
- The Fire Hub could hold a Plenary (similar to the format of the [Global Forest Observation Initiative - GFOI - plenaries](#)) in 2025 to unite the international fire community in the interim of the International Wildland Fire Conferences.



©FAO/Maryia Kukharava

Day 3: Technical Session – Discussion of institutional arrangements between the Fire Hub and the Regional Centers/Networks

The focus of this session was to discuss the development of the Fire Hub from a practical perspective. The main question to evaluate due to different situations in different regions was – how can we connect them to the Fire Hub? A brief summary of the discussion on how the Fire Hub could function included the following key points:

- **The Fire Hub could benefit from a ‘charter’:**
 - There is a need to be clear about what it means to be part of the Fire Hub. It was noted that a form of mission statement already exists in the concept note of the Fire Hub and in the description of the Fire Hub on the website, which could form the basis of a foundational statement:
 - *“The Fire Hub brings together key partners to assist countries in building capacities to implement integrated fire management to reduce the negative impacts of wildfires on livelihoods, landscapes and global climate stability.”*
 - This charter could be circulated among the centres and networks for feedback.
 - The presentations showed that a sort of ‘consent’ is important, coming together under an umbrella of the Fire Hub.
 - The GFMC / GWFN regional networks should be engaged in the Fire Hub. They are all based at academic institutions and managed by scientists, who are working at the science-policy-practitioners interface and providing advisory support to decision makers and policy makers.
 - There is a huge potential of the regional networks to serve governments. How to recognise the centres and networks for mutual benefit, whilst maintaining their independence?
 - Similarly, with the local insights and experience, the regional networks and centres can play an important role in bringing expertise from the field to the Fire Hub and thus to the global level. This role could be enhanced by recognition as partners of the Fire Hub.

- **The Fire Hub should remain neutral and involve diverse stakeholders:**
 - The independence of the academic centres is important for neutrality.
 - Discussion also centred on the availability of a mechanism to get governments and non-governmental networks on board that might add value to the work of the Fire Hub and the networks.
 - Involvement of a full range of actors is important for governance including the need for engagement beyond government and formal structures to independent networks and to be inclusive.
 - The Fire Hub could include both government and non-government representatives noting the need to connect both to the Fire Hub.
 - In South America, for example, there is a voluntary network that involves practitioners who represent government, academia, and NGOs.
 - The process of the Landscape Fire Management in the Western Balkans (LFMWB) is a prime example of the transition of an informal regional network – the Regional Southeast Europe / Caucasus Wildland Fire Network and its Regional Fire Monitoring Center (RFMC) to an officially recognised network supported by an inter-governmental agreement.
 - USAID noted that the humanitarian response actors are interacting with NGOs that seek guidance on fire management and are being funded to do it. The Fire Hub could become

a place where these actors can come for input, ideas and guidance and be connected to each other in-country and by region and by competency and needs.

- The Fire Hub secretariat housed in FAO would be neutral and will have influence as a scientific, and potentially, an advisory body on IFM (including the science); and can convene and provide guidance for partners and countries to respond to wildfires, pre and post.
- **The Fire Hub should not be branded as one centric organisation, but as a partnership of organisations joining in a collaborative global effort:**
 - The emphasis should not be on merging initiatives but connecting them.
 - Many models already exist in FAO that range from statutory to models that are more simple and flexible.
 - Many collaborators are needed in the Fire Hub, including governments, agencies, multilateral actors, scientists, practitioners, and networks.
 - It was agreed that it would be best to start strong but simple. There is no need to have the full Fire Hub structure in place from the start but at each step develop as needed what is required for the Fire Hub to be effective.
- **Various means and modalities of achieving the above were discussed, including:**
 - The GFOI Plenaries, which are held every two years, bring together the international community of forest monitoring countries, practitioners, development partners and others who work to build national capacity in tropical countries. For FAO and UNEP having the government representatives involved is essential.
 - IMFN meet annually in the regions, and meet globally every five years to come together and review the charter. Each year in the regions, a country volunteers to be the host of the annual meeting with the agenda of one day of business, a 2–3 day workshop and a field day to showcase what is happening.

Follow up actions: The current Fire Hub documentation needs to be combined into a charter and then circulated for comment.

Next steps

After the discussions held during the 2nd Workshop, next steps include:

- Developing a draft charter for the Global Fire Management Hub.
- Continuing work on the Fire Hub website, a user-friendly web platform serving as a "one-stop-shop" for essential resources, including data, guidelines, best practices and expertise.
- Holding the Third Technical Workshop (28-30 May 2024).
- Holding a high-level side event for the Fire Hub at COFO 27 (22-26 July 2024).
- Agreeing on a final design of a Fire Hub visual identity.

Global Fire Management Hub – 2nd Workshop

19 – 21 March 2024

FAO Headquarters – Rome

Day 1 – 19 March

Time	Session agenda	Session info	Speaker / questions
10:00-12:00	Opening Session	Hybrid	Speaker: Wu Zhimin, Director, NFO – opening remarks
	FAO – Opening remarks	Azerbaijan room	
	Germany/BMEL	Moderator: Amy Duchelle	Speaker: Matthias Schwoerer, Head of Division, European and International Forest Policy, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (online)
	Korea Forest Service		Speaker: Manju Kim, Director of Forest Fire Prevention and Control Division (video intervention)
	Canada		Speaker: Julie Émond, Alternate Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Canada to the FAO
	Portugal		Speaker: Tiago M. Oliveira, AGIF (online)
	United States Agency for International Development (USAID)		Speaker: Scott Dehnisch, Wildfire Response Coordinator
	Council of Europe		Speaker: Krzysztof Zyman, Executive Secretary, European and Mediterranean Major Hazards Agreement (EUR-OPA) (online)

	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)		Speaker: Sylvie Goyet, Deputy Coordinator and Head of Environmental Activities Office of the Coordinator for OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA) (online)
	Audience Q&A		Audience Q&A
	FAO - Global Fire Management Hub		Speaker: Lara Steil, Fire Management Officer
	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)		Speaker: Francesco Gaetani, Science Policy Sub-Programme /Regional Coordinator
	World Meteorological Organization (WMO)		Speaker: Sara Basart, Scientific Officer (online)
	United States Forest Service (USFS)		Speaker: Gordon Sachs, Acting Delegation Head of NAFC Fire Management Working Group / International Liaison Committee
	Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC)		Speaker: Johann G. Goldammer, Director, GFMC Coordinator, GWFN
12:00-13:30	Lunch Break		
13.30-17.00	Regional Networks / Centers	Hybrid Azerbaijan room Moderator: Bill DeGroot	Presentations on (a) Regional challenges, (b) status of networks and centres (c) suggestions for FAO: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • needs from the regional / institutional perspectives • challenges to and opportunities for the Fire Hub
13:30-14:00	Model Forest Network		Speakers: Rich Verbisky, Head, International Model Forest Network Secretariat Toni Ventre & Elisabetta Gravano, Mediterranean Model Forest Network Secretary

14:00-14:15	International Fire Aviation Working Group		Speaker: Riccardo Filippi, IFAWG Secretariat
14:15-14:30	Expert Groups on Forest Fires in Europe and Latin America; Global Observations of Forest Cover and Land-use Dynamics (GOFC-GOLD)		Speaker: Jesús San-Miguel-Ayanz, Senior Researcher, European Commission Joint Research Center (online)
14:30-14:45	Central Asia Network & RFMRC-CAR		Speaker: Oyunsanaa Byambasuren, Coordinator, Regional Central Asia Wildland Fire Network, Head of FMRC-CAR
14:45-15:00	South East Asia Network & RFMRC-SEA		Speaker: Bambang Hero Saharjo, Director (RFMRC-SEA), Coordinator, Regional South East Asia Wildland Fire Network
15:00-15:15	South Asia Network		Speaker: Sundar Prasad Sharma, Coordinator, Regional South Asia Wildland Fire Network
15:15-16:00	Coffee break		
16:00-16:15	Eurasia / Eastern Europe & REEFMC	Hybrid	Speaker: Oleksandr Soshenskyi, Coordinator, Regional Eastern Europe / Eurasia Wildland Fire Network
16:15-16:30	Southeast Europe / Caucasus Network & RFMC	Azerbaijan room	Speaker: Nikola Nikolov, Coordinator, Regional Southeast Europe / Caucasus Wildland Fire Network Director, RFMC
16:30-16:45	Mediterranean Network	Moderator: Peter Moore	Speaker: Elena Hernandez Paredes, Coordinator, FAO Silva Mediterranea Forest Fire Working Group
16:45-17:00	Euro-Alpine		Speaker: Harald Vacik, Coordinator, Sub-Regional Euro-Alpine Wildland Fire Network (online)

Day 2 – 20 March

10:00-12.00	Regional Networks / Centers	Hybrid	Presentations on
		Azerbaijan room	(a) Regional challenges,

		Moderator: Petteri Vuorinen	(b) status of networks and centres (c) suggestions for FAO: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • needs from the regional / institutional perspectives • challenges to and opportunities for the Fire Hub
10:00-10:15	Subsahara / Western Africa & RWA-FMRC		Speaker: Lucy Amissah, Head, RWA-FMRC
10:15-10:30	Subsahara / Eastern Africa & REEA-FMRC		Speaker: Harifidy Rakoto Ratsimba Head, REEA-FMRC
10:30-10:50	South America Network & RFMRC-SAR		Speakers: Mariana Senra de Oliveira, Coordinator, Regional South America Wildland Fire Network Divaldo Rezende, RFMRC-SAR
10:50-11:15	Coffee Break		
11:15-11:30	North America Network	Moderator: Francesco Gaetani	Speaker: Gordon Sachs, Acting Delegation Head of NAFC Fire Management Working Group
11:30-11:45	Australasian Network		Speaker: Stefan de Haan, Coordinator, Australasian Forest Fire Management Group (FFMG) (online)
11:45-12:00	Recap of all the network presentations		Speaker: Johann G. Goldammer, Director, GFMC Coordinator, GWFN
12:00-13:30	Lunch Break		
13:30-15:30	Technical Session: Discussion of institutional arrangements between the Fire Hub and the Regional Centers / Networks (I)	In-person Azerbaijan room	
15:30-16:00	Coffee Break		

16:00-17:00	IDF Side Event – Innovations in fire management: integrating traditional knowledge and science in fire danger rating and early warning systems	Hybrid Azerbaijan room Moderator: Lara Steil	Keynote: William de Groot, FAO Fire Specialist Panellists: Mongolia – Central Asia Wildland Fire Network (Oyunsanaa Byambasuren), Madagascar – Sub-Saharan East Africa Wildland Fire Network (Harifidy Rakoto Ratsimba), Sub-Saharan Western Africa Wildland Fire Network (Lucy Amissah), Brazil – South America Wildland Fire Network (Mariana Senra de Oliveira), Indonesia – Southeast Asia Wildland Fire Network (Bambang Hero Saharjo)
-------------	---	---	--

Day 3 – 21 March

09.30- 12:00	Technical Session: Discussion of institutional arrangements between the Fire Hub and the Regional Centers / Networks (II)	In-person Azerbaijan room	
12.00-13.30	Lunch Break		

Annex 2: List of Participants

Last Name	First Name	Country / Organization
Albrecht	Patrizia	OCSE
Amissah	Lucy	CSIR-Forestry Research Institute of Ghana / Regional Western Africa Fire Management Resource Center (RWA-FMRC)
Amlang	Sandra	UNDRR
Amutenya	Nashilongo	FAO
Artes Vivancos	Tomas	Mitigasolutions
Banda	Malumbo	n/a
Basart	Sara	Global Atmosphere Watch (GAW), World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
Berchtold	Claudia	Fraunhofer
Bilbao	Bibiana	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland / FAO
Blaser	Juergen	BFH
Brady	Michael	CIFOR-ICRAF
Brunet-Navarro	Pau	Spain / CTFC
Burchard	Antonia	Ecosia
Buttanri	Esra	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)
Byambasuren	Oyunsanaa	Mongolia / The National Forest Agency and Fire Management Resource Center – Central Asia Region (FMRC-CAR)
Carvalho Moura	Livia	FAO

Charlton	Val	South Africa Landworks
Cho	Eunsang	KFS
Cordey	Pierre-André	Switzerland / Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
Darcy	Sharon	FAO
Daya	Mika'il	n/a
Gravano	Elisabetta	Mediterranean Model Forest Network Secretary
de Groot	Bill	FAO
Gun	Debora	n/a
Dehnisch	Scott	United States of America / US Agency for International Development
De Dato	Giovanbattista	FAO
Duchelle	Amy	FAO
Deniz Cengiz	Iffet	FAO
Emond	Julie	Alternate Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Canada to FAO
Filippi	Riccardo	IFAWG Secretariat
Gaetani	Francesco	UNEP
Gallo Granizo	Carolina	Consultant Forest and Landscape Restoration Mechanism, NFO, FAO
Gerrand	Adam	FAO
Giongo	Marcos	n/a
Goldammer	Johann Georg	GFMC

Goyet	Silvie	Deputy Coordinator and Head of Environmental Activities, OSCE
de Haan	Stefan	Australasian Forest Fire Management Group
Hassane	Boubacar	n/a
Hernández Paredes	Elena	Spain / Forest Fire Service, Ministry for the Ecological Transition and Demographic Challenge.
Ioannou	Anna	FAO
Jovic	Predrag	FAO
Jurko	Natasha	Natural Resources Canada / Canadian Forest Service
Kukharava	Maryia	FAO
Lagrange	Ismael	Government of France
Lalande	Vanika	FAO
Lee	Sangick	FAO
Lekhi	Barsha	UNESCO
Ma	Hwan-ok	ITTO
Monagle	Catherine	ISFMI
Moore	Peter	FAO
Nagai	Miyuki	Sustainable Cosme
Nguyen	Thuy	RECOFTC
Nikolov	Nikola	North Macedonia / Regional Fire Monitoring Center (RFMC)
Nsengumeremyi	Olivier	n/a
Ntara	Eva	FAO

Oliveira	Tiago	AGIF
Oom	Duarte	EC Europa
Pagliari	Chloe	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Peng	Taoyong	WMO
Pöschl	Ulrich	Max Planck Institute for Chemistry, Germany
Pronto	Lindon	European Forest Institute
Poyau	Stephanie	Wildlife Officer, France
Rakoto Ratsimba	Harifidy	Madagascar / Regional Eastern Africa Fire Management Resource Center (REA-FMRC)
Rakotondramanga	Soalandy	FAO
Rezende	Divaldo	RFMRC-SAR
Rietbergen	Simon	FAO
Roberton-Quimby	Adanna	WMO
Sachs	Gordy	International Liaison Committee
Saharjo	Bambang Hero	Indonesia / IPB University and Regional Fire Management Resource Center – South East Asia (FMRC-SEA)
Safford	Hugh	UC Davis
Sanhueza	Patricio	n/a
San-Miguel-Ayanz	Jesús	European Commission / JRC
Schwoerer	Matthia	BMEL
Senra de Oliveira	Mariana	Brazil – Prevfogo / Ibama
Sharma	Sundar	Regional South Asia Wildland Fire Network
Shields	Brett	FAO

Steil	Lara	FAO
Suarez	Maria	Ext Europa.eu
Taylor	Carmen	Canada / Natural Resources Canada
Tornorsam	Marina	RECOFTC
Vacik	Harald	Austria / University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences – Sub-Regional Euro Alpine Wildfire Network
Vähänen	Tiina	Deputy Director of Forestry, FAO
Van Lierop	Peter	FAO
Vendrell	Jordi	Pau Costa Foundation
Ventre	Toni	Mediterranean Model Forest Network
Verbisky	Richard	Natural Resources Canada / Canadian Forest Service / International Model Forest Network
Vitalie	Gulca	n/a
Vuorinen	Petteri	FAO
Yamac	Ibrahim	n/a
Wadham-Smith	Miranda	FAO
Whight	Sandra	AFAC
WU	Zhimin	Director of Forestry, FAO
Zibtsev	Sergiy	Regional Eastern Europe Fire Monitoring Center (REEFMC)
Zyman	Krzysztof	EUR-OPA European and Mediterranean Major Hazards Agreement of the Council of Europe

CONTACTS

Global Fire Management Hub

FireHub@fao.org

Lara Steil, Fire Management Officer, Forestry Division, FAO

lara.steil@fao.org

Amy Duchelle, Senior Forestry Officer, Team Leader of Forests and Climate, Forestry Division, FAO

amy.duchelle@fao.org