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Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Organisation des Nations
Unies pour l'alimentation
et l'agriculture

Продовольственная и
сельскохозяйственная организация
Объединенных Наций

Organización de las
Naciones Unidas para la
Alimentación y la Agricultura

منظمة
الغذية والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

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NORTH AMERICAN FOREST COMMISSION

THIRTY-SECOND SESSION

Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada

25 - 27 September 2023

Report of the Urban Forest Programmes Working Group

Queries on the content of this document may be addressed to:

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I. WORKING GROUP COMPOSITION

Chairperson	Country	Organization
Liza Paqueo	United States of America	USDA Forest Service
Chairperson	Country	Organization
Jason Henning	United States of America	USDA Forest Service
Miranda Hutten	United States of America	USDA Forest Service
Fabiola Lopez	United States of America	USDA Forest Service
Baldemar Arteaga Martinez	Mexico	CONAFOR
Eduardo Vargas Perez	Mexico	CONAFOR
Jean Paul Delgado Percastegui	Mexico	CONAFOR
Ken Farr	Canada	Canadian Forest Service
James Marcucci	Canada	Canadian Forest Service
Lizanne Lanthier	Canada	Canadian Forest Service
Aileen Duncan	Canada	Canadian Forest Service

II. LIST OF ACTIVITIES COMPLETED DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS

Activity	Location	Date	Status (done/ongoing)
Exchanged and discussed emerging topics in urban forestry, including tools, such as MyTree (Canada), MyTree (USA)	Virtual	2023	Ongoing
Representatives from Canada and Mexico attended the International i-Tree Academy (8 Sessions)	N/A	October 2021, October 2022	Done
Representatives from Canada and Mexico were part of the virtual delegation to The Nature of Cities festival	virtual	March 2021, March 2022	Done

III. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS

Activity	Location	Date	Status (done/ongoing)
Presentation of paper and side events by members of the Working Group to the World Forum on Urban Forests	Washington DC	16-20 October 2023	New
In-person working group meeting		TBD	New
Identify representatives from each country to participate in the Urban Ecology Community of Learning and Practice		March 2024	New
Youth training and engagement on urban tools, like MyTree	Virtual and in-person in Washington DC	TBD	New

IV. REQUEST FOR FUNDING

1. A training, conducted and hosted by the United States of America, on MyTree, one of the tools under i-Tree, is planned. To conduct this training, the Working Group would like to request each country to support its own representatives to attend the meeting in Washington, DC, United States of America (date tbc) as well as 1 - 3 additional representatives from community stakeholders, partner organizations, educators or others to participate in the training.

V. CLOSING REMARKS

2. “Urban forests” has emerged as critical to addressing many of the world’s natural resource issues, like climate change. Because more and more of the world’s population lives or is moving to cities, these urban centres can be viewed as a hub for many challenges associated with urbanization as well as the nexus for solving many problems. The science of urban forestry coupled with community engagement is integral in fostering stewardship. Urban green spaces are necessary for creating biodiversity hotspots, cooling neighbourhoods, promoting livelihoods, and in closing the gap between people and nature.