



Workshop on  
**Forest Governance  
and Decentralisation  
in Africa**

International Convention Center  
Durban, South Africa  
April 8-11 2008



**water & forestry**

Department:  
Water Affairs and Forestry  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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## steering committee

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Sipho Masuku	Department of Water Affairs and Forestry
Renny Madula	Department of Water Affairs and Forestry
Christian KÜchli	FOEN
Laura German	CIFOR
Jürgen Blaser	Intercooperation
Jean-Marie Samyn	Intercooperation
Claudia Greco	Intercooperation
Barbara Tavora-Jainchill	UNFF
Gill Slaughter	Turners Conferences and Conventions
Kerry Firmani	Turners Conferences and Conventions
Lucille Harisunker	Turners Conferences and Conventions

Workshop Website

<http://www.turnersconferences.com/conferences/forestgovernance/index.asp>

workshop on  
**forest governance**  
and decentralisation in africa

## History

At the closing plenary of UNFF 7, the Governments of South Africa and Switzerland announced a country-led initiative in support of the UNFF, the Workshop on Forest Governance and Decentralization in Africa. Governance issues are of fundamental importance to sustainable forest management, the core objective of UNFF. The initiative is co-sponsored by South Africa, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, Norway, the United States of America and Germany. Technical support is provided by the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) and INTERCOOPERATION, a Foundation for Development and International Cooperation based in Switzerland. The Workshop also builds on the 2004 Interlaken Workshop on Forest Governance in Federal Systems and the 2006 Workshop on Forest Governance and Decentralization in Asia and the Pacific. South Africa and Switzerland hope that the Workshop on Forest Governance and Decentralization in Africa will become an early landmark in the work of the UNFF.

## Objectives

The Workshop on Forest Governance and Decentralization in Africa brings together diverse stakeholders, policy makers and international experts to share experiences and explore opportunities for generating concrete gains from governance reforms and decentralized forest management. This initiative in support of the United Nations Forum on Forests provides a platform for learning lessons from diverse international and national processes, and facilitates the expression of voices of stakeholders at different levels – especially of local people in their struggle to manage locally important resources that are at the same time of global interest. As local perspectives also enrich international discussions, the workshop aims to strengthen local involvement in the regional and global dialogue on forests.

Specific objectives of the workshop are:

- To distill and share lessons learned from experiences of African countries, including from regional initiatives, in their implementation of decentralization and broader governance re-forms in the forest sector;
- To facilitate broader, shared understanding of key trends and issues and sharing of lessons and workable approaches, especially as they relate to poverty reduction and sustainable forest management, including forest conservation;
- To strengthen cooperation and to enhance partnerships among countries and key stakeholders in addressing common challenges; and
- To recommend approaches for strengthening policies, institutions and practices of decentralized forest governance systems to reduce the gap between theory and practice.

## Expected Outcomes

The anticipated outcomes of the workshop include:

- A common understanding of the concepts and implementation of decentralization in the general context of forest governance in Africa and their links to selected workshop themes;
- Identified opportunities for coordinated policy responses, capacity building and implementation of best practices;
- Identified instruments for improved decentralization to the local level; and
- Identified strategies for overcoming constraints to effective decentralization and sustainable management of Africa's forests at regional, national, sub-national and local levels.

As a Country-led Initiative in support of the UNFF, the workshop is expected to also result in the following process-related outcomes, with particular reference to decentralization and forest governance reform:

- Contribute to the regionalization of UNFF in Africa; and
- Provide input (ideas) to the UNFF process and widely disseminate workshop results.

## Workshop Themes

The workshop program and discussions are organized around a set of three themes, namely:

- Decentralized Forest Management and Livelihoods
- Conservation, Sustainable Forest Management and Forest Governance
- International Trade, Finance and Forest Sector Governance Reform

### MONDAY, APRIL 7

14:00 – 18:00 Participant arrival and Registration at ICC

### TUESDAY, APRIL 8

07:00 – 09:00 Registration at ICC

#### OPENING SESSION: HISTORY, CONTEXT & WELCOME (ROOM 3BC)

Chair: Ms P Yako, Director-General: Department of Water Affairs and Forestry

09:00 – 09:45 Opening Panel  
 Welcoming Address (Mr Obed Mlaba, Mayor of eThekweni)  
 Address (Mr Peter Csoka, Officer in Charge, UNFF Secretariat)  
 Keynote Address (Ms CC September (MP), Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee: Water Affairs and Forestry)

#### 09:45 – 10:15 Tea / Coffee (Room 3A)

10:15 – 10:45 Decentralization and the International Forest Governance Agenda  
 (Christian KÜchli and Wahyudi Wardoyo)

10:45 – 11:00 Overview of Workshop Objectives, Expected Outcomes & Themes (Doris Capistrano)

11:00 – 11:30 Forestry Governance and Decentralization in South Africa: Introduction and Overview of Field Trips (Dr T Simelane, Director: Forest Policy and Strategy, DWAF)

#### THEMATIC SESSION I: DECENTRALIZED FOREST MANAGEMENT AND LIVELIHOODS (ROOM 3BC)

Theme Description:

- Decentralization, land reform, tenure and customary institutions
- Impact of decentralization on livelihoods
- Institutional design, equity and transfers of power for economically-important resources

Chair: Dr M P Rampedi, Deputy Director-General: Forestry, DWAF

11:30 – 12:00 Thematic Keynote – “Building Institutions for Democratic and Decentralized Forest Management in Sub-Saharan Africa” (Jesse Ribot)

12:00 – 12:15 Announcements

#### 12:15 – 01:50 Lunch with poster viewing (Room 3A)

01:50 – 03:40 Theme 1 Parallel Sessions

(15 minute presentation + 5 minutes clarification per presenter, 30 minutes session wrap-up)

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#### Parallel Session IA: (Room MR 12)

Moderator: Charles Rakotondrainibe

Rapporteur: Jean-Marie Samyn

01:50 – 02:05 “Towards Community-based Forest Management in Southern Africa: Do Reforms Lead to Improved Livelihoods for the Poor?” (F. Matose)

02:10 – 02:25 “Governments are Devolving Responsibility for Forest Management in Africa, but Are Rural People Able to Take on Their Rights?” (E. Barrow, J. Kamugisha-Ruhombe, I. Nhantumbo, R. Oyono and S. Moumini)

02:30 – 02:45 “Governance of Forest Revenues in Central Africa: Policy and Practice” (J. Tsana Enama and A. Minsouma)

02:50 – 03:05 “Transfer of Forest Management Responsibilities: The Case of Merikan-jaka and Arivonimamo in the Highlands of Madagascar” (A. Randrianarisoa, E. Raharinaivosoa and A. Kolpff)

03:10 – 03:40 Parallel Session Discussions

**Parallel Session IB: (Room MR 22)**

Moderator: James Gasana

Rapporteur: Carol Colfer

- 01:50 – 02:05 “Local Governments and Forest Resources Governance in Mali” (B. Kassibo)
- 02:10 – 02:25 “Community Forests in Central Africa and the Entrepreneurial Model: Context, Challenges and Options for Viability” (P. Bigombe Logo)
- 02:30 – 02:45 “Decentralization, Territoriality and Devolution of Powers over Natural Resources in Morocco” (M. Moufaddal)
- 02:50 – 03:05 “Resource, Recourse and Decisions: Incentive Structures in Forest Decentralization and Governance in East Africa” (A. Banana, P. Ongugo, J. Bahati, E. Mwangi and K. Andersson)
- 03:05 – 03:40 Parallel session discussions
- 03:40 – 04:00 Tea / Coffee Break (Room 3A)**
- 04:00 – 05:00 Theme 1 Synthesis (Room 3BC)  
(10 minute presentations from each parallel session & discussion)

**THEMATIC SESSION II: CONSERVATION, SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT AND FOREST GOVERNANCE (ROOM 3BC)**

Theme Description:

- Reconciling biodiversity conservation and environmental service protection with decentralized decision-making
- Means of implementing sustainable forest management
- Strengthening the linkage between livelihoods and sustainable forest management

Chair: Ms T Carroll, Director: Strategic Support (Forestry), DWAF

- 05:00 – 05:30 Thematic Keynote: “Elusive meanings: Decentralization, Conservation, and Local Democracy?”  
(C. Diaw, T. Blomley and G. Lescuyer)
- 06:00 – 08:00 COCKTAIL RECEPTION & CULTURAL PERFORMANCE  
Hosted by South Africa

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9**

Chair: Mr. Jürgen Blaser, Head of Forest-Environment Team and Vice Director Intercooperation

Chair: Mr. Renny Madula, Deputy Director: Forestry Policy and Strategy (DWAF)

- 08:30 – 08:40 Overview of Day 2 (Room 3BC)
- 08:40 – 10:30 Theme 2 Parallel Session  
(15 minute presentation + 5 minutes clarification per presenter, 30 minutes session wrap-up)

**Parallel Session IIA: (Room MR 12)**

Moderator: Anne-Marie Tiani

Rapporteur: Ed Barrow

- 08:40 – 08:55 “Governance and Gender Equity in Forest Resource Management: A Comparative Analysis of Case Studies from Senegal and Cameroon” (S. Bandiaky and A.M. Tiani)
- 09:00 – 09:15 “Can Decentralization Achieve Both Favorable Livelihood and Sustainability Outcomes? Searching for Win-win Policy Outcomes after Uganda’s Forest Sector Reform” (P. Jagger)
- 09:20 – 09:35 “The Public Domain, Conservation and Decentralization in Francophone Africa: Theory and Effects of Philosophical and Legal Antinomies” (P.R. Oyono, G. Lescuyer, J.C. Ribot, A. White and M.C. Diaw)
- 09:40 – 09:55 “Hidden Harvest: Unlocking the Economic Potential of Community Based Forest Management in Tanzania” (T. Blomley, H. Ramadhani, Y. Mkwizu and A. Böhringer)
- 10:00 – 10:30 Parallel Session Discussions

### Parallel Session IIB: (Room MR 22)

Moderator: Andre Jules Madingou

Rapporteur: Johan Bester

- 08:40 – 08:55 “Decentralization Outcomes in the Context of Political Uncertainty in Zimbabwe: A Comparative Assessment from Co-management and CAMPFIRE and Implications for Policy” (E. Mapedza)
- 09:00 – 09:15 “Madagascar’s Biodiversity Conservation Challenge: Connecting Local and National-level Dynamics” (N. Rabesahala Horning)
- 09:20 – 09:35 “History of the Regulation of Water Use Impacts of Forestry in S. Africa: Appraisal of the Development of Policy and Governance” (F. Kruger, J. Crafford and A. Ginsburg)
- 09:35 – 10:30 Parallel session discussions
- 10:30 – 10:50 Tea / Coffee Break (Room 3A)**
- 10:50 – 11:50 Theme 2 Synthesis (Room 3BC)  
(10 minute presentations from each parallel session & discussion)

### THEMATIC SESSION III: INTERNATIONAL TRADE, FINANCE AND FOREST SECTOR GOVERNANCE REFORM (ROOM 3BC)

Theme Description:

- Forest sector governance reform
- International trade, investment and forest governance
- International transfer payments and compensation schemes

Chair: Mr C Küchli, Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN), Switzerland

- 11:50 – 12:20 Keynote – “The New Economic “Grand Game” in Africa and the Fate of Forest Sector Governance Reform” (Alain Karsenty)
- 12:20 – 01:20 Lunch (Room 3A)**
- 01:20 – 03:10 Theme 3 Parallel Session  
(15 minute presentation + 5 minutes clarification per presenter, 30 minutes session wrap-up)

### Parallel Session IIIA: (Room MR 12)

Moderator: Steven Ngubane

Rapporteur: Laura German

- 01:20 – 01:35 “Fiscal Decentralization and Natural Resources Benefits Sharing in the Democratic Republic of Congo” (S. Malele Mbala)
- 01:40 – 01:55 “The AFLEG and FLEGT Processes and the Challenges of Forest Governance in African Tropical Timber Exporting Countries” (J. Gasana)
- 02:00 – 02:15 “Testing the ‘Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) Approach’ in Logging Concessions of the Congo Basin” (L. Freeman, J. Lewis, N. Clot, C. Wiedmer, J. Carter and S. Borreill-Freeman)
- 02:40 – 03:10 Parallel Session Discussions

### Parallel Session IIIB: (Room MR 22)

Moderator: Michael Peter

Rapporteur: Doris Capistrano

- 01:20 – 01:35 “Forestry Governance and Trade Transformations: Experience from Tanzania and Implications to Sustainable Development” (S.A.H. Milledge)
- 01:40 – 01:55 “New Trends in Ghana’s Domestic and International Timber Trade: Some Implications for Local Livelihoods and Sustainable Forest Management” (J.H. Owusu)
- 02:00 – 02:15 “Inter-Firm Networks and Industrial Strategies in Tropical Forests of Africa” (J.M. Roda)
- 02:20 – 02:35 “Climate Change: What are its Implications for Forest Governance?” (J. Blaser, C. Robledo and S. Byrne)
- 02:40 – 03:10 Parallel Session Discussions

**03:10 – 03:30 Tea / Coffee with poster viewing (Room 3A)**

03:30 – 04:30	Theme 3 Synthesis (Room 3BC) (10 minute presentations from each parallel session & discussion)
04:30 – 05:45	Group Discussions Group I: Decentralized Forest Management and Livelihoods (Room MR12) Group II: Forest Governance, Conservation and Sustainable Forest Management (Room MR22) Group III: International Trade, Finance and Forest Sector Governance Reform (Room 3BC) (Group task: to distill main challenges and draft recommendations for UNFF on how these can be best addressed; print and reflect on recommendations during field trips.)
05:45 – 06:15	Groups Presentations in Plenary (Room 3BC)
06:15 – 06:30	Announcements (Field Trip)

### THURSDAY, APRIL 10

Note: Please book your seat on the field trip of your choice at the Registration Desk. Limited seats are available. All field trips depart from the ICC Main Ramp.

08:30 – 05:00      Field Trips – Refer to Field Trip Guide

#### GROUP I – “Ndelu Trust”

The main focus of this trip will be on the history of land conflict and forest tenure reforms, and their effect on rural livelihoods. The group will visit a plantation that was handed back to the community in 2004. The land is managed by Community Property Associations and a Trust elected by the larger community. The South African Pulp and Paper Industry Company (SAPPI) have assisted the Trust in managing the plantation. These communities however face challenges in leveraging land tenure for economic benefit. (Primary focus: Theme I)

Questions to be explored:

1. What have been the key historical events that have shaped conflict over land and forest tenure in this site, and in South Africa in general?
2. What have been the governance responses, and how effective have these been in supporting fair and effective resolution to the conflict?
3. Did the local government play any role in the restitution process? And if yes, what role did it play?
4. What challenges have smallholder timber growers faced when their tenure is secured? What support services are required to enable them to utilize their tenure for socio- economic benefit, and what is actual and potential role of the private sector and government actors in service provision?
5. What comparative lessons may be drawn from other African countries on the relationship between forest tenure, and forest management?
6. What has been the impact on local livelihoods, if any, since tenure has been secured?

#### GROUP II – “Seven Oaks”

The main focus of Group II will be on the governance of water for use by forestry and other sectors. The group will explore the relationship between water and trees; the role of research in setting policy targets for water regulation and allocation; instruments for cross-sectoral governance of a limited environmental service; a government program for payments for environmental services; and the appropriate degree of decentralization of forest and catchment management and governance. (Primary focus: Theme II)

Questions to be explored:

1. What are the environmental properties of trees, as viewed from the water sector?
2. What was main impetus behind governance reforms in the water sector?
3. What are the main governance instruments used to allocate water among key sectors and stakeholders, and what are their implications for equity? Sustainability?
4. What has been the role of research in setting clear policy targets for water management and allocation (in supporting “evidence-based policy making”) in South Africa?
5. How should the principle of subsidiarity be applied in the context of water management? What functions should be decentralized and what functions need to be coordinated at higher levels for the sustainable management of forest ecosystem services?

### Group III – “Greenhill Estate”

The focus of Group III will be on international trade, impacts of international governance instruments (certification) on land use practice, and the social and ecological effects of these practices. The group will visit a port where pulp is processed and exported to identify the main patterns in international trade, and visit producers to see how these patterns influence land use and related impacts. Participants will then visit communities living adjacent to a Mondi plantation to observe how certification of private sector plantations has influenced community livelihoods. (Primary focus: Theme III)

Questions to be explored:

1. What are the key trends in regional and global trade over the past two decades, and what are the main drivers behind these trends?
2. To what extent can “caring markets” serve as governance instruments for improved corporate social and environmental practice?
3. What are the main challenges in certification? How do these challenges differ (in type, scale) between small-scale and community forests on the one hand, and large private-sector plantations on the other?
4. How effective has certification been in ensuring sustainable management of forests and forest ecosystem services? In bringing benefits for adjacent communities or fostering improved relations between plantation owners and neighboring communities?
5. Who has benefited most from sector governance reforms, and why? Who has benefited least? What types of challenges (technical, legal, procedural, financial) are faced by small-scale growers and the poor in benefiting from governance reforms? What could be done to enhance the gains to black economic empowerment from these reforms?

### FRIDAY, APRIL 11

#### THEME SYNTHESIS AND RECOMMENDATIONS (Room 3BC)

Chair: Mr C Mtoba, Regional Director for Forestry, DWAf

09:00 – 09:15	Overview of the Day & Expected Outputs
09:15 – 11:00	Group Reflections from Field Trip & Refinement of Theme-based Recommendations Group I: Decentralized Forest Management and Livelihoods (Room MR 12) Group II: Forest Governance, Conservation and Sustainable Forest Management (Room MR 22) Group III: International Trade, Finance and Forest Sector Governance Reform (Room 3BC) (Group task: Re-visit discussions from the end of Day 2 and update group outputs based on what was learnt in field trips; identify thematic gaps.)

**11:00 – 11:20**      **Tea / Coffee (Room 3A)**

#### HOSTED INFORMATION SESSIONS

11:20 – 01:00

#### SESSION I: (Room MR 12)

Chair: Mr. Motsamai Nkosi

11:20 – 11:45	United Nations Forum on Forests
11:45 – 12:10	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
12:10 – 12:35	Department of Water Affairs and Forestry
12:35 – 01:00	Congo Basin Forest Partnership

**SESSION II:** Room MR 22

Chair: Prof. Godwin Kowero

11:20–11:45

African Forest Forum

11:45–12:10

Forest Law Enforcement &amp; Governance (IUCN, World Bank)

12:10–12:35

Forest Governance Learning Group (Forestry South Africa, IIED)

(Session Organization: Information sessions hosted by regional initiatives consisting of presentations on what they are doing and discussions. Draft workshop recommendations will be distributed to participants by 12:30)

**01:00 – 02:00****Lunch (Room 3A)**

02:00 – 04:00

Finalization and Approval of Workshop Recommendations in Plenary (Room 3BC)

04:00 – 04:30

Closing Session (Room 3BC)

Dr Boen Purnama, Secretary General of the Ministry of Forestry, Indonesia and Chair of the UNFF 8 Bureau.

Dr Moshibudi Rampedi, Deputy Director-General: Forestry, DWAF

**04:30 – 05:00****Coffee / Tea (Room 3A)**

## WORKING GROUP SESSIONS

### Group Organization

Three theme-based working groups will be formed. Participants will divide into groups based on interest. To enable incremental progress toward a final set of recommendations by theme, working group composition will be constant throughout the workshop. The following groups will help to ensure the group discussions are well-facilitated and documented, and help carry the group's recommendations forward for consideration.

- Decentralized Forest Management and Livelihoods  
Abwoli Banana, Carol Colfer, Aimee Randrianarisoa, Jesse Ribot, Jean-Marie Samyn
- Conservation, Sustainable Forest Management and Forest Governance  
Chimere Diaw, Renny Madula, Robert Nasi, Enos Shumba, Anne-Marie Tiani
- International Trade, Finance and Forest Sector Governance Reform  
James Gasana, Alain Karsenty, Simon Milledge, Steven Ngubane, Jürgen Blaser

### Wednesday, April 9 (04:30 – 05:45 pm)

Group task: Distil the main forest governance challenges related to your Theme across the African continent; develop draft recommendations for UNFF on how these can be best addressed. Specific tasks by Theme include:

- **Decentralized Forest Management and Livelihoods**  
Reflect on the main challenges faced in different countries in translating the potential from decentralized forest management into reality, with a focus on concrete improvements to rural livelihoods. What are the main bottlenecks faced? Discuss the lessons learnt from practice on how these challenges can be best overcome to realize positive livelihood outcomes. Use these lessons to draft a set of recommendations for UNFF related to Theme I.
- **Conservation, Sustainable Forest Management and Forest Governance**  
Reflect on the main challenges faced in different countries in reconciling biodiversity conservation and/or environmental service protection with decentralized decision-making. Reflect on the key conditions that must be met in order for decentralization to contribute to positive outcomes for both livelihoods and forests. Identify the key lessons that can be derived from practice on how key challenges may be overcome and multiple objectives achieved. Use these lessons to draft a set of recommendations for UNFF related to Theme II.
- **International Trade, Finance and Forest Sector Governance Reform**  
Reflect on the main challenges faced in managing increased and/or shifting demand for forest products and services in particular sub-regions and internationally. Identify the main challenges faced by public institutions in addressing emerging challenges in the sector. Reflect on the implications of increased financial flows from forest mitigation options (CDM A/R and REDD), and on barriers to entry in the international market (for carbon and other forest products and services). Discuss lessons that may be derived from Theme presentations or your own experience on how these challenges may be best overcome. Use these lessons to draft a set of recommendations for UNFF related to Theme III.

### Friday, April 11 (09:15 – 11:00)

Group task: Discuss any relevant lessons learnt from the field trip **related to your Theme** (45 minutes). Review draft recommendations for UNFF, and update or revise them based on new observations from the field. Specific questions include:

1. What additional challenges were observed in the field trips related to your Theme?
2. What were some of the more effective governance instruments applied to address those challenges? What were some of the shortcomings of formal governance responses?
3. What additional lessons may be derived for your particular Theme, and how does this influence the draft recommendations from Wednesday's discussion?

**INFORMATION SESSIONS****Friday, April 11 (11:20 – 01:00 pm)**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Room MR 12</b>	<b>Room MR 22</b>
11:20 – 11:45	(Chair: Mr. Motsamai Nkosi) United Nations Forum on Forests	(Chair: Prof Godwin Kowero) African Forest Forum
11:45 – 12:10	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	IUCN and World Bank (Forest Law Enforcement and Governance)
12:10 – 12:35	Department of Water Affairs and Forestry	Forestry South Africa and IIED (Forest Governance Learning Group)
12:35 – 01:00	Congo Basin Forest Partnership	

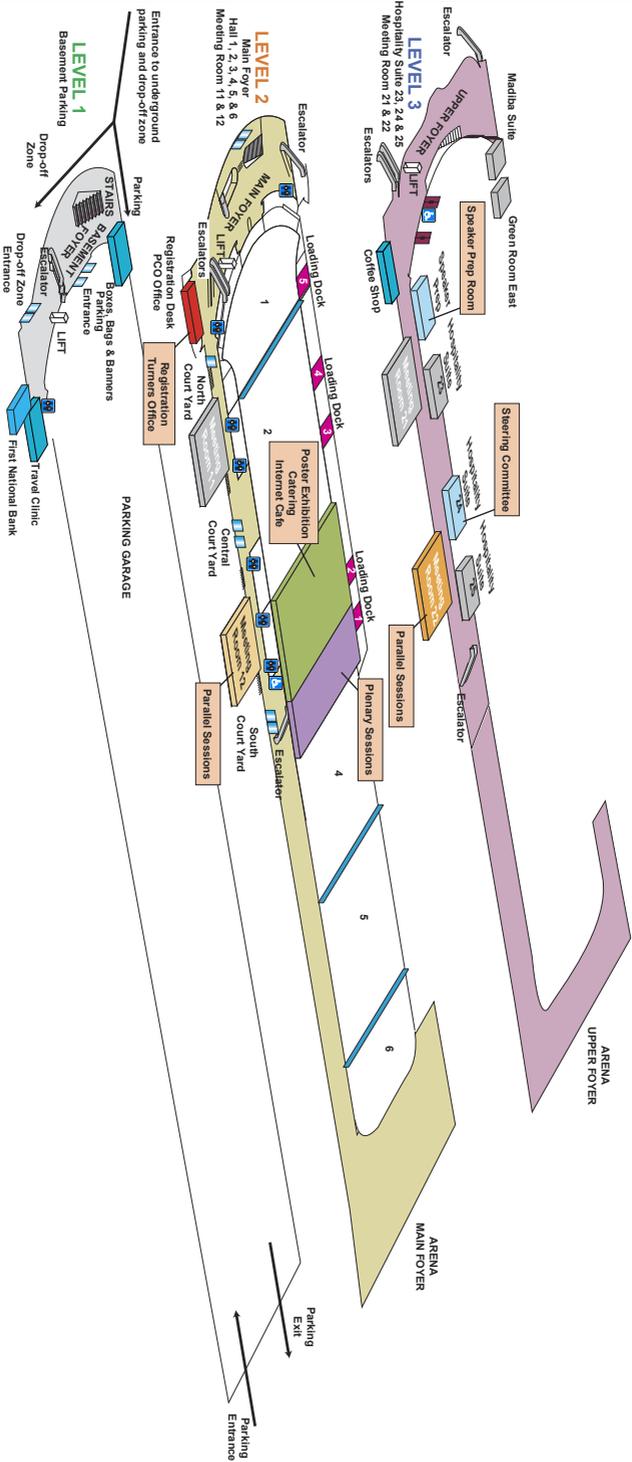
**POSTER EXHIBITIONS****April 8 – 9, 2008**

Location Hall 3A

**BOOK EXHIBITIONS****April 8 – 9, 2008**

Location Hall 3A





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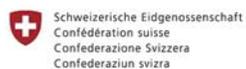
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