From our current vantage point, 2019 feels like it was years ago, not mere months. COVID-19 has changed our society irrevocably. The global pandemic and resulting quarantine have quickly reshaped so much of our lives and have created the opportunity to envision a new future.

As I reflect on World Forestry Center’s growth and evolution last year, I feel the hope building. As you will see in this Annual Report, World Forestry Center’s team spent 2019 advancing the organization’s mission – to create and inspire champions of sustainable forestry – while laying the groundwork for increased relevance and impact in the future. Building on its extraordinary facilities and long history of engaging forestry professionals and the general public, World Forestry Center is now poised to accelerate and amplify its impact, both locally and around the world.

Notably, 2019 was the first full year for Executive Director Joe Furia, and his vision and guidance have already proved invaluable. I particularly want to recognize his service as chair of the Mitigation Committee for the Oregon Governor’s Council on Wildfire Response. Catastrophic wildfires threaten the sustainability of both our forests and our society, and Joe’s work on that committee was emblematic of World Forestry Center’s role in problem solving by forestry professionals, connecting public to its interdependence on forest, and stewarding a place to support sustainable forestry champions.

As 2019 was also my first year as Board Chair, I appreciate the support of my fellow board members. On behalf of all of us, I’d like to extend my appreciation to the support of my fellow board members. On behalf of all of us, I’d like to extend my appreciation to all of you for your commitment to advancing the organization’s mission – to create and inspire champions of sustainable forestry.

For over half a century, World Forestry Center has been at the intersection of people and forestry. Our mission, to create and inspire champions of sustainable forestry, is focused on shaping people – and through their actions, forests.

In this way, our work has always focused on social change. Improving forests by improving society’s understanding and appreciation of forests.

In my first full year as Executive Director, we have focused on improving our ability to affect this change through our existing work, which can be split into three related areas: professionals, public, and place.

Shaping a society that values and takes action to support the economic, ecological, and social benefits of forests requires all three. We must continue to drive problem-solving by forestry professionals, create events and experiences that connect the public to its interdependence on forests, and steward a place that supports a community of sustainable forestry champions.

As you read through this year’s Annual Report, you will see that we have used that same structure to organize our content. One section focuses on our professional programs, another details our public work, and the third highlights the unique campus that makes it all possible.

We will continue to improve our impact in all three areas and provide the coordination necessary such that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. A sustainable forestry future depends on it.

Thank you.
Wildfire Council Brings Governor to World Forestry Center

“You are recommending significant investments in mitigation and fire suppression as well as substantive policy changes for helping communities adapt and recover from fire,” said Governor Kate Brown to the Oregon Council on Wildfire Response at World Forestry Center on September 26, 2019.

“It is imperative to Oregon’s future to act on these recommendations and procure the funding to do so.”

In early 2019, Governor Brown signed an executive order creating the Council and tasking it to review Oregon’s model for wildfire prevention, preparedness, and response. The group included a wide variety of experts in the fields of conservation, healthcare, forestry, and government.

In March, World Forestry Center hosted Governor Brown in Miller Hall for the first meeting of the Council. In September, she returned to receive the group’s nearly final recommendations.

“As chair of the Council’s Mitigation Committee, I’m honored that World Forestry Center could act as the host for such a historic and important event,” said World Forestry Center Executive Director Joe Furia. “Wildfire affects all aspects of our society. It requires a broad base of stakeholders to evaluate its impacts and potential solutions through an ecological, economic, and social lens,” said Furia. “It is a lens that we at World Forestry Center bring to all forestry issues.”

On Wednesday, September 18, 2019 World Forestry Center welcomed nearly 400 professionals to our Washington Park campus for our Who Will Own the Forest? conference. Now in its 15th year, Who Will Own the Forest? brings together timberland managers, investors, and stakeholders to highlight innovation, build community, and be inspired. The two-day event is one of the largest timberland investment gatherings in the world.

The 2019 conference featured a keynote address, sponsored by Freres Lumber Company. Eric Corey Freed, Sustainability Disruptor at Morrison Hershfield, offered his dynamic take on the risks and rewards of a timber future.

“You’re not in the timber business,” said Freed. “You’re in the most-valuable-and-renewable-commodity-on-Earth business.”

The program continued with sessions on the global megatrends influencing forestry, including climate change and shifting demographics. “Climate change presents new risks and opportunities for investors in forests,” said World Forestry Center Deputy Director Sara Wu. “These issues are only growing in importance.”

Another first was the session on diversity, equity, and inclusion in the forestry industry. The panel included World Forestry Center Board Member Dr. Thomas Easley, Assistant Dean for Community and Inclusion at Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, and Bettina von Hagen, CEO of EFM.

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Richard Banda (Malawi)

“When I go back home, I will develop a multiple benefit reforestation project proposal with the support and guidance from the connections I have made here. This project will have a socio-economic impact on the communities and control deforestation and environmental degradation in Malawi.”

Fen-Hui Chen (Taiwan)

“All the activities, including study tours, guest speakers, and meetings, arranged by the program have facilitated my understanding of the fundamental knowledge of natural resource management in the Pacific’s Northwest.”

Zhongyuan Ding (China)

“As forestry in my country has been experiencing rapid development and finding itself at a crossroads, it is crucial to make a comparison with others, rethink our approach, and gain global awareness.”

Rodolfo Vieto (Costa Rica)

“The human and financial resources that the Harry A. Merlo Foundation have provided allowed me to work with brilliant minds that specialize in conserving landscapes and have learned how to approach landscape conservation at a scale that reflects the needs and aspirations of the local people.”

Will Maiden (United Kingdom)

“Oregon is one of the best places globally to investigate forest issues, and I feel very lucky to have spent six months looking into a subject close to my heart.”

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World Forestry Center // worldforestry.org
The Hagenstein Lectures Amplifies Emerging Voices

Ten young leaders in forestry brought thought-provoking dialogue to the World Forestry Center in late October 2019. The fourth annual Emerging Voices in Forestry event featured dynamic conversations on the predictability of wildfire, opportunities for women fighting those fires, and the actions required to evolve forestry for the future.

Emerging Voices is the signature event in The Hagenstein Lecture series. It highlights the work of forestry professionals under 45, providing them a platform for their fresh perspectives and the constantly-changing work of sustainable forestry.

The Hagenstein Lectures is a public initiative led by World Forestry Center and the Society of American Foresters to honor the legacy of professional forester William D. Hagenstein.

These conversations were envisioned as a way to feature new voices in forestry. We wanted to highlight the work being done by this next generation.”

— Rick Zenn, World Forestry Center Senior Fellow

In 2019, World Forestry Center was pleased to add a new exhibit to the second floor of our Discovery Museum. Logging Equipment Through the Years showcases tools of the forestry trade dating back to the late 1800s.

The custom exhibition illuminates several important forestry technologies and advancements, such as the Hanchett Sharpener and the Bardon Choker Hook, which was patented by ESCO Corporation.

Logging Equipment Through the Years was made possible through the support of these generous sponsors: Fred and Barbara Heller, The Friends of Paul Bunyan Foundation – an Associated Oregon Loggers entity, Gary Betts, Dick Renoud, ESCO Corporation, and Johnny Mifflin.
In 2018, the family of Harold A. Miller approached World Forestry Center with a suggestion to improve the functionality, intimacy, and beauty of the Miller Hall grounds for the next generation of visitors and patrons. On August 18, 2019, Miller family members and World Forestry Center staff gathered for a private dedication of the completed Grandchildren’s Garden.

Over a year in the making, the capacity-building project reimagined the green space outside of Miller Hall. Designed by Huntington & Kiest, the renovation added new walkways, a wooden arbor and fencing, and dozens of native trees and shrubs to World Forestry Center’s already lush Washington Park campus.

“This garden is the most used site on our entire campus,” said Executive Director Joe Furia. “Place is at the heart of everything we do at World Forestry Center. The Miller family’s generosity in funding this project continues their long legacy of support for the next generation of sustainable forestry champions.”

The renovated Grandchildren’s Garden is home to more than 125 events and 22,000 people annually.

The project was made possible through the generous support of the family of Harold Miller, Hank Swigert, and World Forestry Center’s board of directors.

For a full list of donors, visit worldforestry.org/garden-donors

Forestry Leadership Hall

Inductions Bring Leaders to Our Campus

Established in 1971, Forestry Leadership Hall commemorates those who have contributed to the social, economic, and environmental benefits of forests. In 2019, World Forestry Center honored Bill Bradley, Thorold Gunnerson, and John Warjone by inducting them into this prestigious group.

Each induction culminates with a celebratory reception at World Forestry Center. These events bring together a diverse group of the honoree’s friends, family, colleagues, and supporters. By hosting them at our Washington Park campus, we foster our existing relationships while building new ones. During the induction, the honoree’s biography is ceremonially added to our Leadership Hall, joining the more than 200 forestry leaders already recognized. These biographies contribute to the collective history of forests and forestry in the Pacific Northwest and across the world.

Thank you to our donors for your support of our honorees.
2019 DONORS
January 1 through December 31, 2019

GIFTS OF $100,000+

Woodlands Association of the Oregon Community Foundation

John & Susan McCracken of the Oregon Community Foundation, Center Endowment Fund

Canadian Forest Capital

Bill Bradley

Charley Tarver

Hank Swigert

Edwin Sweeten

The Lyme Timber Company

Ambassador Howard H. Leach

The Lyman Timber Company

Ed Hegert

Charlie Wertheimer

John & Judy Wilkinson

Keith Wollenberg

Hancock Timber Resource Group

Global Forest Partners

Domain Timber Advisors

Campbell Global

BTG Pactual Timberland Investment Group

Brookfield Asset Management

Adams & Reese

Stoel Rives

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Collins

GreenWood Resources

Rowan Legacy Forest Products

Stoel Rives

Forest Club Corporate Members $2,500

Port Blakely

Crown Club Corporate Members $1,000

Frees Lumber Company, Frees Foundation

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Harrigan Lumber Company

Lowe Rock Resources

Ochoco Timber Company

RSG Forest Products

Starker Forests

Thomson Tree Farm

Timber Products Company

Walsh Trucking Company

Gifts-in-Kind

Pacific Lumber Inspection Bureau

Books on forestry, forest products, and natural resources

Tsai Commins, Little Tsai

International training for International Fellows

Who Will Own the Forest: 2019 Title Sponsor $10,000

Northwest Farm Credit Services

Rowan Legacy Forest Products

Timberland Investment Resources

Who Will Own the Forest: 2019 Corporate Sponsors $5,000

Adams & Reese

American Forest Management

ArborGen

Brookfield Asset Management

BTG Pactual Timberland Investment Group

Campbell Global

CatchMark Timber Trust

Domain Timber Advisors

Eversheds Sutherland

Global Forest Partners

GreenWood Resources

Hancock Timber Resource Group

International Woodland Company

Jamestown

We have made every effort to include all donations from 2019. If our report contains errors or omissions, please accept our apologies and notify Merri Thompson, Development and Community Relations Manager, so we can correct them (503.488.2122 or mthompson@worldforestry.org).

We thank all who have supported the Grandchildren's Garden.

Thank you to all who have supported our programs. This listing only reflects 2019 gifts and is not comprehensive as some inductions took place over multiple years.

GRANDCHILDREN'S GARDEN, MILLER HALL

Boby & Leo Graham

Melissa McCloud Lilley

Sarah Miller Meigs & Andrew Meigs

Andrew W. Miller

Stimson Lumber Company

Madeline & Frank Torrey

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