

Announcement for the 8th International Canopy Conference

“Roles of the forest canopy in a changing world”

24th – 27th October 2020

Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden (XTBG),

Chinese Academy of Sciences

First Announcement (December 2019)



The canopy is the defining component of any forest ecosystem and harbours a large share of global biodiversity. The canopy community is vitally important for the essential roles in ecosystem functions and services. The development of new technologies and infrastructure, such as remote sensing and global network of canopy cranes, canopy science has been significantly propelled into a new era. Canopy science is now undergoing an exciting, radical development that involves with diverse approaches, ranging from descriptive studies to experimental manipulations and high-resolution remote sensing. However, there remain many challenges in understanding canopy systems in order to make predictions about the consequences of global-scale human disturbances and their impact on forest ecosystems.

The International Canopy Conference is held every four years and aims to showcase the latest studies and advances in the field of canopy science and to discuss future research directions in canopy ecology and other related disciplines. In 2020, the 8th International Canopy Conference will be held at Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden (XTBG), Chinese Academy of Sciences, Yunnan Province, China, from the 24th to 27th October 2020 under the theme entitled “Roles of the forest canopy in a changing world”.

Main symposia:

- Forest canopy biodiversity (Chair: Jiaolin ZHANG, XTBG, China)
- Functional roles of the forest canopy (Chair: Liang SONG, XTBG, China)
- Anthropogenic disturbance in the forest canopy (Chair: Frans BONGERS, Wageningen University, Netherlands)
- Remote sensing for canopy science (Chair: Jin WU, University of Hong Kong, China)
- Roles of forest canopy in environmental education (Chair: Margaret LOWMAN, California Academy of Sciences, USA)
- Canopy access techniques and new technologies for canopy science (Chair: Jamiluddin JAMI, South East Asia Rainforest Research Partnership, Malaysia)

Additional symposia or modification of the above symposia are welcome. Please email Akihiro Nakamura (a.nakamura@xtbg.ac.cn) by the 31st January 2020.

Plenary speakers:

- Forest canopy biodiversity
Professor Vojtech NOVOTNY (CONFIRMED), Czech Academy of Sciences and University of South Bohemia, Czech Republic (email: novotny@entu.cas.cz)
- Functional roles of the forest canopy
Professor Hans CORNELISSEN (TO BE CONFIRMED), Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Netherland (email: j.h.c.cornelissen@vu.nl)
- Anthropogenic disturbance in the forest canopy
Dr Stefan A. SCHNITZER (TO BE CONFIRMED), Marquette University, USA (email: S1@mu.edu)
Dr Brett SCHEFFERS (TO BE CONFIRMED), University of Florida, USA (email: brett.scheffers@ufl.edu)
- Remote sensing for canopy science
Dr Jin WU (CONFIRMED), University of Hong Kong, China (email: jinwu@hku.hk)
Professor Gregory P. ASNER (TO BE CONFIRMED), Arizona State University, USA (email: gregasner@asu.edu)
- Roles of forest canopy in environmental education
Dr Margaret LOWMAN (CONFIRMED), TREE Foundation, USA (aka “Canopy Meg”, email: canopymeg@gmail.com)
- Canopy access techniques and new technologies for canopy science
Professor Min CAO (CONFIRMED), Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China (email: caom@xtbg.ac.cn)

Public lecture speaker:

Professor Roger L. KITCHING (CONFIRMED), Griffith University, Australia (email: r.kitching@griffith.edu.au)

Language: English

Plenary oral presentations: We will invite one or two renowned researchers as plenary speakers for each symposium (30 mins each plus 10 mins of question time).

Oral presentations and posters: Each symposium will host 7-8 speakers (15 mins each including 3 mins of question time) and 3-7 poster presentations (A0 size: 1189 mm × 841 mm, 33.1 × 46.8 inch).

Abstract submission for oral and poster presentations: Abstract should be prepared on a A4 size document (1.5 line spacing) with title, author names (first and FAMILY names, with presenting author name highlighted in bold), affiliations with address, and email address of corresponding author. Four to six keywords should also be provided. Abstract should be written in English and word limit is 300 words.

Discussion sessions: We will have small group discussion sessions to set the future research directions and to facilitate international and inter-disciplinary collaborations.

Public lecture: We will invite one highly inspirational ecologist who is capable of interacting and communicating with the general public to tell the stories of our work and raise issues associated with conservation. We will invite an audience from local schools around XTBG and some students selected from other schools in Yunnan.

Excursion: We will organise a trip to visit Xishuangbanna Forest Dynamic Plot (affiliated to XTBG, ForestGEO, CForBio) and the canopy crane on the 26th October 2020 (Day 3 of the conference). The excursion fees (not included in the registration fees) will be announced in due course.

Scholarships: We aim to raise funding to support some students to travel and attend the conference. However, the number of scholarships will be announced once we confirm the amount of funding raised for this purpose. Scholarships for the tree climbing training course will also be available.

Pre-conference activity (19th – 23rd October)

Workshop by Gbadamassi G.O. DOSSA and Hans CORNELISSEN on “Integrating carbon and water cycling of trees vs. lianas from life to afterlife” will be held for invited contributors to achieve a greater understanding of both water and carbon cycles of self-standing trees and lianas individually and interactively. With this, we also hope the workshop will address future avenues with an integrated approach to study water and carbon cycles in forest canopies.

Post-conference activity (28th October – 1st November)

Tree climbing training course (Levels 1 and 2, certified by Ropeskills Rigging SDN BHD) will be held by Jamiluddin JAMI and his team members as a post-conference workshop. The course fees will be announced in due course. The number of participants is limited (around 5-7 participants per class) and, if the number of applications exceeds the limit, we will have two separate courses or choose the participants by drawing lots. **Please contact Aki (a.nakamura@xtbg.ac.cn) if you are interested in registering this course!**

Host institutes:

Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS)
Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden (XTBG)

Co-organising association:

Japan Association of Tropical Ecology (JASTE)

Organizing committee members:

Chair: Jin CHEN (XTBG, CAS, China)
Members: Jiyue CHEN (XTBG, CAS, China)
Hui CHEN (XTBG, CAS, China)
Sidi WANG (XTBG, CAS, China)

Academic committee members:

Chair: Akihiro NAKAMURA (XTBG, CAS, China)
Min CAO (XTBG, CAS, China)
Members: Keping MA (Institute of Botany, CAS, China)
Wanhui YE (South China Botanical Garden, CAS, China)
Luxiang LIN (XTBG, CAS, China)
Ekgachai JERATTHITIKUL (Mahidol University, Thailand)
Takao ITIOKA (Kyoto University, Japan)
Tetsuro Hosaka (JASTE, Hiroshima University, Japan)
Roger KITCHING (Griffith University, Australia)
Claire OZANNE (University of Roehampton, UK)
Gbadamassi G.O. DOSSA (XTBG, CAS, China)

Registration fees: Registration fee includes all materials (conference booklet, badge, conference bag etc.), morning and afternoon coffee breaks, lunch (24th, 25th and 27th October), and dinner (including banquet on the 24th, 25th, 26th and 27th October). Registration fee **does not** include the optional excursion fees.

	Early bird Before or on the 15 th July 2020	Normal Between the 16 th July 2020 and 16 th September 2020 (inclusive)	Late or on-site After the 17 th September 2020
Regular (non-student)			
Developed countries *	¥ 1500 / US\$220	¥ 2000 / US\$290	¥ 2500 / US\$360
Developing countries *	¥ 1000 / US\$150	¥ 1500 / US\$220	¥ 2000 / US\$290
Least-developed countries *	¥ 800 / US\$120	¥ 1000 / US\$150	¥ 1500 / US\$220
Students			
Developed countries *	¥ 1000 / US\$150	¥ 1500 / US\$ 220	¥ 2000 / US\$290
Developing countries *	¥ 800 / US\$120	¥ 1000 / US\$150	¥ 1500 / US\$220
Least-developing countries *	¥ 600 / US\$90	¥ 800 / US\$120	¥ 1000 / US\$150

* Please refer to

https://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/wesp/wesp_current/2014wesp_country_classification.pdf

Accommodation: Waterlily Hotel (王莲酒店) is within XTBG and available for conference delegates at discounted price (380 RMB = 60 USD per night including breakfast). For budget travellers, many hotels that accept non-Chinese visitors are also available in the town (around 70-200 RMB = 10-30 USD per night). Please see below for some of the hotels available in Menglun town (all within walking distance to XTBG). We will update accommodation information in due course.

Number (refer to the map)	名称/name :	地址/address :	Tel :	Price :
1	王莲酒店 Royal Waterlily Hotel	植物园内 In XTBG	0691-8716088; 18487913223	380 yuan/day (with breakfast)
2	勐仑博识达商务酒店 Menglun Bo-shi-da Business Hotel	勐仑正街 (顺清超市对面) Opposite to Shunqing Supermarket, Menglun town	0691-8717777; 18787996331	120 yuan/day (no breakfast), 138 yuan/day (with breakfast)
3	旭日大酒店 Xuri Hotel	近勐仑镇政府 Next to Menglun Government Office Building, Menglun town	0691-8716999; 18183777008	120 yuan/day (no breakfast), 130 yuan/day (with breakfast)
4	宝乐大酒店 Baole Hotel	勐仑镇五树广场东行 200 米 200 m east of Wushu square, Menglun town	0691-8716668; 13708812881	120 yuan/day (no breakfast)
5	勐仑春林宾馆 Menglun Chunlin Hotel	植物园吊桥口 Near the suspension bridge of XTBG, Menglun town	0691-8715681; 13759252885	70 yuan/day (no breakfast)

Map of XTBG and surrounds



Conference schedule:

	24 th Saturday	25 th Sunday	26 th Monday	27 th Tuesday
08: 30-09: 30	Registration	Symposium (Ecosystem functions)	Excursion to visit the Xishuangbanna Forest Dynamic Plot and canopy crane	Symposium (Remote sensing)
09: 30-10: 30	Opening ceremony			Symposium (Education)
10: 30-11: 00	Tea break	Tea break		Tea break
11: 00-12: 00	Symposium (Biodiversity)	Symposium (Anthropogenic disturbance)		Symposium (Education)
12: 00-13: 30	Lunch	Lunch		Lunch
13: 30-15: 30	Symposium (Biodiversity)	Symposium (Anthropogenic disturbance)		Symposium (Canopy access and new technologies)
15: 30-16: 00	Tea break	Tea break		Tea break
16: 00-17: 00	Symposium (Ecosystem functions)	Symposium (Remote sensing)		Small group discussions
17: 00-18: 00	Poster session	Small group discussions	Poster session	Closing ceremony
18:00-	Dinner		Dinner	Dinner
19:00-	Public lecture	Banquet dinner		

Xishuangbanna: Xishuangbanna (also called Banna, Sibsongbanna, or Sipsong-panna) is a Dai (or Tai) Lu Autonomous Prefecture in the south of Yunnan, bordering Laos and Myanmar. Xishuangbanna in Dai language means “12 rice growing areas (12 administrative areas) dedicated for the (local) dynasty”. The capital of Xishuangbanna is Jinhong which straddles Mekong River (also known as “Lancang River in Chinese). The population is approximately 1.2 million and the majority of the population consists of Dai (傣族) (30%) followed by Han (29%), Hani (19%) and Yi (6%) (see also https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Xishuangbanna_Dai_Autonomous_Prefecture). A total of 13 ethnic groups live in this region and they have their own culture and language, making Xishuangbanna very unique and quite different from other parts of China. This region is in the northern limit of tropical biome which harbours much of the biodiversity in Yunnan. Although a lot of large mammal species are now locally extinct in this region, small populations of elephants are still found. One of the most common land use is monocultural rubber plantations which converted large proportions of rainforests and now covers over 20% of Xishuangbanna. Elevation ranges from 477 m (at the confluence of the Mekong River and

South River) to 2429 m asl (Mengsong, Menghai County). Annual rainfall ranges from 1190 to 2500 mm and annual mean temperature ranges from 18.6 to 21.9 °C.

Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden (XTBG), Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) is one of the best-known tourist attractions and research institute in this region with over 700,000 visitors annually. The garden occupies 1,125 ha encompassing tourist areas (flower garden, arboretum, orchards etc.), research areas, nurseries, rainforests and limestone forests. XTBG has over 300 staff (more than 100 staff with PhD degree) and over 250 graduate students. XTBG is unusual for a CAS institute as more than 10% of research staff and students come from over 30 countries outside China. XTBG promotes science advancement and environmental conservation through the implementation of collaborative multi-disciplinary research programs, horticultural exhibition and public education of tropical botany. XTBG envisions itself as a Noah's Ark for tropical plants, an innovative center for plant diversity conservation and ecological research, and an attractive and relaxing place for the general public to enjoy and become educated about the beautiful tropical forests of Xishuangbanna.

Weather and climate in October: October is the beginning of dry season and heavy and/or prolonged rainfall is generally rare. Temperature varies between day and night with daytime maximum temperature reaches 30 °C whereas minimum temperature can reach as low as 10 °C. It is recommended to bring short sleeved shirts as well as a warm jumper or jacket for night time.

Getting here: Regular and frequent flights are available between Kunming (capital city of Yunnan Province) and Jinhong (capital city of Xishuangbanna Prefecture, often called "Banna"). XTBG is approximately 60 km away from Jinhong Airport (often called Xishuangbanna or Banna, Airport Code is JHG) and takes 1.5 hour drive. We will organise free shuttle buses between Jinhong Airport and XTBG on the 23rd (all day) and 24th (morning only) October 2020 for the registered delegates.

