



Aims

This year, we are focusing on challenges related to the way we use land and the supply and demand for natural resources in the future and to think about the research pathways that will help us to prepare for and address the challenges we will face in the future.

This month, we are 'looking into the future' of a specific resource - wood - and we'll use it to make links between innovation and design, and the future supply and demand for natural materials.

The panel of witnesses will explore how shifts in the way we use wood may change and by focusing on timber in buildings, we are hoping to generate questions related to both forestry production and the kinds of materials that architects, designers and engineers will be looking for in the future.

Agenda

All the witnesses will give a 10 minute introduction and their perspective on the two core questions followed a general discussion:

- 5:00pm Welcome by the Chair and an introduction to the topic
Each witness gives a short introduction and thoughts about the questions (10 mins)
Questions and beginning the open discussion
- 6:00pm Coffee break
Continue the discussion in three groups and then come together for final thoughts
- 7:15pm Reception and dinner, which will include a working session

Witnesses

This month, the three witnesses are:

Professor Peter Freer-Smith	Chief Scientist, Forest Research and Forestry Commission
Jon Kirkpatrick	Head of Sustainability, Europe, Lend Lease
Michael Ramage	Senior University Lecturer, Department of Architecture, University of Cambridge

Questions

The witnesses have all been asked two core questions:

- 1) What do you perceive as being the main gaps in our knowledge?
- 2) What would you include in the 'next generation' of research questions?

Each of these questions will be posed to everyone and their answers will then be used as a springboard for further discussion. The main points raised will then be sent to everyone to use as a starting point for the next meeting.

Witness profiles

Professor Peter Freer-Smith

Chief Scientist, Forest Research and Forestry Commission

As Chief Scientist for Forest Research and Forestry Commission, Peter ensures that Forest Research provides the scientific knowledge and expertise required to achieve sustainable forest management. He ensures that advice to policy makers and practitioners is based on good scientific understanding and sound research and contributes to the formulation and implementation of the Forestry Commission's policies and objectives. Additional responsibilities include Head of Station at Alice Holt Forest near Farnham in Surrey (where he is based) and representing Forest Research on the Forestry Commission Research Management Board.



Peter studied for his first degree at Stirling University gaining a first class degree in Biological Sciences. His PhD was on the Impacts of Air Pollutants on Trees. Both his PhD and DSc are awarded by the University of Lancaster. Peter did two periods of post-doctoral research at Lancaster before moving to a lecturer's post at the University of Ulster. He joined the Forestry Commission in 1987. In June 2005 Peter was appointed Honorary Visiting Professor in the School of Biological Sciences, University of Southampton. He was appointed Forestry Commission Chief Scientist in 2009.

Jon Kirkpatrick

Head of Sustainability, Europe, Lend Lease

Jon Kirkpatrick heads up sustainability for Lend Lease across the EMEA region, and acts as the central liaison for all sustainability issues across all of its business units. His role covers two essential areas, environmental operations plus associated performance and development innovation and strategy (both environmental and community investment).



In addition to embedding sustainability across the business, he is also ultimately responsible for sustainability on major projects at Lend Lease, and works primarily on significant urban regeneration projects across Europe (such as Elephant and Castle & The International Quarter). Jon works closely with the development teams to focus on comprehensive urban and infrastructure problems, including finding solutions for renewable energy, water, waste, transport, biodiversity, green infrastructure and public realm issues through integration of sustainability into design. Before joining Lend Lease, Jon has experience across a wide number of major projects globally including the London 2012 Olympic Park and Education City in Qatar as an associate director of EDAW/AECOM.

Michael Ramage

Senior University Lecturer, Department of Architecture, University of Cambridge

Michael Ramage is an architectural engineer and Senior Lecturer in the Cambridge University Department of Architecture, a fellow of Sidney Sussex College, and a founding partner of Light Earth Designs. He studied architecture at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and worked for Conzett Bronzini Gartmann in Switzerland prior to teaching at Cambridge.



His current research is focused on developing low-energy structural materials and systems in masonry, better housing in the developing world and improved engineered timber and bamboo through natural material innovation. He teaches, researches and designs buildings, and receives research funding from the Leverhulme Trust, the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, the Royal Society, the British Academy, Cambridge University and industry.