



EFICEEC - EFISEE News

This is the EFICEEC-EFISEE News, an electronic newsletter devoted to the EFICEEC-EFISEE network. The intent is to provide update information every third month and call attention to our latest news and

accomplishments. EFICEEC-EFISEE News will be distributed via email as well as posted on the joint [EFICEEC-EFISEE website](#).

EFICEEC-EFISEE Annual meeting 12-13 February 2015 in Vienna

The first joint Annual Meeting of EFICEEC-EFISEE is scheduled for 12-13 February 2015 at premises of BOKU University in Vienna. We have an ambitious agenda including items such as:

- EFI update and concept for Regional Offices
- Discussion on EFICEEC-EFISEE strategy
- Introduction of Regional Advisory Group

- Planning of Special Issue on CEE and SEE regions for the journal Forest Policy and Economics
- Screening of new funding opportunities and proposals for action
- EFI Annual Conference 2016 in Vienna

We warmly welcome our partners to Vienna, and hope for rich participation to discuss our future direction. More information and a registration form you will find [here](#).

New Director appointed for EFI

Dr. Marc Palahí has been appointed as the new Director of EFI and will start his 5- year term on 1 January 2015. The decision was made by the EFI Board and the EFI Council gave its assent to the appointment. The Director is based at the EFI Headquarters in Joensuu, Finland.

“Marc Palahí is a visionary leader and he has an impressive track record in developing networks and joint initiatives, as well as in fundraising and leading research and policy support in an international context,” states Chairman of the EFI Board, J. Bo Larsen.

Find more information [here](#).



Photo by Saku Ruusil

Forests and the bioeconomy: future steps

The 12th Thinkforest event “Forests and the bioeconomy” was held the 13 November 2014 at the European Parliament in Brussels. The event focused on the potential contribution of European forests to the bioeconomy. The event was chaired by *Mr Göran Persson*, ThinkForest President, and presentations were held by *Sylvi Listhaug*, Norwegian Minister of Agriculture and Food, *Mihail Dumitru*, Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development, and *Lauri Hetemäki*, Head of EFI’s Foresight and Policy Support Programme. Topics covered ranged from the role of the forest sector in the bioeconomy, the new European Forest Strategy and the future of the European forest-based sector. All presentation are available to download at the [EFI Thinkforest portal](#).

Following the conclusion of the Thinkforest event, **EFICEEC presented a recent evaluation on the science-policy interface** to the Thinkforest Advisory Board at the European Forestry House. Results from the survey indicate that most of the participants found the Thinkforest events to be very useful, not only as an information-sharing platform, but also as an event that allows the science community and policy makers to network and engage in a dialogue on forest-relevant topics. The Thinkforest process can consequently be seen as particularly relevant as no previous high-level events of this type has been held at the European Parliament, which certainly helps to bring up forests on the political agenda in Brussels.





TRAINING SCHOOL and STSMs within COST Action FACESMAP

COST Action FACESMAP (FP1201) is starting its third grant period in the January 2015. In the next year, it is planned to hold: one Management Committee and Working Group (MC&WG) meeting from 8-10 June 2015 in Zagreb (Croatia); one WG meeting in autumn in Scotland/UK (date and place to be confirmed); and few small sub-group meetings.

Beside these meetings, the CALL for **SHORT-TERM SCIENTIFIC MISSION (STSMs)** will be open by the end of the 2014. The aim of a STSM is to foster collaborations of Early Stage Researchers (ESRs) and to contribute to the scientific objectives of the COST action FACESMAP.

Furthermore, **TRAINING SCHOOL on “Qualitative research methods”** will be organised from 4-8 May 2015 in Umeå, Sweden. Training school will provide ESRs with skills on how to conduct qualitative research on issues related to forest resource management, which are relevant to the transformation of forest land ownership in Europe and its significance for management and policy.

For information on this and all other information related to FACESMAP COST Action, please visit [Action website](#)

5th StarTree General Assembly in Padova

Around 50 participants attended the 5th StarTree General Meeting in Padova from 28 - 30 October 2014.

Hosted by the University of Padova, project consortium partners gathered to discuss the In-Depth Case Studies, Action Research, Supply Chain Survey and Work Package progress and next steps.

A field trip and Knowledge Exchange Event with stakeholders from the Trentino-Alto Adige regional stakeholder group (RSG) was organised on 29 October. The visits were organised around the issue of supply chain of mushrooms in the region. Companies that were visited were: Consorzio funghi; Paganini Funghi and Padova Funghi. Furthermore, a marketplace was organised at the Casa Marina - Galzignano, in which many of the stakeholders and NWFP companies from Trentino-Alto Adige took part.

For more information on the **StarTree project** please visit project [website](#), or follow updates on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter!](#)



Marketplace @ the Casa Marina (photo by Ivana Zivojinovic)

Conference GREEN2014, Zagreb 26-28 November 2014

The conference **“Natural resources, green technology and sustainable development”** was held in Zagreb, 26 - 28 November 2014, as an **EFI associated event**. The conference was organised by the Croatian Forest Research Institute, the Faculty of Food Technology and Biotechnology and the Faculty of Forestry, University of Zagreb, the Institute for Adriatic Crops and Karst Reclamation and Croatian Society of Biotechnology. A three day conference hosted more than 200 participants from 14 countries with 70 oral and 58 poster presentations. Key notes included Prof. Davide Pettenella from the University of Padova, Dr. Bernhard Wolfslehner (EFICEEC) and Prof. Margaret A. Shannon (IUFRO, Division 9). Main topics included: natural resource management and potential of rural area, functional food and useful products from natural

sources, implementation of green technology, biomass and sustainability, biodiversity and ecosystem services.

Find more information [here](#).



Photo by Croatian Forest Research Institute



COST action TN1401 Capacity building in Forest Policy and Governance in Western Balkan Region – CAPABAL

The kick-off meeting of the new targeted network action CAPABAL was held in Zagreb on 2 October 2014. **Next Core Group and Work Group meeting** is going to be in **Belgrade 2 - 4 February 2015**.

The meeting will be followed by **training school „National Forest Programs from science-policy-**

practice perspective”, 4 - 6 February 2015. Details about the training school and an invitation for potential participants will be released soon.

More information about CAPABAL can be found in the [COST newsletter](#).

EFISEE hosted small group meeting of the COST action FP1204 GreenInUrbs

A small group meeting on economic valuation of urban forest and green infrastructure benefits within the COST action **FP1204 GreenInUrbs** was **hosted by the EFISEE office in Zagreb 28 October 2014**.

The meeting involved three European leading experts for economic valuation of urban forest and green infrastructure benefits – Paul Nolan from the Mersey Forest (UK), Kenton Rogers (Treeconomics, UK) and Mariagrazia Andreucci (Sapienza University, Rome, Italy) who presented various models and tools available for this purpose including i-Tree toolkit.

The aim of the meeting was to develop the action plan for implementation of activities related to economic valuation within the timeframe of the COST action GreenInUrbs.

More information about this COST Action you can find at [Action website](#) or [COST website](#).



Photo by *Silvija Krajter Ostoić*

Silva Mediterranea Working Group 7 Meeting on Urban and Periurban Forestry, 20 November 2014, Rome, Italy

FAO organised a second meeting this year of the Silva Mediterranea Working Group on Urban and Periurban Forestry (UPF) in Rome on 20 November 2014. This group was established on the 21st session of Silva Mediterranea held in Turkey in February 2012. It shall respond to the needs for exchange of expertise, experiences and information on UPF in order to promote a “green vision” and raise UPF on the political agendas in the region.

The purpose and mandate of this group is to establish and consolidate a UPF networking strategy for the

Mediterranean countries by acting as a neutral forum where nations can meet and debate policy issues on UPF. Researchers, practitioners and policy makers from Mediterranean countries are invited to get involved in the activities of this group. The next meeting is planned in connection with the Fourth Mediterranean Forest Week to be held in Barcelona 17-20 March 2015 where a side event on UPF in Mediterranean will be organised. From the EFISEE team, **Silvija Krajter Ostoić has been involved in this working group from the very beginning**. More information on this group find [here](#).

MOUNTFOR PhD School

EFI Project Center MountFor organized a PhD day on Tuesday 4 November at the Free University of Bozen–Bolzano, Italy. A number of PhD students from the MountFor institutions presented their scientific works in the dedicated framework. Read the book of abstracts [here](#).

Bernhard Wolfslehner held a **key note on European mountain forest research** and participated in the subsequent MountFor Steering Group meeting as EFI contact person, Inter alia, it was discussed how to further sharpen the profile and how to get international partners involved. More information about MountFor find [here](#).





Publications

Sarvašová, Z., Zivojinovic, I., Weiss, G., Dobšínská, Z., Drágoi, M., Gál, J., Jarský, V., Mizaraite, D., Pollumae, P., Šálka, J., Schiberna, E., Šišák, L., Wolfslehner, B., Zalite, Z., Zalitis, T. (2014) **Forest Owners Associations in the Central and Eastern European Region**, Small-scale Forestry 11/2014 [available ONLINE]

den Herder, M., Khadka, C., Pelli, P., Wolfslehner, B., Sandker, M., Lindner, M., Hetemäki, L., Rametsteiner, E., Muys, B. & Palahi, M. (2014) **Scenario Development to Strengthen National Forest Policies and Programmes - A review of future-oriented tools and approaches that support policy-making**, Forestry Policy and Institutions Working Paper 34, Rome, FAO, p84.

Upcoming meetings and conferences

- International Online Conference “Economics of Climate Change Mitigation Options in the Forestry Sector”, 6 - 27 February 2015 (online conference)
- The Fourth Mediterranean Forest Week, 17 - 20 March 2015, Barcelona, Spain
- Conference “Coppice forests: past, present and future”, 9 - 11 April 2015, Brno, Czech Republic
- 6th CASEE Conference “Latest trends in Bioeconomy in the Danube Region”, May 24 - 26, 2015, Slovak University of Agriculture, Nitra, Slovakia
- Conference “Mountain Forest Management in a Changing World”, 7 - 9 July 2015, Smokovce, High Tatra Mountains, Slovakia



*Season's Greetings
and all good wishes
for the New Year!*

The EFICEEC-EFISEE TEAM