



## 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: <http://www.eficeec.efi.int>.

## EFICEEC Partner meeting

About 25 participants convened for the EFICEEC partner meeting, held in Sopron, 25 April 2013, in the premises of the University of West Hungary. The consortium was given an update on the past period, and activities and products arising were discussed including presentations of partners being involved in common projects. For the coming 12 months, two main items have been discussed: the conceptualization of a review paper on forestry issues in CEE, and the planning of a regional conference in the first half of 2014. Both elements shall serve as conclusion of the first period of EFICEEC, and as a boost for the years to come.



Photo taken by: Ivana Guduric

## EFICEEC evaluation of the first period

The evaluation of the performance of EFICEEC for 2009-2013 is due this year. The EFI Board will decide upon recommendations of the Scientific Advisory Board on the further procedure of EFICEEC. The recently approved mid-term evaluation drew a positive intermediary conclusion, so we are looking optimistically into the future. Major tasks will include securing the budgets for the coming period, go in line with the new EFI business plan and involve our partners and members there, and find a proper mode for the further collaboration with EFISEE.

## StarTree accelerates!

The consortium of StarTree, the recently started 7th Framework Programme project on non-wood forest products and multi-purpose trees, convened from 7-10 May, 2013 in Riga hosted by the Latvian Forest Research Institute.

Following up the kick-off procedure in November 2012, particular focus was given on the set-up of regional case studies in the recent months. The 14 case studies across all over Europe need harmonization in study design and data collection to advance beyond the scattered state of knowledge on non-wood forest products (NWFP) in Europe.

One of the major objectives of StarTree is to facilitate knowledge transfer and exchange among regions including management and marketing guidance. Innovative cases shall act as role models, and highlight alternative and profitable pathways of using

forest resources in a multifunctional manner. A web-based platform, StarTree Market Place is expected to bring together these experiences and ideas and transfer newly identified potential on NWFP from research to practice.

Progress of the StarTree project can be followed on the:

- Project website [www.star-tree.eu](http://www.star-tree.eu),
- Twitter <https://twitter.com/StarTreeProject>, and
- Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/startreeproject>





## 1st joint MC & WG meeting of COST Action FP1201 (FACESMAP)

The first joint Management Committee (MC) and Working Group (WG) meeting of COST Action FP1201 (FACESMAP) took place in Hungary (Sopron) from 22 - 24 April 2013.

This was the first meeting where all 110 Action participants from 28 countries gathered together to work on the topic of "Forest Land Ownership Changes in Europe: Significance for Management And Policy" (FACESMAP). The meeting was hosted by the University of West Hungary.

The meeting established the work plans in each of three working groups and to focus the future steps of the action. The work on country reports was initiated during the meeting, and sub-groups dealing with special issues within the working groups were formed.

At the meeting, a strong interaction with stakeholders was organized (application of a new "Travellab" approach) which comprised of discussions with stakeholders on site. During the field trip, the group had the opportunity to learn about the context of Hungarian forest ownership structure and its development during the years.

On the field trip, the group visited representatives of the farmers, Hungarian forestry cooperations and so-called 'forest Integrators'. In addition, a visit to a biomass heating station and the herb garden of the monastery Pannonhalma was organized.



FACESMAP group  
(photo taken by: Ivana Guduric)

**Next meeting of FP1201 Action will be held from 16 - 18 October 2013, in Solsona, Spain.**

For more information please visit the website of the FACESMAP Action <http://facesmap.boku.ac.at/> or contact Gerhard Weiss (gerhard.weiss(at)boku.ac.at).

## EFI WINTER SUMMER SCHOOL

The 2nd EFI Winter Summer School (WSS II) met for its first week in the little town of Belin-Beliet (near Bordeaux) in the Aquitaine region of France. The theme for this WSS II is 'entitled 'making values work – 'sustaining multiple values in managed forests'. The maritime pine plantations in Aquitaine provided the context for this first week while the **second will take place from 30 September – 4 October 2013, in the mountain forests of Austria.**

There were 23 students in the WSS II representing 14 countries ranging from the Belorussia and Ukraine to the Azores and from Egypt and Greece to Lithuania.

The week began with a field trip through the maritime pine plantations, moor, and dune areas along the Atlantic coast. The group learned about the unique cultural history of this region where the forests were established under a decree of Napoleon III. Each of the following days began with lectures from research scientists from a cultural, economic, and social

perspective that helped to perceive and understand values in plantation forests.

For more information please visit the webpage: <http://www.eficient.efi.int/portal/news/?bid=1076>



WSS II participants  
(photo taken by: Doni Blagojevic)





## EFI Annual Conference, 23-27 September 2013, Nancy

European Forest Institute (EFI) celebrates its 20th anniversary in 2013. This commemoration of its major achievements is also an opportunity to analyse of the future of our forests and how EFI and its partners can contribute to meet the challenges related to the various changes, risks and uncertainties to which our forests will be exposed.

EFI 20 Years Science and Policy Forum will stimulate balanced discussion between policy/decision makers, stakeholders and scientists on concrete issues related to the future of our forests, and the risks and opportunities they face. On 25 September, a high level conference: “Our forests in the 21 century – ready for risks and opportunities?” gathers both scientists and decision makers.

For more information please visit the webpage: <http://www.efi.int/portal/efi20years>.

## New intern @ EFICEEC office

Julia Maximova is new intern at EFICEEC office in Vienna and she will be assisting our team during next three months. The internship is part of her Master's degree in Forestry and Environmental Engineering at the University of Eastern Finland. Apart from forest sciences Julia's background is also in translation and cross-border studies.

During the next few months she will get to know the work of EFICEEC and ongoing projects, assist our research team as well as start collecting material for her future MSc thesis in forest economics and policy. We strongly believe that this internship will become a highly valuable and positive experience whole EFICEEC team.



## ST Petersburg summer school

The Summer School will present and discuss forest governance approaches in Russia, the EU and in a pan-European context, introducing and applying policy analysis and forest sector foresight methods. Moreover, actual issues such as trade and forest certification, criteria and indicator development will be presented and discussed. The Summer School supports the development of skills required to define and analyse European and Russian forest policy problems, including introductions to issues at stake as well as research methods and approaches.

From EFICEEC-EFISEE, Dr Helga Puelzl will be involved in the teaching part of this summer school.

**International Summer School:  
Russian forest governance in a  
European context, 8 - 12 July  
2013, St. Petersburg, Russia**

## Interdisciplinary workshop on Forest Conservation in Freiburg

The workshop on “**Perspectives on Forest Conservation - Tackling the Frontier between Policy and Conservation Science**” took place 19 - 21 June 2013, in Freiburg, Germany. It was organized as the final conference of the interdisciplinary Biodiversa-Era-net project “Beech forests for the future”, led by Georg Winkel, University Freiburg, and with the participation of Maria Geitzenauer and Gerhard Weiss, EFICEEC-EFISEE.

A great number of interdisciplinary and international papers were presented and discussed. It is planned to publish them in a special issue (the journal is not yet decided) particularly looking at interdisciplinary analysis approaches on nature conservation, combining natural and social sciences.

For more information please contact Gerhard Weiss ([gerhard.weiss@boku.ac.at](mailto:gerhard.weiss@boku.ac.at)) or Maria Geitzenauer ([maria.geitzenauer@boku.ac.at](mailto:maria.geitzenauer@boku.ac.at)).





## BIOTEAM: EU-co-funded Project IEE/12/842

As per the 1st of April the Lithuanian Research Centre for Agriculture and Forestry participates in the EU-co-funded Project IEE/12/842 (BIOTEAM): "Optimizing Pathways and Market Systems for Enhanced Competitiveness of Sustainable Bio-Energy".

BIOTEAM aims to: (i) examine what would be the most competitive bio-energy pathways (e.g. within categories liquids, solids and gases) and how these comply with Member States' sustainability priorities; (ii) identify actions to bridge the gaps between observed and desired bio-energy pathways; (iii) support public and private stakeholders in including these actions in their decision making.

Through these steps, the impact of BIOTEAM will be that the relevant public and private sector stakeholders in six EU countries (Finland, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Lithuania and Poland) are presented options to revise their decisions (e.g. bio-energy policy incentives, choice of biomass feedstock and investment size of bio-energy production plants) geared towards maximizing the competitiveness and sustainability of their bio-energy systems and individual pathways.

For more information please visit the webpage: [http://www.eaci-projects.eu/iee/page/Page.jsp?op=project\\_detail&prid=2611](http://www.eaci-projects.eu/iee/page/Page.jsp?op=project_detail&prid=2611).

## Free access to EFISCEN and ToSIA with Trees4Future

EFI's EFISCEN and ToSIA models are two of the 28 research facilities (models, genetic databanks, laboratory facilities) on offer to researchers via the Trees4Future project's Call for Transnational Access. Researchers can apply to use the facilities and visit EFI's headquarters in Joensuu to receive training. Access is free, and support for travel and subsistence is offered.

Apply now! Access is open to researchers and other experts from EU-member and associated countries. Proposals can be submitted via the Trees4Future website in a simple, two-step process.

\*For more information on how to apply, please visit [www.trees4future.eu/transnational-accesses.html](http://www.trees4future.eu/transnational-accesses.html).

\*More information about ToSIA: <http://www.trees4future.eu/transnational-accesses/tosia.html>.

\*More information about EFISCEN: <http://www.trees4future.eu/transnational-accesses/efiscen.html>.

Trees4Future is an Integrative European Research Infrastructure project that aims to integrate, develop and improve major forest genetics and forestry research infrastructures.



## Upcoming meetings and conferences

- EFI 20 Years Science and Policy Forum: Our forests in the 21st century – ready for risks and opportunities? 23 - 27 September 2013, Nancy, France
- "New Challenges for Community Forestry: Sharing Scientific Knowledge in a South – North Perspective", 23 – 25 September 2013, Lennep-Remscheid, Germany
- Northern Forests in a Changing Climate, 17 – 18 September 2013, Hallormsstaður, Eastern Iceland
- Forest Biomass Conference, 7 - 9 October 2013, Mierzęcin Palace, Poland
- World Forum on Natural Capital, 21 – 22 November 2013, Edinburgh

