**EFICEEC – EFISEE Regional office, EFISEE office – Opening event**

Varaždin, 21.12.2012

Minute taker: Biljana Stojanova

**First part – Opening and first group presentations**

Marko Lovrić – Welcome note and emphasizing the significance of establishing EFISEE office

Goran Rubin - Representative of the Ministry of Agriculture Croatia – Deputy Minister

* establishing EFISEE office recognized as a means to strengthening coordination and researchers’ network in the region

Welcoming letter of Prof. Saša Zelenika – Ministry of Science Education and Sports

Welcoming note

* Dijana Vuletić , Director of Croatian Forestry Institute- Jasterbarsko
* Goran Habuš - Major of City of Varaždin

Risto Päivinen– Director of EFI, “The success story of EFI and the role of the regional offices in the implementation of the EFI strategy”

* 131 member organizations in 36 countries, covering almost all Europe
* Why to have regional offices?
* Mutual benefit
* Specialty to each offices
* Bringing different regional topics for discussion on EU level
* Different networking tools
* Policy support
* EFI overall founding is growing – founds sources increased

Brenhard Wolfslehner – EFICEEC – EFISEE Head of office

* EFICEEC Office established in 2010 April
* 30 partners from 17 countries
* Three working areas : - Forest sector policy and economics

 -Land use changes

 -Forest ecosystem management

 - Main purpose- integrated forestry research

- EFI is constantly changing – managing relations between donor and partners

- FOPER as already established network – one step forward

- Incorporating EFI activities into FOPER network - COST action activities

- KEY message: “There are no borders, just huge potential for international collaboration”

Doni Blagojević – FOPER project officer- “FOPER capacity building Creating opportunities and changing forest governance discourse”

* 9 partner institutions in 5 countries
* FOPER activities:

-Education- two generations of Master students

-Research- 9 Policy relevant research Projects results to be used by the politicians and solving practical problems

-Training, support, networking (Innovative thinking)

- Professional training

Dijana Vuletić - EFISEE regional office ideas and process of establishment – bringing EFI influence in the region

Marko Lovrić – introducing partners organizations

Dijana Vuletić

* CFRI : 3 components – forestry exchanging environment, forest adaptability and genetic diversity, adding values for forest products
* Membership: EFI, IUFRO, EUFORGEN, EUFGIS
* Publishing activities: SEEFOR – 3 years

Milan Medarević – Dean of Forestry Faculty of Belgrade

* FOPER international project, TEMPUS projects (temporary), 4 COST projects, individual projects

Makedonka Stojanovska – Faculty of Forestry, Skopje, Macedonia

* FOPER international project

Dalibor Balijan - Faculty of Forestry, Sarajevo, B&H

* FOPER international project
* GIS

Dane Marčeta - Faculty of Forestry, Banja Luka, B&H

* Local projects in cooperation with the Ministry of forestry, PE
* FOPER international project
* NATURA 2000

Ljubinko Rakonjac - Institute of forestry of Belgrade

Saša Orlović – Director of Institute of low land forestry and environment, Novi Sad

* International projects – FP7, ROKFOR

 Marijan Šušnjar-Vice Dean for international cooperation, University of Zagreb, Faculty of forestry

Leonidha Peri – Faculty of forestry science, Tirana, Albania