**Background material for the plenary session on the South‐East European Forest Research Plan**

**14:30-15:30, main conference room**

This session is intended to start a discourse on the South‐East European Forest Research Plan (SEEFRP). The purpose of the Plan is to be used by forestry research organizations in the SEE region as a guideline on where their research focus should be. The most prominent topics in the SESFRP will also be an integral part of the European Forest Research Plan (EFRP).

EFISEE will use SEEFRP to advocate its most prominent topics, to disseminate information related to it between EFI`s network and the SEE region and to facilitate related networking activities. Topics within SEEFRP related to forest policy and economics will be one of the guidelines on where the EFISEE will focus its research activities.

Based on the discussions from the Opening event EFISEE will make a first draft of SEEFRP that will be sent back to you for comments. The process will iteratively continue on, and the most recent version of SEEFRP will be available on the EFICEEC-EFISEE website.

The background documents for the first discussion of the SEEFRP are:

1. *European Forest Research Plan - summary for discussion at the side session of the*

*EFI Annual Conference in Istanbul, Turkey, 4 October 2012*

This document represents an intermediary listing of topics that were discussed on the European level, and in this context will be used as one of the reference points to induce discussion on SEEFRP

1. *Summary table of the Research agenda on forest policy and forest economics for the South east Europe region (2008)*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Issue** | **Alb** | **BiH** | **Cro** | **Ser** | **MN** | **FYROM** |
| Bioenergy |  | Yes |  | yes |  | Yes |
| Forest product certification | yes | Yes |  |  |  |  |
| National forest program | yes |  | yes | yes | yes |  |
| Reform of state forest enterprise |  |  | yes |  |  | Yes |
| Private forestry/Community forestry development | Yes, | Yes | yes | yes |  | Yes |
| Establishing forest extension service | yes |  | yes | yes |  |  |
| Roles of forestry in rural livelihoods and poverty reduction and national economy | yes | Yes |  | yes |  | Yes |
| Role of forests and forestry in nature conservation | yes | Yes |  | yes |  |  |
| Revision and harmonizing of forest legislation (against EU standards) | yes | Yes |  |  |  |  |
| Illegal logging and forest sector governance | yes | Yes |  |  | yes |  |
| Development of small and medium enterprises | yes |  | Yes | yes |  |  |
| Forest role in carbon sequestration and global climate change |  | Yes | Yes | yes |  |  |
| Impacts and mitigation of forest fires | yes | Yes |  |  |  |  |
| Increasing awareness of the society on multiple service functions of forests | yes | yes |  | yes |  |  |

Summary table of the Research agenda on forest policy and forest economics for the South east Europe region (2008)