



## EFICEEC - EFISEE News

This is the EFICEEC-EFISEE News, an electronic newsletter devoted to the EFICEEC-EFISEE network. The intent is to provide updated 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](#).

## EFI Annual Conference successfully completed

Around 120 participants made the **2016 EFI Annual Conference in Vienna** a highly appreciated one. Over two days the EFI member organisations discussed how to better connect science and knowledge to action. The new EFI strategy was introduced – it will reflect the strong connotations of EFI's work to policy support, while mobilising the expertise of its network and support access to new forms of collaboration. **This year's Scientific Seminar built on one of the very core domains of EFICEEC: the role of innovation in an upcoming bioeconomy development.** We made a journey from theoretical foundations of innovation research, to the EU dimension of research and innovation, and could explore a variety of practical examples how innovation could manifest in reality, be it new forms of hardwood use, the increasing significance of wood constructions, or how to further develop forest genetic resources.

A field trip to the Vienna water protection forest in perfect weather conditions made the whole event a

round thing. Many thanks to all supporting hands, and to so many of you for showing up.



Photo by Markus Kreiner

## Finalization of COST Action FP1201 FACESMAP – Call for papers

The FINAL CONFERENCE of the COST Action FP1201 FACESMAP **“Forest ownership changes in Europe: trends, issues and needs for action”** took place 7–8 September 2016 at the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna.

The papers of the conference are available on the Action website in form of extended abstracts and the presentations in pdf-form. More than 40 contributions from Europe and beyond were presented at the conference, including the central results of the Action. All information is available [here](#).

On the basis of Action results and conference contributions, a **Special Issue of Journal Forest Policy and Economics** is under preparation. Full paper submission **deadline is January 31, 2017**. Interested contributors – also from outside the Action – should send an abstract of their planned paper to

the Guest Editor Gerhard Weiss beforehand: [gerhard.weiss@boku.ac.at](mailto:gerhard.weiss@boku.ac.at).



Photo by Jasmin Zisch





## StarTree project on Non-wood Forest Products on the finish line

StarTree, the FP7 project on NWFP is going to be finalised in October. The last General Assembly meeting in Wales included a public **Wild Forest Products Fair** with workshops, demonstrations and exhibitors from Wales and European project partners. EFICEEC/BOKU organised a workshop discussion on successful entrepreneurship in the field of wild forest products which resulted in three important elements: passion, patience and practice.

The details on the workshop results and other tools and results will be included in the so-called **"Innovation Generator"** which has now been

launched on the project website. The Innovation Generator includes short descriptions of innovation tools and guidelines, an innovation case database and inspirational questions and stories.

Besides of scientific articles and policy briefs, a book on "Wild Forest Products" is under preparation under the EFI "What science can tell us" series. Most project outputs are now in the finalisation stage and will appear soon on the project website.

The final StarTree Conference took place on 13–14 October, 2016 in Barcelona, see: <http://star-tree.eu/final-conference-2016>

## COST CAPABAL Final Meeting

The Final Meeting of the first phase of **COST Action CAPABAL TN1401** was held from **23–25 August 2016 in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina**. The event was organized by the Faculty of Forestry University of Sarajevo.

The aim of the meeting was to present and discuss the outcomes of the activities of three Working Groups, STSMs and Training Schools. Key note speakers were Faruk Mekić who discussed imperative of regional research cooperation in the Western Balkans, Martin Šolar who presented vision

and mission through regional cooperation projects of WWF Adria and Lejla Šuman who talked about REC THEMIS Network.

During the meeting, first results, policy briefs and a future research agenda for the region have been discussed. STSM participants demonstrated how their activities could fit to a coherent forest policy research in SEE. It is upon to be decided now whether a second term of two years will be granted to complete the mission.

## "Natural resources, green technology and sustainable development/2" – GREEN 2016

The international scientific and expert conference "Natural resources, green technology and sustainable development/2" – GREEN 2016 was held Oct. 5–7, 2016 in Zagreb. It was jointly organized by the Croatian Forest Research Institute and the Faculty of Food Technology and the Biotechnology, University of Zagreb and supported by the Faculty of Forestry, University of Zagreb, the Institute for Adriatic crops and karst reclamation and the Croatian Society of Biotechnology.

Main topics included: productivity & sustainable management of ecosystems, food as natural source of functional ingredients, green technology for sustainable production, biomass for bio-based economy, environment and ecosystem services.



Photo by Croatian Forest research Institute

The programme and other information can be found here: <http://www.green2016.sumins.hr/>.





## The First NNEXT training school organised in Croatia – “Non-native tree species in Europe in the viewpoint of climate change: challenges, risks, opportunities – trade-offs”

The 1st NNEXT training school took place in Zagreb and educational and training facilities in Zalesina (Faculty of Forestry, Zagreb), from **23–27 August 2016**. It was organised by Croatian Forest Research Institute, in the frame of **COST Action FP 1403 NNEXT**. The main objective of this training school was to shape the opinion and initiate brainstorming on (I) the opportunities of growing non-native tree species (NNTS) in Europe and (II) the newly emerged conflicts in NNTS management. It also aimed at exchange of experience and information among young researchers, thus creating a network for future collaboration.

The school included fourteen participants from twelve EU countries and six trainers from four EU countries. Ecology and productivity of NNTS and their provenances in relation to native tree species were presented on the examples (natural forest stands as well as trial plots) in four different bio-climatic regions of the Republic of Croatia. These trial plots are the object of long term monitoring, which lasts for fifty years. Field excursions were conducted on the area of five Forest Administration Offices (Zagreb, Koprivnica, Karlovac, Delnice, Buzet).

Opportunities of growing NNTS were addressed during the school, such as:

- filling the gaps in the forest after calamities;
- enhancement of production and quality/diversity of products
- expansion on or creation of new local markets
- enhancement of options for bioenergy production
- better capacity utilization; creating better options for stability on landscape level
- lowering connectivity of pests/diseases/burning material
- help in sustainability of forest stands, soils, and ecosystem services, etc.

Besides the plenty of opportunities, there are challenges and risks that will be met in the future, and which have been addressed during the workshop. In addition, participants still work in groups on wrapping up and preparing conclusions and the discussions on NNTS opportunities and current and future issues. More information will be available after this joint report will be published.

More information please find at:  
<http://nnext.boku.ac.at/activities/training>.

## The call for abstracts for oral and poster presentations for the IUFRO 125th Anniversary Congress

The call for abstracts for oral and poster presentations for the **IUFRO 125th Anniversary Congress, “Interconnecting Forests, Science and People”** is open until **end of November**. It includes sessions such as on

- *Changing Forest Ownership: significance of trends and implications for management and policy*
- *Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Illegal and Informal Logging and Related Trade: Drivers, Impacts, and Governance Options*
- *Forest policies in the Baltic and Central and Eastern European (CEE) region*
- *Adaptive spaces: can forest planning support innovative forest practice and knowledge co-creation?*

- *Europe Inside / Outside – The export of European forest policies, objectives and architecture through public and private governance arrangements?”*

- *The potential contribution of forest related indicators to global issues*

- *Ecosystem services and the well-being of forest-dependent communities: enhancing social innovation and building resilience to global changes in remote rural areas*

and many more.

The call for abstracts is now open at <http://iufro2017.com/call-for-abstracts/> and the deadline for abstract submission is **30 November**.





## The call for abstracts for the 8th CASEE Conference

The CASEE network (the ICA Regional Network for Central and South Eastern Europe - The Life Science Universities of Central and South Eastern Europe) and the Warsaw University of Life Sciences warmly invite all members and PhD students from CASEE universities to submit an abstract oral/poster presentation for the 2017 CASEE Conference **"Sustainable development in Europe - cooperation between science and practice. What's the position of Central and South Eastern Europe?"** until **11 December 2016**.

Conference will be held from 14–16 May 2017 at Warsaw University of Life Sciences SGGW-WULS, Warsaw, Poland

More details find here:

<http://casee.boku.ac.at/index.php/15-events/125-call-for-abstracts-2017>.

You can also subscribe for The CASEE network newsletters here:

<http://casee.boku.ac.at/index.php/newsletter-registration>

## ICRE8 coordinates United Nations SDSN-Greece

The **United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)**, ([www.unsdsn.org](http://www.unsdsn.org)), set up in 2012, promotes practical problem solving for sustainable development, including the design and implementation of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), adopted in 2015 by the United Nations. Following the adoption of the SDGs, SDSN is now committed to supporting the implementation of the SDGs at local, national, and global scales. The Greek Chapter of the UN SDSN (UN SDSN-Greece, [www.unsdsn.gr](http://www.unsdsn.gr)) is co-hosted by **ICRE8** and the Political Economy of Sustainable Development Lab (operating at the [Department of Economics of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens](#)) and co-chaired by [Prof. Phoebe Koundouri](#) and [Prof. Andreas Papandreou](#). UN SDSN-Greece has embarked on a mission towards the implementation of the 17 SDGs and the three thematic priorities in Greece (Natural Capital Valuation, Sustainable Development in Times of

Crisis, Mitigation and Adaptation Policies). The aim is to map their degree of implementation in the country and create indices that will be used for supporting sustainable growth in Greece for the years to come. In this direction, it has set a number of goals including the assessment of the current status of Greece in achieving the SDG's, the provision of direction for national and local policy making, the development of businesses and start-ups in environmental management, health benefits, adoption of technology and lowering the cost of implementing EU Directives. Several tasks have been planned, including the development of the first Greek electronic library that will gather all information (research results, models, methods, end-user products) relevant for mapping the degree of implementation of the SDGs in Greece. In November 2016, UN SDSN-Greece will be hosting this year's annual conference of the Mediterranean UN SDSN.

*Achilleas Vassilopoulos, The International Centre for Research on the Environment and the Economy (ICRE8).*

## Publications

Curman, M., Posavec, S. & Pezdevšek Malovrh, Š. (2016) Willingness of Private Forest Owners to Supply Woody Biomass in Croatia. *Small-scale Forestry*, p 1-17; doi:10.1007/s11842-016-9339-9

## Upcoming meetings and conferences

- Conference "Green Infrastructure: Nature Based Solutions for Sustainable and Resilient Cities", 4–7 April 2017, Orvieto, Italy.
- 3rd International Conference on Landscape and Human Health, 17–19 May 2017, Vienna, Austria.
- IUFRO 125th Anniversary Congress "Interconnecting Forests, Science and People", 19–22 September 2017, Freiburg, Germany.

