



Integrate Network European Forest Institute

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News from the Chair

Dear Friends of the Integrate Network,

We hope that you all have enjoyed the first weeks of Spring! It is with great pleasure that we share with you today the recent developments and highlights of the outstanding work of our members over the past months. It goes without saying that it has not been an easy time, with many of us facing unforeseen challenges due to the ongoing pandemic – and not only on the professional level. In spite of these circumstances, we hope that our latest news will inspire you as we enter a new phase with the establishment of the Integrate Network's new Multi-Donor Trust Fund, on which you can find more details below.

The Spanish Chair is very committed to strengthening and further developing the Network in Spain and beyond. This is also reflected by the recent establishment of the Spanish “Monte de Valsain” Marteloscope, which we intend to show you in person at the Network's next annual meeting on 19–21 October 2022. Furthermore, the Network Secretariat will report on recent events and ongoing activities all over Europe, as well as on our future plans for the European Integrate Network.

Enjoy reading!

Leopoldo Rojo Serrano
Daniel Roures Rego
Integrate Network Chairs

News from the Secretariat

It is a great pleasure to announce that the Integrate Network Multi-Donor Trust Fund has been established by receiving the sufficient number of positive votes by the Integrate Members for adopting the new Integrate Network Multi-Donor Trust Fund Rules. By doing so, the objectives and strategic direction of the Integrate Network activities can be secured and further strengthened. The Trust Fund is administered by the European Forest Institute (“EFI”) through the Integrate Network Secretariat. For more information click [here](#).

Past events and activities



Commitments towards Sustainable Forest Management

On the occasion of the International Day of Forests (21 March), Members of the Integrate Network shared their commitments, strategies and management approaches towards Sustainable Forest Management and their use of resources. The statements were posted on social media to showcase the potential and success of

Integrated Forest Management across the Network's member countries. See a compilation of the announced commitments [here](#).



Climate change adaptation, mitigation and biodiversity conservation in European forests: different sides of the same coin?

Do climate adaptation, mitigation and biodiversity conservation goals walk hand in hand when it comes to the management of Europe's forests? Or are they closely related, but essentially different pursuits? To unravel the complexities of the topic, EFI and IUCN invited representatives from the EU Commission, academia, and the advocacy and policy arenas to debate key issues related to integrated forest management at the webinar "Are climate change adaptation, mitigation and biodiversity conservation in European forests: two sides of the same coin?", hosted on the 2nd of March 2022. The event was organised within the framework of the SINCERE Horizon 2020 project and of the Integrate Network. For an overview of the discussion, read our [webinar recap](#).

Upcoming events

On 28-29 June 2022 the Marteloscope Manager Workshop will take place in Bonn, organized in the framework of the FoReSite project that facilitated the Integrate Network and now is coming to an end. Our aim is to connect and exchange experiences on best practices, success stories and challenges we have been facing in the past years.



Integrate Meeting

Please save the following date in your calendar: Between 19-21 October 2022, the Spanish Integrate Network Chair will warmly invite you to the "Integrate Meeting" in Madrid. Besides the many benefits of an in-person meeting, we will also have the chance to visit the Segovia mountain forest and learn about the local perspectives on sustainable forest management including related challenges. More info, as well as a tentative agenda will follow.

Photo: Valsain Forest in Spain

For any information on events and communications activities please contact [gesche.schifferdecker \(at\) efi.int](mailto:gesche.schifferdecker@efi.int)

Updates from Practice



Why should we all learn to think like foresters - an interview with a forest educator

A new marteloscope installed near the forest education center Waldhaus Freiburg, in Germany's Black Forest, will give schoolchildren and other visitors the opportunity to learn more about sustainable forest management and the typical dilemmas of a forester. We spoke to Lisa Hafer, leader of the project "WaldKlimaRaum", to learn details on how the marteloscope will be used in practice. She also shared tips on how to get kids interested in forestry and explained why all those fighting for the climate should also be passionate about forest education. Read the [full](#)

[interview](#).

Photo: Waldhaus Freiburg



New marteloscope in Lazio, Italy

In Italy, marteloscopes are one of the most useful tools to communicate and teach how biodiversity conservation can be integrated into traditional forestry practices. In the past years, the Pennataro marteloscope in southern Italy, developed by the University of Molise, was used as an outdoor laboratory to implement teaching activities with students and forest practitioners. In the meantime, a team of forest researchers from the university set up a new marteloscope within the Riserva Naturale Regionale Selva del Lamone in Lazio in cooperation with the reserve staff. You can learn more about their ideas and methods to support sustainable forest management and the implementation of the Italian national forest strategy [here](#).

Photo: exploring marteloscope in Lazio, Italy



"Alone" in the woods: How I established a marteloscope in Flanders

How does it feel to be alone in the middle of a deserted forest, with the task of installing a new marteloscope? Ghent University student and former EFI intern Astrid Van den Bossche shared details on her experience in Eeklo, Flanders (Belgium) in this [blog post](#).

Photo: new marteloscope in Flanders



"Dehesa de Valsalobre" Marteloscope: getting ready for its inauguration

Recently, Spanish members of the Integrate Network, including the managers of the "Dehesa de Valsalobre" forest, had a meeting at the forest's marteloscope to explore the potential of the I+Trainer app by performing some simulation exercises. This was a great test of the latest version of the software (v.0.7.9.4 beta), which includes useful new features (e.g. the option to select a tree by introducing its numeric id) and translation to previously unavailable languages such as Spanish. A full step-by-step manual in Spanish on how to configure and use this version of the app was prepared. Learn more details [here](#).

Photo: Dehesa de Valsalobre marteloscope



A week in the life of a marteloscopist

EFI's marteloscope expert Jakob Derks shares his experience with transponders, ultrasonic waves, Belgium breakfast and windy roads while installing a marteloscope in an ancient mining region at the border between France and Luxembourg. Follow his journey [here](#).

Photo: setting up a marteloscope in Luxembourg

Updates from Policy

Making the FOREST FIT FOR



FUTURE

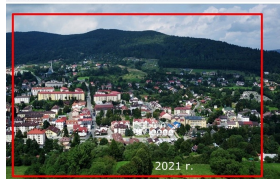
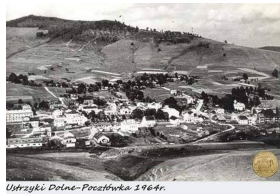
How can uniform coniferous stands in Northern Europe be converted to more natural and climate-friendly managed forests? How will that affect the economic outcome of forestry and what is the effect on biodiversity? These questions are raised and sought to be answered in the EU LIFE project Forest Fit For Future, a partnership between the Danish state forestry and the private forest sector. Read more [here](#).

Photo: Meeting in Dreisdorf, Germany



New project promotes sustainable forestry through Natural Capital Accounting

In response to recent developments in European and national forestry policies that are directed at promoting integrated management as a means of enhancing forest resilience, the new FORES project is starting to be implemented in Ireland. The project will develop Natural Capital Accounts for specific forest sites. These accounts will capture information on forest natural capital stocks (such as the amount, location and condition of forest habitats), and the flows of ecosystem services (in terms of commercial timber production, carbon sequestration, water retention, biodiversity and recreation). Funded by Ireland's Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM), FORES is the result of a collaboration between natural scientists at the Trinity College Dublin (TCD), the University College Dublin (UCD) and practitioners at Coillte, a forestry business in Ireland. [Explore the project website](#).



Nature protection as a leading principle: managing forests in South-Eastern Poland

South-Eastern Poland is characterised by a relatively high forest cover, reaching over 60% on foothills and mountainous areas. But is has not always been so green there. [Find out how](#) a combination of historic processes and forest management techniques that put nature protection at the center are ensuring the preservation of biodiversity while also responding to climate change.

Photo: forest development in Poland



“Working with forest owners is a continuous learning process”

As part of her work on the European Integrate Network, Elisabet Andersson is the Swedish focal point responsible for questions around forest conservation. We spoke with her about the role Swedish forests play for the economy, what measures are taken to both to preserve and to increase biodiversity, and how the Swedish Forest Agency is aiming at improving collaboration between forest professionals, policy makers and societal actors. [Read the interview](#).

Photo: Elisabet Andersson

Updates from Research

Building on the latest scientific evidence, this recently released report on

“Closer-to-Nature Forest Management” proposes a definition of the concept, a set of seven guiding principles and a framework/checklist for flexible European-wide implementation. The report was compiled in collaboration with researchers from all over Europe and published by EFI. [More information on the publication.](#)

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