



Integrate Network European Forest Institute

Issue 7 - December 2022

News from the Chair

Dear Friends of the Integrate Network,

It has been a busy year for the Integrate Network! All the more pleasing that we could meet in person in October in Madrid on the occasion of the 8th Integrate Annual Meeting. It was exciting to be part of the lively discussions on integrative, multifunctional forest management approaches coming from our European network, the importance of dialogue and the exchange of ideas, scientific and tacit knowledge, the importance of education, training and outreach and much more.

As this Newsletter marks the end of the year 2022, it is a good time to reflect on the wide array of activities within our network. Members have been very active and announced some first exciting ideas for the year 2023.

Find out about the recently held 8th Integrate Annual Meeting, new Italian martelosopes, the Irish Forestry Vision 2050, the meeting of the EU Forest Directors in Křivoklát region, the Slovenian Workshop on closer to nature forestry planned for spring 2023 and many more news items sent in by our network members.

One exciting and crucial milestone this year has been the launch of the Integrate Multi Donor Trust Fund to ensure the future financial support of the Integrate Network. It came into force in August 2022 and will rely on our joint effort to make the Network continue its successful path and grow during the coming years. This will allow us to further develop and promote the application of integrative forest management approaches across Europe in the triangle of policy, research and practice.

Last but not least, we are excited to hand over the Chairmanship to our colleagues in Luxembourg for the year 2023, knowing that the Network will be well represented and chaired!

This said, we hope that you are now looking forward to reading the newsletter and wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2023!

Leopoldo Rojo Serrano
Daniel Roures Rego
Integrate Network Chairs



News from the Secretariat

The past months marked an important transition in the history of the Integrate Network. The establishment of the Integrate Multi-Donor Trust Fund (I-MDTF), which came into force in August 2022, allows a more stable future for the network and builds on Integrate Members' financial contributions. The Network decides on and oversees the implementation of the I-MDTF activities in the form of jointly developed and approved (annual) working plans. EFI will continue to act as secretariat of the Network and facilitate the implementation of the work plan. Please find included the link to the [I-MDTF rules for more details](#).

Elisabeth Pötzelsberger, Head of EFI Bonn Office, will be on maternity leave as of January 2023. We would like to thank her for her dedicated work in the last two years. Bernhard Wolfslehner (Head of EFI Governance Programme), who already joined the Secretariat for the Annual Meeting and who is also leading the Forest Europe support office at EFI, will be taking over her tasks as secretariat coordinator of the Integrate Network for the time of her leave.

We would also like to use this opportunity to wish the outgoing chair Christoph Dürr (BAFU, Switzerland) and the current chair Leopoldo Rojo (MITECO) all the best for their well-deserved retirement and express in the name of the Integrate Network our sincere gratitude for their dedication and commitment as Chairs of the Network and as active members of the Steering Committee during the past years!

We also want to express a very warm welcome to our new Chair, Michel Leytem (Ministry of the Environment, Climate and Sustainable Development, Luxembourg) who will start his term in January 2023.

Past events and activities



Annual Meeting Madrid

The 8th Annual Integrate Network meeting in Madrid clearly was the highlight of the Network's activities in 2022. Upon invitation of the Spanish Chair 46 participants from 13 different European countries, including two representatives from the European Commission gathered in Madrid 19-21 October to exchange with colleagues from across Europe a very broad range of topics. They ranged from the Network's achievements and potential further contributions to EU policy processes, to forest adaptation and management for more resilient forests, forest monitoring and the learning opportunities at the Network's demonstration sites. Continue reading about the speakers and their inspiring presentations

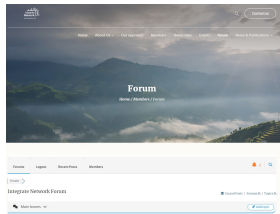
[here](#) and the exciting excursion to Valsain Forest, where participants were given a specific management task which they applied using tablets running the I+ software [here](#).



Marteloscope Manager Workshop in Bonn

As another highlight more than 50 marteloscope managers, researchers and other experts from 12 European countries gathered for a workshop in Bonn end of June 2022 to discuss technical, practical, training, and research issues related to forest management and nature conservation and how to apply most effectively and further develop the European marteloscope site network. More info [here](#).

Updates from Practice



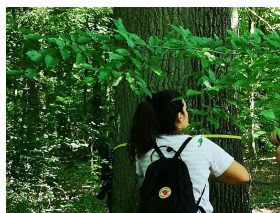
Virtual platform to enable informal exchange on demsites

Marteloscope managers, practitioners and other interest actors can now join the virtual “forum” on the integrate website, which was developed based on ideas from the manager workshop. The forum allows a more frequent and informal exchange on marteloscope-related topics. Do you have questions about the I+ software? You want to learn from the experiences of a marteloscope manager or discuss with colleagues from other countries on their particular approaches and objectives at their training sites? All this and more topics can be discussed in the forum. The registration is very simple, a manual is uploaded [here](#).



Meeting of the EU Forest Directors in Křivoklát region, Czech Republic

Marteloscopes encourage to discuss forest management decisions on site and in a very open exchange. The excursion of EU Forest Directors to the Křivoklát site focused on how to reconcile forest management and nature conservation. In addition to concrete examples of management, the participants had the opportunity to experience how biodiversity can be promoted in forests while maintaining the aim of wood production. More [info](#).



New marteloscopes in Trento, Italy

During the present year, the LIFE GoProFor project has started and conducted a collaboration process with the Forest Service of the Autonomous Province of Trento, for the preparation of three training areas, including each a marteloscope and dendro-microhabitat path. In these areas, training events were performed on how to effectively use these tools. The areas are located in a beech forest, a silver fir forest mixed with beech and spruce, in order to allow the training of Forest Service personnel in the main forest types of the Province. For more info contact Serena Buscarini (buscarini (at) dream-italia.it).



Equipping Irish forest owners, foresters and forestry students to manage diverse forests

A new forest training network aims to enhance confidence and ability in managing a diverse range of forests in Ireland, writes Jonathan Spazzi, Teagasc Forestry Development Officer. The full [blogpost](#) gives answer on how this will be done.



Establishing a dialogue between forest management and nature conservation in Central Bohemia

Marteloscopes are a good place to bring together different stakeholder groups. A good example of such an event took place in central Bohemia, where colleagues from Germany's Sachsenforst (State Forest of Saxony) were introduced to the integrative forest management approach of the Křivoklát forest. More info [here](#).



Young students discover the marteloscope on National Tree Day

Young students learn how to integrate biodiversity conservation into multifunctional forest management. This was the topic of the event organized by a team of young researchers from University of Molise lead by Giovanni Santopuoli on the occasion of the National Trees Day in Italy on 21st November 2022. The event was organised in cooperation with the Reparto Carabinieri Biodiversità of Isernia, at a Marteloscope located in Collemeluccio Forest Reserve, near Molise (Italy). Collemeluccio forest represents one of the rare natural refugia for silver fir. More info [here](#).

Updates from Policy



Ireland's New Forestry Vision

Ireland has developed a new Forestry Vision 2050 and a new Strategy. The new vision and strategy are grounded in the principle of the right trees in the right places for the right reasons with the right management. It aims to deliver more diverse forests which will meet multiple societal objectives. It also wants to incentivise landowners to plant and manage trees in a way that enhances and protects the environment and help deliver on ecosystem services. The strategy further focusses on the importance of forests for climate, nature, wood, people, and the economy. More info [here](#).

Updates from Research

Tree related microhabitats for use in research and education

Spatially-explicit data to understand patterns and mechanisms of tree-related

microhabitats formation in forest stands are rare. To train and eventually improve decision-making capacities related to the integration of biodiversity aspects into forest management plots marteloscopes have shown very useful. For each plot a set of data is collected at the individual tree level and stored in a database. A subset of the dataset is publicly available via the Global Biodiversity Information Facility, based on a data-sharing policy and now described in more detail in a peer reviewed data paper and openly accessible [here](#).

Outlook and upcoming events 2023



Internationale Grüne Woche Berlin

The German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) is joining the International Green Week. It will take place from 20-29 January 2023 in Berlin. As one of the best-known events in Germany it is the leading trade fair for food, agriculture and horticulture. The Integrate Network is pleased to contribute to the BMEL exhibition booth by providing information material and showcasing the approach of integrative forest management by an interactive visually attractive and user appealing application. For more questions, please contact Steven Doerr [steven.doerr \(at\) bmel.de](mailto:steven.doerr@bmel.de)



Slovenian Workshop on closer to nature forestry

Slovenia is planning a workshop on Closer-to-Nature Forestry in April 2023 (dates to be confirmed). Besides a series of topical presentations a visit to a privately owned managed forest enterprise will take place. The owner will give insights on how close to nature forestry is practiced in that forest. The Integrate Network, as well as several members have indicated their willingness to contribute with presentations to the programme. More details will follow soon.

Upcoming Integrate webinars

Two-three webinars will be organized in 2023, Stay tuned for updates! They will be announced on the [Integrate website](#).

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

European Forest Institute
Platz der Vereinten Nationen 7
53113 Bonn



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