



Italy



Finland



Germany



Belgium



Slovenia



France

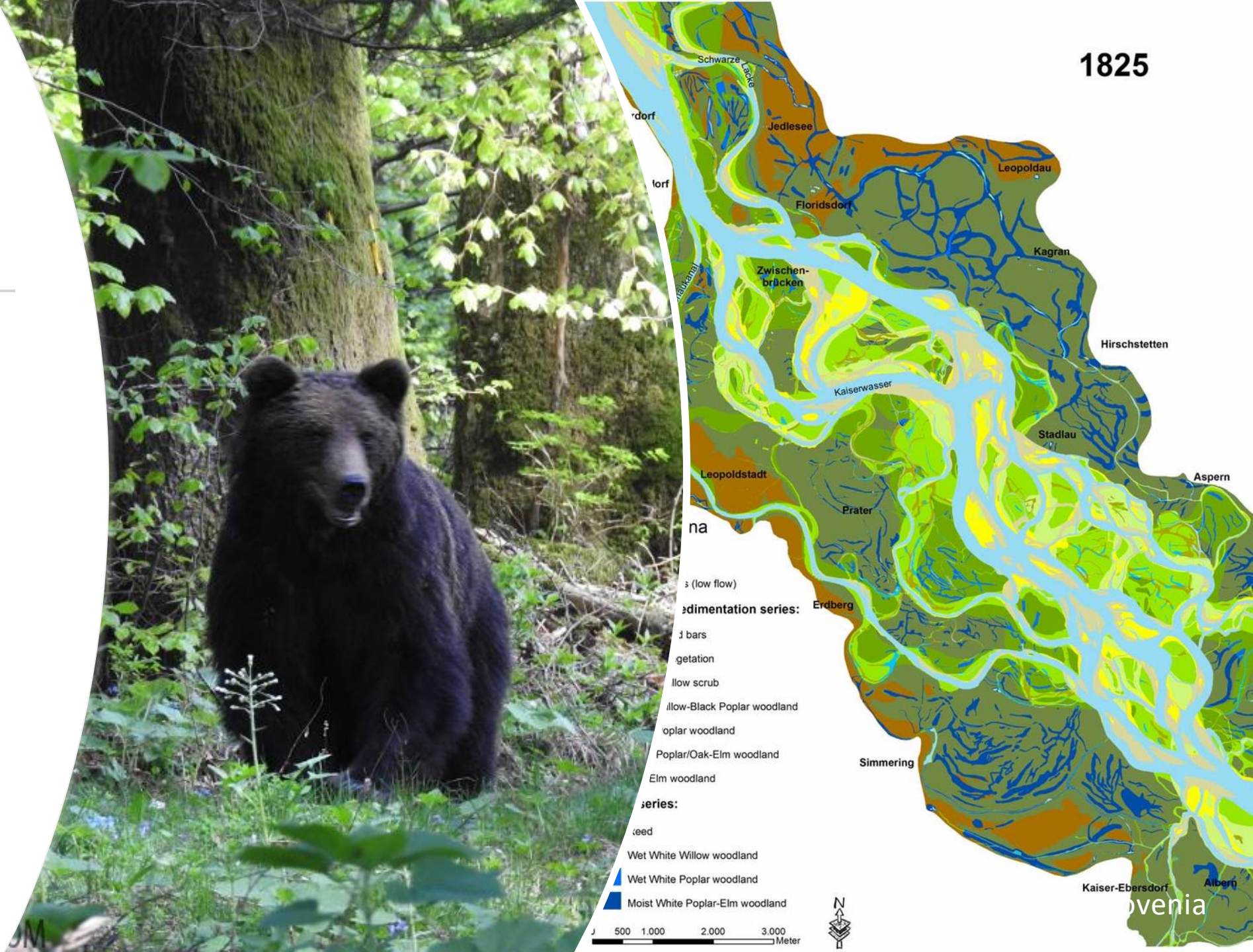
The evolution of urban forestry in Europe over the last 25 years

Clive Davies



A brief European history from wild forests to city forests to urban forests.

Europe is a naturally wooded continent but only fragments of the indigenous wildwood is left - usually in inaccessible mountain valleys and estuaries.



A European history from wild forests to city forests to urban forests.

Medieval Europe exploited Forests for essential products, many also became enclosed for hunting and some found themselves adjacent to newly growing cities such as Epping Forest, London.





A European history from wild forests to city forests to urban forests.

The modern day concept of Urban Forestry in Europe owes much to developments in America in the late 19th and early 20th century.

Image credit: Time Out, Wikipedia

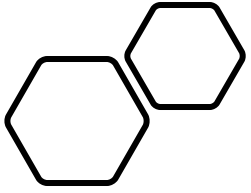


Urban Forests in the modern era

In Europe today we recognise 'Urban Forests' as wooded areas ranging from groups of single trees to major forests that are within (truly Urban) or influenced by urbanisation (Peri-urban).

Boscoincitta, Milan (lower) and
Kottenforst, Bonn (upper)





Urban Forests in the modern era

Linguistically we think of the urban forest as a 'collective noun' - referring to the collection of trees and associated habitats taken as a whole and urban forestry as a 'verb' that describes the management of the urban forest.

River Rhine peri-urban forest (upper), Lumiere Festival, Durham, UK (lower)





EFUF 2014 held in Lausanne, Switzerland

Networking

Whilst there are other European networks that are involved with urban trees the longest established (since 1998) is the European Forum on Urban Forestry EFUF).

It meets annually and attracts representatives from across Europe and much of the rest of the world.

Its role is knowledge exchange.

It is a non-incorporated association with a mailing list of over 1,000 urban foresters across Europe.

1998 – Wuppertal, Germany
1999 – Aarhus, Denmark
2000 – Budapest, Hungary
2001 – Durham, England
2002 – Trondheim, Norway
2003 – Arnhem, The Netherlands & Brussels, Belgium
2004 – Stockholm, Sweden
2005 – Celje, Slovenia
2006 – Florence, Italy
2007 – Gelsenkirchen, Germany
2008 – Hämeenlinna, Finland
2009 – Arnhem, The Netherlands
2010 – Tulln, Austria
2011 – Glasgow, Scotland
2012 – Leipzig, Germany
2013 – Milano, Italy
2014 – Lausanne, Switzerland
2015 – Brussels, Belgium
2016 – Ljubljana, Slovenia
2017 – Barcelona, Spain
2018 – Helsinki & Vantaa, Finland
2019 – Cologne, Germany

Networking

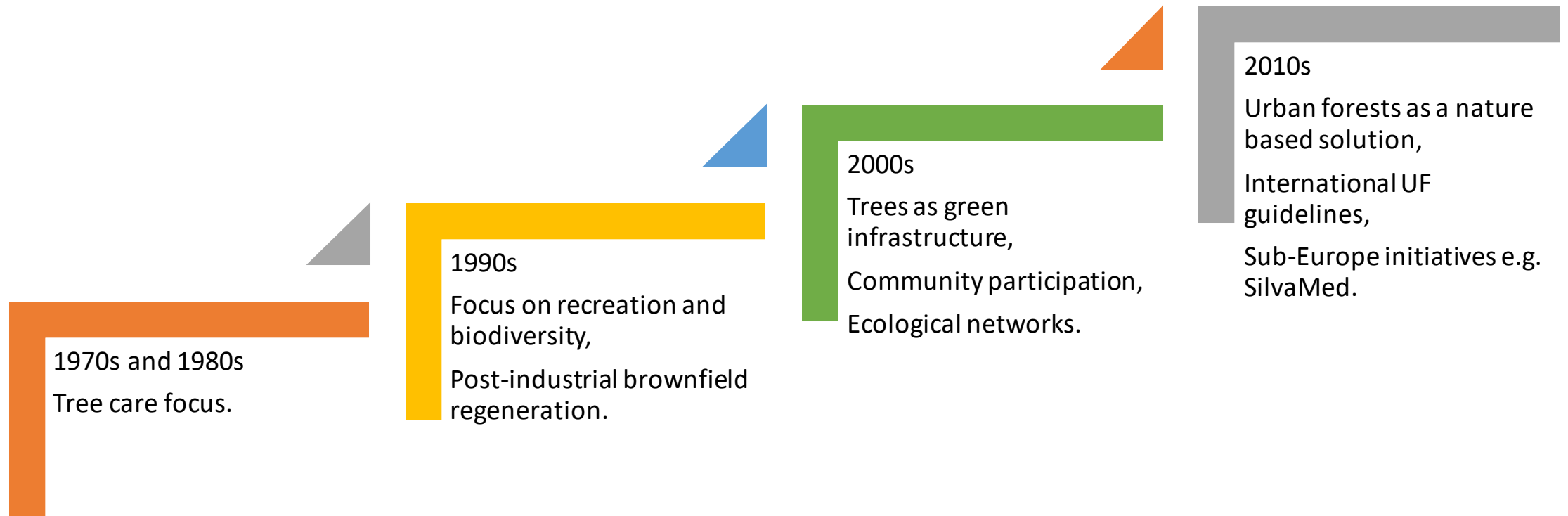


In 2018 EFUF and EFI agreed to work together and a memorandum of understanding was signed.

Future EFUF are already in Development:

- *2020 Manchester*
- *2021 Belgrade*
- *2022 Croatia*
- *2023 Poland*
- *2024 France*

Recent European Urban Forestry timeline



European Urban Forestry road map for the 2020s





Why an EFI led Urban Forest Facility is important

- There are big issues that Urban Forestry can help solve – *urban resilience, spiraling health and well being costs, maintaining quality of life in growing cities, urban trees as a resource not a cost, bioeconomic contributions, tackling biodiversity losses.*
- An EFI ‘urban forest’ facility working closely with EFIs bioeconomy, governance and resilience programmes will bring cumulative benefits to tackle these BIG issues. EFI is uniquely placed in Europe.

Italy

- From an EFUF perspective Italy has been amongst the most active in moving forward the urban forestry agenda over the past 25 years.
- Italy has a strong base of projects, and researchers already in place, many are attending today.
- There are few places better suited to such a facility in Europe.





Contact information

clive.davies@efi.int

clive.davies@efuf.org

[clive.davies@newcastle.
ac.uk](mailto:clive.davies@newcastle.ac.uk)