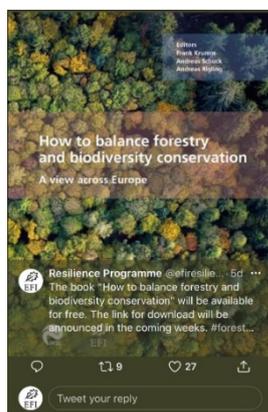

CORPORATE NEWS**REPSCO meeting 10 November 2020**

The main agenda item in the monthly REPSCO meeting was the discussion on the development of EFI's strategic instruments, including policy support and mobility grants to better meet the current and future demands. The meeting also agreed on the procedure to submit a joint feedback to the [Roadmap of EU Forest Strategy](#). This is one example on EFI's efforts towards providing science-based information to support EU policies. Finally, **Eduard** provided a presentation on open repositories ([available here](#)) This topic is highly relevant, as open access publishing of project results is becoming a requirement in many funding instruments.

The minutes of the REPSCO meeting will be available soon in EFI Intranet and REPSCO MS Teams. Further information from **Katriina** and **Robert**.

LOCALLY ADAPTED INTEGRATED FOREST MANAGEMENT CONCEPTS - a 'Tour d'Europe'

Faced with biodiversity loss, climate change impacts, and changes in the societal demands of our ecosystems, forest owners and managers across Europe have started to apply integrated forest management concepts to address the trade-offs between the multiple uses of forest ecosystems. Such were showcased during the final conference (09.11.-10.11.2020) of the WSL project oForest "How to balance forestry and biodiversity conservation - a view across Europe". It was held, as an online webinar and named after the oForest book title which compiles expertise of integrated forest management from over 150 authors. It took place in the framework of the European Network [INTEGRATE](#) and the German presidency of the council of the European Union. The Swiss Federal Office for Environment (BAFU), the German Ministry for Food and Agriculture (BMEL), the cantonal "Amt für Wald beider Basel", the European Forest Institute (EFI) and the Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research WSL jointly supported the conference.

The first day of the webinar was attended by more than 350 participants and focused on presenting 15 practice examples of integrated forest management from different countries and forest owners. Also the second day attracted more than 300 listeners which heard interventions by research, policy and practice on balancing forestry and biodiversity conservation followed by an introduction to the main findings of the oForest book publication by main editor **Frank Krumm** (WSL). **Georg** presented a multi author policy brief resulting from the INFORMAR and oForest projects on actions needed towards advancing biodiversity conservation through integrated forest management in Europe. The second day was complemented by a high-level panel discussion with representatives from Swiss and German ministries, research, forest industry, forest administration and nature conservation. The panel discussion included a questions and answer session, moderated by Swiss Television moderator **Mona Vetsch**.



The oForest project was a great example of collaboration between the WSL and EFI reflecting at multiple levels. Next to Frank and **Andreas Rigling** (WSL) Andreas acted as one of three book editors, many EFI Bonn team members contributed to book chapters and **Gesche** and **Jose** were instrumental for ensuring an enjoyable and smoothly running webinar. Great work all!

The book will become available as a pdf during the next weeks followed by a print edition. We will keep you posted on its release. Please also feel free to visit our [blog entry](#) on the webinar. For more info contact Andreas or Gesche

EUROPEAN GENETIC RESOURCES STRATEGY

Central to the development of the [European Genetic Resources Strategy](#), the key output of the GenRes Bridge project, is the involvement of a wide array of stakeholders in genetic resources conservation and sustainable use—including management practitioners, end-users and policymakers.

During the feedback workshop next week on 25-26 Nov, the draft European Genetic Resources Strategy will be presented and participants will discuss and develop the key commitments of the strategy that will form the basis of the Action Plan that will be appended to the main strategy document.

A series of webinars provided background information for the workshop. Three webinars addressed global (FAO) and EU strategies/policies of relevance for the European Genetic Resources Strategy. Another two webinars presented the draft strategy itself, as well as a concept for integrated conservation and sustainable use of genetic resources at landscape level (demonstration cases).

You can watch the five webinars [here](#).

For more information, please contact the EUFORGEN Secretariat (**Anna-Maria, Ewa, Lidwina, Michele**)

PUBLICATION NEWS

A new publication on herbivore and climate impacts in sub-arctic tundra is published in the Journal of Ecology. The work was carried out by researchers from the University of Oulu, University of Eastern Finland, University of Graz and **Michael** also contributed to this study during his PhD studies about 20 years ago. The study shows that there are complex climate, insect and vertebrate herbivory effects on shrub growth in the Arctic. When the experiment started more than 20 years ago, it was obvious that willow grouse and reindeer had a strong effect on Arctic willow shrub, but because of the rather slow growth of Arctic willows (about 1-3 cm per year) the intention was to continue the monitoring over several years. The analyses on the 20-year time series showed that negative effects of insect herbivory on shoot growth became stronger in warmer summers, whereas increased rainfall tended to moderate this effect. The warming effect increased willow growth, but this was moderated by increased feeding of multiple herbivores. The research is still not over and continues to look at the long-term cumulative impacts of the treatments, and also at the effects of changes in reindeer management, on the survival and growth of willows. You can find the full text [here](#).

Reference: Virtanen, R., Clark, A.T., **den Herder, M.**, Roininen, H. (2020) Dynamic effects of insect herbivory and climate on tundra shrub growth: roles of browsing and ramet age. Journal of Ecology (in press) <https://doi.org/10.1111/1365-2745.13551>

PROJECT NEWS

On 13 November, **CLEARING HOUSE** organised the inception meeting of its User Advisory Group and the Stakeholder Mirror Group. These groups will support the development of user-oriented tools and facilitate the dissemination of the outcomes of CLEARING HOUSE to the relevant stakeholders and communities.



Organisations involved include ISOCARP, ICLEI, Cities4Forests, the Chinese Academy of Forestry, INBAR, Chinese Society of Forestry, China Construction Engineering Design Group Corporation Limited, Shenzhen Landscape, Research Centre for Urban and Rural Ecological Landscape Architecture Planning at Tsinghua University, Politecnico di Milano, Arboricultural Association, PAN Bern, and Grand Paris Region.

STAFF TRAVEL AND VACATIONS

See continuously updated staff absences and vacations info [here](#).



Stay healthy and happy! 😊 Satu