

Forum on Ukraine Forest Science and Education: Needs and Priorities for Collaboration

21-22 November 2023, IIASA, Laxenburg, Austria

Ukraine's forestry and forest sector presently suffer from unprecedented challenges – foremostly caused by war and resulting research capacity drain, contamination, and devastation, but including also factors like climate change, forest health dynamics, wild land fires, and a decrease in forest productivity.

Considering the work done by Forest Europe and the International Science Council, this first round table Forum on Ukraine Forest Science and Education **aims at convening the scientific expertise necessary to catalyze coordinated and impactful international action addressing forest research and education needs and priorities of Ukraine.**

This overarching goal of the 2-day Forum will be achieved with the following **objectives**:

1. Provide a platform for discussion and networking to strengthen scientific collaboration among Ukrainian scientists and international peers.
2. Identify or map priorities for forest science collaboration building on the work done by Forest Europe, with particular emphasis on future joint activities (including events, educational tools, mobility, research projects, etc.).
3. Elaborate with invited representatives of international policy processes and technical organizations what would be required at the science-policy interface.

Expected Forum output:

Short summary of contents (including communication channels, research and education collaboration with Ukraine forest science sector, existing activities that could be replicated or scaled up), suggested recommendations and next steps.

Scientific Advisory Committee SAC

1. Prof. Ihor Buksha (URIFFM, Ukraine)
2. Volodymyr Kravets, (IFSA, Northern Europe)
3. Prof. Mikko Kurttila (LUKE, Finland)
4. Prof. Petro Lakyda (FAS, Ukraine)
5. Prof. Vasyl Lavnyy (UNFU, Ukraine)
6. Dr. Mariana Melnykovich (BFH/HAFL, Switzerland)
7. Prof. Elena Paoletti (CNR IRET, IUFRO, Italy)
8. Prof. Anatoly Shvidenko (IIASA, Austria)
9. Prof. Roman Vasylyshyn (NUBiP, Ukraine)

General Forum information

Participants upon invitation only.

Working language: English.

Forum hosts/organization team/contact

NUBiP / IIASA

Sergiy Zibtsev, Forum Chair

IUFRO

Alexander Buck Janice Burns

IIASA

Florian Kraxner

Forum on Ukraine Forest Science and Education

Agenda

Official Forum Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87402625920?pwd=Z2dmVVc3MlVx5SXNIUTdUTEJ4TWN4Zz09>

Meeting ID: 874 0262 5920

Passcode: 098885

08:00	Bus Transfer departing from Hotel Motel One (near Vienna Main Railway Station/Hauptbahnhof)
08:30-09:00	Registration and Welcome Coffee, Gvishiani Room
Day 1.	Current status and needs of forest research and education in Ukraine Gvishiani Room
09:00-09:30	<p>Opening Moderator: Florian Kraxner, Principal Research Scholar and Research Group Leader, Agriculture, Forestry, and Ecosystem Services, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)</p> <p>Wolfgang Lutz, Acting Director General, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)</p> <p>Sergiy Zibtsev, Professor, Department of Silviculture, National University of Life and Environmental Sciences of Ukraine (NUBiP); Head, Regional Eastern Europe Fire Monitoring Center (REEFMC)</p> <p>Yevhenii Tsymbaliuk, Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the International Organizations in Vienna, Embassy of Ukraine to the Republic of Austria (to be confirmed)</p> <p>Johannes Schima, Acting Head, Section of Forestry and Sustainability, Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management, Republic of Austria</p> <p>Alexander Buck, Executive Director, International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO)</p>
09:30-10:15	<p>Session 1: Efforts of International Organizations and institutions toward support of Ukrainian science, education, and collaboration</p> <p>Moderator: Mariana Melnykovich, Senior Researcher, School of Agricultural, Forest and Food Sciences, Bern University of Applied Sciences (BFH HAFL)</p> <p>Harald Egerer, Head of Vienna Programme Office, Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)</p> <p>Alberto Del Lungo, Forestry Expert, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)</p>

	<p>Maud Fichet Ibáñez, Team Leader, Directorate General Research and Innovation, European Commission (EC)</p> <p>Michael Wolf, Research Policy Officer, Directorate General Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission (EC)</p> <p>Bernhard Wolfslehner, Head, Governance Programme, European Forestry Institute (EFI) & Forest Europe (FE)</p> <p>Vivi Stavrou, Executive Secretary, Committee for Freedom and Responsibility in Science; Senior Science Officer, International Science Council (ISC)</p> <p>Volodymyr Kravets, External Councilor, International Forestry Students' Association (IFSA)</p>
10:15-10:30	Q&A, Discussion
10:30-11:00	Coffee Break
11:00-13:00	<p>Session 2: Input for the round table discussions - Impact of war and climate change on forest science, forests, and forestry in Ukraine. Early / mid-career scientists from Ukraine</p> <p>Moderator: Ihor Buksha, Ukrainian Research Institute of Forestry and Forest Melioration, Kharkiv (URIFFM)</p>
11:00-11:10	Impact assessments of war and climate change on Ukrainian forest ecosystems Tetiana Pyvovar (online) , URIFFM, Kharkiv
11:10-11:20	Impact of war on shelterbelts and their protective functions Svitlana Sydorenko (online) , URIFFM, Kharkiv
11:20-11:30	Norway spruce in Eastern and Central Europe – past developments, present status and likely futures Serhii Havryliuk (online) , Ukrainian National Forest University (UNFU), Lviv
11:30-11:40	Modern and Future forestation based on biotechnology approaches Svitlana Bilous , (NUBiP), Kyiv; HSWT, Germany
11:40-11:50	Growth and ecosystem functions of Ukraine's forests under changing environment Ivan Lakyda (online) , Roman Vasylyshyn , NUBiP, Kyiv
11:50-12:00	Boosting fire resilient landscapes and communities via climate-smart silviculture and wide stakeholders' involvement Oleksandr Soshenskyi , Sergiy Zibtsev , Vasyl Gumeniuk , NUBiP / Regional Eastern Europe Fire Monitoring Center (REEFMC), Kyiv, Johann Georg Goldammer , Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC), Freiburg, Germany
12:00-12:10	Science – practitioners' interface and national forest policy dialogue as tools for strengthening responsible forest management in Ukraine Pavlo Kravets , Yevhenii Khan , Oksana Pavlischuk , NUBiP, Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Ukraine, Kyiv

12:10-12:20	Understanding the landscape-scale impact of war-induced forest disturbances in Ukraine Maksym Matsala , Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU)
12:20-12:30	The main agents of disturbances of forest ecosystems in Ukraine Andrii Bilous , NUBIP, Kyiv
12:30-13:00	Q&A, Discussion
13:00-14:00	Lunch (buffet style, coffee area)
14:00-14:30	Session 3: Input for the round table discussions: Importance of data collection and processing for sustainable forest management and policy making in Ukraine under war Moderator: Alois Schuschnigg , Austrian Research Centre for Forests (BFW)
14:00-14:10	Advancing forest assessment and land cover change monitoring in Ukraine through integration of terrestrial and Earth observation data Viktor Myroniuk , NUBiP, Kyiv
14:10-14:20	The contribution of German-Ukrainian cooperation for implementation of the National Forest Inventory and supporting forest policy development in Ukraine Volker Sasse , German-Ukraine National Forest Inventory Project
14:20-14:30	Q&A, Discussion
14:30-16:00	Forum World Café/Hybrid Break-out Groups (3): Prioritization for Research Education, and Collaboration Moderator: Florian Kraxner , IIASA Break-out group 1 (<i>Raiffa Room</i>): Forest science. Moderator/Rapporteur: Matleena Kniivilä , Natural Resources Institute Finland (LUKE), Ihor Buksha , URIFFM Break-out group 2 (<i>Holling Room</i>): Forest education. Moderators/Rapporteur: Janice Burns , IUFRO; Harald Vacik , University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU) Break-out group 3 (<i>Gvishiani Room</i>): Collaboration needs to support strategic forest policy and governance for post-war reconstruction of Ukraine. Moderator/Rapporteur: Bernhard Wolfslehner , EFI/FE; Ute Seeling , BFH HAFL
16:00-16:30	Coffee break
16:30-17:00	Identification of most important topics for Ukrainian forest science and education Moderator: Florian Kraxner , IIASA - Rapporteurs from break-out groups - Q&A, Discussion
17:00-17:30	Wrapping up of Day 1 Moderator: Alexander Buck , IUFRO
17:30	Adjourn
18:00	Transportation to dinner venue
18:30	Dinner at Heuriger Krug, Gumpoldskirchen
21:00	Transportation to Vienna Hotel Motel One

08:00	Bus Transfer from Vienna, Hotel Motel One (near Vienna Main Railway Station/Hauptbahnhof)
08:30-09:00	Welcome Coffee, Wodak Room
Day 2.	The Way Forward <i>Wodak Room</i>
09:00-09:10	Welcome by the Forum Chair Sergiy Zibtsev, NUBiP/IIASA
09:10-9:30	Setting the scene Florian Kraxner, IIASA, and Sergiy Zibtsev, NUBiP/IIASA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Summary of scientific/collaboration/education input from Day 1 - Roundtable objectives -
09:30-11:00	Round Table 1 on Forest Science: Identify possible activities/solutions to support to forest research and science based on the input information on priorities and challenges Moderator: Florian Kraxner, IIASA Rapporteur: Maksym Matsala, SLU
11:00-11:30	Coffee Break
11:30-13:00	Round Table 2 on Forest Education Future joint activities on forest education under war times and post war conditions Moderator: Janice Burns, IUFRO Rapporteur: Vasyl Masuyk, FAO Ukraine Motivations, reflections and needs of students for future of forestry education in Ukraine <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tetiana Krasnik (first year Master of Forestry student), NUBIP - Maria Myroniuk, Valeria Shevchuk (3rd year Bachelor students), NUBIP
13:00-14:00	Lunch, Coffee Area
14:00-15:00	Round Table 3 on Collaboration, Policy, and Governance: Future joint activities on forest-based collaboration, policy, and governance under war times and post war conditions Moderator: Alexander Buck, IUFRO Rapporteur: Marjoriitta Möttönen, University of Eastern Finland (UEF)
15:00-15:30	Coffee Break
15:30-16:10	Strategic actions and ways forward to support forest research, education, and collaboration Moderators: Florian Kraxner, IIASA, and Alexander Buck, IUFRO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Summary of the round table discussions - Joint development/formulation of Strategic Actions - Feedback and follow-up
16:10-16:20	Forum conclusions and closure of Forum Sergiy Zibtsev, NUBiP/IIASA
16:20	Adjourn
16:30	Transportation to Vienna/Airport/Railway Station