



Report of the thirteenth Steering Committee meeting

Bonn, Germany
5 – 7 June 2018



Introduction

The objective of the meeting was to provide feedback on the working group reports, develop EUFORGEN's theory of change and plan for the rest of the current phase as well as for the upcoming Phase VI (2020-2024).

Welcome words

Chair Bernd Degen (EUFORGEN National Coordinator for Germany) welcomed the meeting in Germany. He introduced Mrs. Dorothea Steinhauser from the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture. Then B. Degen introduced Georg Winkel, the head of the Resilience Programme at the European Forest Institute (EFI) in Bonn, who in turn welcomed the participants and EUFORGEN to the Bonn office and introduced the Resilience Programme.

Opening of the meeting

Michele Bozzano (EUFORGEN Coordinator) welcomed the participants and introduced Ewen Le Borgne (independent consultant) as the facilitator of the meeting. He thanked the EFI for hosting the meeting. He introduced the agenda which was adopted by the participants. Ditte Olrik (Denmark), Czeslaw Koziol (Poland) and Felipe Pérez Martín (Spain) were nominated rapporteurs of the meeting, in addition to Ewa Hermanowicz, (EUFORGEN Secretariat) and Laura Nikinmaa and Johanna Strieck (EFI Bonn) who would document the proceedings.

Welcome from the Hosting Country

D. Steinhauser from Federal Ministry for Food and Agriculture (BMEL) welcomed the participants and gave an overview about some activities developed in BMEL related to forestry. More information about the activities of BMEL are available at https://www.bmel.de/EN/Homepage/homepage_node.html

Reporting on 2017-2018 activities

M. Bozzano presented the activities that were carried out in 2017 along with the financial report. He highlighted some outputs produced in 2017 and early 2018. He reminded participants about the three working groups active in the current Phase of the programme: (i) revision of indicator on genetic resources of the pan-European criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management; (ii) genetic aspects in production and use of forest reproductive material and (iii) decision support tool for the management of dynamic genetic conservation units. He then reported on various interactions with international organisations (e.g. IUCN, FAO, EC, OECD). One of the main events of this year was the move of EUFORGEN under EFI.

At the end of his presentation M. Bozzano drew attention to the new project "GenRes Bridge - Joining forces for genetic resources and biodiversity management" of which the

overall aim is to create an integrated conservation strategy while building individual capacities in plant, forestry and animal GenRes domains by exchanging best practices, harmonising standards and sharing resources under the umbrellas of the three pan-European networks: EUFORGEN, ECPGR and ERFP.

The project proposal preparation as well as the implementation of the project was a joint effort of the three GenRes Networks, in representation of the respective communities. The Forest genetic resources community will be represented by the Slovenian Forest Institute (SFI-Slovenia), the Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research (NIBIO-Norway), National Institute of Agricultural Research (INRA- France), Natural Resources Institute Finland (Luke – Finland), in addition to the Secretariat. The project will be coordinated by EFI (EUFORGEN Secretariat) and include 15 other partners representing existing European GenRes structures. Genres Bridge is a Coordination and Support Action, with a planned project duration of 36 months. The Secretariat will have the role of project coordinator and will be leading the Management and Communications Work Packages. The project, if funded, would start at the end of 2018.

Ewa Hermanowicz presented to the participants the communication activities implemented according to the 2017 action plan. The focus of 2017 was on digital communications, including social media, capacity strengthening, partnerships, participation in events and media engagement. She highlighted some website statistics indicating an increase of over 40% in the number of visits in the last year as compared to numbers in the previous year. The full report based on the set of agreed indicators listing the actual outcomes was presented as a background document. Finally, she showed the short film "[Afforesting Iceland - a cause for optimism](#)" as an example of science communication using storytelling and gaining a lot of interest from mass media and the general public.

Update from Bioversity International

Barbara Vinceti gave an overview of the activities in the field of forest genetic resources, including a project in Asia funded by BMEL - Germany. The project is trying to replicate the efforts of EUFORGEN in the Asia-Pacific region, APFORGIS. She also highlighted work on seed supply diversity on global scale. A decision support tool 'Restool' for forest restoration was also presented.

Financial report for 2017

M. Bozzano presented the 2017 financial report. In January 2017, the opening balance of the EUFORGEN trust fund was US\$ 347,782. During 2017, Bioversity International received a total of US\$ 376,400 as financial contributions from member countries. The planned budget for 2017 was US\$ 370,624 while the actual total expenditure was US\$ 471,160. In December 2017, the outstanding contributions for Phase IV was US\$ 8,250 from Romania.

In 2017, Greece paid its outstanding contributions and could therefore re-join the programme at any time. The closing balance of the trust fund was US\$ 239,734 and it was carried forward to 2018. This amount will be transferred to EFI. The Steering Committee approved the financial report for 2017

WG update - Decision support tool for the management of dynamic genetic conservation units

Andreas Rudow (ETH Zurich, Switzerland) gave an update on the working group results, as summarised in the report. He presented conclusions and recommendations for three main focus areas.

The objective of this working group was to further develop a decision support tool of which a preliminary version was laid out in a thematic publication "*Approaches to the conservation of forest genetic resources in Europe in the context of climate change*"¹ developed during Phase IV of the Programme. The tool is necessary for the establishment of standards in the management of conservation units and to identify threatened tree populations across Europe.

The working group's task was to identify threats at species and population level, which will guide the definition of priorities and modalities for actions, including introduced tree species important for forestry in several European countries.

The decision support tool will help forest managers responsible for the management of the national networks of genetic conservation units (GCUs) take decisions with long-term perspectives. In particular, it will simplify the identification of threats at population level.

The tool will provide a common standard for the consistent management of genetic conservation units and allow uniform implementation and monitoring of the *Pan-European strategy for genetic conservation of forest tree* throughout Europe.

¹ <http://www.euforgen.org/publications/publication/climate-change-and-forest-genetic-diversity>

The Steering Committee welcomed the report of the Working Group and expressed willingness to support its implementation. The Secretariat will open the report by the end of July for comments by the external contributors.

In order to properly identify the next steps and the needed resources, and to ensure that a common understanding of the implications is reached, the Steering Committee requested the Working Group to prepare a case study, using realistic data (if real data cannot be obtained) to be presented at the next Steering Committee meeting.

WG update - Genetic aspects in production and use of forest reproductive material (FRM)

M. Bozzano presented the draft report of the working group. He gave the overview of the recommendations that were yet to be finalised.

The objective of this working group was to collect scientific evidence to develop guidelines and decision support tools on genetic aspects in production and use of forest reproductive material (FRM).

The working group reviewed relevant literature and built on the results of the Forest Management network, which was active during Phase III of EUFORGEN (2005-2009)². The group started its analysis from the publication³ developed by another EUFORGEN working group during the Phase IV of EUFORGEN and published in 2015.

Furthermore, the working group benefitted from the discussion points derived from a GenTree⁴ stakeholders' consultation, which took place in Madrid, Spain in October 2016. The consultation was an opportunity for a dialogue between associations of forest owners, forest nurseries, certification scheme officers, policy-makers and researchers working on the management of forest reproductive material in the light of environmental changes.

In its report, the working group (i) documented the production chain of FRM and (ii) examined how genetic aspects are affected in collection/production/deployment of FRM, taking into account how climate change may affect seed production. It (iii) made recommendations on how to improve existing schemes for tracking and recording FRM and (iv) analysed establishment techniques and use of FRM.

The report would be completed during 2018 and submitted to the Steering Committee before further circulation to email contributors.

The Steering Committee encouraged the Working Group members to identify the most efficient way to finalise the incomplete chapters.

² <http://www.euforgen.org/about-us/history/phase-iii-2005-2009>

³ The report, *Use and transfer of forest reproductive material (FRM) in Europe in the context of climate change* is available at the EUFORGEN website: <http://www.euforgen.org/publications/publication/use-and-transfer-of-forest-reproductive-material-in-europe-in-the-context-of-climate-change/>

⁴ <http://www.gentree-h2020.eu/>

A text should be added to the report explaining how the collection of scientific evidence will be used to develop the guidelines and decision support tools.

WG Update – Revised indicator on genetic resources (4.6) of the pan-European criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management

M. Bozzano gave an overview of the revised indicator prepared by the working group by first presenting a rationale behind it. He briefly described the genetic conservation strategy that serves as a background for this work.

The indicator 4.6, “Area managed for the conservation and utilization of forest tree genetic resources (*in situ* and *ex situ* genetic conservation) and area managed for seed production”, is part of the set Criteria and Indicators (C&I) for sustainable forest management (SFM) adopted by the FOREST EUROPE process⁵. The objective of this working group was to revise this indicator and to formulate a more effective alternative indicator to the existing 4.6.

To date, European countries have been reporting (through EUFORGEN) the number of hectares managed for the conservation and utilisation of forest tree genetic resources and area managed for seed production. At its 11th meeting, the EUFORGEN Steering Committee indicated that an assessment based on the number of hectares was not appropriate to evaluate status and progress of FGR conservation in Europe and to monitor changes. They argued that the indicator in use informs neither on the amount of genetic diversity conserved within each country nor on the added contribution of within-country conservation units to the overall genetic diversity conserved at the pan-European scale. Moreover, the analysis of current information reveals a lack of harmonisation among countries regarding the type of genetic resources included, which does not enable a reliable comparison.

The revised indicator was presented at the 12th Steering Committee meeting in May 2017, where the National Coordinators provided suggestions on the existing draft. During the meeting, it was recognised that EUFORGEN community is presently unable to formulate the component of the indicator to assess static *ex situ* conservation. It was agreed that this component would be further developed in due time in collaboration with the plant genetic resources community. The working group finalised the report during 2017 and opened it for comments to the email-contributors.

The Steering Committee endorsed the revised indicator, as formulated by the Working Group, but **requested to revise the reference list of species and to open the report for**

⁵ <http://foresteurope.org/themes/?sfm=sfm-criteria-indicators2/#1475853858230-c81b6e40-168d>

comments. The Chair of the Working Group, in consultation with Working Group members, will incorporate the received feedback.

Even though it was recognised that the list of species occurring in each country developed by Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI), as part of its Global Tree Search ⁶, is a reliable source of information, it includes too many species for which the relevance for this indicator was questioned, and it could include errors for some countries.

The Steering Committee recognised that it was important that the Global Tree Search initiative identifies all species occurring in each country following their definition (i.e.: a woody plant with usually a single stem growing to a height of at least two metres, or if multi-stemmed, then at least one vertical stem five centimetres in diameter at breast height.) and contributing to the Global Tree Assessment⁷. This initiative aims to provide conservation assessments of all the world's tree species by 2020. The assessment will identify those tree species that are at greatest risk of extinction. The goal of the Global Tree Assessment is to provide prioritisation information to ensure that conservation efforts are directed at the right species so that no tree species becomes extinct. The Steering Committee committed to contribute to the Global Tree Search and to further improve the list, as well as to complement the Global Tree Assessment led by BGCI and the IUCN/SSC Global Tree Specialist Group.

The Steering Committee agreed that rare and threatened species fall outside the scope of this indicator and should be protected by other initiatives (e.g. IUCN red list of species).

FOREMATIS

M. Bozzano presented how the EC's [Forest Reproductive Material Information System \(FOREMATIS\)](https://ec.europa.eu/forematis/)⁸ works and how it could be linked to the [European Information System on Forest Genetic Resources \(EUFGIS\)](http://portal.eufgis.org/)⁹. FOREMATIS is a tool for forest breeders, forest nurserymen, experts and the general public. The database functions as a repository linked with EU Member States' data on forest reproductive material. It provides access to the data of the national registers, containing the details of approved basic material including data on areas or geographic location. The system was originally limited to the tree species that are regulated under the Council Directive 1999/105/EC on the marketing of forest reproductive material as of date, any species can be included in the system, but new species need an identification UPOV¹⁰ code. FOREMATIS is also being linked to OECD

⁶ <https://www.bgci.org/plant-conservation/globaltreesearch>

⁷ <https://www.bgci.org/plant-conservation/globaltreeassessment/>

⁸ <http://ec.europa.eu/forematis/>

⁹ <http://portal.eufgis.org/>

¹⁰ UPOV (International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants) is an intergovernmental organization with headquarters in Geneva (Switzerland). The main purpose of the UPOV Code System is to enhance the usefulness of the UPOV Plant Variety Database by overcoming the problem of synonyms for plant taxa. That is achieved by attributing each taxa a code according to the UPOV Code System ("UPOV code"); synonyms for the same plant taxa are attributed the same UPOV code.

1.2 The UPOV Code System is employed in the GENIE database, which has been developed to provide, for example, online information on the status of protection (see document C/40/6), cooperation in examination

Forest Reproductive Material Scheme, so on top of species regulated at EU level, it is going to include species regulated at national level of OECD Scheme members.

Representatives of the EC DG-SANTE (Diana Charels and Giorgos Georgiannakis) were available remotely to answer questions from the audience.

It was underlined that the validation of the data is the responsibility of the Member States, while the European Commission does not screen the national data. However, FOREMATIS has built-in features alerting the submitter of problems with the national list. The Steering Committee found the linking of FOREMATIS's data on types of basic materials "Seed Sources" and on "Stands" very relevant and requested the Secretariat to continue the dialogue with DG-SANTE in order to identify the most appropriate way to link the two information systems in due time.

In case the submitted project GenRes Bridge (see above) is be funded, appropriate resources will be available to support the effort.

Ongoing projects relevant for EUFORGEN

GenTree

Bruno Fady gave an overview of the GenTree project which aims to provide the European forestry sector with better knowledge, methods and tools for optimising the management and sustainable use of forest genetic resources (FGR) in Europe in the context of climate change and continuously evolving demands for forest products and services. The project is in its third year. Extensive sampling has been carried out, including in many GCUs, to test for local adaptation and tackle genetic monitoring issues. Stakeholder engagement directly relevant for EUFORGEN addressed forest reproductive material and the status of *in situ* conservation of forest genetic resources in Europe.

He mentioned that the final scientific conference of GenTree would be held in late 2019 or early 2020.

More information: <http://www.gentree-h2020.eu/about/overview/>

Hans Verkerk presented the Atlas of Forest Management that EFI is currently working on in the framework of GenTree. The Atlas gives an overview of country-level forest management approaches and relevant information on silvicultural practices and regeneration methods applied across Europe. The policy database and the emerged analysis will be presented at the next EUFORGEN Steering Committee meeting in 2019.

(see document C/40/5), experience in DUS testing (see document TC/43/4), and existence of UPOV Test Guidelines (see document TC/43/2) for different GENera and specIEs (hence GENIE), and is also used to generate the relevant Council and Technical Committee (TC) documents concerning that information.

LIFEGENMON

H. Kraigher presented LIFEGENMON (LIFE13ENV/SI/000148, 5,5 million EUR) which aims to prepare guidelines and a Manual for Forest Genetic Monitoring (FGM) and Decision Support System, based on a cost-benefit analysis for decision makers on the level of FGM. These guidelines should then be implemented at different levels. She highlighted particularly the events for school children and teachers, as well as materials for teaching and playing in the forest raising most interest.

More information: <http://www.lifegenmon.si/project-in-brief/>

SUSTREE

Silvio Schueler presented the Sustree project which brings together experts on forest provenance research and breeding from eight institutions and six countries of Central Europe. The objective of the project is to identify endangered forest genetic diversity and to discuss cross-boundary seed transfer. The goal is to ensure use of the best genetic material fit for the changing climate in the forests of the region. He highlighted the messages which overlap with part of EUFORGEN's messages and that could be brought together to policymakers to create a stronger voice.

More information: <https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/SUSTREE.html>

SponForest

Arndt Hampe presented the project remotely. The project aims to understand how the spontaneous afforestation of landscape affects ecosystem services for the local population. The project includes research on genetics, forest ecology and societal aspects of the establishment of new forest patches.

Discussion on the ongoing projects

Given the similarities among the projects and the need of all initiatives to present the relevant findings to policy makers, it was agreed to explore a possibility of joint event in autumn 2019.

Long-term commitment on relevant research/scientific issues and next steps

The National Coordinators, through interactive discussions, identified the relevant issues that need to be addressed in future work:

- **Genetic monitoring**, as the work undertaken by GenTree and LIFEGENMON, was recognised to be an important long-term commitment for the FGR community. It is of strategic importance to set a baseline for monitoring over time changes in genetic composition of the forests, due to climate change and/or forest management. This

work should be done in GCUs that are part of the core network identified by the pan-European conservation strategy¹¹

- The concept of **assisted migration** was recognised to be an important priority for future work in Europe. In future discussion will be important addressing the movement of FGR for conservation purposes, the movement of FRM for enrichment planting as well as the series of active interventions aimed at supporting the natural movement of FRM.
- The establishment of a system to **keep records of FRM** movement was considered of crucial importance. This should also be complemented with proper policy measures to ensure a wide and consistent contribution.
- **Recommendations stemming** from the existing EUFORGEN working groups and ongoing projects should be harmonised and presented to **policy makers** with a common voice, bringing consistent messages. For this reason, a timeslot would be allocated to this discussion during the next SC meeting.
- The need to **strengthen communication channels with existing conservation communities** was underlined; taking into account biodiversity in its larger meaning as habitat conservation and presenting the role of genetic conservation as indispensable element for biodiversity, nature and habitat conservation.
- The fact that several GCUs in the EUFGIS Information System are in “strictly protected areas” where no management is allowed was perceived to be a contradiction and needed to be further considered when revising the pan-European conservation strategy.

FAO SoW FGR report and update on the implementation of the Global Plan of Action

Jarkko Koskela presented the status of implementation of the Global Plan for Action for the Conservation, Sustainable Use and Development of Forest Genetic Resources (GPA-FGR). He also summarised the outcomes of the 5th Session of the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on FGR (ITWG-FGR) held in Rome in May 2018. In Feb 2017, the FAO Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGRFA) adopted targets, indicators and verifiers for monitoring the implementation of the GPA-FGR and in Nov 2017, countries were invited to report on their progress in this regard. As of May 2018, 21 European countries had submitted their progress reports to FAO. Those European countries which have not yet submitted their progress reports on the implementation of the GPA-FGR are encouraged to do so by 31 August 2018.

J. Koskela then presented the roadmap for the preparation of the Second Report on the State of the World’s Forest Genetic Resources (SoW-FGR-2). In February 2019, the CGRFA is expected to endorse the recommendations of the ITWG-FGR on the preparation of the SoW-FGR-2 after which FAO will invite countries to submit their country reports by June 2020. This will be followed by expert meetings and development of

¹¹ De Vries et al 2015

different chapters in 2021 and a review of a draft SoW-FGR-2 by the ITWG-FGR in 2022. The CGRFA will then consider the final draft of the report in early 2023 and it will be published by FAO before the end of 2023.

EUFORGEN Phase VI Theory of Change

Ewen Le Borgne introduced the concept of the theory of change (ToC). Theory of Change is essentially a comprehensive description and illustration of how and why a desired change is expected to happen in a particular context. It is focused in particular on mapping out or “filling in” what has been described as the “missing middle” between what a programme or change initiative does (its activities or interventions) and how these lead to desired goals being achieved.

The National Coordinators contributed to a plenary discussion aiming to identify long-term objectives and outcomes and lower-level outcomes that relate to the domain of control and influence of the EUFORGEN programme. The various outcomes were prioritized and organised in a flowchart (Annex 4), which will be used as a basis for the development of EUFORGEN ToC.

The SC agreed to establish a Task Force composed of representatives of France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Slovenia and UK to further work on the ToC and develop its narrative and prepare options for the next Steering Committee meeting.

Setting the objectives for Phase VI

The SC agreed that the three main objectives of EUFORGEN (1. Collate, maintain and disseminate reliable **information** on forest genetic resources in Europe; 2. Coordinate and monitor the **conservation** of forest genetic resources in Europe; 3. Develop guidelines and analyses on topics and issues relevant for the **use** of forest genetic resources in Europe) remain valid also for Phase VI, but that specific areas of work will need to be elaborated during the next SC meeting.

Saved funds and budget for Phase VI

Michele Bozzano outlined a few proposals for the use of saved funds of EUFORGEN that were carried forward from the previous phases of the programme but had not been earmarked for any specific activity and thus left for use. An open discussion followed touching upon priority areas for investing the saved funds, followed by a discussion on budget allocation for phase V. The Steering Committee decided to postpone the decision on the use of the saved funds to the next meeting in April-May 2019.

Michele Bozzano presented the current budget of EUFORGEN and reminded participants that the country contributions are determined based on the United Nations Scale of Assessment¹². The Secretariat tried to keep total budget of Phase VI similar to Phase V to

¹² <http://www.un.org/en/ga/contributions/assessments.shtml>

avoid increasing the national contributions. Due to changes in the rates and the consequent transition of a few countries to a lower category, the thresholds would be revised and presented at the next Steering Committee for discussion and approval.

Reviewing the modus operandi of EUFORGEN

Based on the lessons learnt in Phase V, M.Bozzano outlined a few possible revisions to the governance of EUFORGEN. The main proposed change was to establish an Executive Committee that would closely assist the EUFORGEN Coordinator in some tasks such as representation at international meetings or key decisions requiring confirmation at short notice.

As a model for inspiration with a similar body already in place, Lorenzo Maggioni, the Secretary **of the European Cooperative Programme for Plant Genetic Resources** (ECPGR) gave a presentation (remotely) on the Programme. He outlined structure, governance and budget of the programme, highlighting the recently implemented changes and their advantages. www.ecpgr.org

Opportunities at the European Forest Institute

R. Mavsar introduced EFI's objectives and the related opportunities for EUFORGEN within the Institute. In particular, he presented several initiatives that could be relevant for EUFORGEN such as the EFI network fund, grants for short scientific visits, innovation schools connecting knowledge to action. He mentioned policy support work such as "Think Forest" events and related publications; He concluded his presentation introducing the 'Lookout station' initiative that is currently generating remarkable visibility which got together several journalists to cover the topic of 'climate change', using new technology of 360 degrees videos.

Workplan for 2018-2019

The Steering Committee discussed the follow-up actions based on the working group presentations and other issues that should be taken up during the current phase. A new topic considered urgent was Ash dieback. A special task force led by B. Degen would be created. The task force would analyse the existing network of *Fraxinus excelsior* genetic conservation units to summarise what genetic diversity is available and how it could be used in countries facing the disease in their national forests.

An updated work plan for 2018-19 was developed (Annex 1).

Any other business

M. Bozzano informed the group about satellite events of EFI'S scientific seminar on 25 and 26 September 2019 in Alghero (Sardinia) "Genomics of Trees and sustainable

development” and “Roots to riches. Genetics & products of stone pine & Mediterranean oaks”¹³.

As a general principle, it was agreed that when the Steering Committee gives authority on a specific matter to a technical working group, they should not re-open the discussion, but simply provide feedback on the work. This would be reflected in the description of responsibilities in the concept note for Phase VI of the programme. I was also agreed that, when assigning work to a working group, the Steering Committee should clearly specify expectations and power delegated. More effective ways to share reports and project updates will be explored by the Secretariat and tested during the next meeting.

A short discussion followed on the role of the National Coordinators in providing contents for the EUFORGEN communication channels - website, newsletter and social media. Regular contributions, even by just pointing to the relevant source with one sentence of description, were encouraged.

Feedback

The Secretariat staff left the room to leave the group to give feedback about the Secretariat’s performance over the past two years. The feedback was mostly positive and on the whole the SC was very pleased with the performance of the Secretariat.

Wrap-up session

The Steering Committee agreed to organise the next meeting in April-May 2019. Frank Wolter offered to host the meeting in Luxembourg, which the group welcomed.

M. Bozzano thanked the local organisers for hosting the meeting and the present National Coordinators for their contributions to the discussions and the decisions. With no other business, he closed the meeting.

¹³ <http://www.euforgen.org/about-us/events/event/roots-to-riches-genetics-products-of-stone-pine-mediterranean-oaks/>

Annex 1. EUFORGEN Work Plan for 2018-19

Task/Activity	Outputs	Date (When activity will be completed)	Who	Comments
WG Revision of indicator on genetic resources (4.6) of the pan-European criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give comments on existing draft • Develop criteria and formulate suggestion for the revision of the list of species • Provide feedback on the suggestion for the revision of the list of species 	31 August 30 September 30 November	SC WG members SC	
Genetic aspects in production and use of forest reproductive material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalise the draft report 	1 month before the next SC meeting	WG members	
Decision support tool for the management of dynamic genetic conservation units	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a case study to illustrate the developed tool 	1 month before the next SC meeting	WG members	
ToC and Phase VI option paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalise the ToC and draft a narrative • Prepare an Option Paper 	Jan-Feb 2019	Task Force composed of representatives of France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Slovenia , UK and the Secretariat	
<i>Fraxinus</i> decline	Develop a concept note	30 November 2018	Representatives of Austria, Germany, Hungary, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland, Slovenia,	

Annex 2. Agenda of the meeting

Tuesday 5 June

Time	Session - responsibilities	Outcome (What the Steering Committee is expected to do)	Background documents
8.00	Registration		
9.00	<p>Welcome words <i>Chair Bernd Degen EUFORGEN, National Coordinator for Germany; Mrs. Steinhauser, EUFORGEN implementing Agency for Germany; Georg Winkel, Head - EFI Resilience office).</i></p> <p>Introduction and approval of the agenda (<i>Michele Bozzano, Secretariat</i>). Introduction of participants and nomination of meeting rapporteurs (<i>Michele Bozzano</i>).</p>	Meeting is officially opened.	
9.25	<p>Reporting on 2017-2018 EUFORGEN activities - <i>M. Bozzano (Secretariat)</i></p> <p>Communication activities in 2017 - <i>Ewa Hermanowicz (Secretariat)</i> Questions and answers (<i>Ewen Le Borgne, facilitator</i>)</p>	All National Coordinators are updated on general activities, initiatives and achievements	2017 technical, communication and financial reports
10.00	<p>Update from Bioversity International <i>Barbara Vinceti - Bioversity International</i></p>	Participants are updated on related work by Bioversity International	
10.15	Break		

10.40	Meeting ground rules and decision-making <i>(Facilitator) and M. Bozzano (Secretariat)</i>	All participants are clear on meeting ground rules and on collective decision-making process	
11.00	WG update - Decision support tool for the management of dynamic genetic conservation units Draft report - <i>Andreas Rudow (chair of the WG)</i> Clarification Q&A Discussion and next steps	Everyone is clear on progress with the three Working Groups Participants have agreed on a way forward for the remainder of Phase V	WG draft report
11.45	WG Update - Collecting scientific evidence to support the development of guidelines and decision support tools – Draft report - <i>Michele Bozzano</i> Clarification Q&A Discussion and next steps	Everyone is clear on progress with the three Working Groups Participants have agreed on a way forward for the remainder of Phase V	WG draft report
12.30	Lunch		
14.00	Timeline - M. Bozzano	Participants are provided with an overview of key events and activities related to EUFORGEN's work	
14.10	FOREMATIS – <i>Diana Charels (EC - remote presentation) and M. Bozzano</i> Clarification Q&A - <i>Facilitator</i>	Participants are updated on the feasibility study to link FOREMATIS with EUFGIS	

14.30	Update on relevant initiatives (10/15 minutes each): GenTree Overview - <i>Bruno Fady</i> GenTree Atlas and policy database - <i>Hans Verkerk / Marcus Lindner</i> LIFEGENMON - <i>Hojka Kraigher</i> SUSTREE - <i>Silvio Schueler</i> SponForest - <i>Georg Winkel</i> Clarification Q&A - <i>Facilitator</i>	Participants are updated on four related and relevant initiatives	
16.00	Coffee		
16.30	Long term commitment on relevant research/scientific issues and next steps	Participants have identified relevant issues and agreed on next steps	
17.30	Update to the implementation of the Global Plan of Action and the preparation of SoW-FGR-2 <i>Jarkko Koskela - FAO</i> Clarification Q&A	Participants are updated on the report and Plan of Action. They have identified potential inputs for the FAO SoW FGR report	GPA-FGR www.fao.org/3/MW663EN/mw663en.pdf www.fao.org/3/I9416EN/i9416en.pdf and SoW-FGR-2 www.fao.org/3/MW670EN/mw670en.pdf , www.fao.org/3/I9379EN/i9379en.pdf .
18.00	Assessment of day 1 - Facilitator	Strengths and improvable of the first day are identified - to bear in mind for day 2	
18.15	Close		
19.30	Social dinner - Gasthaus Im Stiefel, Bonngasse 30		

Wednesday 6 June

Time	Session - responsibilities	Outcome (What the Steering Committee is expected to do)	Background documents
8.30	Brief recap - <i>Facilitator and participants</i>	Everyone is on the same page again	
9.00	WG Update - Revision of indicator on genetic resources (4.6) of the pan-European criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management – <i>Michele Bozzano</i> Clarification Q&A	Participants have decided whether to approve the indicator (Request the Secretariat to submit the revised indicator 4.6 to Forest Europe)	WG consolidated report Example of the Indicator 4.6 computed based on existing data in EUFGIS
9.30	Reference list of species for the indicator 4.6	Participants agree on the list of species to use for reference for the indicator 4.6	
10.15	Break		
10.45	Revision of EFI strategy - <i>Robert Mavsar (EFI)</i>	Participants get to hear about similar initiatives, as illustration of the strategic thinking process that takes place	
11.00	A short theory of change (paving the way for EUFORGEN's Theory of Change) - <i>Facilitator</i> Presentation Clarification Q&As	All participants understand what a Theory of Change is and how to develop one	Presentation Ewen Le Borgne (available after the presentation)

11.30	EUFORGEN Phase VI Theory of Change (part 1) Introducing the process - <i>Facilitator</i> Reviewing objectives and strategy - <i>Michele Bozzano</i> Plenary exercise to agree on long term outcome - <i>Facilitator</i> Forming groups for part 2 and introducing the process - <i>Facilitator</i>	Participants have co-created the long-term outcome(s) and intermediate outcomes of EUFORGEN	
12.15	EUFORGEN Phase VI Theory of Change (part 2) Group work - <i>Participants (the facilitator will be roaming around to attend to questions and issues)</i>	Groups of participants contribute to developing the collective ToC of EUFORGEN Phase VI	
13.00	Lunch		
14.30	EUFORGEN Phase VI Theory of Change (part 3) Mapping and aligning results - <i>Participants and facilitator</i> Reviewing the status of the ToC and next steps - <i>Facilitator</i>	Participants have mapped and aligned group work, and reviewed the ToC collectively and agreed on next steps	
15.15	Setting objectives for Phase VI – Facilitator	Participants have identified key objectives and interventions / activity clusters for Phase VI	
15.45	Break		
16.10	Saved funds and budget for Phase VI Proposal – <i>Michele Bozzano</i> Open discussion - <i>Facilitator</i> Decision on budget allocation for phase V - <i>Facilitator</i>	Participants have agreed to maintain the budget for next phase and what (past and future) savings are used for	
17.45	Assessment of day 2 <i>Facilitator</i>	Strengths and improvables of the first day are identified - to bear in mind for day 3	
18.00	Close		

Thursday 7 June

Time	Session - responsibilities	Outcome (What the Steering Committee is expected to do)	Background documents
8.30	Brief recap - <i>Facilitator and participants</i>	Everyone is on the same page again	
8.45	Governance Remote presentation on ECPGR - <i>Lorenzo Maggioni (Bioversity)</i> Q&A session on clarification - <i>Facilitator</i> Governance options - <i>Michele Bozzano</i> Opportunities in EFI - <i>Robert Mavsar (EFI)</i> Open discussion on merits of various governance models - <i>Facilitator</i> Decision on best governance model - <i>Facilitator and participants</i>	Everyone has clearer ideas about alternative governance options and has agreed on the roles and responsibilities of steering committee and/or possibly alternative bodies	
10.45	Break		
11.15	Phase V planning: Working groups, task forces, initiatives and activities	Participants have agreed on existing and new working groups, task forces, initiatives and activities for the remainder of Phase V	
12.45	Lunch		
14.15	Any other business - <i>Facilitator</i>	Participants have discussed any other issue that mattered	

15:15	Secretariat performance – <i>Facilitator</i>	Feedback by all participants is recorded on the performance of the Secretariat	
15.45	Closing Date and place of the next meeting - <i>Michele Bozzano</i> Final take-home messages by participants - <i>Facilitator</i>	The workshop is brought to an end and all participants are clear on next steps	
16.30	Close		

Annex 3. List of Participants

Surname	Name	Country/Institution
Bozzano	Michele	EUFORGEN Secretariat
Buiteveld	Joukje	the Netherlands
Caisin	Valeriu	Moldova
Charels	Diana	EC DG-SANTE
Clifford	Brian	Ireland
Degen	Bernd	Germany
Ducci	Fulvio	Italy
Eysteinnsson	Thröstur	Iceland
Fady	Bruno	France
Frýdl	Josef	Czech Republic
Geburek	Thomas	Austria
Georgiannakis	Giorgos	EC DG-SANTE
Hampe	Arndt	
Haußmann	Thomas	BMEL, Germany
Havercamp	Michaela	BLE, Germany
Hermanowicz	Ewa	EUFORGEN Secretariat
Hubert	Jason	United Kingdom
Kandemir	Gaye Eren	Turkey
Koskela	Jarkko	FAO
Kozioł	Czesław	Poland
Kraigher	Hojka	Slovenia
LeBorgne	Ewen	facilitator
Lindner	Marcus	EFI
Longauer	Roman	Slovakia
Los	Svitlana	Ukraine
Maaten	Tiit	Estonia
Mavsar	Robert	EFI
Myking	Tor	Norway
Nagy	László	Hungary
Nikinmaa	Laura	EFI
Olrik	Ditte	Denmark
Paitaridou	Despina	Greece
Perez Martin	Felipe	Spain
Pilipović	Andrej	Serbia
Rudow	Andreas	ETH Zürich, Switzerland
Rusanen	Mari	Finland
Schueler	Silvio	BFW, Austria
Servais	Alain	Belgium
Steinhauser	Dorothea	BMEL, Germany
Strieck	Johanna	EFI
Verbylaitė	Rita	Lithuania
Verkerk	Hans	EFI
Vinceti	Barbara	Bioversity International
Winkel	Georg	EFI
Wolter	Frank	Luxembourg

Annex 4 Theory of Change

Photo of the diagram showing the main EUFORGEN goal and outcomes going down towards its scope of operations.

