



**EUFORGEN**

EUROPEAN FOREST GENETIC  
RESOURCES PROGRAMME

# **EUFORGEN STEERING COMMITTEE: REPORT OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING 2021**

**8-10 JUNE 2021, ONLINE MEETING**





# 2021 Extraordinary Meeting of the EUFORGEN Steering Committee

*Virtual meeting, 8-10 June 2021*

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## 1. Meeting introduction and approval

M. Bozzano opened the virtual meeting space and welcomed participants to the 2021 extraordinary meeting of the EUFORGEN Steering Committee. There were 39 participants: 3 Secretariat staff, 24 National Coordinators from Phase VI member countries, 5 Focal Points from non-member countries and 6 Observers from relevant European initiatives, organisations or alternative representatives. Participants introduced themselves.

M. Bozzano presented the meeting agenda for the meeting. The agenda was approved without modifications (Annex 1). Only the order of the presentations on the last day was slightly changed. He reminded participants to watch the recorded webinars (links within the agenda) in order to be prepared for the agenda points on the third day of the meeting.

## 2. EUFGIS Data-Sharing Agreement

M. Bozzano and J. Brolén (EFI's Legal Counsel) introduced the session on the EUFGIS Data-Sharing Agreement (DSA) and provided background information on EUFGIS. M. Bozzano explained that EUFGIS data is not owned by EFI, although EFI provides access to this data on behalf of the countries. Hence the need to establish DSAs with the data-providers (national authorities) and make the data publicly available through EFI. The DSAs will be signed by EFI as hosting institute providing data access and by the individual countries as data-providers.

M. Bozzano presented the process and roadmap for preparing the draft agreement. The agreement will indicate how access will be provided and how countries can provide data. A main concern is identifying who will sign the agreement (at national level- Ministry, Agency, other entities). The relevant national authorities will need to be involved in the consultation process, so they can influence the development of the DSA and its content.

The future may introduce new types of data to be entered. In order to simplify the process, it was decided that the data standards should be included as an annex to the DSA and that this annex will be updated by the EUFORGEN Steering Committee as or when needed. The DSA will contain only the key principles in a format such that future developments or amendments can be implemented easily.

M. Bozzano highlighted the importance of identifying the national authority that will be providing the data and the national authority that will be designated to sign the DSA. National Coordinators replied to the following questions:

*Question 1 - Who provides the data to EUFGIS? Ministry, Agency, another entity*

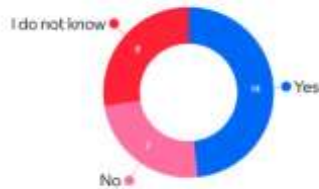


*Question 2 - Who will sign the DSA Ministry, Agency, another entity*

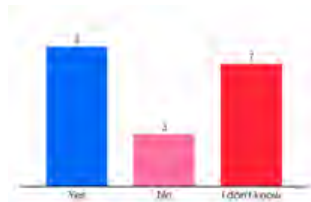
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*Question 3 - If the data-provider and signatory is not the same?*



*Question 4 – If the data-provider and signatory is not the same: can the signatory legally instruct the data-provider to provide the data?*



### Questions and comments

Comment: as the process will become legal and different users will be sharing data, it will be important within the agreement to distinguish different user-levels.

It was indicated/explained that:

- i) Once the agreement is established, individual countries will be able to define the openness of data, based on data privacy. Individual countries will maintain full ownership on data and control on its access. From the EUFGIS portal (i.e., the part of the information system that will be visible to anyone), access will be given only to data that will be designated as 'open-access', and a system will be put in place for interested users to register and download relevant data. The DSA will specify the type of data accessible, both for the platform and the intranet.
- ii) EURISCO<sup>1</sup> has already a legal process for a DSA. The EURISCO DSA will be used as a reference to develop the EUFGIS DSA, so that relevant National Authorities can use the existing process as a reference and justification.
- iii) The DSA will be signed by any country providing data, including non-EUFORGEN countries. As a forest genetic resources community, it is important to include all countries, including non-

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<sup>1</sup> (the information system on crop genetic resources (<http://eurisco.ecpgr.org>) that was used as a model to develop EUFGIS)

member EUFORGEN countries where there is an ongoing collaboration. These countries will be involved in the process and a standard agreement will be developed, signable by any country.

- iv) Even if the optimal solution would be to have one DSA that is valid for all countries, there may be countries that could have special DSA needs. If necessary, different versions for special needs and requirements could be prepared (but preferably to be avoided).
- v) As long as EUFGIS is passively linked to other databases (e.g., by downloading open data periodically), there is no need to develop an agreement between the entities hosting the information systems. As soon as data are linked directly and there is a need to provide specific access to data, an agreement should be formalised between the entities hosting the information systems (this would be the case, for example, when linking EUFGIS to FOREMATIS<sup>2</sup>).
- vi) Regarding publication of personal information (of the local authority responsible for the Genetic conservation unit (GCU) or of the owner of the stand), currently there is no detailed information contained in EUFGIS regarding the GCUs. It will be possible to enter this information into the system, but it will only be made visible for the National Focal Points (NFPs) entering the data.
- vii) No contact details have yet been entered in the information system, and only the person's name and NFP's institute are visible. However, it will be very useful to show the data-provider's contact details, as well as the authority and the owner of the stands. For now, it will be sufficient to have the contact details of the EUFGIS NFP available and published online.



Figure 1: EUFGIS DSA roadmap

M. Bozzano presented the roadmap (see fig. 1) and explained the process. The first DSA draft will be sent in September 2021 together with a letter explaining the process and the reason for signing the DSA. The draft can already be used for national-level consultations, and to define the appropriate signatory for the DSA. The consultation will take place between October 2021 and January 2022. There will be a session regarding the DSA also during the coming meeting of the SC

in December 2021. The second draft will be prepared in March 2022. This draft will integrate comments and feedback received from the countries. The process is expected to be completed by May 2022. The DSA will be sent for signature in summer 2022.

<sup>2</sup> <https://ec.europa.eu/forematis/>

### **General comments and questions**

Participants requested a **reference document explaining the rationale** behind the need to sign a DSA, why this agreement is necessary, why now, and what is the vision in terms of the future development and use of EUFGIS. The EUFORGEN Secretariat will develop this document and send it as a draft for feedback. The document will be sent to the countries together with the draft DSA.

The reference document will contain the roadmap, key elements on the importance of having high-quality data, information about how to disclose data to the public, and how to go through the open-access process.

**The EUFORGEN Secretariat will develop the minutes of the meeting and share them with the participants. The reference document will be prepared during summer 2021, based on the minutes of the meeting and a draft will be circulated for comments and feedback. The document will then accompany the draft DSA in September 2021.**



### 3. The European FOREST Genetic Resources Strategy: “Key commitments” and an updated roadmap

A.M. Farsakoglou articulated the process of drafting the strategy by the FGR Strategy Working Group, and presented the key commitments that will be included in the European Forest Genetic Resources Strategy. Bozzano gave some additional background information on each key commitment and the participants were asked to provide feedback.



Figure 2: FGR Strategy roadmap

The roadmap was presented (see Fig 2), and participants were invited to give feedback on the Key Commitments by the end of June. The EUFORGEN Secretariat will produce version 2 of the draft strategy and submit it to the working group. The working group will develop the implementation plan from this version. Draft 3 of the strategy will be released at the beginning of September and circulated for feedback by the SC.

Feedback on the Key commitments was received during the meeting but participants were asked to indicate their comments within the shared document. The timeframe of the different commitments will be indicated in more detail in the implementation plan.

#### General comments

Delegates suggested considering substituting the term “commitment” with “declaration of intent” as the term “commitment” can be perceived as inappropriate. M. Bozzano explained that the strategy is not a legally binding agreement. In this sense, “commitment” is not a legal issue and does not have real implications. However, the Key commitments relate to the overarching European Strategy (EGRS) and should be consistent with this. The wording was adapted for this reason. The EGRS drafting team is still considering the need to change the term. This can be revised later in the process.

Rusanen stated that besides the overarching European GR Strategy, there are the three domain-specific strategies, and all these strategies will be presented to the same Ministries in

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many cases. Therefore, using different terminology could create confusion. The terminology should be clearly determined and explained.

M. Bozzano informed participants:

- i) the EGRS there is a special request for creating a place to host the ECPGR<sup>3</sup> and ERFP<sup>4</sup> Secretariats and a need for political involvement. EUFORGEN has > 20 years track-record of political commitment within the Forest Europe process, and is in a different position; so EUFORGEN is excluded from the relevant recommendation.
- ii) the list of draft key commitments is available in the designated MS Teams workspace, which is accessible to all the National Coordinators, and NCs were asked to make their comments on the document directly. For the observers this will be a different process since they received the attachment by email and were asked to return the document with their comments. The EUFORGEN Secretariat will then include these comments in the shared document, as appropriate.
- iii) On the timing of the process: The above-mentioned document will be available for two more weeks for comments and suggestions. After this, the document will remain open for one week (28 June-2 July), but only for reactions on the changes entered.

M. Bozzano expressed his thanks to the group that developed the strategy also with the strong support of the representatives of the GenRes Bridge project and relevant projects. The names are listed on the first pages of the document.

- iv) Another consultation for making additions will take place. Version 3 will be a full package of the FGR strategy, containing the narrative and the key commitments. This package will be circulated in September for national consultation and then the final document will be released by early October 2021. The final document will be presented at the GenRes Bridge project final dissemination event on 30 November 2021.

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<sup>3</sup> European Cooperative Programme for Plant Genetic Resources (ECPGR) [www.ecpgr.cgiar.org](http://www.ecpgr.cgiar.org)

<sup>4</sup> European Regional Focal Point for Animal Genetic Resources (ERFP) [www.animalgeneticresources.net](http://www.animalgeneticresources.net)

## 4. FORGENIUS Project

Recorded webinar: FORGENIUS project – a new H2020-funded project to expand, improve, organise knowledge of forest diversity and resilience – I. Scotti (INRAE, France) [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Dg\\_pnRYsMI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Dg_pnRYsMI)

I. Scotti :

- i) gave an update on the FORGENIUS project. He explained the future features including the remote sensing that will characterise the GCUs in EUFGIS. He underlined the importance for the EUFGIS National Focal Points to send precise geographical coordinates, possibly polygons (as shapefiles) of the GCUs.
- ii) encouraged participants to contact him directly for any project-related information e ([ivan.scotti@inrae.fr](mailto:ivan.scotti@inrae.fr)).

GCU characterisation based on remote sensing (currently done by EC's JRC) allows such characterisation only for a limited number of times during the duration of the project. Once the project ends, JRC will not be in position to provide additional support. However, at the end of the project, all the developed coding will be transferred to EUFORGEN/EFI. The Steering Committee will decide on how to maintain the service in the future.

M. Bozzano informed participants that NFPs are currently entering data with no major service in return, but now that FORGENIUS is in place, the NFP receives a huge amount of information about the individual GCU, climatic info, remote sensing, genetic characterisation, etc. and this is moving EUFGIS to a completely new level. A training for the EUFGIS NFPs (supported by the GenRes Bridge and FORGENIUS projects) will take place in October 2021. The training will guide NFPs on how to enter the polygons in an appropriate way.

**M. Bozzano summarized: EUFGIS NFPs should provide GCU perimeter coordinates, either as shapefiles or in other formats. This information will be for the benefit of the country including a more accurate characterization and better description of the site.**

## 5. Genetic Resources Journal<sup>5</sup>

Recorded webinar: Genetic Resources – a new journal serving all GR sectors – S. Goritschnig, (Alliance Bioversity-CIAT) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UxpZtAsZrlg>

S. Goritschnig presented the Journal's scope and the process of editing and publishing. She informed, in case the SC decides to support the Journal, EUFORGEN will be asked to provide the following contributions:

- Editorial team members; voluntary position, guide submissions through review process. The workload depends on the number of submissions and editors.

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<sup>5</sup> [www.genresj.org](http://www.genresj.org)

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- Reviewers for Genetic Resources; on voluntary basis to ensure quality and suitability of publications and assist with language editing. The workload depends on the number of submissions and volunteers.
- The fixed costs are estimated at approximately €3,000/year, which covers membership at Crossref<sup>6</sup>, a licence for the production software and some IT support. The journal is hosted and published by the Alliance of Bioversity International/CIAT on behalf of ECPGR and costs for hosting are covered by ECPGR. Additionally, there is a need for staff time, which is currently estimated at 1 week of staff time per accepted contribution for a total of about 3 person-month equivalent per year, for all aspects from managing the submission and review process to final copyediting and production, and which could be spread among supporting European Genetic Resources Network Secretariats. EUFORGEN staff would be asked to support copyediting and production of FGR-related articles, of which two have been accepted during the last year.

She informed participants that a survey on the uptake and impact of the journal will be carried out in July 2021 and invited EUFORGEN members to respond to it. A sustainability plan for the continuation of the journal after the end of the GenRes Bridge project will be developed by the networks' Secretariats based on survey results, exploring the possibility to share costs and responsibilities from their own budgets and will be ready by October 2021.

### Comments and questions

There was discussion about the journal being still in a trial period and the sustainability plan to be developed and for this reason it was not possible to be evaluated and endorsed during the meeting. The review will be based also on a survey that will be launched in July 2021 after the third issue has been published.

**M. Bozzano summarised: the elements to make any decision were not sufficient and the discussion was postponed to the next Steering Committee meeting in December. The sustainability plan for the Journal will be developed jointly by the ECPGR, ERF and EUFORGEN Secretariats within the Framework of the GenRes Bridge project. The sustainability plan will be made available one month before the EUFORGEN Steering Committee meeting takes place and will be part of the background documents of the next Steering Committee meeting.**

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<sup>6</sup> <https://www.crossref.org/>



2. Building the future of resilient forests (7 votes out of 21)

**The tagline was decided: “Towards diverse and resilient forests” and the communication material will be updated.**

## 7. LIFE GENMON Project: Manual for FGR monitoring

Live webinar on 17 May 2021 11:00-12:00 CEST: Manual for FGR monitoring (the main output of the LIFE GENMON project) – *M. Bajc and H. Kraigher* (Slovenian Forestry Institute) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WE7UoXeK92g>

The Steering Committee was updated on the deliverable of the project. M Bozzano thanked, also on behalf of the EUFORGEN community, H. Kraigher and her team for this tool that is very important for the EUFORGEN and FGR community for the long term.

### Questions and remarks

The publication will be translated in four languages and possibly also in south-eastern European languages. Translation into French can also be foreseen.

## 8. GenRes Bridge project – The European Genetic Resources Strategy

*Roadmap to the finalisation and release.*

[www.genresbridge.eu](http://www.genresbridge.eu)

M. Bozzano updated the Steering Committee on the roadmap to finalise the European Genetic Resources Strategy (EGRS) and informed on what the Steering Committee is expected to do.

The Steering Committee will receive the final version of the EGRS at the beginning of September and will be asked to **validate** the strategy. The overarching strategy together with the domain strategies will be presented at the dissemination event in Brussels at the end of November 2021. The National Coordinators will be invited to the event to show their support on the strategy. The tentative programme is the event taking place in the morning of 30 November, a networking meeting with the three domains in the afternoon, and the Steering Committee meeting to take place on 1 and 2 December. The event will also be streamed for those that are unable to attend the event.

## 9. Any other business

The next Steering Committee meeting will take place, ideally physically, in Brussels on 1-2 December 2021. Invitations will be sent in due course.

The meeting was closed.



## 10. Closed session for National Coordinators (9-10 June 2021)

M. Bozzano informed participants that a letter was received on 7 June 2021 from Germany specially requesting permission for Germany to join Phase VI of EUFORGEN without paying the first yearly contribution. The letter was forwarded to the EUFORGEN Advisory Board for their advice on how to handle the process and then circulated to the National Coordinators.

- i) The SC was informed that this request from Germany was late and were asked whether they would be ready to take a decision during the meeting even with this short notice.
- ii) The SC was very pleased to learn that Germany is willing to continue pan-European collaboration on forest genetic resources through the EUFORGEN Programme.
- iii) As this type of request made by Germany is not foreseen in the *modus operandi* for Phase VI of EUFORGEN, the SC was asked to discuss the matter and take a decision. It was specified that the National Coordinators have the authority to decide on this matter, given the mandate they received from their respective National Implementing Agencies nominating them for the Phase.
- iv) M. Bozzano highlighted the procedure followed since Phase II. If a country, already member of the programme in previous phase(s), wished to join the Programme, then this country was asked to provide the full Phase contribution, even if joining at a Phase's later stage. Only if a country was not a member during a whole previous Phase(s) was allowed to pay the contribution from the year of signing the agreement of the given Phase.
- v) Countries with outstanding contributions from a Phase were allowed to join the following Phase only after providing the outstanding contributions (or equivalent in-kind). For some countries this was a major challenge, since the national authority that did not fulfil its financial obligations was different from the authority asking to join the new Phase; nevertheless, an effort to settle outstanding payments was requested. In one case, a country (Spain in 2016) organized an event for one of the discussion platforms and covered all the expenses for accommodation and meals for all participants as contribution in-kind. On another occasion (Greece in 2017), the implementing agency provided the full outstanding contribution even if the commitment had been pending for several years.
- vi) The SC carefully considered Germany's request to join the sixth Phase of EUFORGEN, taking into consideration EUFORGEN's *Modus Operandi* and similar decisions systematically taken in comparable circumstances in the past.
- vii) Recognising the difficulties for a national administration to budget membership fees for past years, the SC decided that Germany could spread its Phase VI membership fee . €175,000) over four years, instead of five (i.e. making four annual contributions of €43,750)
- viii) In the letter to Germany it should be made clear that the decision was made on practices taken in the past, based on the spirit of the rules of membership. The letter will stress that the Steering Committee considers that the participation of Germany is important for the impact and the expertise that Germany has provided during the years. The financial contribution should be consistent with similar decisions taken in similar circumstances in the past and in line with the EUFORGEN's *Modus Operandi*.
- ix) Consensus was reached.

**EUFORGEN's Steering Committee considered Germany's request to join the sixth Phase of EUFORGEN. Considering EUFORGEN's *Modus operandi* and similar decisions systematically taken in comparable circumstances in the past, and recognising the difficulties for a national administration to budget membership fees for past years, the SC decided that Germany can spread its defined membership fee for Phase VI (i.e. 175,000 EUR) over four years, instead of five (i.e. making four annual contributions of 43,750 EUR).**

The Secretariat will send the letter with the information about the decision of the SC and will inform the SC of the outcome.

**Closure of meeting.**



## Annex 1 Agenda



### 2021 - Extraordinary Steering Committee Meeting European Forest Genetic Resources Programme (EUFORGEN)

8-10 June 2021 – Online meeting

Tuesday 8 June

Time	Session	Purpose Outcome	Background documents
9.15	Virtual gathering – informal	The virtual space is open to allow the meeting participants to informally gather and get ready for the meeting	
9.30	Opening of the meeting		
	Introduction and approval of the agenda ( <i>Michele Bozzano</i> )	<b>For discussion and approval</b> The agenda is approved	Draft Agenda of the meeting
	Introduction of participants		List of participants
9.45	<b>EUFORGEN Tagline</b> ( <i>Anna-Maria Farsakoglou</i> ) Introduction of the process	<b>For discussion</b> The Steering Committee (SC) understands the need and function of the tagline	

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Time	Session	Purpose Outcome	Background documents
10.05	<p>Session 1: EUFGIS Data Sharing Agreement</p> <p><i>(Marjana Westergren, Michele Bozzano and Jerker Brolén)</i></p>	<p><b>For information and discussion</b></p> <p>The SC has a comprehensive overview on the need to develop a data sharing agreement to share data via EUFGIS and on the roadmap to develop it</p>	
11.30	Close of the day		

## Wednesday 9 June

Time	Session	Purpose Outcome	Background documents
9.30	Brief recap – <i>M. Bozzano and participants</i>		
9:45	<p>The European FOREST Genetic Resources Strategy, “key commitments” and updated roadmap. <i>(A.M. Farsakoglou and M. Bozzano)</i></p>	<p><b>For information and discussion</b></p> <p>The SC has a comprehensive overview of the draft key commitments that will be included in the European Forest Genetic Resources Strategy and how to provide feedback</p>	Draft key commitments of the European Forest Genetic Resources Strategy
11:10	EUFORGEN tagline New ideas <i>(A.M. Farsakoglou)</i>	<p><b>For discussion</b></p> <p>The SC defines possible alternative taglines</p>	
11.30	Close of the day		

Thursday 10 June

Time	Session	Purpose Outcome	Background documents
9.30	Brief recap <i>M. Bozzano and participants</i>		
9.35	GenRes Bridge project – the European Genetic Resources Strategy - Roadmap to the finalisation and release ( <i>M. Bozzano</i> )	<b>For information</b> The SC is updated on the roadmap to finalise the European Genetic Resources Strategy and on what the SC is expected to do	<a href="http://www.genresbridge.eu">www.genresbridge.eu</a>
9.50	GenRes Journal ( <i>Sandra Goritschnig</i> )  <a href="http://www.genresj.org">www.genresj.org</a>	<b>Discussion and decision.</b> The SC is expected to decide if supporting the GenRes Journal and how.	<b>Recorded webinar:</b> Genetic Resources – a new journal serving all GR sectors - <i>Sandra Goritschnig</i> , (Alliance Bioversity-CIAT) - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UxpZtAsZrlg">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UxpZtAsZrlg</a>
10.10	FORGENIUS Project ( <i>Ivan Scotti</i> )	<b>For information and discussion</b> The SC is updated on the FORGENIUS project and how to contribute/support its activities	<b>Recorded webinar:</b> FORGENIUS project – a new H2020-funded project to expand, improve, organise knowledge of forest diversity and resilience - <i>Ivan Scotti</i> (INRAE, France) <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Dg_pnRYsMI">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Dg_pnRYsMI</a>
10.40	LIFEGENMON Project: Manual for FGR monitoring ( <i>Hojka Kraigher</i> )	<b>For information</b> The SC is updated on the deliverable of the project	<b>Live webinar on 17 May 2021 11:00-12:00 CEST:</b> Manual for FGR monitoring (the main output of the LIFEGENMON project) – <i>Marko Bajc and Hojka Kraigher</i> (Slovenian Forestry Institute) <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WE7UoXeK92g">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WE7UoXeK92g</a>
10.50	EUFORGEN Tagline ( <i>A.M. Farsakoglou</i> )	<b>For decision</b> The SC decides on the new tagline of the Programme	
11.00	EUFORGEN 2020-21 – Highlights and AoB ( <i>M. Bozzano</i> )	<b>For information</b>	
11.30	Close of the meeting		



## Annex 2 List of Participants

### Extraordinary meeting of the EUFORGEN Steering Committee

8-10 June 2021 (virtual meeting)

#### EUFORGEN National Coordinators

Heino Konrad  
Austrian Research Centre for Forests  
(BFW)  
**Austria**

Alain Servais  
Service Public of Wallonia  
Forest tree seed center  
**Belgium**

Mladen Ivankovic  
Croatian Forest Research Institute  
**Croatia**

Josef Frýdl  
Forestry and Game Management  
Research Institute (FGMRI)  
**Czech Republic**

Ditte Christina Olrik  
Ministry of Environment and Food of  
Denmark, Nature Agency  
**Denmark**

Mari Rusanen  
Natural Resources Institute Finland  
(LUKE)  
**Finland**

François Lefèvre  
INRAE - Ecologie des Forêts  
Méditerranéennes  
**France**

László Nagy  
Forestry Research Institute  
Natural Agricultural Research and  
Innovation Centre (NARIC)  
**Hungary**

Adalsteinn Sigurgeirsson  
Icelandic Forest Service  
**Iceland**  
Brian Clifford  
Department of Agriculture, Food and the  
Marine  
**Ireland**

Maurizio Sabatti  
Department for Innovation in Biological,  
Agro-food and Forest systems  
DIBAF - University of Tuscia  
**Italy**

Darius Kavaliauskas  
(*on behalf of Virgilijus Baliuckas*)  
Vytautas Magnus University  
**Lithuania**

Frank Wolter  
Administration de la nature et des forêts  
**Luxembourg**

Maria Masini  
*Representing Darrin T. Stevens*  
Environment and Resources Authority  
(ERA)  
**Malta**

Joukje Buiteveld  
Centre for Genetic Resources Netherlands  
**Netherlands**

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Tor Myking  
Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy  
Research (NIBIO)  
**Norway**

Czesław Koziol  
Kostrzyca Forest Gene Bank  
**Poland**

Srdjan Stojnic  
*Representing Mirjana Šijačić-Nikolić*  
Faculty of Forestry  
University of Belgrade  
**Serbia**

Roman Longauer  
National Forest Centre - Forest Research  
Institute (NLC-FRI)  
**Slovakia**

Hojka Kraigher  
Slovenian Forestry Institute  
**Slovenia**

Sanna Black-Samuelsson  
Swedish Forest Agency  
**Sweden**

Andreas Rudow  
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology  
(ETH)  
Institute of Terrestrial Ecosystems  
**Switzerland**

Richard Whittet  
*Representing Neil Riddle*  
Forestry Commission  
**United Kingdom**

### **Focal Points from non-member countries**

Felipe Perez  
Ministry of Ecological Transition and the  
Demographic Challenge  
**Spain**

Gaye Kandemir  
Ministry of Forest and Water Affairs  
**Turkey**

### **Observers**

Jerker Brolén  
Legal Counsel  
European Forest Institute (**EFI**)

Bart de Cuyper  
INBO  
**Belgium**

An vanden Broeck  
INBO  
**Belgium**

Giovanbattista De Dato  
**SilvaMediterranea**  
FAO

Sandra Goritschnig  
**ECPGR** Secretariat  
Alliance of Bioversity and CIAT

Eduardo Notivol Paíno  
C.I.T.A. - Government of Aragon  
**Spain**

Ivan Scotti  
FORGENIUS Project  
INRAe  
**France**

Marjana Westergren  
Slovenian Forestry Institute  
**Slovenia**

### **EUFORGEN Secretariat**

Michele Bozzano  
European Forest Institute (EFI)

Anna-Maria Farsakoglou  
European Forest Institute (EFI)

Lidwina Koop  
European Forest Institute (EFI)

Pilar Valbuena  
European Forest Institute (EFI)

## **Unable to attend**

Tiit Maaten Institute of Forestry and Rural  
Engineering  
Estonian University of Life Sciences  
**Estonia**

Mirjana Šijačić-Nikolić  
Faculty of Forestry  
University of Belgrade  
**Serbia**

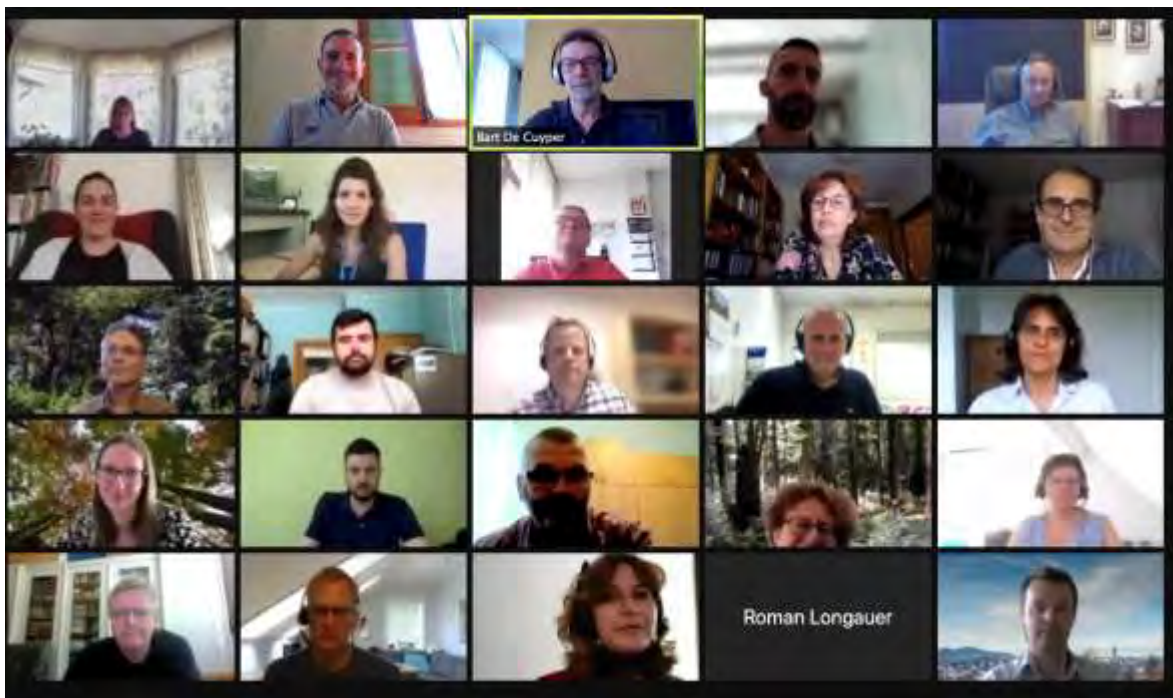
Darrin T. Stevens  
Environment and Resources Authority  
(ERA)  
**Malta**

Neil Riddle  
Forestry Commission  
**United Kingdom**

Report of the meeting

**Annex 3 Participants' photos**

**8 June 2021**





10 June – GenRes Bridge and FORGENIUS



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**EUFORGEN Secretariat**

**European Forest Institute (EFI)**

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