

Project Presentation «Monitoring Forest Biodiversity in Hungary», Thursday, October 6th 2016, in Bern / Switzerland

*Presentation and discussion of first results of the project “Multipurpose assessment serving forest biodiversity conservation in the Carpathian region of Hungary”
– a project supported by Switzerland’s contribution to an enlarged EU.*

Short description of the project «Multipurpose assessment serving forest biodiversity conservation in the Carpathian region of Hungary»

The Swiss-Hungarian Cooperation project entitled “Multipurpose assessment serving biodiversity conservation in the Carpathian region of Hungary” (registration number SH/4/13) started in autumn 2012 and ends October 31 this year. The aim of the project has been to survey and evaluate the biological state and quality of forest communities, forest types and animal groups connected to forests by their life-cycles (bats, xylophagous insects, cavity-dwelling birds). The results of the surveys should support both the conservation of Natura 2000 sites and species and the environmental sustainability of forest management.

The main task of the project has been the development and implementation of a forest state survey that collects data relevant to forest biodiversity and can be realized in a large area (app. 50 000 ha). In order to do careful planning for integrative forestry, we needed data with sufficient thematic content and also spatial resolution. Such data are crucial because nature conservation considerations are important even in places where timber production may be the main goal.

Our work has been motivated by the recognition of the lack of such comprehensive data in Hungary and most other countries. We aimed at developing and implementing a forest state assessment methodology that provides and integrates biodiversity relevant information to existing forestry data. At the same time it could serve as a stand-alone tool for the assessment of conservation status of forests at a fine spatial scale.

Contents and goal of the workshop

By the end of this field season, approximately 50.000 hectares of Hungarian forest will have been described by more than 50.000 sampling plots, using a complex protocol, digital data recording and a well structured database that enables fast and safe data handling and analyses. In addition, several tens of thousands of zoological records will have been collected on the distribution of forest dwelling birds, bats, and xylophagous insects.

The Hungarian experts would like to thank for the support obtained by sharing the methods developed and discussing the results. They invite the community of Swiss experts on forest, biodiversity conservation, management and monitoring and hope to get feedback on the use of their results or even about ongoing future cooperation.

Programme, Thursday, October 6th 2016

	Subject	Speaker
13.45h	Welcome (with coffee and pastry:-)	Matthias Plattner
14.00h	Short welcoming speech (10')	Ulrich Stürzinger
14.10h	Introduction of the project (20')	Zsófia Dukát / Tibor Standovár
14.30h	The forest state mapping methodology (30')	Tibor Standovár
15.00h	Data management: Android app and database (20')	Kristóf Kelemen / Zsolt Pataki
15.20h	Applications of the results in conservation and forest management planning (30', including discussion)	Kristóf Kelemen / Tibor Standovár/Ferenc Szmorad
15.50h	Faunistic results of the saproxylophagous insect survey in the Börzsöny and Mátra Mts (20')	Sándor Bérces
16.10h	Testing a new methodology for the survey of deadwood insects in Switzerland (20') Apéro	Christoph Bühler

Speakers

Matthias Plattner – Project manager, Hintermann & Weber AG

Ulrich Stürzinger – Head of Division, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

Zsófia Dukát – Head of Project Management Department at Duna-Ipoly National Park Directorate

Tibor Standovár – Project leader, Professor at Eötvös Loránd University

Kristóf Kelemen – Project management at Eötvös Loránd University

Zsolt Pataki – Database expert for Eötvös Loránd University working at Ipoly Erdő Zrt.

Ferenc Szmorad – Scientific crew at Eötvös Loránd University

Sándor Bérces – Insect expert at Duna-Ipoly National Park Directorate

Christoph Bühler – Project manager, Hintermann & Weber AG

Each talk 20 to 30min (including discussion)

Location

Federal Office for the Environment FOEN,
Papiermühlestrasse 172, 3063 Ittigen
Room 302

Map: <https://map.search.ch/Ittigen,Papierm%C3%BChestr.172.en.html?poi=verkehr>