



# 1<sup>st</sup> ANNOUNCEMENT



## **8<sup>th</sup> ICP Forests Scientific Conference: *Trends and events – Drought, extreme climate and air pollution in European forests***

11-12 June 2019 in Ankara, Turkey

### **Scope**

Three decades of monitoring effects of air pollution in the International Co-operative Programme on Assessment and Monitoring of Air Pollution Effects on Forests (ICP Forests) under the UNECE Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution (Air Convention) has provided long-term data series and a unique asset for the evaluation of status, trends and processes in European forest ecosystems in a changing environment.

The scope of the 8<sup>th</sup> ICP Forests Scientific Conference is inspired by the recent drought and other extreme events occurring across Europe in 2018. The main focus of the conference is therefore on forest ecosystem effects from recent and past extreme events caused by drought, heat, storms, frost and flooding. With “Trends and events - Drought, extreme climate and air pollution in European forests” we aim to promote the extensive ICP Forests data series to combine novel modeling and assessment approaches and integrate long-term trends with extreme weather events across European forests.

### **Invitation**

The 8<sup>th</sup> ICP Forests Scientific Conference invites scientists and experts from ICP Forests, the wider UNECE community under the Working Group on Effects (WGE), partners, stakeholders and experts that are interested in long-term trends and extreme events in forests. We particularly invite researchers using ICP Forests data in their evaluations and modelling approaches. Contributions on new advances based on airborne or satellite data are particularly welcome in order to stimulate the exchange of ideas, know-how and data from long-term monitoring and novel modelling approaches for air born approaches.

The conference provides a unique platform to bring together forest scientists connected to ICP Forests as data providers and/or data users as well as scientists from other forest research infrastructures and will be an excellent opportunity for students to network and present their results in an open and casual environment to receive valuable feedbacks and additional data.

### **Main topics**

- Effects of drought and other extreme weather events on processes and forest ecosystem functioning
- Long-term trends in forest ecosystem processes as affected by drought or other extreme weather events
- Air pollution effects on forest ecosystem functioning under extreme and/or prolonged weather events

## Background

Forests represent an immense resource, providing a number of ecosystem services from wood and non-wood production, protection of biodiversity, provision of habitats, clean water supply, soil protection, climate regulation and recreation essential for human well-being.

Climate change and atmospheric pollution with nitrogen and heavy metals as well as ozone formation may affect ecosystem functioning and jeopardize the provision of ecosystem services, requiring continuous long-term monitoring of ecosystem components and processes to assess status and predict future development of European forests.

Since 1985, ICP Forests monitors forest condition and environmental drivers across Europe. The data is used by a large number of scientists investigating various policy relevant research questions and scenarios.

## Conference structure

During 1.5 days, the 8<sup>th</sup> ICP Forests Scientific Conference will be organized with keynote presentations (30 min) at the beginning of each session followed by standard presentations (15 & 5 min). Poster presentations are particularly welcome and will be announced by a one-minute oral flash presentation prior to a social poster session.

## Expected output

A book of abstracts is produced and distributed prior to the meeting. A special issue with *Annals of Forest Science* is currently being negotiated.

## Scientific Conference Panel

Marcus Schaub	Swiss Federal Research Institute WSL, Switzerland
Lars Vesterdal	University of Copenhagen, Denmark
Bruno De Vos	Research Institute for Nature and Forest INBO, Belgium
Stefan Fleck	Germany
Pasi Rautio	Natural Resources Institute Finland LUKE, Finland
Tanja Sanders	Thünen Institute of Forest Ecosystems, Germany
Arne Verstraeten	Research Institute for Nature and Forest INBO, Belgium

## Schedule

13/12/2018	First announcement
21/01/2019	Second announcement with logistics and abstract guidelines
<b>10/04/2019</b>	<b>Deadline for abstract submission</b>
26/04/2019	Confirmation of oral and poster presentations
10/06/2019	Welcome reception
11-12/06/2019	8 <sup>th</sup> ICP Forests Scientific Conference
12/06/2019	Half day joint excursion with the ICP Forests Task Force Meeting participants

## Contact

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More information is available on the conference website: [sc2019.thuenen.de](http://sc2019.thuenen.de)  
For general information on the ICP Forests programme, please visit: [icp-forests.net](http://icp-forests.net)

