

## Sustainable Forest Management for the Future - The Role of Managerial Economics and Accounting

Report by Stjepan Posavec, Deputy Coordinator of IUFRO WP 4.05.02

On 10-12 May 2018, the Faculty of Forestry of Zagreb University, together with the Croatian Forest Research Institute, hosted an international conference in Zagreb, Croatia, with a focus on the economic and accounting aspects of sustainable forest management. The meeting, which was co-sponsored by IUFRO Units 4.05.00, 4.05.01, 4.05.02, and 4.05.03, attracted 46 participants from 17 countries (USA, Czech Republic, Germany, Austria, Italy, Finland, Indonesia, Japan, Croatia, Serbia, Bulgaria, Slovakia, Ukraine, France, Slovenia, Macedonia, and DPR Korea).

The conference was designed for forest researchers and practitioners who deal with managerial, social and environmental forest economics and accounting, forest ecosystem services and/or work in the areas of forestry and land-use, forest and natural resource policy as wells for decision support makers, land-use planners, stakeholders, researchers and specialists of related fields.

### The following major topics were addressed:

- Forest perspectives, climate change, management plans
- European Forest Accounts
- Financial issues, policy (investments)
- Forest ownership
- Sustainable forest management
- Sales of forest assortments, entrepreneurs
- Business models/methods

The keynote speaker Prof. D. Pettenella (University of Padova, Italy) presented the role of "Forests in the bio-based economy: an unconventional perspective". Other presentations covered a wide range of forest and forestry problems; solved on an interdisciplinary basis, using new and innovative approaches, methods, models and case studies from all over the world.

### Observations and outcomes:

- Regarding the European Forest Accounts, the need to establish a new international network for benchmarking forest production data (silvi benchmark) was expressed.
- A presentation tackling harvesting events due to sleet and bark beetles showed that forest commons have a better response to extreme natural events in comparison with other types of forest owners' associations.
- Presentations dealing with investments in small-scale forestry revealed that investments in private forests represent low risk and a relatively high internal rate of return.
- Forest ownership changes in nearly all countries are due to land sales, intergeneration changes and because of corporatization; different ownership groups compete for forest land.
- Stakeholders' attitudes and certification affect SFM.

The Faculty of Forestry of the University of Zagreb, which looks back on 120 years of continuous work in science and higher education in the field of forestry, and 70 years in the field of wood technology, has developed into a leading institution of higher education in Europe. IUFRO Research Group 4.05.00 Managerial economics

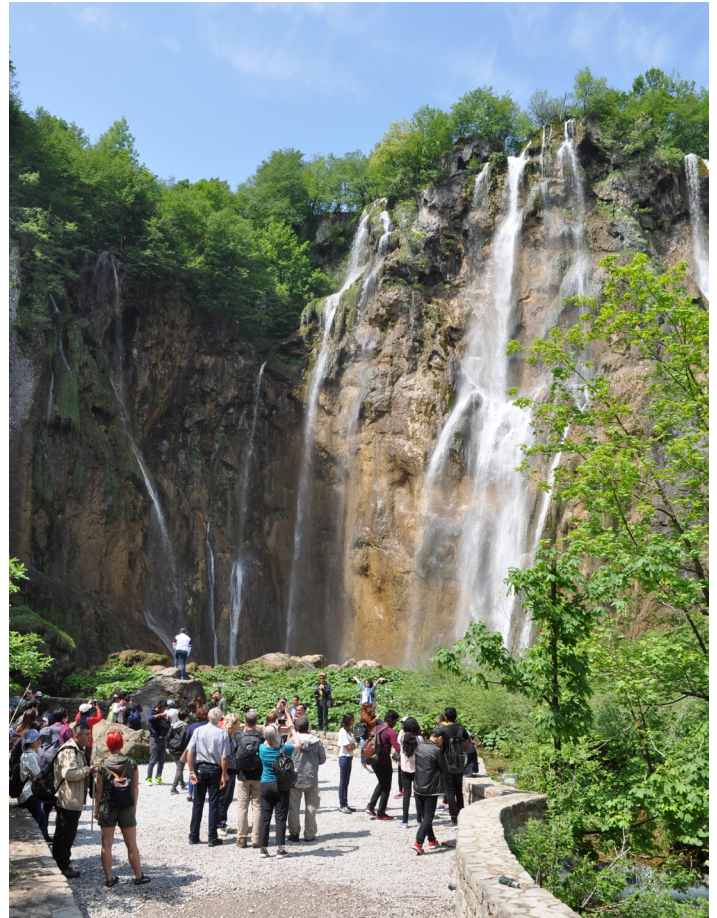


Photo by Goran Vincenc, Croatian Forests Ltd.

A study tour to Plitvice Lakes National Park guided by forestry engineer Mr. Čulinović focused on 'the role of forest, forest management and carrying capacity within the protected areas and evaluation of ecosystem services'. The National Park is an area of alpine topography that exerts considerable influence on climate phenomena and, consequently, on the vegetation of the area.

and accounting deals with the economic analyses of forest enterprises, principles and techniques of accounting relevant to forest enterprises, fundamentals of decision-making, and the economic and accounting tools for planning, supervising, measuring, controlling, and evaluating the status and performance of forest enterprises.

Full meeting report: <https://www.iufro.org/science/divisions/division-4/40000/40500/activities/>

Book of Abstracts:

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