A Joint European Strategy for Forestpedagogy –
Concept of the European - Forestpedagogy – Network
(FCN/Subgroup FP)

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Overview

- Context
- FP in Europe
  - Principles
  - Objectives
  - Strengths
  - Challenges
- Strategy
  - target groups
  - objectives
- Action Plan
1. Context

- Belgrade 2007: 6th UNECE - Ministerial Conference “Environment for Europe” of the ministers of education and of the environment
  “… and the rights of children, reaffirming the importance of education for sustainable development as a tool for capacity-building that enables people to make this vision a reality.”

- 2006: European Forest Action Plan (FAP, 2007 - 2011): Key Action No. 10:
  “Encourage environmental education and information”

- 2007: European Standing Forestry Commission (SFC) set up the two activities to implement the FAP, Key action 10:
  “Exchange experience between the Member States on environmental education and information campaigns” and: “Review activities of Member States in promoting education on sustainable forests”
1. Context

  - “... enhance the visibility of forests and the forest sectors multiple contributions to global challenges and societal needs.”
  - “... participation in global and regional fora to raise awareness ... , to enhance coordination and cross-sectoral cooperation and to promote SFM including among the public.”
  - “Adressing emerging issues forest knowledge improves through research, education, innovation, information sharing and communication.”

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New Forest Strategy for the European Union

The new European Union (EU) Forest Strategy was adopted by the European Commission on 20 September 2013. Developed over the past two years, it is the result of the work of the Commission, in cooperation with Member States and stakeholders.

Based on a new, broader approach to forests, the Strategy deals with the new challenges forests and the forest sector face at the present.

It stresses the importance of forests for rural development, as well as for the environment, for forest-based industries, bioenergy, and in the fight against climate change.

In this it underlines the need to follow a holistic approach, bringing together different internal and external forest-policy issues, covering the multiple benefits of forests, and addressing the whole forest value-chain (i.e. the way forest resources are used to generate goods and services).

The Strategy also emphasises that forest-linked EU policies should be taken into account in national forest policies. Furthermore, it calls for a Forest Information System to be set up, for Europe-wide harmonised information on forests to be collected and for integrating diverse information systems and data platforms.

The Strategy has been submitted to the European Parliament and the Council.

More information at: http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/forest/strategy/
1. Context

- 20th Sept. 2013; A new EU Forest Strategy for forests and the forest-based-sector:
  - “The Commission and the MS should improve their valuing of the benefits that forests give to society and, through sustainable forest management, should find the right balance between delivering the various goods and services”
  - “Communication is a particular challenge for the sector, as the public is generally not aware of how significant SFM is, or of the various ways in which the forest sector contributes to the green economy”
  - “MS should improve public information about forests and wood, and build on the EU Forest Communication Strategy, developed by the SFC”; [http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/fore/publi/communication-strategy_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/fore/publi/communication-strategy_en.pdf)
2. Forestpedagogy in Europe

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2.1. Forestpedagogy in Europe - principles

- is based on knowledge about forests and SFM
- demands approaches considering world-wide coherences
- contributes to education for sustainable development (ESD)
- cooperates with other partners (Forestry, ESD, ..)
- requires participatory methods
- offers forests as excellent learning environment
- includes natural and cultural heritage
2.2. Forestpedagogy in Europe - objectives

- Social/economical goals
- Environmental/forestrelated objectives
- Educational goals
2.2. Forestpedagogy in Europe – educational goals

Communicating values

Improving creativity
2.2. Forestpedagogy in Europe – educational goals

Self-discovering learning

participation
2.3. Forestpedagogy in Europe - strengths

- good pedagogical concepts
- uses forests as an excellent model for sustainability
- It really makes fun
- proofs show a lot of beneficial impacts
- european process of cooperation
- we started networking
- huge variety of actors/players
- shows that forestry is important for the future life of people
- addressing to the daily life

It really makes fun

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2.4. Forestpedagogy in Europe - challenges

- nature deficit syndrome – estrangement from nature
- meaning of FP in context of ESD is unclear
- What/Who is a forestpedagogue? Lack of qualified staff!
- Include more teachers (pedagogogues)
- more research data required
- lack of awareness in public and in policy.
- Unsufficient internal awareness
- lack of financial and personal resources
- lack of networking
- lack of participation skills
3. Joint Strategy for Forestpedagogy in Europe

**Strategy**

- **Analysis**
- **Objectives**
- **Action plan**
- **Measures and projects**
- **Strengths and challenges**
- **Target groups**
3.1. Strategy – target groups

- Teachers and Pedagogues
- Forestpedagogues
- Decision makers policy
- Decision makers Forestry
- Foresters, Forest owners
3.2. Strategy – objectives

- Develop the social and political **awareness** of Forestpedagogy particularly among the national and European Forestry policy and forest departments
- Improve internal and external **communication** on and about Forestpedagogy
- Strengthen **Networking** and Cooperation between the different stakeholders
- Establish Forestpedagogy as a recognised part of **ESD**
- Improve the **quality** of all aspects of Forestpedagogy
4. Action Plan

| why | what | how | whom | who | when |

action plan
4.1. Action Plan –
Develop the social and political awareness

- Reached:
  - recognition of annual congress!

- To do:
  - Improve awareness of FP in the educational sector
  - Implement FP to European Forests 2020/EU - Forest Strategy
  - Foster motivation for FP done by the Forestry-organization
4.2. Action Plan –
Improve internal and external communication

- Reached:
  - FCN-Subgroup-Network running well
  - Website/Platform [www.forestepedagogics.eu](http://www.forestepedagogics.eu) established
  - Europeanwide survey about FP published
  - Consens on definition, principles, objectives of FP

- To do:
  - Get more states involved in the process
  - Increase networking with other FP-initiatives (paws, YPEF)
  - Improve communication with ESD-initiatives / networks
4.3. Action Plan –
Strengthen Networking and Cooperation

- Reached:
  - Annual european FP congress since 2006

- To do:
  - Improve quality, awareness, political weight of congress
  - Improve FP-networking in and between the states
  - Increase networking with other FP-initiatives (paws, YPEF)
  - Improve networking with ESD-initiatives / networks
4.4. Action Plan – Establish Forestpedagogy as recognised part of ESD

- Reached:
  - Examples for good cooperations in some states

- To do:
  - Define common quality standards of FP-programmes
  - Discuss existing FP-certificates and their amount of ESD
  - Increase cooperations with schools, pre-schools, kindergardens, teachers and pedagogues
  - Discussion and development of ESD and Forestpedagogy - guidelines
4.5. Action Plan – Improve quality of all aspects of Forestpedagogy

- Reached:
  - Sharing best practice examples and experiences (congress, homepage, news)

- To do:
  - Common projects
  - Joint Campaigns
4.5. Action Plan –
Next steps ....

... to set priorities for the different “to do s”

... to define concrete measures, joint projects, ...

.. to acquire financial support ...
Thank you for your attention!

„..... yes!
We have an
Action plan!“