

IUFRO 15th International Symposium

The 15th International Symposium on Legal Aspects of European Forest Sustainable Development was held in Tirana, Republic of Albania on May 14-17, 2013. The symposium was hosted by the CNVP (Connecting Natural Values & People Foundation) in partnership with Faculty of Forest Sciences and REC Albania and was supported by the Ministry of Environment Forestry and Water Administration and Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Albania.

REFORD took active participation on the Symposium with representatives from its member Associations; National Association of Private Forest Owners (NAPFO) from Macedonia, Montenegro and Albania.

Objectives of the Symposium were:

One of the group's foremost objectives and challenges was to stimulate and facilitate communications among researchers and practitioners responsible for forest law and environmental legislation in European countries, not only, but in particular those with economies in transition. In order to accomplish this target, this IUFRO International Symposium was held with the general focus of:

Adapting legislation and regulations for Sustainable Forest Management in a change environment

In relation to this the Symposium specific objectives were:

- to create the opportunity for specialists from different countries, to get acquainted with and discuss the latest developments in the legal and policy fields, with the similarities and differences especially in the contest of the integral role of forest science, not only in research as such but also in the harmonization of the traditional knowledge, specific use of small scale forestry and coppice forestry issues, related to the traditions and needs of Balkan rural populations, their social and environmental impact
- to provide a forum for discussion on (foremost) European CIT developments related to law and environmental legislation, and exchange experiences in formulation, implementation and administration of their new forest and forest related laws and facilitate their comparison;
- to encourage and support an overall discussion on open questions, impending problems and possible solutions to be identified during this meeting.