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TREES4FUTURE – DESIGNING TREES FOR THE FUTURE. ACCESS TO KEY RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES AND TOOLS IN THE FIELD OF FORESTRY AND WOOD TECHNOLOGY IN EUROPE

Trees4Future is an Integrative European Research Infrastructure project that aims to integrate, develop and improve major Forest Genetics and Forestry Research Infrastructures. It will provide the wider European forestry research community with easy and comprehensive access to currently scattered sources of information (including genetic databanks, forest modelling tools and wood technology labs) and associated expertise. This will help forestry researchers and the European forestry sector to respond, in a sustainable manner, to increasing demands for wood products and services in the context of genetic adaptation and changing climatic conditions. It will create a new and better linked Research Infrastructure that will optimize the short- and long-term exploitation of forest resources by increasing knowledge of, for example, the adaptation of forests to climate change, and the tree characteristics suitable for a tailor-made wood supply.

Keywords: Trees4Future, Transnational Access programme, research infrastructure, forestry research

Trees4Future offers open access to european forest and wood research infrastructures

Trees4Future aims to support forest research and help the European forestry and wood industries develop sustainable solutions for the future in the context of climate change, by improving and facilitating access to state-of-the-art research facilities throughout Europe. The Transnational Access programme offers external users – researchers and other experts – free access to the 25 Trees4Future specialized research sites and facilities, including a contribution to users' travel and subsistence costs. The infrastructures offered by Trees4Future are presented in the table below.

Table 1. Trees4Future research infrastructures**Tabela 1. Infrastruktura badawcza projektu Trees4Future**

Infrastructure <i>Infrastruktura</i>	Provider <i>Dostawca</i>	Country <i>Kraj</i>
Genetics, genomics, tree breeding <i>Genetyka, genomika, hodowla drzew</i>		
INRA GENOBOIS infrastructure	INRA	France <i>Francja</i>
INRA PTEF ISO Platform for analysing natural abundance of 13C	INRA	France <i>Francja</i>
INRA Phenotyping platform	INRA	France <i>Francja</i>
INRA Treebreedex databases	INRA	France <i>Francja</i>
Genomics-Transcriptomics Facility (GTF)	INRA	France <i>Francja</i>
EVOLTREE Plant Gene Repository Centre and Web Portal at AIT	AIT	Austria <i>Austria</i>
ASP Section 1: Traceability of FRM and applied forest genetic research	ASP	Germany <i>Niemcy</i>
BFW Department of Genetics' Molecular laboratory	BFW	Austria <i>Austria</i>
SGP-IASMA (Sequencing and Genotyping Platform)	FEM	Italy <i>Włochy</i>
GIS: Matching the species to the site	FR	UK <i>Wlk. Brytania</i>
Tissue culture laboratory at IBL	IBL	Poland <i>Polska</i>
METLA Punkaharju cryopreservation lab	METLA	Finland <i>Finlandia</i>
METLA Punkaharju vegetative propagation lab	METLA	Finland <i>Finlandia</i>
Modelling and decision-support systems <i>Systemy modelowania i wspieranie decyzji</i>		
Alterra Forest Modeling Portfolio	Alterra	The Netherlands <i>Holandia</i>
EFI Virtual Library and Modeling Tools (EFISCEN, ToSIA)	EFI (headquarters)	Finland <i>Finlandia</i>
Wood research/technology <i>Badania drewna/technologie drewna</i>		
BOKU lab on wood anatomy and tree physiology incl. microdensitometry and spectroscopy	BOKU	Austria <i>Austria</i>
Wood Quality Lab / FT- NIR Spectrometry	CNR	Italy <i>Włochy</i>

Table 1. Continued
 Tabela 1. Ciąg dalszy

Physics lab at FCBA	FCBA	France <i>Francja</i>
Ecophysiology Lab (Ecophys IDPAN)	IDPAN	Poland <i>Polska</i>
FLOR Forestry and Forest products centre at IICT	IICT	Portugal <i>Portugalia</i>
SilviScan measurements and evaluations	Innventia	Sweden <i>Szwecja</i>
Coupled Differential Scanning Calorimetry and Thermogravimetric Analyzer	UGENT	Belgium <i>Belgia</i>
X-ray CT scanner (Nanowood) at UGent	UGENT	Belgium <i>Belgia</i>
Reference collections <i>Zbiory referencyjne</i>		
Transnational Access to fungi and insects collections at FCBA	FCBA	France <i>Francja</i>

How does the transnational access to infrastructures work?

The Transnational Access programme offers external users free access to the Trees4Future facilities, including a contribution to users' travel and subsistence costs. Access to the infrastructure typically includes a visit of, e.g., five working days at the infrastructure to familiarise oneself with the facilities and to conduct the necessary analyses assisted by the staff on-site. In the case of on-line databases, the infrastructure offer encompasses access to, and assistance to use, those databases. The Transnational Access programme is open to researchers from EU Member and Associated countries for accessing a research infrastructure in another country; in other words: a Polish expert is eligible to apply for Access to a research infrastructure, e.g., in France, but not in Poland. Researchers from non-EU member states are eligible to apply for funding if they make their application as a member of a user group involved in international projects with a strong European link. The user group leader and majority (i.e. 50% or more) of the users must be employed by public or private institutions within Member States or Associated States.

Interested users are asked to submit a proposal to the Trees4Future Call for Access, including a justification for their access request to the concerned site (a research plan). The Call for Access is open on a continuous basis and the proposals are evaluated by experts, the majority of whom will be from outside the project consortium. As a general rule, applicants should submit their proposal 3-6 months before the intended visit. One of the pre-requisites for access is that users must publish their results within a reasonable time frame in open literature, and acknowledge the access offered by Trees4Future.

Interested users are encouraged to visit the “infrastructures” part of the Trees4Future website (<http://www.trees4future.eu/>) for detailed descriptions of each facility, including the modality of access, the offered services and any individual conditions. The Call for Access will open in April 2012.

TREES4FUTURE – PROJEKTOWANIE DRZEW W PRZYSZŁOŚCI. DOSTĘP DO KLUCZOWYCH INFRASTRUKTUR BADAWCZYCH I NARZĘDZI W ZAKRESIE LEŚNICTWA I TECHNOLOGII DREWNA W EUROPIE

Streszczenie

Trees4Future to projekt scalania europejskiej infrastruktury badawczej, którego celem jest zintegrowanie, rozwijanie i ulepszanie ważniejszych infrastruktór w obszarze genetyki lasów i badań w leśnictwie. Zapewni to szerszej społeczności europejskich naukowców, zajmujących się lasami, łatwy i pełny dostęp do obecnie rozproszonych źródeł informacji (w tym banków danych genetycznych, narzędzi modelowania lasów i laboratoriów zajmujących się technologią drewna) i towarzyszącej im specjalistycznej wiedzy. Pomoże to zarówno naukowcom zajmującym się leśnictwem, jak i europejskiemu sektorowi leśno-drzewnemu odpowiedni reagować na rosnący popyt na produkty drzewne i usługi, w kontekście adaptacji genetycznej i zmieniających się warunków klimatycznych. Stworzy to nową, lepiej powiązaną infrastrukturę badawczą, która zoptymalizuje krótko- i długookresowe wykorzystywanie zasobów leśnych poprzez polepszenie znajomości, na przykład adaptacji lasów do zmian klimatycznych oraz cech drzew odpowiednich z punktu widzenia podaży drewna uwzględniającej wymagania klientów.

Słowa kluczowe: Trees4Future, program dostępu ponadnarodowego, infrastruktura badawcza, badania w leśnictwie