Panel discussion – Shaping future forests: the tree perspective!"
Thursday, 14 April 14.00-15.00

The COST Action STReESS has focused attention on studying of how trees and forests respond to climate change and extreme events. After 4 years of productive and interactive exchange, the COST STReESS community has recognized that the tree perspective (i.e.; a tree-level approach) can contribute with an increased mechanistic understanding and longer temporal perspective to disentangle the complexity of the effects of stress events on tree growth and mortality. This approach can help to assess the dynamics of the interaction between the tree and the environment and are crucial to evaluate tree species plasticity and forest resilience in a rapidly changing environment– a fundamental step for a conscious shaping of future forests.

This contribution of the "tree perspective" for shaping our future forests will be discussed with experts from European environmental agencies and research institutes.

Panel members (in alphabetical order)

	**Reinhart Ceulemans** Full Professor of Ecology at the Department of Biology of the University of Antwerp, Belgium; Personal Web page **Research interests/projects:** global changes; plant functioning and modelling, i.e. Global climatic change studies: effects of elevated atmospheric CO2 and temperature on growth, development and productivity of plants. FACE-studies on poplar; Carbon, biogeochemical cycles and productivity of ecosystems: biosphere-atmosphere fluxes, modelling, field studies, carbon balances. Process-based models for tree and forest growth and carbon balance.
	**Marcus Lindner** Head of program " Sustainability and Climate Change" of the European Forest Institute (EFI), Joensuu, Finland; Personal Web page **Research interests/projects:** Climate change impacts, adaptation and mitigation in the forestry sector; Sustainability Impact Assessment for the Forestry-Wood Chain, Biomass resource use potentials for bio-energy, Land use and ecosystem services, Science-Policy-Practice Interface.
	**Christopher Reyer** Dr. at the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, Potsdam, Germany; and Chair of the COST Action PROFOUND; Personal Web page **Research interests/projects:** Climate Impacts and Vulnerabilities; Climate change impacts on forests; Adaptation of forests to climate change; Sustainable development and sustainable natural resource management in social-ecological systems; Process-based forest and vegetation models.
	**Kathy Steppe** Professor at laboratory of Plant Ecology, Ghent University, Belgium; and Member of the Steering Committee of the COST Action STReESS; Personal Web page **Research interests/projects:** global change, ecophysiology, tree modelling; Conceptual modelling of carbon, water and energy flow through ecophysiological measurements under variable environmental conditions; Dynamic variations in tree hydraulic properties and its implications for water transport dynamics
	**Eugene Vaganov** Rector of the Siberian Federal University, Krasnoyarsk, Russia; and Head of Department of Dendroecology at the V.N. Sukachev Institute of Forest SB RAS, Krasnoyarsk, Russia; Personal Web page: **Research interests/projects:** Dendrochronological and dendroecological monitoring of Northern Eurasia forests; Cambial modelling; Climatic signal of tree-ring anatomical structure; Climate change, Forest ecology and management, flux towers (Zotino Tall Tower Observatory with Max Planck).

Moderator: Patrick Fonti, Swiss Federal Research Institute WSL, Birmensdorf Switzerland; and Member of the Steering Committee of the COST Action STReESS