

JUBILEUM CONFERENCE PRO SILVA EUROPA LOGARSKA DOLINA 2009

25th September 2009

THE WORKSHOP OF PRACTICE

The main goals of the workshop:

To get from participants:

suggested tasks and ideas and questions to support the general goal of the conference: “improving the collaboration between science, practice and society for advancing close-to-nature management for the benefit of nature and society”

The key questions for the group Practice:

- How can practice contribute to the advancement of close-to-nature forest management?

joze. mori (joze.mori@zgs.si)

WORKSHOP PROCESS

The participants worked on 3 process questions:

1. What are the main positive characteristics (examples, approaches) of practice involvement in the advancement of close-to-nature forest management (CTN)?
2. What are the main problems of the involvement of practice in the advancement of CTN forest management?
3. What are your suggestions for future involvement/role of practice in the advancement of CTN forest management ?

RESULTS AND REPORT

**Final report: The participants of workshop have produced 67 ideas. Sum of the main problems (37%) is much bigger than sum of positive characteristics (27%)
There was a large number of suggestions (36%).**

POSITIVE CHARACTERISTICS (SUM = 18 ideas)

- Selective management
- To show what is an real selection in the forest
- Practical experience
- Learning by doing
- Teaching in the forests
- Collaboration with scientists in field experiments
- Scientific projects between biologists and foresters
- Natural automatization
- Structured perpetual forest
- Explain selection criteria to workers in forest
- Communication under practice

- Excursion to see examples of CTN forests
- Scientists communicate with practitioners – what information from research do they need?
- To have several different demonstration places
- Forest owners depending on their forests
- Forest owners demanding CTN forestry for their forests
- Teachers as former successful managers
- CTN forestry shows best results

THE MAIN PROBLEMS (SUM = 25 ideas)

- Economic problems
- Economic questions
- Economy is more important than ecology
- Foresters may want quick money with clear cuts
- The decreasing value of timber
- Foresters may find too expensive pruning regularly good stems
- Forest industry doesn't believe that CTN forestry can deliver sound economic returns
- The difficulty to give a value to non-economic functions
- No time allocated or communication
- Communication skills
- Missing innovations
- Economic support for communication skills and innovations
- Not enough economic data (credibility)
- Not enough basic information
- Lack of published information available to foresters
- Not enough knowledge
- Tradition
- Different aims of science and practice
- Practicing foresters do not read scientific articles and do not publish professional articles
- Universities are ignoring the knowledge of local practitioners including CTN forestry managers
- Joint different professionals and interests
- Understanding and unrespecting nature and natural processes
- Crossing the concepts of CTN forestry and open canopy forests for the biodiversity saving
- To many different situations
- CTN forester is the only user who is focused on all the roles of forests

SUGGESTIONS (Sum = 24 ideas)

- To work with motivated people
- Learn from CTN forests
- Visit forests with monitoring system to have experience
- Promote non-timber products
- To make economic analysis including non timber benefits
- Speak up! Show good examples
- Inform the public and get them on our side
- Advertise the general and economic benefits for all (citizens and foresters)
- Meet public and scientists informal (beer)
- Bring scientists and public to forests

- Engaging the policy level
- Formulate priority questions
- More information to the public
- Open head to society and science
- More demonstration places with economic data
- Explain goals of a good forestry in demonstration areas
- Improving of education and cooperation
- Spread a network of research areas on CTN forests
- More subvention for starting CTN forestry
- Help to initialise CTN forestry (money – lower taxes etc.)
- Pay foresters to help scientists
- Regulate timber import
- To share the same goals
- Discussion between forest managers and hunters, the same with naturalists and the same with tourists

Report is made by Jože Mori, facilitator of workshop