

## International Conference on Forest Education, 22-24 June 2021

### Breakout Group Briefing Note: 3.2

*“Information access and sharing through networking and online platforms, with a particular focus on Forestra”*

**Organizer: International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO)**

**Moderator:** Daniel Boehnke, IUFRO

**Rapporteur:** Michael Kleine, IUFRO

**Dates and times:**

Meeting 1: Wednesday 23 June, 16:45-18:15 Central European Summer Time (CEST)

Meeting 2: Thursday 24 June, 10:00-11:30 Central European Summer Time (CEST)

**Breakout group description:**

*“Forestra”, a new online gateway to global forest education is currently being developed under the joint FAO-IUFRO-ITTO Project “Creation of a Global Forest Education Platform and Launch of a Joint Initiative under the Aegis of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests.*

*As the world becomes more digitally connected, the opportunity for online resource access grows. Forestra is designed to facilitate this access to forest-related knowledge and information through an innovative semantic search function.*

*Forestra is being set up with the following specific objectives:*

- *Serving for global knowledge sharing and dissemination of information from and for all kinds of forest education institutes and forest educators; and*
- *Providing linkages and enable interaction with other education, training and awareness initiatives around the world.*

*The information on Forestra falls under three main categories, which can be filtered:*

- *Tertiary Forest Education*
- *Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET), both long- and short-term*
- *Forest-related Public Environmental Education*

*This session will demonstrate the prototype Forestra and offer the opportunity to test the search function on a test dataset.*

**Questions to be addressed by the breakout group:**

1. How to make forest education material globally available?
2. What is Forestra? How does it work?
3. How will Forestra help in networking for improved forest related education around the world?