



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

### Breakout Group Briefing Note: 1.7

*“The juncture of forest education and employment”*

#### Organizers:

**European Forest Institute (EFI), International Forestry Students’ Association (IFSA),  
International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO)**

**Moderator:** Lisa Prior, Junior Researcher, Joint EFI-IFSA-IUFRO Project

**Facilitator:** Simone Massaro, IFSA

**Rapporteur:** Juliet Achieng, EFI

#### Dates and times:

Meeting 1: Tuesday 22nd June, 16:45-18:15 Central European Summer Time (CEST)

Meeting 2: Wednesday 23rd June, 10:00 -11:30 CEST

#### Breakout group description:

*The nature of employment and occupational demands in the forest sector keep changing. Newly evolving “green jobs” promote sustainable development as well as the general well-being of the people. Students will need to be attracted to the field and receive adequate training, to be equipped with the skills required for the new jobs, and to contribute to building a green, healthy, and resilient future with forests.*

*This 90-minute interactive session will explore the educational needs towards forest-related employment and green jobs. Results of the research by the joint EFI-IFSA-IUFRO project “Global student networking and green jobs in the forest sector” will guide the discussions on future forest-related careers and how to prepare for them. The different perspectives from educators, students, employers and employees will highlight demands as well as interlinkages and the need for collaboration in order to promote innovation in the forest sector.*

#### Agenda

- Welcome
- EFI-IFSA-IUFRO survey results presentation with audience engagement
- Introduction speakers
- Discussion with speakers and audience feedback
- Sum up (by rapporteur)

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

1. What are the strengths and weaknesses of the forest sector when it comes to attracting young talent?
2. What challenges do job seekers and employers face in today’s job market, and what can educational institutions/forest sector employers do to help overcome them?
3. What skills are needed by young forestry professionals to succeed in the forest sector today and how can they be obtained?

**Speakers:**

**Meeting 1: Tuesday 22nd June, 16:45-18:15 Central European Summer Time (CEST)**

1. Tatenda Mapeto – Lecturer at Nelson Mandela University
2. Alina Lehtikoinen – President of IFSA
3. Vera Steinberg – Forest Europe

**Meeting 2: Wednesday 23rd June, 10:00 -11:30 CEST**

1. Jan Joseph Dida – Assistant professor at University of the Philippines Los Baños
2. Alex Bimbo Onatunji – Coordinator of Joint IUFRO-IFSA Task Force on Forest Education
3. Derek Nighbor – Chair of the ICFPA, President of FPAC

**Supporting information:**

1. Joint EFI-IFSA-IUFRO project  
<https://ifsa.net/efi-ifsa-iufro-project/>
2. Global Outlook on Forest Education  
[https://foresteducation.files.wordpress.com/2017/09/gofe\\_final\\_report.pdf](https://foresteducation.files.wordpress.com/2017/09/gofe_final_report.pdf)