



Newsletter 3 Spring 2016

Integrate+

Welcome to issue three

Integrate+ supports the Czech - German strategic dialogue

The strategic dialogue between the Czech Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany is chaired by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of both countries. The work programme of this cooperation includes amongst a wide range of topics also the forest sector under Working Group 9 "Forest". The Integrate+ project was selected to support the bilateral collaboration between the two countries.

In the course of the strategic dialogue, three Marteloscopes are being established in different regions of the Czech Republic during 2016. They represent three typical forest management types including a mixed mountain forest with fir, beech and spruce, a Scots pine stand on poor soils and a third dominated broadleaved species. Most of the Marteloscope data have been assessed during the winter months. In February 2016 the Integrate+ team received and trained three Czech experts from the Forest Management Institute (FMI) in the identification and description of tree microhabitats. The training took place at an Integrate+ marteloscope near the City of Lohr in the Spessart region (Bavaria, Germany).

For the training the recently published tree microhabitat catalogue was applied. Further two strict forest reserves were visited exemplarily displaying most tree microhabitats. "Having had this training now allows us to assess tree microhabitats in our three marteloscopes and finalise data collection in the coming weeks" says Dr. Lenka Lehnerová from FMI. "We will translate the catalogue into Czech in order to make it available to a wider audience in the Czech Republic", she continues. Further emphasis will be given to professional exchange visits between the Czech Republic and Germany. They are planned for spring 2016 and aimed at stimulating Czech and German forest professionals to share experiences and know-how with

respect to integrative forest management. A final congress is planned for October 2016 in Prague to summarize the outcomes of the bilateral collaboration on forests.



With support from



by decision of the German Bundestag



Activities at a glance:

Oct 15 Tri-Regio foresters visit M-scope Rosskopf, Freiburg City Forest

Jan 2016 Integrate+ expands its M-scope network to Slovenia

Feb 16 2nd Integrate+ AG Meeting in Ebrach, Germany

Mar 16 Integrate publication for download in English, French and German at:
<http://www.integrateplus.org/media-center/publications.html>

May/Jun 16 Exchange of experts Czech Republic - Germany

Jun 16 Norwegian delegation visits southern Germany for exchange on

integrative management concepts in mountain forests

Aug 16 Workshop on active management of forest protected areas (Mikulov, Czech Republic)

Oct 16 Save the date - Integrate+ conference Steigerwaldzentrum Handthal/Ebrach, Germany)



Retaining tree microhabitats in managed forests

Messages from the Network:

A multinational training event took place 14-16 March 2016 in the Freiburg City Forest. It included Marteloscope exercises and was attended by forest and biodiversity experts from Italy and Spain. “Besides getting insight on assessing tree microhabitats we performed two Marteloscope exercises. They have shown useful for identifying tree microhabitats and for observing the economic consequences and effects on habitat values when applying different management strategies”, says Giovanni Santopuoli (University of Molise). “Marteloscopes are very valuable for education and I would welcome events as this one especially for my students”, continues Begoña Abellanas (University of Cordoba).

“With more Marteloscopes established in different regions of Europe an extensive dataset is being created. As each tree is geo-referenced we plan on using the tree microhabitat data in combination with our own datasets from France. We will investigate in how forest management affects dynamics of microhabitat structures. Integrate+ allows us to now expand our research activity also to other parts of Europe”.

Dr Benoit Courbaud
Irstea, France

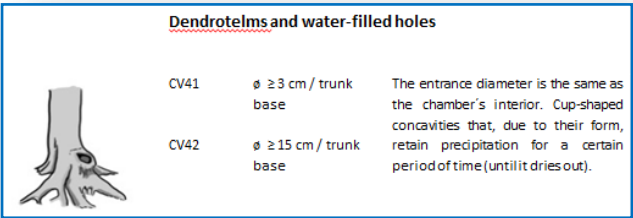
“We are investigating how different user groups address a given management task during a Marteloscope exercise. Our interests are to analyse motivations that make users take particular management decisions. This research activity is jointly supported by WSL and Integrate+. We will use past and upcoming Marteloscope exercises of the Integrate+ project and complement those with additional ones that we will conduct during 2016 and 2017.

Dr Tobias Schulz
WSL, Switzerland



Integrate+ recently published its ‘Catalogue of tree microhabitats’. It is a reference field list for assessing microhabitats for single trees in the course of setting-up and running marteloscope exercises.

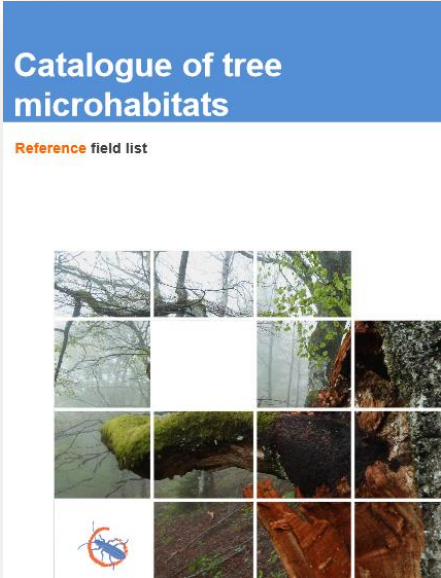
The retention of both existing and future microhabitat bearing trees can be well integrated in the course of forest management. Ensuring that trees that display habitat structures such as trunk and mould cavities, dendrotelmata, cracks, scars or cankers remain in a stand will contribute to sustaining and increasing its habitat for biodiversity in managed forests. Once such trees are removed may take forest stands many decades to again display such unique features.



The tree microhabitat catalogue was developed in close collaboration with international experts as a field reference guide. Based on a simple hierarchical structure it easily allows to identify tree microhabitats in the field. The structure of the catalogue is designed in a way

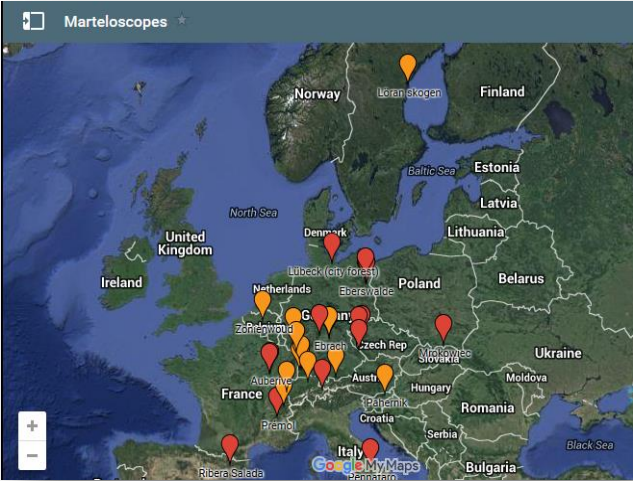
allowing to easily update in the case new microhabitat types or thresholds need to be added. It is aimed mainly at forest managers, forest inventory personnel and conservation managers taking part in Marteloscope exercises but can also find use as illustrative material in forest education or as background material for other types of training events and field excursions.

The catalogue is currently available in three languages (English, German and Czech). Further translations to other languages including French, Spanish, Italian and Slovenian are currently underway.



Marteloscope network continues to grow

The Integrate+ Marteloscope network continues to grow across Europe. To date fourteen sites in six countries are established (orange flags) with more to be completed within the next months (red flags).



Field visits and training exercises have commenced with many planned for the spring and summer of this year. Integrate+ is actively promoting Marteloscope use at regional level but also for multi-national cross border events. The aim of training exercises can vary and include e.g. calibration exercises or for applying a set of different silvicultural management measures. For each Marteloscope

fields guides or fact sheets are available. They give a variety of information including key forestry figures and descriptions of forest management and biodiversity concepts predominant in the regions in which the Marteloscope is located.

The I+ tablet software has undergone extensive development and now allows to visualise all key figures and graphs in a summary sheet. The sheet serves as the basis for the discussion of the exercise results directly in the stand. It can further be exported and printed. A recently developed robust Excel based simulator complements the tablet software with corresponding functionalities. It can also be used for exercises especially for larger groups.

