



EUFGIS

Establishment of a European Information System on Forest Genetic Resources

The ongoing EUFGIS action (April 2007-September 2010) helps European countries to implement dynamic gene conservation of forest trees and to document these efforts for the improvement of relevant strategies and action plans at pan-European level

Dynamic gene conservation emphasizes maintenance of evolutionary processes within tree populations to safeguard their potential for continuous adaptation. In the face of climate change, this is crucial for the long-term sustainability of forests and forestry in Europe.



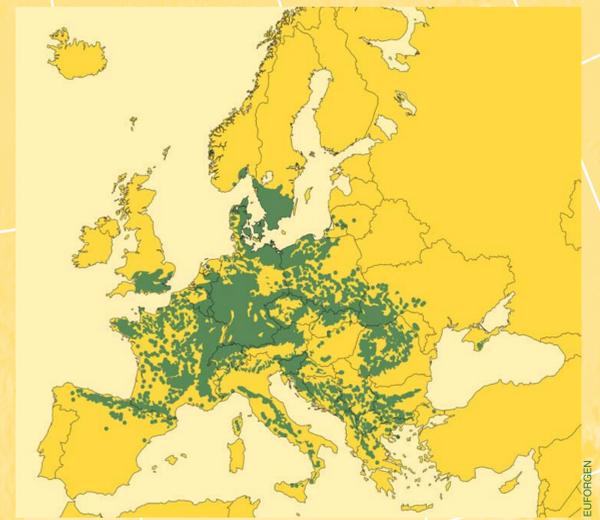
A deciduous forest in Slovenia

European countries have conserved their forest genetic resources (FGR) by establishing gene reserve forests and other conservation units. However, there are differences between the countries in how these units are established and managed, and what data are collected. This makes it difficult to compare and assess the gene conservation efforts between the countries.

The EUFGIS action will overcome these problems by developing pan-European minimum requirements for dynamic gene conservation units of forest trees and developing standards for data collection. It will also create a unique online database on these units. By making available geo-referenced data on the existing gene conservation units across the entire distribution range of forest trees in Europe, EUFGIS will facilitate development of pan-European gene conservation strategies and action plans for forest trees.

Objectives

- To establish a network of national FGR inventories in 40 countries
- To develop minimum requirements and data standards for dynamic gene conservation units of forest trees at pan-European level
- To create an online information system on the gene conservation units in Europe
- To make available harmonized data on the units across tree species' distribution range in Europe
- To provide training on FGR documentation to national focal points



Distribution map of European beech (*Fagus sylvatica*)

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EUFGIS is coordinated by Biodiversity International
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Project partners

- Biodiversity International
- Federal Research and Training Centre for Forests, Natural Hazards and Landscape, Austria
- State Forest Tree Improvement Station, Denmark
- Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique, France
- National Forest Centre, Slovakia
- Slovenian Forestry Institute, Slovenia
- Forest Research, United Kingdom