



Invitation for ProCoGen Workshop 1st – 3rd Sept. 2014

Kámoni Arboretum Szombathely, Hungary



“Genomics and the conservation of conifer genetic resources”

“Promoting a functional and comparative understanding of the conifer genome—implementing applied aspects for more productive and adaptive forests” (ProCoGen) is a 4 year EU-funded research project officially launched on 1st Jan. 2012. It aims at developing integrative and multidisciplinary genomic research in conifers, applying latest advancements in technology for sequencing, genotyping and gene expression analysis. In order to unravel genome organisation and identify genes and gene networks involved in plant and environment interaction, controlling important ecological and economic traits. This project will also provide important tools for tree breeding and forest management.

As a part of the dissemination activities ProCoGen organises workshops in non-participating European countries to avoid research gaps and to facilitate exchange of ideas, know-how and technology. The first such workshop was held in Riga, Latvia in 2013. The workshop report and lectures can be downloaded from the project website www.procogen.eu. The upcoming workshop in Kámoni Arboretum Szombathely, Hungary is being organised together with the FORGER (www.fp7-forger.eu) project. It not only addresses the research community but also offers interesting components for the forest based sector (for details ref. to the program attached).

An open forum is also planned as a part of this workshop for all participants to communicate their research interests, plans, ideas, and opinions. It is also a platform for discussing the relevance of research for forest management and conservation of genetic resources, which might be of special interest to the non-scientific community. The workshop will be an opportunity to interact directly with scientists at the forefront of conservation genetic research.

We cordially invite researchers, scientists, persons involved in the forestry based sector, keen on participating in the upcoming workshop in Hungary to express their interest and motivation for participation per email to: **Dr. Berthold Heinze:** berthold.heinze@bfw.gv.at and **Dr. Vedhu Krystufek:** vedhu.krystufek@bfw.gv.at. **The workshop is free of charge**, but travel and accommodation costs (ca. €50 per night) have to be covered by the participants' own resources. The nearest airport is Vienna Intl. Airport (VIA). Transport from and to the airport can also be arranged at an additional charge of €80 (return fare). The travel time is estimated to be two hours from VIA, therefore participants are advised to plan their travel accordingly.

ProCoGen is supported by EC funding under the 7th Framework Programme for Research and Innovation. This project is a collaborative initiative that not only aims at integrating the activities of 20 European research groups, across 11 European nations involved in the ongoing international conifer genome research, but also aspires to strengthen international collaboration beyond the continent with 2 research groups in Canada.