



Forestry Study Tour Report

Hessen, Germany - April 14-21, 2013

This report is the sole responsibility of the Project on Increasing the Resilience of Forest Ecosystems against Climate Change in the Southern Caucasus through Forest Transformation and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union



This project is funded by the EU

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Within the framework of the project “*Increasing the resilience of forest ecosystems against climate change in the South Caucasus Countries*” through forest transformation” (the Project¹), WWF-Germany in partnership with WWF regional office - Caucasus Programme Office (WWF-Caucasus) and other WWF offices in the South Caucasus countries organized the study tour to Germany in April 14-21, 2013.

Study tour was planned as one of the Project’s activities for staff from the target countries’ relevant governmental agencies and forestry administrations. The study tour was organised and led by the governmental entity (German State Forest Service Organization – HESSEN FORST) selected in Germany.

Detailed Study Tour Programme (Annex II) specified the objectives of the study, the topics and the types of site which should be included in the agenda, and the duration, numbers of persons and other logistical matters.

Study Tour Objective

The objective of the study tour was for forestry policy holders and practitioners from the region to learn how climate change has been addressed in the forestry policy and strategy of an EU member state and to see at first hand the silvicultural techniques which forest managers in that member state are using to make forests more resilient to the projected impacts of climate change.

The Project had chosen Germany as the destination country for the study tour: many of Germany’s federal states had been implementing policies of converting poorly adapted monocultures to more diverse and more resilient stands for a number of years, and forest managers in Germany - in the state and private sectors - have a lot of practical experience in forest transformation.

Participants

15 persons participated in the study tour (Annex II): 2 senior staff from each of the countries’ relevant governmental agencies, 2 staff from each of the countries’ relevant local forestry administrations and 1 member of the WWF Project team from each of the country.

In addition, Regional Project coordinator from WWF-Caucasus participated along with International Project Leader from WWF-Germany.

In addition to the above mentioned *participants* the Hessen-Forest provided a person to lead the study tour (who dealt with logistical matters during it) and one interpreter.

¹ The Project is being financed by the European Union (EU) in the framework of the EU’s Thematic Programme on Environment and Natural Resources including Energy (ENRTP).



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Photo: Study Tour Participants and Hessen Forest Staff – 17 April, 2013, Hessen, Germany

(see study tour photos in Annex III)

Duration and dates

The study tour was scheduled from April 14 to April 21, 2013.

The study tour was planned over 7 days. The first day (*Sunday*) and the 8th day (*Sunday*) were planned as arrival and departure days.

1. Sunday (*arrival*)
2. Monday – working day 1
3. Tuesday – working day 2
4. Wednesday – working day 3
5. Thursday – working day 4
6. Friday – working day 5
7. Saturday – partly working day 6 (*first half of a day – lessons learned and closing meeting / second half of a day – free time*)
8. Sunday – (*departure*)



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Specific points covered by the study tour programme

- Indoor presentation of the German state forest service's (Hessen Forest) policy on forests and climate change.
- Indoor presentation of a state forest district's and a communal forest's strategy for converting its monoculture forest stands to more resilient, mixed forest stands and the silvicultural measures which it uses.
- Field visits showed different stages in the transformation of various types of monoculture forest stands into forest stands that were expected to be more resilient to climate change.

The stands that were selected for the field visits included some stands that were as close as is practically possible to the stands at the pilot sites in the target countries in terms of the silvicultural measures that applied to them, i.e.:

- Pine (spruce) stands of different ages and qualities
- canopy densities in some parts of the stands that were low enough for light demanding successor species to prosper but in other parts so high that only shade tolerant species were able to prosper unless canopy density is reduced;
- grazing by domestic livestock (respectively game) was preventing the development of natural regeneration (and prevented establishment by seeding / planting);
- the potential for natural regeneration of tree species that were native to the site was very good in some parts of some of the stands and very poor in other parts;
- dense herb layer in some parts of some of the stands and a tall, dense herb and shrub layer in many parts if livestock/game were excluded.

Field visits were planned so that by the end of the study tour participants saw the following in an appropriate sequence:

- monoculture stands before any transformation operations had been carried out (stands possibly damaged by drought, bark beetle, etc.)
- stands in which no transformation operations had been carried out yet but which were typical of stands in which natural transformation has started
- transformation by introducing shade tolerant species and transformation by introducing shade intolerant species
- adequate planting and seeding concepts and methods for forest transformation with native species
- transformation: crown thinning in progress
- if appropriate in terms of season: ground preparation, planting and seeding in progress
- techniques for controlling competing vegetation
- techniques of site protection against domestic livestock/game



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- a nursery or nurseries where participants saw adequate and cost-efficient seedling and seed production technologies.

Indoor presentations and site visits

15 April, 2013 – Introduction, Hessen Forest, Forest Department Dieburg and Visit to state forest (FSC certified) in Dieburg

Participants were hosted by the Hessen Forest's Forest Department in Dieburg where they were given information and presentations on forestry system in Germany and Hessen.

In the second half of the day participants visited state forest (FSC certified) site in Dieburg.

16 April, 2013 – Visit to FSC-certified forests close to Dieburg and Travel into Odenwald and visit of a privately managed forest

Participants visited FSC-certified forest sites close to Dieburg and privately managed forest site in Odenwald.

17 April, 2013 – Visit to state kiln (state-owned seed extraction and drying establishment) and nursery in Hanau-Wolfgang and visit of forest transformation site in Süd-Hess. FA.

Participants visited state kiln (state-owned seed extraction and drying establishment) and nursery in Hanau-Wolfgang and forest transformation site in Süd-Hess, FA.

18 April, 2013 – Visit to FCS-certified communal forests (community of Kemel, Bad Schwalbach)

Participants visited FCS-certified communal forests in community of Kemel at Bad Schwalbach.

19 April, 2013 – Visit to the site in Hauberge information and site seeing of transformation of coppice forest (conservation of historic forest use practices)

Participants visited forest site in Hauberge where they were introduced to transformation of coppice forest practices.

20 April, 2013 - Wrap-up/evaluation

Hessen Forest staff and participants arranged wrap-up/evaluation meeting where main points and lessons learned were discussed.

It was pointed out that the study tour was of particular importance for the participants from the South Caucasus. General forestry practices, transformation of forests and financial issues of forestry, as well as diversified forest ownership were identified as main areas of interest for the participants.

It was highlighted that during the study tour all specific tasks were fulfilled, namely: indoor presentation of the German state forest service's (Hessen Forest) policy on forests and climate change; indoor presentation of the state forest district's and a communal forest's strategy for converting its monoculture forest stands to more resilient, mixed forest stands and the silvicultural measures which



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it uses; Field visits showing different stages in the transformation of various types of monoculture forest stands into forest stands that were expected to be more resilient to climate change.

Main Information on Forestry System in Hesse and Lessons Learned

FORESTS IN HESSE

The State of Hesse is located in the heart of Germany and is one of the 16 states that form the Federal Republic of Germany. Hesse has an area of 21.100 km² and 6,0 million inhabitants.

42% of the State's area is covered by forests. In comparison with the other German States, Hesse has the highest proportion of forests jointly with Rhineland-Palatine. More than 200 years ago, the idea of sustainable forest management was developed by the Hessian forester Georg Ludwig Hartig (1764 - 1837). Since then, the idea of sustainability determined forest management and the forests of today are the result of sustainable forest management, which spanned generations.

Forests are home for a great variety of fauna and flora. At the same time, they are sources for raw materials, including energy purposes, workplaces and recreational space.

More than half of the forests are formed by broad-leaved tree species and beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) has a dominating role.

FOREST OWNERSHIP

The State is the biggest forest owner with a proportion of 40. Communal forests, i.e. forest in the ownership of towns and villages have a proportion of 35 (almost all of these territorial entities own forest), and 25 of the forests are privately owned.

The private forest ownership is multifaceted: 50% of the privately owned forests (some 100.000 ha) are owned by more than 60.000 individuals. The other half of the forests is owned by medium and large scale private companies, mostly with own forest management structures and personnel.

Private and communal forests are supported by public promotion programs in order to facilitate orderly management and investments for safeguarding the multiple functions of the forests for society and environment.

HESSIAN STATE FOREST AS BASIS FOR SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT AND NATURE CONSERVATION IN HESSE

Objectives and principles of forest policy and forest legislation are the basis for sustainability in forest management. The forest cover has to be maintained and extended, forest functions have to be strengthened and secured and orderly forest management needs to be promoted and controlled.

Characteristics of orderly forest management are in particular:



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- o Longevity and sustainability of forest production,
- o Conservation of forest ecosystems as habitat of the diversity of fauna and flora by maintaining healthy, stable and diversity forests,
- o Avoidance of large clear cuts,
- o Choice of site-adapted tree species and suitable forest reproductive potential of high genetic variation,
- o Site-adapted use of fertilizers for improvement of soil fertility,
- o Abandonment of pesticides,
- o Careful tending, utilization, regeneration and transport,
- o Application of operational methods which protect stands and soil,
- o Forest road infrastructure adapted to landscape, forest stands and soil,
- o Measures against damage by game and development of a carrying capacity which is adapted to the sites and regeneration.

STATE FOREST ADMINISTRATION

Highest Forest Authority is the Ministry of Environment, Energy, Agriculture and Consumer Protection. Tasks of the Higher Forest Authority are assumed by the three Provincial Governments. Lower Forest Authorities are the Forest Management Units of the State Forest Enterprise Hessen-Forst. As regards to the sovereign functions, the Hessian State Forest Administration is a three-tier organization. Related to the management (economic) functions, it has a two-tier structure.

The foundation of HESSEN-FORST as a state enterprise (SFE) was the outcome of a long and extensive participatory planning process with the objective of reforming state administration in the sectors agriculture, forestry, nature conservation, landscaping and regional development. The reforms were targeting at stronger customer orientation and improved efficiency of public administration. HESSEN-FORST was enacted by law through the Hessian Parliament and came into existence in 2001.

The *Hessian Ministry of Environment, Energy, Agriculture and Consumer Protection* is responsible for development and supervision of the forest and nature conservation legislation and the respective regulations.

The *Provincial Governments* are responsible for the enforcement of these regulations, supervision of regional and local authorities and regional development projects.

The *Districts Authorities* are responsible for the implementation of approval procedures for



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conversion and afforestation.

Hessen-Forst State Forest Enterprise (SFE) manages the Hessian state-owned forests, the National Park Kellerwald-Edersee and, on a contract basis also forest owned by towns, cities and private individuals. In close cooperation with the local governments of towns and villages, the enterprise assumes sovereign functions, for instance in regional development procedures related to deforestation and/or afforestation.

The SFE has a country-wide field structure and works close to the citizens according to the principle of "integrated sovereignty". That means, apart from forest management and other services, the forest management units fulfil tasks deriving from legal regulations.

The 41 Forest Management Units (FMU) cover the entire State area. This guarantees persons competent in nature and forest management nearby citizens, local authorities and other customers. This "territorial principle" is an important requirement for nature-oriented silviculture. The average FMU manages 18.000-20.000 ha with 10-12 forest engineer districts.

The core tasks of Hessen-Forst are as follows: sustainable management of the state forest of Hesse as well as the management of corporate and private forests on behalf of their owners (*management is done in accordance to the Agenda 21, the Agenda 2000 of the European Commission, the National Forest Programme of Germany and the Forest Act of Hesse:*

Sustainable management of the state forest (342.000 ha) according to economic principles under special consideration of public benefit and interest.

Advice, support and management of forests of towns and cities (286.000 ha) and (mostly small-scale) private forests (106.000 ha) according to legal and contractual basis.

Research and studies on ecology, forest growth, site conditions, conservation of genetic resources, health control of forests, landscape conservation and environmental control.

Real estate management.

Training and capacity building for all personnel, environmental education and public relations work shall increase the awareness of citizens on the natural sources of livelihood and relatedness of people with nature.

Fulfilment of tasks, assigned to the SFE by law and implementation of law to protect the forest for public benefit (sovereign tasks).

Nature Data management.

FORESTS AND NATURE CONSERVATION

Europe is the only place in the world where red beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) groves grow, and Hesse is Buchonia, the land of the beeches. Beech trees (German "*Buche*") can be found in all parts of



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Hesse except the Hessian Reedy Marsh. The species characterizes most of the Hessian forest associations, hence the proportion of 31 , which is the highest in Germany. The term "Buchonia" which can be found in historic maps testifies the dominant role of the species since living territory.

In the European context, the occurrence of beech of this size attributes a special responsibility for its conservation to the State of Hesse.

FORESTS AS SOURCE FOR RAW MATERIAL

The most important product from Hessian forests is timber. Timber is used in the construction sector, furniture industries, saw mills, wood-based material industries, paper and packaging material industries and in handcraft.

The annual increment in Hessian forests is about 9 million m³ whereas approximately 6 million m³ per year are cut. The average standing volume per ha is as high as 320 m³ (according to the national forest inventory of 2002).

Forest owners earn the biggest part of their forest related income from timber sales. After a long period of timber price increases until 1980, their further development until today has been influenced greatly by calamities, mainly storms (1984, 1990, 1999/2000, and 2007).

Considering inflation, the trend has been negative. The volume of timber from Hessian forests which is available for the markets increased from 3 million cbm in the 1970s to 6 million cbm today.

FOREST INVENTORY AND PLANNING

The Institute for Forest Inventory and Planning of Hessen-Forst provides mid-term planning as an important steering element for sustainable management of state forests and those of other forest owners, which are under management contract with the enterprise. Moreover, inventory and planning is the basis for controlling.

The key tasks of the institute are:

- Development of mid-term plans for the forest management units according to the Hessian Guidelines for Inventory and Planning (HAFEA)
- Mapping of sites and safeguarding forest function
- Concepts for and implementation of random sample inventories
- Availing data for controlling
- Advising forest owners on forest management planning
- Compilation of forest valuation expertise and forest ecological proofing of evidence



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FORESTS AND WILDLIFE

Hessian forests are home to five species of "big game": red deer, roe deer, fallow deer, wild boar and mouflon sheep. Red deer and wild boar are native to German forests and are a natural part of the ecosystem.

Minor game species are hare, rabbit, red fox, other small predators and some bird species. Hunting is strictly regulated in order to regulate the carrying capacity and to maintain the forests' biodiversity and productivity. There are more than 20.000 licensed and registered hunters in Hesse. In state forests, hunting is managed under the responsibility of Hessen-Forst's forest management units.

However, most of the fauna is protected and part of the ecosystem management (see Forests and nature conservation).

FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE : CARBONDIOXID SEQUESTRATION

The Hessian State forest stored 62,3 million tons of carbon, of which 37,5 million tons (60 %) are to be found in the woody biomass. Every year these forests sequester more than 2 million tons of CO₂ from the atmosphere, of which:

- 0,5 m tons by increment of the woody biomass,
- 1,5 m tons by ways of material substitution and
- 0.13 m tons by substitution of fossil energy resources.

That corresponds to 5 % of the annual total emissions in the State of Hesse and to a technical investment of at least 150 million € annually and avoids economic collateral damages of approximately 680 million €

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Since 1960, the Hessian State Forest Administration has engaged in international cooperation projects. Hessen-Forst carries this tradition and experiences onwards. In 2004, international consulting services have been established as a field of business. Hessen-Forst experts combine the day-to-day practical forest management, forest administration and extension experience with that gained in international cooperation projects. Experts of Hessen-Forst have been active in more than 40 countries of the world. The development of the "green wall" in China, the forest organization in Indonesia, Korea and Paraguay, forest education and training in Brazil, Chile, Kenya, Korea and Laos, and among others, are closely related to the advisory services of Hessian foresters. Currently, the focus of activities is laid on Eastern Europe and (Central, East, Southeast) Asia.



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Graphics and statistical data



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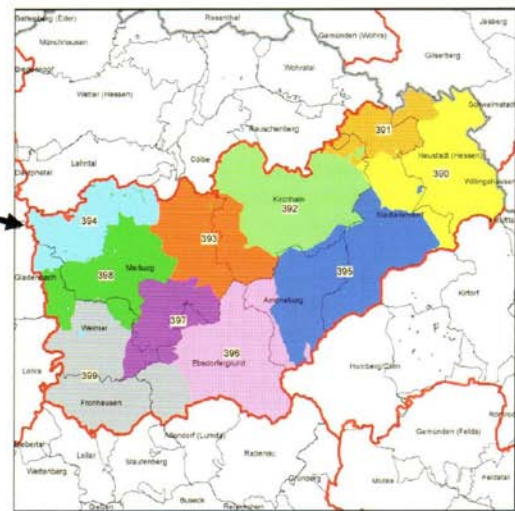
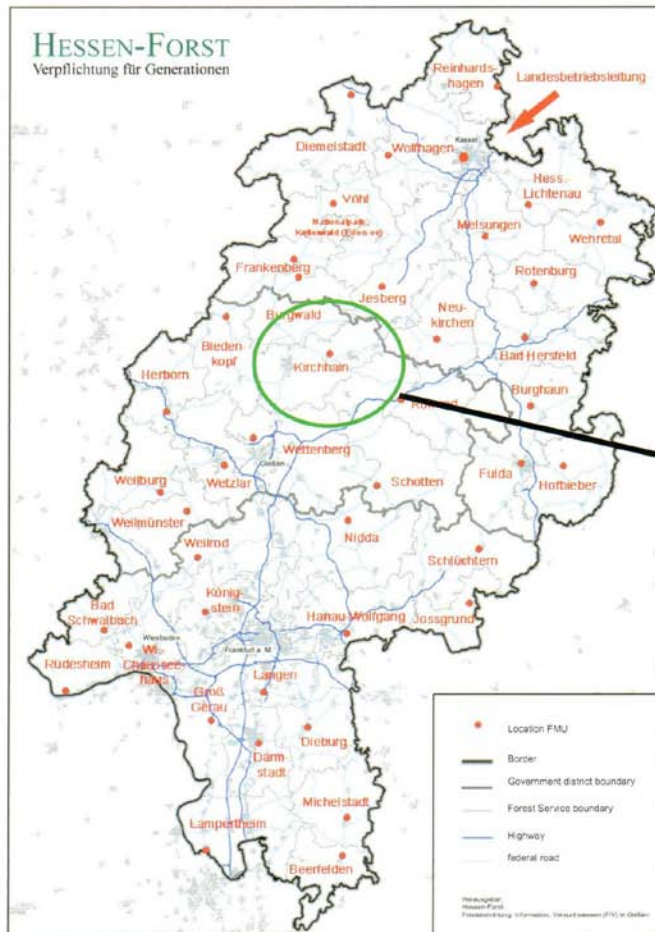
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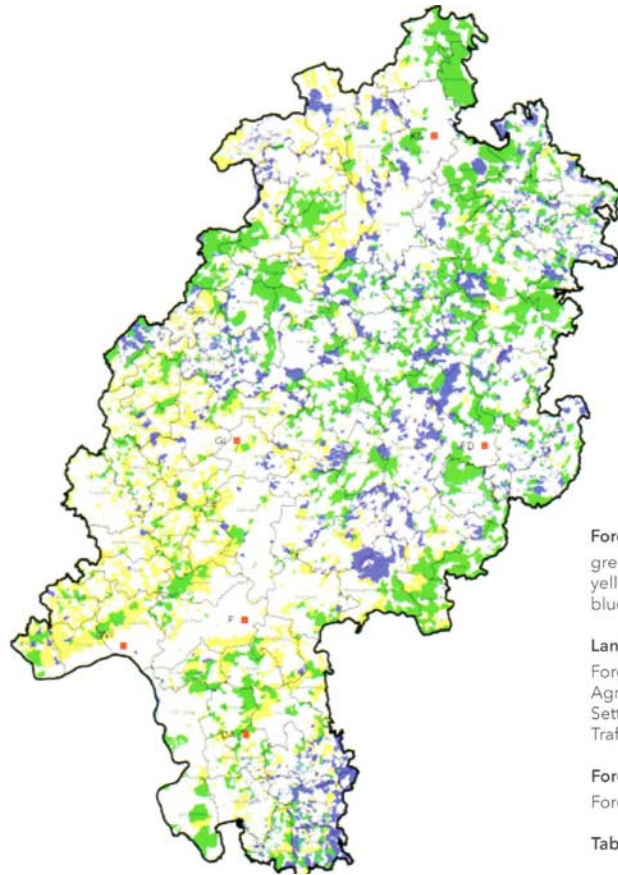
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FMU spatial structure (Engineers' Districts)



Forest cover in Hesse

green: State forests
yellow: Corporation forests of towns and cities
blue: Private forests

Land use in Hesse

Forestry:	42 %
Agriculture:	41 %
Settlements:	7 %
Traffic:	7 %

Forests in Hesse

Forest area: 894.806 ha

Table I: Land use and forest cover in Hesse

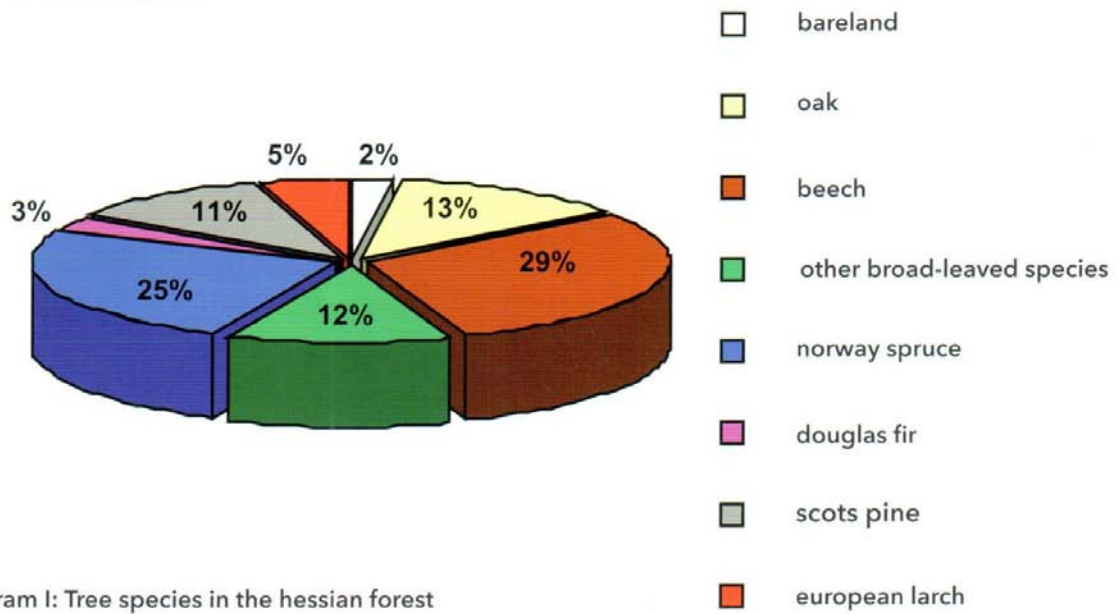
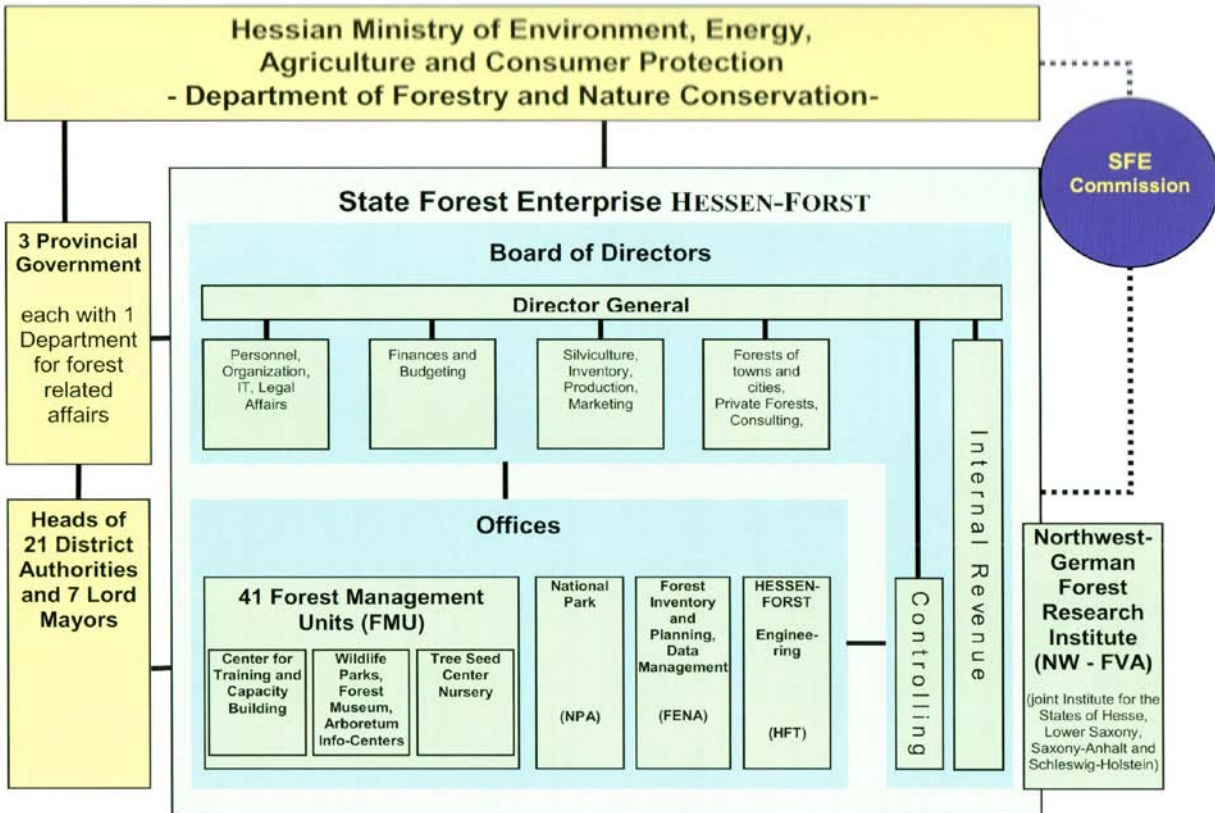
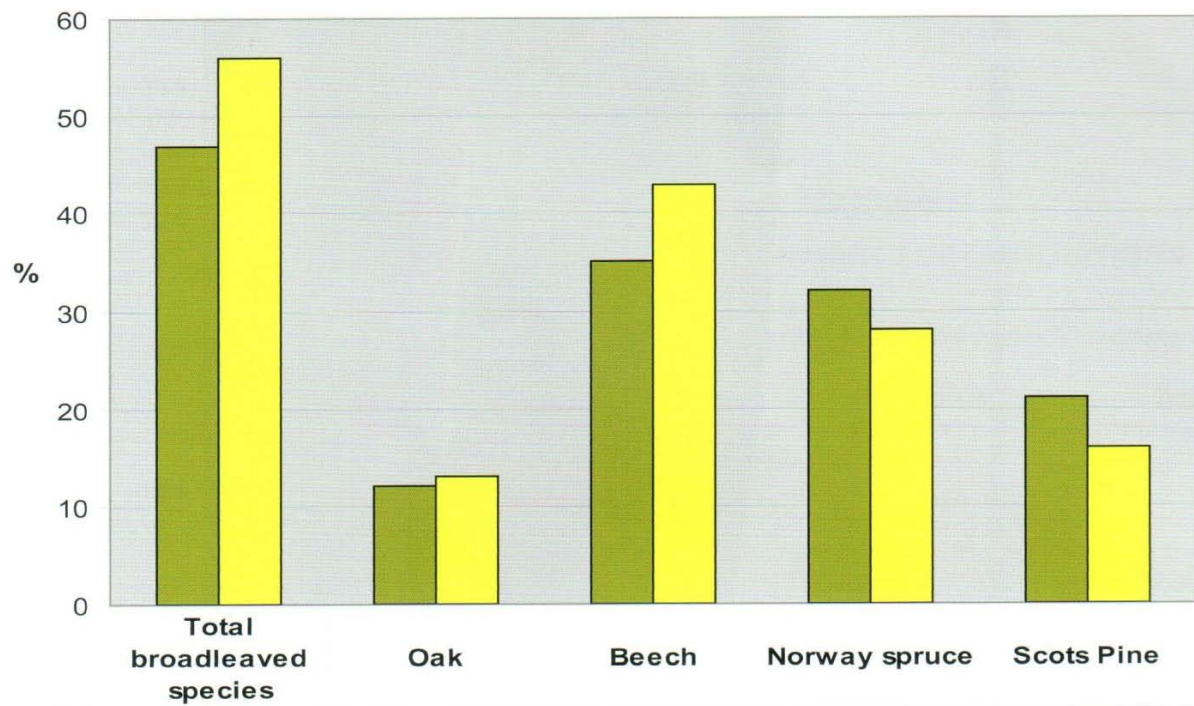


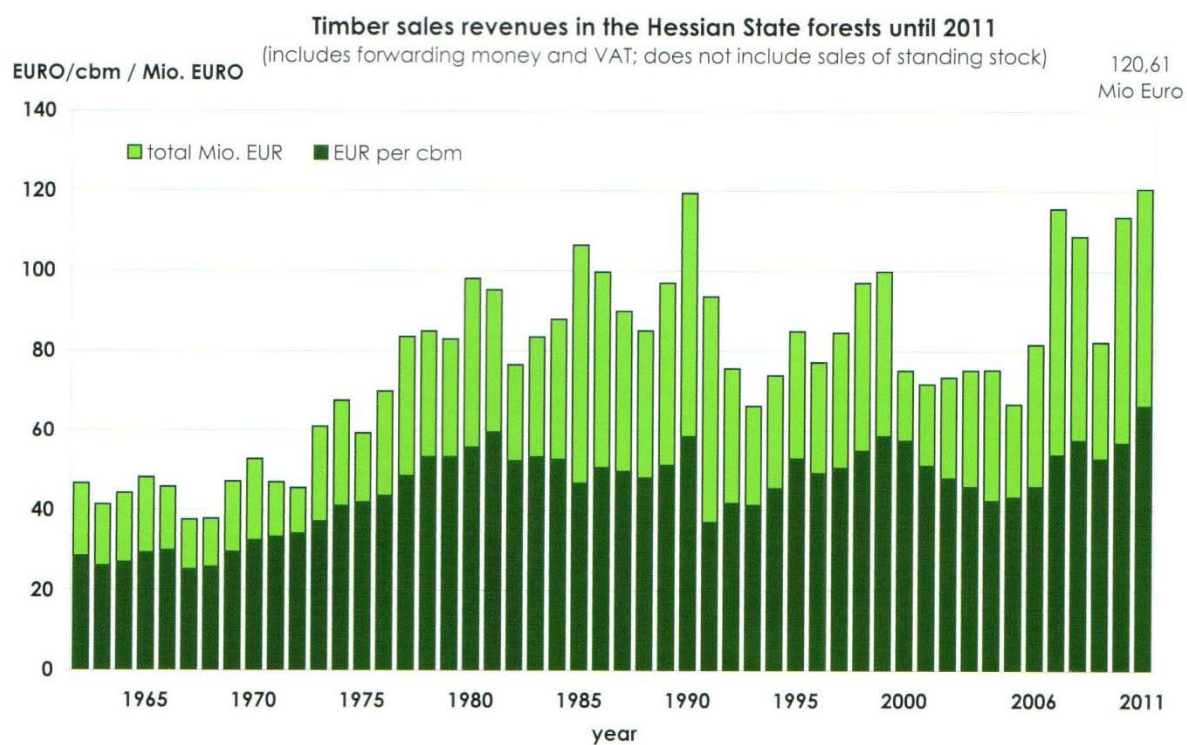
Diagram I: Tree species in the hessian forest



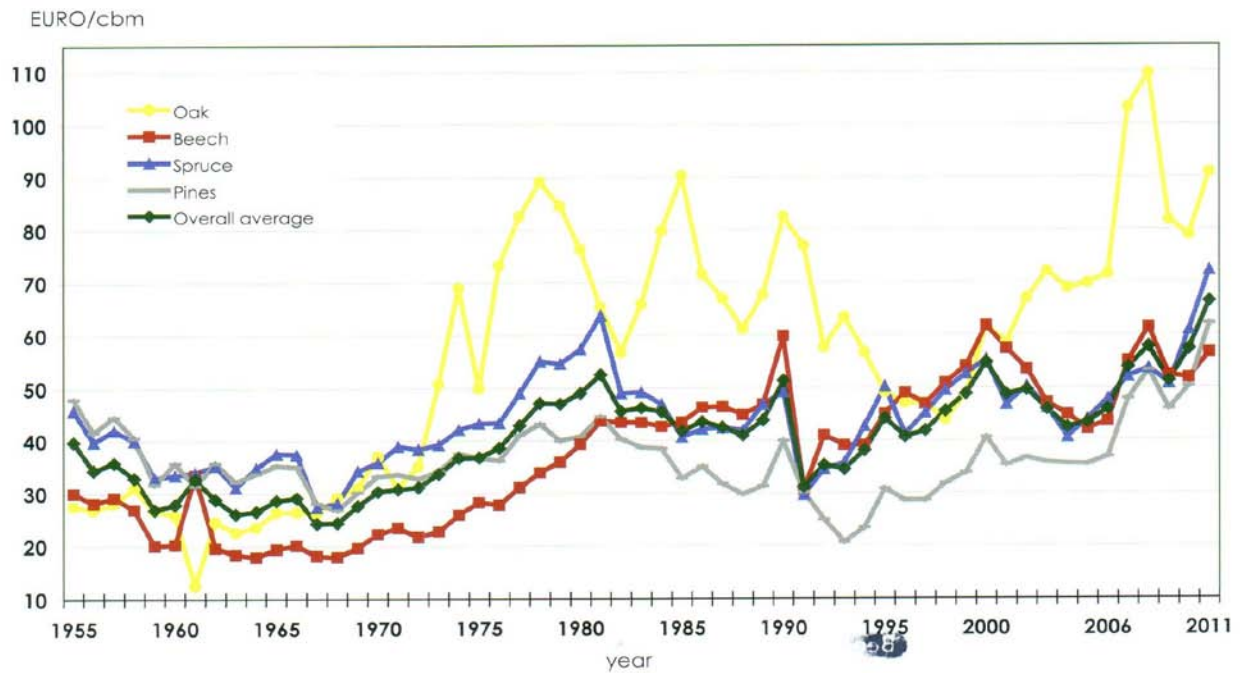
**Development (1990 to 2008) of tree species
distribution in Hesse in %**



■ 1990	47	12	35	32	21
■ 2008	56	13	43	28	16



Timber sales revenues per tree species group in the Hessian State forests (1955-2011)
 (without forwarding money and VAT, from 2000 including forwarding compensation; does not include sales of standing stock)



Natura 2000 - Areas Hesse

Actual area borders
February 2011

Natura 2000 - Areas

- FFH - areas / SCI
- FFH / Bird Conservation areas / SPA
- Bird Conservation areas

Border
Government district boundary
District border

HESSEN-FORST
Verpflichtung für Generationen

Stand: 1. Februar 2011
Kartographie: Hessische Landesanstalt für Natur und Umwelt
Kartenquelle: Hessische Landesanstalt für Natur und Umwelt
Hessen 1:250,000 (NUTS) als Darstellung des Hessischen Landesamtes für Natur und Umwelt
Verpflichtung für Generationen

Natura 2000 - Areas in Hesse

February 2011

FFH - areas / SCI
FFH / Bird Conservation areas / SPA
Bird Conservation areas

HESSEN-FORST

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Natura 2000 - Areas in Hesse

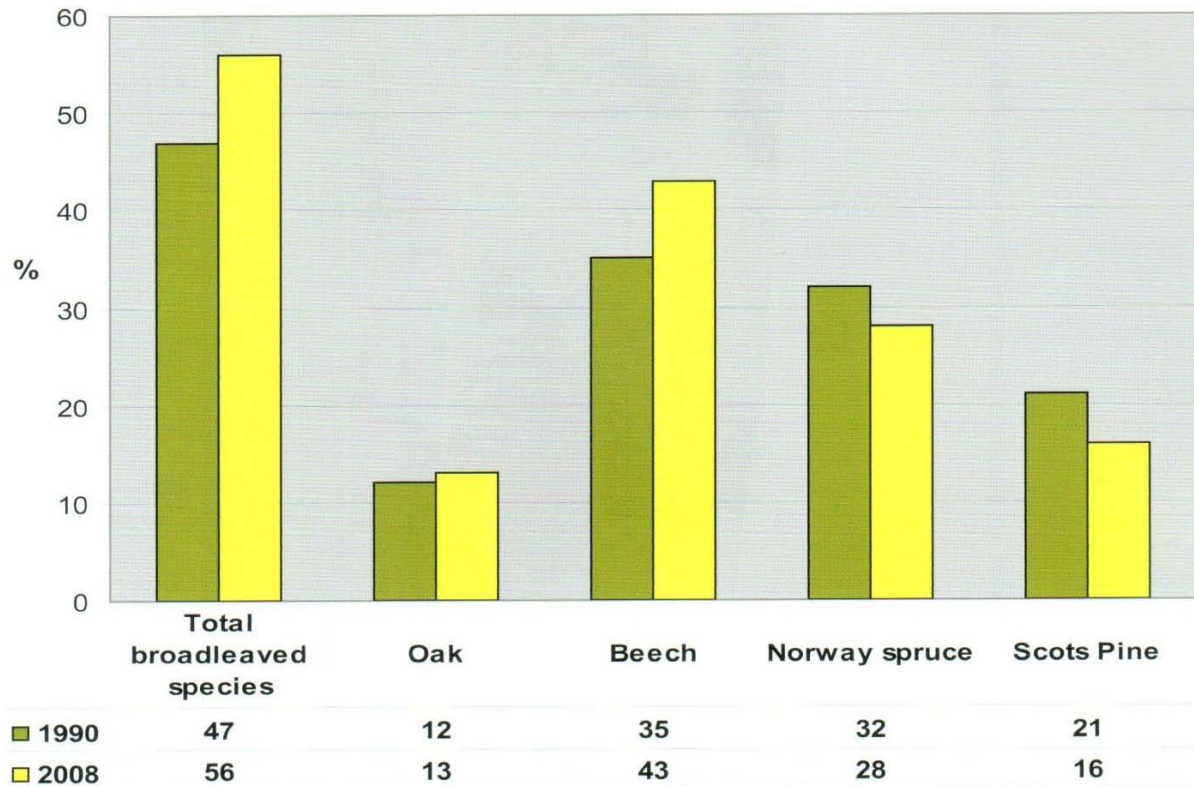
Land, forest and hunting area in Hesse

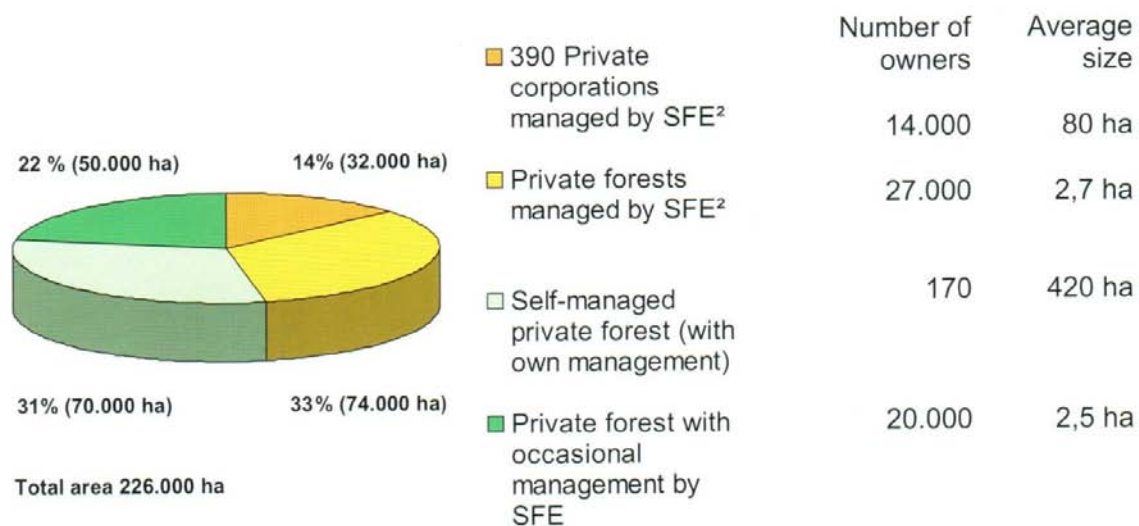
Land area	2.111.484 ha
of which hunting area	ca. 1.826.500 ha
of which forest area	894.981 ha
Hunting not allowed on	894.981 ha

Hunting result of Hesse - Hunting year overall

Red deer	5.500
Roe deer	77.000
Wild boar	60.000
Fallow deer	1000
Mufflon sheep	400

**Development (1990 to 2008) of tree species
distribution in Hesse in %**





Annex I
List of Participants



FORESTRY STUDY TOUR PROGRAMME

Germany - April 14-21, 2013

List of Participants

	NAME	ORGANIZATION	POSITION	COUNTRY
1	Mr. Ruben PETROSYAN	State Organization Armenia-Forest	Deputy Director-General	ARMENIA
2	Mr. Aram YEGANYAN	State Organization Armenia-Forest	Head, District Forestry	ARMENIA
3	Mr. Vasil CHILINGARYAN	State Organization Armenia-Forest	Head, District Forestry	ARMENIA
4	Mr. Gagik AMIRYAN	State Organization Armenia-Forest	Chief Forester, District Forestry	ARMENIA
5	Mr. Arthur ALAVERDYAN	WWF-Armenia	Forest Officer	ARMENIA
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7	Mr. Sattar SATTAROV	Ministry of Ecology & Natural Resources	Head, District Forestry	AZERBAIJAN
8	Mr. Elchin SALAKHOV	Ministry of Ecology & Natural Resources	Head, District Forestry	AZERBAIJAN
9	Mr. Elshad ASGAROV	WWF-Azerbaijan	Director	AZERBAIJAN
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11	Mr. George KHABEISHVILI	Natural Resources Agency	Senior Specialist, Forest Dep.	GEORGIA
12	Mr. Vladimer SILAGADZE	Natural Resources Agency	Chief Forester, Regional Forestry	GEORGIA
13	Mr. Zviad GOTSIRIDZE	WWF-Caucasus	Project Country Coordinator	GEORGIA
14	Mr. Malkhaz DZNELADZE	WWF-Caucasus	Project Regional Coordinator	GEORGIA
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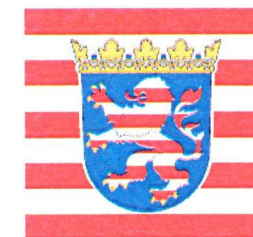
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Annex II
Study Tour Programme



HESSEN



Study Tour Programme
Expert dialogue and advice on sustainable forest management
14. – 21.04.2013

Forestry Dialogue and Expert Study Tour
on
Sustainable Forest Management in the State of
Hesse: Presentation of State Forest Enterprises,
Forest Transformation and Conversion,
Certification Standards and Criteria, Planting and
Seeding Concepts and Methods


Organized by Hessen-Forst, SFE
15. – 21.04.2013

Day	Location	Time	Programme	Responsible	Overnight
14.04.	Frankfurt		Arrival and transfer to hotel Firma Winzenhöler Busdriver: Herr Steinebach Tel: 0152-28730900 (Sunday) Busdriver rest of the week: Herr Würth Phone No:0160-98708525.	Torsten Möllmann Tel.: 0175-265 5496 (permanent company during the week) Swetlana Vollmer (translator) Tel.: 0175 90 743 70	Hotel Odenwaldblick Bulauweg 27 63322 Rödermark Tel: 06074-87440
15.04	Dieburg	08:45	Dinner: Hotel Odenwaldblick Meeting Point: Parking Area "Auf der Leer" in Dieburg; walk to the City Hall FA Dieburg Ringstraße 54 ■ 64807 Dieburg ■ Tel.: 06071/9861-0	Jörg Albrecht 0160-4708006	
Pick-up hotel: 08:30					
		09:00	Introduction: Forest Management in the State of Hesse Facts and figures, frameworks, structures	Rolf Schulzke, Director, Division of Forestry and Hunting, Province of Northern Hesse	
		10:00	Presentation of State Forest Enterprise Hessen-Forst	Jörg Albrecht, Director, Hessen-Forst Consulting	
		11:00	Meeting with the Mayor of Dieburg (City of D. owns some 1000 ha of forests)	Dr. Werner Thomas	
		11:30	Presentation of Forest Office Dieburg	Helmut Seitel, Director, Dieburg Forest Office	
		12:30	Lunch:	Will be organised by Forest Office Dieburg	
		14:00	Field visits: FSC certified forests (State and corporate forests), Integrated sustainable forest management. Discussion on important forest management elements, certification standards and criteria; The potential of natural regeneration;	Helmut Seitel and team	

			Adequate planting and seeding concepts and methods for forest transformation with native species; Wildlife problematic		Hotel Odenwaldblick Bulauweg 27 63322 Rödermark
			Dinner: Restaurant Ristorante La Leonessa Bahnhofstraße 60 63322 Rödermark (Urberach) Tel.: +49 (0) 6074 - 91 45 668		
16.04.	Hanau-Wolfgang 	08:30	Presentation of Forest Office Hanau-Wolfgang FA Hanau-Wolfgang Rodenbacher Chaussee 10a ■ 63457 Hanau ■ Tel.: 06181/95019-0	Christian Schaefer, Director, Hanau-Wolfgang Forest Office	
Pick-up hotel: 08:00					
		09:15	Hessian Tree Seed Kiln	Christian Schaefer and team	
		10:15	Central Tree Nursery	Christian Schaefer and team	
		11:00	Field visits: Conversion of pure conifer (Pinus silvatica) stands into mixed broad leaved stands in different stages; The potential of natural regeneration	Christian Schaefer and team	
		12:30	Lunch:	Will be organised by Forest Office Hanau-Wolfgang	
		14:00	Continuation of field visits Adequate planting and seeding concepts and methods for forest transformation with native species	Christian Schaefer and team	
		16:00	Transfer to Rödermark		
			Dinner: Restaurant zum Schützenhof Bahnhofstr. 8, 63322 Rödermark Tel.: 06074-5343		Hotel Odenwaldblick Bulauweg 27 63322 Rödermark
17.04.	Bad Schwalbach	09:00	Presentation of Bad Schwalbach Forest Office Meeting Point: An der Römerhalle 1	Dr. Karsten Schulze, Director, Bad Schwalbach Forest Office	

Pick-up hotel: 08:00			65321 Heidenrod Kemel FA Bad Schwalbach Gartenfeldstraße 32 ■ 65307 Bad Schwalbach ■ Tel.: 06124/7073-0		Central Hotel Kirchstraße 6 65385 Rüdesheim am Rhein 
		09:15	Field visits: FSC certified communal forests The potential of natural regeneration; Adequate planting and seeding concepts and methods for forest transformation with native species; Wildlife problematic	Volker Diefenbach, Forest manager Kemel-Springen District	
		12:30	Lunch: Hexenmühle	Will be organised by Forest office Bad Schwalbach	
		14:00	Continuation of field visit	Dr. Karsten Schulze and V. Diefenbach	
			Dinner: Rüdesheim Centralhotel Kirchstraße 6 65385 Rüdesheim; Tel.: 06722 912 181		
18.04. Pick-up hotel: 07:30	Herborn 	09:00	Presentation of Herborn Forest Office FA Herborn Uckersdorfer Weg 6 ■ 35745 Herborn ■ Tel.: 02772/4704-0	Gert Rode, Director, Herborn Forest Office	
		10:00	Field visit: "Hauberger" Traditional low coppice forest management for fuel wood production – ecological and economic advantages / disadvantages 	Gert Rode and representatives of the local communities	

		12:30	Lunch: Catering	Will be organised by Forest Office Herborn	Central Hotel Ringhotel Kirchstraße 6 65385 Rüdesheim am Rhein
		14:00	Continuation of field visit: conversion of low coppice forests into productive high forests – ecological and economic advantages / disadvantages	Gert Rode and representatives of the local communities	
			Dinner: Ratskeller, Schlossplatz 6, 65183 Wiesbaden, Tel.: 0611 – 30 0023		
19.04. Pick-up hotel: 08:20	Rüdesheim	08:30	Presentation of Rüdesheim Forest Office FA Rüdesheim Zum Niederwalddenkmal 15 ▪ 65385 Rüdesheim a.Rh. ▪ Tel.: 06722/9427-0	Ulrich Dombrowsky, Director, Rüdesheim Forest Office	
		09:30	Field visit: "Niederwald" Monument	Ulrich Dombrowsky and team	Central Hotel Ringhotel Kirchstraße 6
		10:15	Conversion of low coppice forests into productive high forests	Ulrich Dombrowsky and team	
		12:30	Lunch: Rebenhaus, Weinlokal & Restaurant • Am Niederwald 2 • 65385 Rüdesheim; Tel: 06722 48358		
		14:00	Continuation of field visit: Conversion of conifer stands (Picea) into mixed broadleaved stands; The potential of natural regeneration; Wildlife problematic	Ulrich Dombrowsky and team	
			Dinner. Grüner Baum Rheingaustraße 45 65375 Oestrich-Winkel Telefon 06723 / 1620	Jörg Albrecht	

					65385 Rüdesheim am Rhein
20.04. Pick-up hotel: 08:20		09:00	Wrap-up discussion 	Jörg Albrecht	Central Hotel Ringhotel Kirchstraße 6 65385 Rüdesheim am Rhein
		12:30	Lunch		
		14:00	Free time in Wiesbaden or Frankfurt	Thorsten Möllmann (permanent company during the week) Swetlana Vollmer (translator)	
			Dinner: Wiesbaden or Frankfurt		
21.04. Pick-up hotel: to be clarified	Frankfurt		Transfer to the airport for departure		

Annex III
Study Tour Photos

15.04.2013





16.04.2013















17.04.2013







18.04.2013









19.04.2013









