

# Teaching module in Forestry

The main challenge for the coming two years in the SILVA Network within DEMETER Thematic Network is to prepare a teaching module on "Forestry in Changing Societies in Europe".

The objective of the module is to promote the European dimension in curricula. The module is to be prepared in order to raise students' awareness of certain aspects of Forestry throughout Europe, to help students to operate in changing circumstances and to help them to cooperate with different interest groups within Forestry field.

The planned outcome from the first year is teaching material. The ultimate outcome of the project will be the realisation of a teaching module (incl. teaching approaches), i.e. a course in "Forestry in Changing Societies in Europe".

The module will be aimed at postgraduate (MSc) students in their 4-5 study year. The language of the module will be English and it will provide students with 2 credits (80 hours workload).

For the preparation of the module a working group (a Committee for teaching module) has been named. It consists of representatives of five SILVA Network universities: Dr. Piussi from the University of Florence, Dr. Oesten from the Albert-Ludwigs University of Freiburg, Dr. Pelkonen from the University of Joensuu, Dr. Rojas Briales from the University of Lleida and Dr. Schmidt from the Agricultural University of Wageningen.

The first meeting of the Committee was held 14 Nov in Leuven (B). Two other meetings will take place, one in January 1998 in Lleida (ES) and one in May 1998 in Florence (IT).

Other SILVA Network member universities are kindly asked to give their contribution to the module preparation in two ways. First, by providing the Committee with proposals for the content of the teaching material and second, by preparation of a country report.

Please, send your proposals for the contents to Secretary General of SILVA Network, Ms Anne Pitkänen, latest on 10 January 1998. The committee will then combine the proposals for one totality, which will be sent back to you for a country report.

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## **Workshop 2-5 July in Joensuu**

Part of the module development will be made in a form of a workshop, in which all the SILVA Network universities can participate. This year the workshop will be held in Joensuu, in July 1998. For the workshop some preliminary work will be required from all the participants.

Working approaches will be discussed later in a committee meetings and information will be delivered in good time before the workshop.

SILVA Network annual conference 1998 will be held within a workshop.

We would now kindly ask you to check your agenda and please send a [preliminary confirmation](#) of your participation to our Secretary General, Ms. Anne Pitkänen. We will contact you later on in spring (April latest) to give you the program of the workshop and to provide you with information of financial matters. We will also ask you to reconfirm your participation.

We welcome all of you in Joensuu in July 1998.

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## **SILVA Network in ICA**

SILVA Network is now officially a Standing Committee of ICA. So far ICA has no rules for Standing Committees but some restructuring in the administration of SILVA Network is needed.

In earlier years SILVA Network has operated in a very informal basis. The informal status will be maintained and organisation will be kept as simple as possible also in the future. However, some kind of rule collection will be needed.

For now, one annual conference will be regarded as a minimum. Working will be organised on a project basis (working groups, committees). The SILVA Network annual conferences will be held within the framework of funded meetings whenever possible and the working group meetings will be funded on project basis.

The SILVA News will be published and delivered to members whenever necessary. Later on it will be published regularly.

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## **IUFRO Subject group 6.15- 00**

IUFRO subject group 6.15-00 is concentrated on improving education and further education on Forestry. The next meeting of the group will be 8-12 March 1998 in Freiburg (G). Enclosed you will find the informative letter and call for participation. For further information, please contact Dr. Pieter Schmidt, who represents SILVA Network in a group or Dr. Siegfried Lewark in Freiburg

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# Preliminary confirmation

We would kindly ask you to fill in the form to indicate your interest in participating in the workshop organised in 2-5 July 1998 in Joensuu and send it to Ms. Anne Pitkänen. You can also indicate your possible participation via Email.

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Preliminary registration form for the SILVA Network workshop on "Forestry in Changing Societies in Europe".

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*Please use capital letters when filling in the form:*

Name:.....

Position:.....

Institution:.....

Address:.....

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Telephone:.....Fax: .....

Email (compulsory): .....