



# ***Russian forests and climate change***

*Online awareness raising WS on  
“Climate Change and Russian Forests:  
Climate Smart Forestry”  
2 June 2021*

## ***WELCOME & INTRODUCTION***

*prof. Pekka Leskinen  
European Forest Institute  
Coordinator of the RUFORCLIM-project*


Supported by



of the Federal Republic of Germany

This event has been organised with the financial support of the European Union's Partnership Instrument and the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety (BMU) in the context of the International Climate Initiative (IKI). The opinions expressed are the sole responsibility of the speakers and do not necessarily reflect the views of the funders.

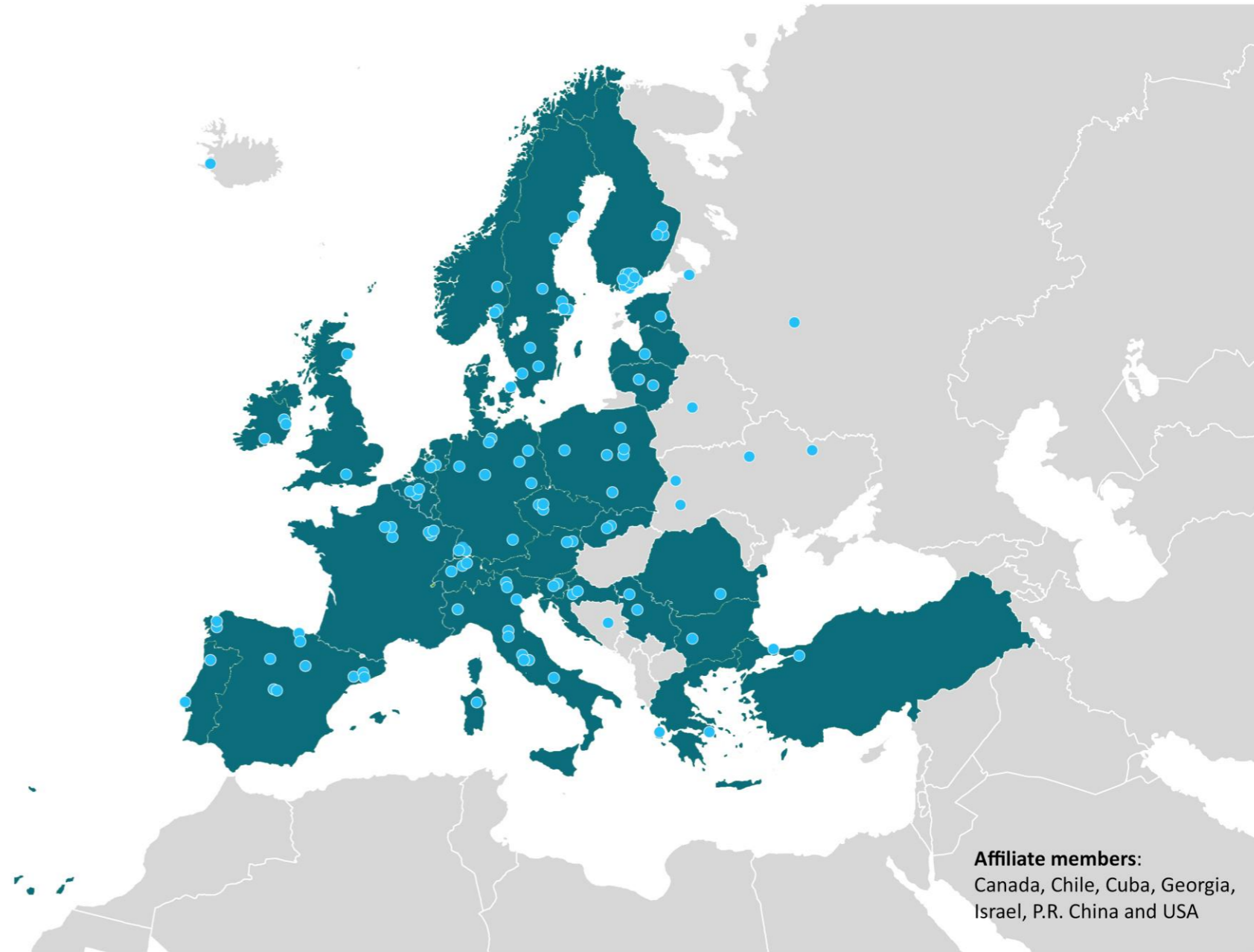
## Before we start...

- We have an interpreter in the meeting, and you can find them by clicking the small globe icon  Please, choose Russian or English language
- If you have any questions or comments, you can type them in the Q&A box or raise your hand to ask for the floor to speak.

# European Forest Institute

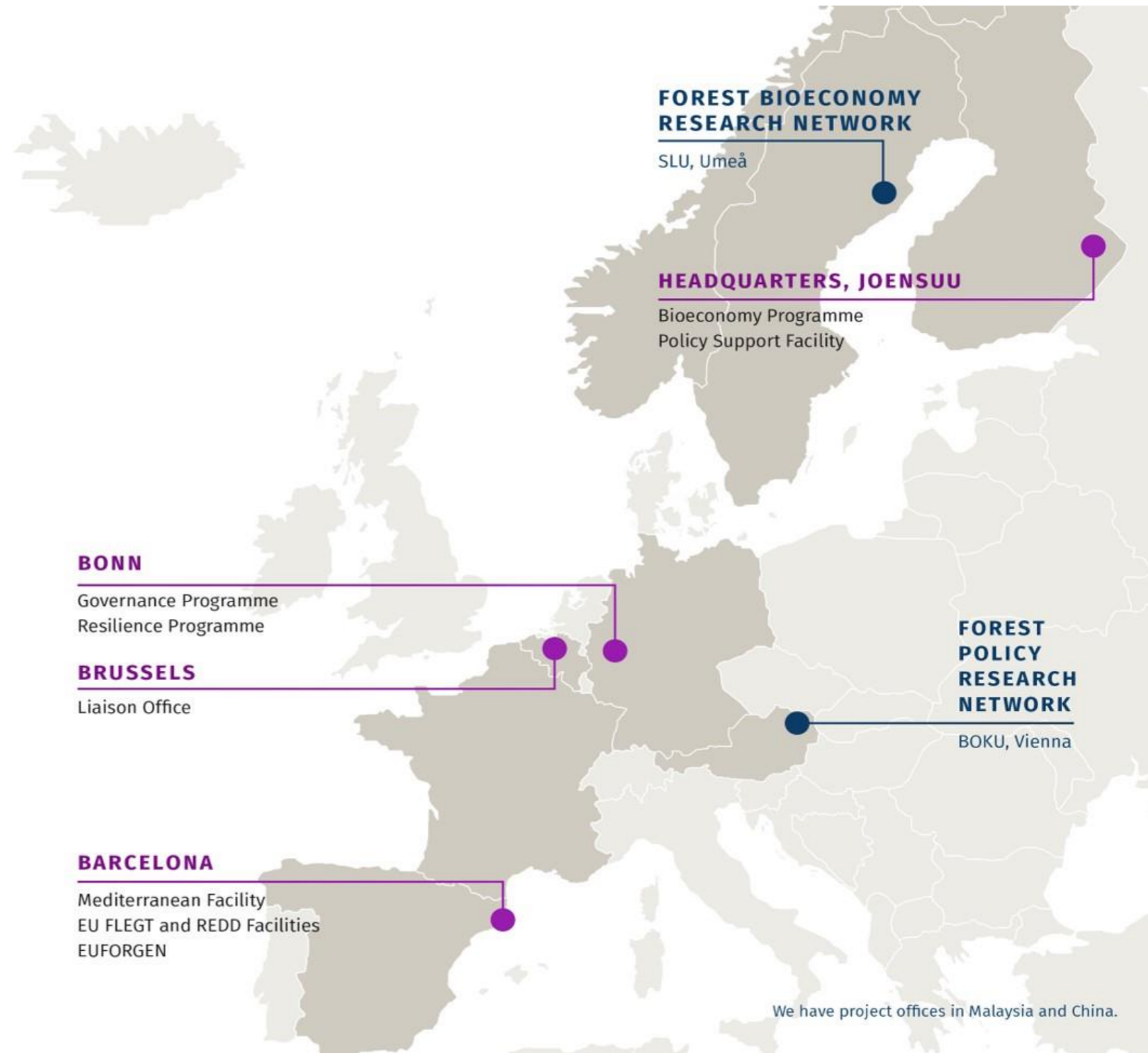
# Owners of EFI

- Currently, a total of 29 European States have ratified the Convention on EFI.
- EFI has c. 130 member organisations in 39 countries.



# Expertise and knowhow at EFI

- 130 employees
- 31 nationalities
- Average age 41
  
- Gender balance
  - 52% male
  - 48 female



# “RUFORMCLIM” project: Phase 1

## Background:

- Importance of Russian forests in climate change adaptation and mitigation
- Synthesise current **scientific evidence**

## Topics:

- **Disturbances and adaptation**
- **Mitigation and CSF**
- Forest-based **bioeconomy**

## Research group:

- About 10 European as well as 10 Russian scientists
- Project coordination by EFI

## Duration:

- April 2019 – December 2020

## Funding:

- European Union’s Partnership Instrument and the German Federal Ministry of the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety in the context of the International Climate Initiative



# Key messages

## **Russian forests represent a large carbon sink, but:**

- Large wildfire disturbances with subsequently increased tree mortality may lead to substantial decrease of the Russian forest carbon sink

## **Future natural disturbance impacts are critical:**

- Prevention of disturbances
- Enhancing forest restoration/reforestation and well as sustainable forest management

## **Climate Smart Forestry:**

- A holistic view is needed in Russia for effective climate change mitigation and adaptation as well as biodiversity protection
- Regional differences should be taken into account

## **Circular forest-based bioeconomy:**

- New economic foundation for Russia instead of fossil materials
- New/emerging products such as multi-storey wood construction and wood-based textiles

## **Investments needed in:**

- Sustainable forest management
- Infrastructure
- New products and technologies

# Next steps

## “Phase 2”:

- Continuation of RUFORCLIM “Phase 1”
- Until 31 October 2021

## Objectives:

- Raising awareness **events** for stakeholders (e.g. forest authorities, scientific and business community, NGOs)
- Raising awareness materials (**policy briefs, infographic videos**)
- working with **media** to improve understanding of climate change and its environmental, social and economic implications

## Events:

- **Science-media WS**: February 2021 (virtual)
- **WS on disturbances and adaptation**: March 2021 (virtual)
- **WS on CSF: June 2021 (virtual)**
- **WS on bioeconomy & finalising event**: September 2021 (virtual)
- What could be the implications for Russia?



09.00-09.10	<p><b>Welcome &amp; objectives of the meeting</b></p> <p>Pekka Leskinen, Head of Bioeconomy Programme, Project Coordinator, European Forest Institute (EFI)</p> <p>Natalia <u>Lukina</u>, Chair, Bureau of the Scientific Council on Forest of the Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS), Russia</p>
09.10-09.25	<p><b>Introduction to the EFI's scientific assessment on the topic "Climate Smart Forestry" and its methodological approaches</b></p> <p>Mariana Hassegawa, EFI</p>
09.25-09.40	<p><b>European experience in using CSF approach at the national and regional levels</b></p> <p>Bas Lerink, Wageningen University &amp; Research, Netherlands</p>
09.40-09.55	<p><b>Strategic approaches and forest management measures on adapting forests to climate change in Russia</b></p> <p>Anton <u>Pyzhev</u>, Siberian Federal University, Russia</p>
09.55-10.10	<p><b>Questions and comments</b></p>
<a href="#"><u>10.10-10.25</u></a>	<p><b>Case study: Republic of Karelia</b></p> <p>Alexander <u>Kryshen</u>, Forest Research Institute of the Karelian Research Centre, RAS, Russia</p>
10.25-10.35	<p><b>Commentary presentation on the topic</b></p> <p><u>Yury Pautov</u>, Silver Taiga Foundation for Sustainable Development, Komi Republic, Russia</p>
10.35-10.50	<p><b>Questions and comments</b></p>
10.50-11.05	<p><b>Case study: Republic of Mari El</b></p> <p><u>Eldar Kurbanov</u>, Volga State University of Technology, Russia</p>
11.05-11.15	<p><b>Commentary presentation on the topic</b></p> <p>Asia <u>Zagidullina</u>, Saint-Petersburg State University, Russia</p>
11.15-11.30	<p><b>Questions and comments</b></p>
11.30-11.45	<p><b>Coffee break</b></p>
11.45-12.00	<p><b>Case study: Angara macro-district (Krasnoyarsk <u>kray</u>)</b></p> <p>Anton <u>Kovalev</u>, Krasnoyarsk Scientific Center, Siberian Branch, RAS, Russia</p>
12.00-12.10	<p><b>Commentary presentation on the topic</b></p> <p>Georgy Safonov, Higher School of Economics, Russia</p>
12.10-12.25	<p><b>Questions and comments</b></p>
12.25-12.35	<p><b>Key messages and recommendations</b></p> <p>Hans Verkerk, EFI</p>
12.35-13.00	<p><b>Discussion and closing remarks</b></p>



EUROPEAN FOREST  
INSTITUTE

**Thank you!**

