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## International Conference

# FOREST REHABILITATION AFTER SLEET

### 19 – 20 March 2015 Postojna, Slovenia

#### LETTER OF INVITATION

On behalf of the Secondary School for Forestry and Wood Technology in Postojna and Higher Vocational College Postojna we are delighted to invite you to Postojna, Slovenia for the *International Conference "Forest Rehabilitation after Sleet"*.

In the last years our region witnessed many natural disasters. In the beginning of February 2014 we were under the impact of sleet – frozen rain – that demolished our forests and infrastructure. The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food of Slovenia estimates that **40% of woodlands, or 500,000 hectares, have been damaged** in the natural disaster. In some regions we were victims of flash floods, which have also left impact in our nature. After sleet and floods had withdrawn we started with the process of forest rehabilitation.

The aim of the conference is to present weather conditions for the emergence of sleet – frozen rain, the dimension of the latest natural disaster and its consequences. Speakers will at the same time introduce the plan and further implementation of forest rehabilitation, assess marketing of wood and examine professional experiences abroad. The next day, on 20 March, we are organizing the practical part of the conference; teachers of Forestry Program and Slovenia Forestry Service will take participants to the damaged regions, where they will be able to see how we have restored the demolished forests.

To date, the following speakers are confirmed to speak:

- A representative of Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Slovenia
- A representative of University of Applied Sciences, Department of Gamekeeping and Environmental Protection Karlovac, Croatia
- Aleksander Marinšek, PhD, Slovenian Forestry Institute / Higher Vocational College Postojna
- Anton Smrekar, Head of Postojna regional unit of Slovenia Forest Service
- Igor Mezgec, Secondary School for Forestry and Wood Technology Postojna
- Jože Sterle, Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia, Forestry Association

- Matjaž Mastnak, Dendrology Consultant at Volčji Potok Arboretum / Higher Vocational College Postojna

The conference offers an excellent opportunity for teachers and researchers to present their work and achievements and also gain new knowledge, experiences and references. All those with an interest are invited to attend the lectures. You are also kindly invited to take part in the plenary session with your own article. **Registration is open until 20 February 2015** with an **application form** on the conference webpage <http://ice.vspo.si/>.

If you decide to present your own article in plenary session please submit an abstract of your paper in English until the same date on the conference webpage.

We look forward to greeting you in Postojna in March 2015.

Best regards

Conference Coordinator

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