

Brussels, 7 February 2012

Call for Ideas | Greening the Forest Sector Engineering with ICT

- ❖ Send a **one-page outline of your idea by 31 January 2012**
- ❖ Two-stage assessment procedure
- ❖ **Open** to any proposer and to any idea
- ❖ **Summer camp from 2 to 6 July 2012**
- ❖ Presentation and discussion of selected ideas

Purpose of the Call

COST hereby invites researchers to submit proposals on green Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) in the forest sector. **After a two-stage assessment procedure, selected proposers will be invited to present their ideas in a Green Engineering Camp (GEC) that will take place in Plitvice National Park, Croatia from 2 to 6 July 2012.**

The GEC's main aim is to collect and award innovative ideas using Green ICT in real-life applications, especially related to current and future challenges in the European forest sector. It will encourage intelligent use and development of ICT to increase environmental efficiency in forests, forestry, forest industries, logistics etc.

Application & Assessment procedure

1. By **2 February 2012**, applicants submit an innovative idea or solution according to the specifications below. Applicants are invited to submit a short and to-the-point description of their respective ideas (i.e. preliminary proposals). There is no formal template. Thus, it will not be required to e.g. present the state-of-the-art or refer to literature at this stage. The aim of the first stage is mainly to present the idea in a way that enables assessment of its creative and innovative aspects.

**Update
07.02.2012:**

Finished

63
proposals
received

Assessment Stage I: A panel of experts with broad expertise in forest and green ICT sciences assesses the preliminary proposals.

2. By **mid-February 2012**, a maximum of 35 selected applicants will be invited to submit a full proposal by 20 April 2012. Full proposals should be of maximum 5 pages length and correspond to a presentation of about 30 minutes

Assessment Stage II: A panel of experts with broad expertise in forest and green ICT sciences assesses the full proposals. The final acceptance of maximum 20 proposals will be made by **15 May 2012**.

3. **2 to 6 July 2012 – Green Engineering Camp**

Successful proposers will be invited to participate in the camp in Plitvice National Park, Croatia. They will present the ideas and discuss them with a panel of experts.

COST will cover travel, accommodation and subsistence expenses. The three highest ranked ideas will be widely announced and awarded with special prizes such as ICT equipment (e.g. mobile phones, laptop).





Further Information

What kind of ideas?

The call is open to all kinds of ideas related to green ICT engineering in the forest sector. We expect most of the applicants to be scientists within engineering and forest sciences, but the call is open to anyone. Knowledge of the state-of-the-art within engineering and forest sciences is not a prerequisite as the expert panel will ensure the quality assessment.

Who can apply? How and by when?

Applicants should be individuals or groups of individuals. By e-mail to gec@cost.eu no later than **31 January 2012**.

Specifications

- Attach the proposal to the e-mail (preferably pdf, .doc or .docx format)
- Maximum one page, maximum font size 11 pt and 2.54 cm margins
- The e-mail should contain the name, address, the gender and the year of birth of the main proposer.

Additional notes

Proposers can submit several stand-alone applications.

For any further questions, please contact gec@cost.eu.

Assessment Criteria

Proposals will be assessed according to the

- Degree of innovation (first criterion: 50%)
- Potential applicability and impact on greening the forest sector (second criterion: 25%)
- Expected contribution to European added value (third criterion: 10%)

Finally, the panel will put some emphasis on:

- The promotion of Early Stage Researchers¹ (ESRs) (fourth criterion: 10%)
- Applications from female proposers (fifth criterion: 5%)

For group proposals, the coordinating individual will be the potential ESR.

Examples of possible subject areas are available on the next page.

**For more information, visit the COST website: www.cost.eu or www.cost.eu/events/gec
Alternatively, e-mail gec@cost.eu**

¹ COST term used to define a researcher whose career spans less than 8 years between the date of the PhD/doctorate (or similar experience) and the date of involvement in the COST Action. Periods of career leave have to be added to this time span.



Examples of possible subject areas

Improving

- the info-flow through the whole value-chain
- growth and yield models by making use of info from harvesting
- logging communication (e.g. local wireless communication between workers and machines)
- sensor-technology for automatised measurements of forest machines (fuel consumption etc.)
- mapping of terrain info (LIDAR)
- improving the tree scanning techniques/new techniques
- sensor technologies for automated detection of contamination in raw material and/or by-products (“wastes”)

Establishing ICT-based systems for

- in situ scanning of important factors to increase logging efficiency
- minimising machine movements and costs in timber transport (e.g. through use of GIS)
- identifying tree selection patterns using LIDAR (trade-off geometric and nature-based silvicultural patterns)
- traceability of timber and forest products
- real time access planning from weather and geological data
- forest fire prevention and management
- automatic rescue chains in cases of severe accidents
- easy knowledge transfer between countries (RTD, applications, technology)
- process control in sawmilling, bionenergy, forest nurseries and pulp and paper production
- product development
- automation (machines and machine functions)
- remote sensing and related technologies in various aspects of forestry (pests, diseases, fire detection and management, detecting physiological processes, etc.)
- prevention of illegal logging and transport of wood

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