





GENERAL ASSEMBLY 21. JANUARY 2025 EPFL LAUSANNE



Welcome!

Program General Assembly



| 09:00 - 09:10 | Arthur Gessler | Introduction |
|---------------|---|---|
| 09:10 - 09:40 | Charlotte Grossiord | Presentation of host group research |
| 09:40 - 10:10 | Coffee Break | |
| 10:15 – 10:45 | Félix Fracchia | SwissForestLab project MAGIC |
| 10:45 – 11:15 | Stefan Klesse | SwissForestLab project ClimBeech |
| 11:15 – 11:35 | Ionut Iosifescu-Enescu | Update on EnviDat |
| 11:35 – 12:00 | Arthur Gessler Andreas Rigling Arthur Gessler | Status of SwissForestLab (5') Introduction TriNational ForestLab (15') Confirmation of Revision of the SwissForestLab statutes (5') |
| 12:00 – 12:15 | SFL Members | Election of the Steering Committee |
| 12:15 – 12:30 | SFL Members & Partners | Varia |
| 12:30 - 13:30 | Lunch | |
| 13:30 | Charlotte Grossiord et al. | Guided tour through Grossiord Lab |

Changes in the SwissForestLab after GA 24



On 09.02.2024, the General Assembly decided to introduce annual membership fees.

University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland



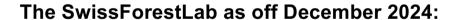
- Three variants of membership fees were introduced:
 - > Group of >10 members: 1'500 CHF per year
 - > Groups of ≤10 members: 1'000 CHF per year
 - > Individual: CHF 200 per year











- 203 active members
- 28 research groups
- 12 institutions















Changes in the SwissForestLab after GA 24



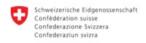
 Continued support of all partners:



SwissForestLab > About Us > Partners and networks

Partners and networks

Partner organisations



Bundesamt für Umwelt BAFU



























TreeNet



Charlotte GrossiordFunctional Plant Ecology, WSL Lausanne

"Meeting the Plant Ecology Research Lab"



Félix Fracchia

Ecological Genetics, WSL SwissForestlab project MAGIC

"Prevalence of drought and soil conditions in structuring fungal communities of healthy and decaying beech trees in forests".



Stefan Klesse

Ecosystem Ecology, WSL

SwissForestlab project ClimBeech

"CLIMBEECH - Climate sensitivity and adaptive capacity of European beech under climate change"



Ionut Iosifescu Enescu WSL



EnviDat News and Updates

SwissForestLab General Assembly Lausanne/online January 21, 2025





Activities 2024



General Assembly 9.2.2024 at WSL (and online)

PhenoRangers WS: final event on Weissenstein (27.2.2024). Continued support from SCNAT to do the workshops (project officially finished)

Membership Fees: implementation of membership fees 2024

Communication: SZF Articles (ScienceDay 24, Summer School 24, Montagskolloqium)

Call for newsflash: 6.6.24 not successful

Call for thematical WS: received 6 proposed ideas. All will be handled in 2025. After that, new call will be launched.

Summer School with ETH WSL Extremes Program and NFZ.forestnet: Titel «Forests and Extremes: Crisis or Transition?», received over 50 applications (18.-25.8.24)

Collaborations: WaldKongress WaldSchweiz 3.9.24, «Waldverjüngung unter Druck: Es besteht Handlungsbedarf!»

Funding: Application for a Science Practice Network at the Velux Foundation successful – The TriNational ForestLab. Linkage between SwissForestLab and NFZ.forestnet. PI Andreas Rigling

NRP 82 «Biodiversity and Ecosystem Functioning»: Preparatory-phase proposals submitted and decided on. Submission of full proposals Feb 2025.

Planned Activities 2025



ScienceDay: 14.2.25 Basel, «Forests in the Face of Accelerating Environmental Change – Quantifying, Monitoring, and Predicting Climate Change Impacts»

→ submission of presentation: deadline 31.1.25

→ registration: deadline 9.2.25

Summer School: 25.-29.8.25 in collaboration with TriNational ForestLab and NZF.forestnet in Nancy (France), «Challenges and latest tools for forest planning and management in the 21st century»

→ application information starting Feburary 25

Communication/Outreach: Articles SFZ (2x ScienceDay, possible article about ETH Montagskolloquium für die Praxis)

Dialog 25: Contact with BAFU, possible collaboration on the Topic of the «integrate network». Timing winter 25/26

General Assembly 26: Steering Comittee decided to do the event only online and without scientific input to shorten meeting time and focus networking activities in other events (ScienceDay, Dialog, thematical workshops)

Summer School 26: 16.8.-21.8.26 in collaboration with ETH Initiative SCENE, TriNational ForestLab and NFZ.forestnet on Monte Verità (Switzerland) supported by the Congressi Stefano Franscini

SwissForestLab @WSL



WSL will further be the host of the SwissForestLab.

We can use the remaining funds to keep coordination and events going.

In collaboration with the Trinational Forestlab we can work for another four years.

Internal structure (program, centre, platform etc.) at WSL to be decided

BAFU interested to continue to support SwissForestLab



Andreas Rigling ETHZ

The TriNational FORESTLab – Supporting research, exchange and outreach in forest science







TRINATIONAL FORESTLAB

Funded by the VELUX STIFTUNG 4 Yrs: December 1 2024 - November 30 2028

"Supporting research, exchange and outreach in forest science"

The TRINATIONAL FORESTLAB - Background

- One of the main issues at present and in future is that **forest management needs**innovative approaches to pursue multiple environmental, social,
 and economic objectives, ranging from wood and non-wood forest products for the
 bioeconomy to the essential importance of forests as habitats for various animal and plant species, and for
 climate mitigation, tourism and recreation, protection of human infrastructure...
- The need to balance these partially competing demands makes
 management decisions highly complex and multifaceted. Climate-Smart Forestry (CSF)
 and Integrated Forest Management are at present proposed as concepts to help
 policymakers and practitioners develop focused forestry governance and management to adapt forests to
 and to mitigate climate change effects while also providing balanced
 ecosystem services and maintaining biodiversity.









TNFL - Setting

The Trinational Forestlab will provide an environment for the dialogue between practice, policy and science, allowing forest practitioners from Switzerland, France, Germany and beyond to set the agenda and will bring together international graduate students with forest related stakeholders and scientists.

The TRINATIONAL FORESTLAB will build on **existing networks**, will closely link them and will enrich them with urgent forms of dialogues between scientists, stakeholders and the next generation of scientists and decision makers. It will be based on:

- the NFZ.forestnet (www.nfz-forestnet.eu)
- the SwissForestLab (www.swissforestlab.ch) and linked to
- the knowledge platform Waldwissen.net (www.waldwissen.net)









TNFL - Aims

A network for the dialogue between practice and science.

The overall objective of the TriNational FORESTLAB is to create a Cross-border international forestry network with a focus on Switzerland, France and Germany (and beyond) that allows

- (1) exchange of and cooperation in forest related research → scientific workshops
- (2) development of good practice examples dialogues between science and stakeholders from policy and practice \rightarrow dialogues with practitioners
- (3) Via waldwissen.net crucial research- and practice-related information for the whole international Forestry community and topic- and project-specific cooperation will be boosted and leveraged in Europe and beyond the TRINATIONAL FORESTLAB

 outreach publications
- (4) platform for the **next generation** of international scientists and decision makers to interact with European scientists and with stakeholders from all forest related areas \rightarrow **Summer schools**
- (5) Basis for urgently needed **Stakeholder-inspired research** on how forest resilience and ecosystem services can be maintained in a changing future, taking into account local contexts and international cooperation → one research project









TNFL - Organization

STEERING BOARD:

NFZ:

A. Rigling (ETHZ/WSL)

M. Fournier (AgroParisTech/INRAe)

C. Grossmann (FVA)

R. von Detten (Uni FR)

Waldwissen:

M. Moritzi (WSL-Waldwissen)

SwissForestLab:

A. Gessler (WSL, Chairman SFL)

ADVISORY BOARD:

- 5-7 representatives from Science and Admin
- from institutions outside of the NFZ- and SFL-networks

SCIENTIFIC COORDINATOR (50%, 4 yrs):

• Regine Maier (wsL/ETHZ)





TNFL - Time schedule

| | | | | | 2026 | | | 2027 | | | 2028 | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|----|-------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----|---------------|
| | | Dec24 – Feb25 | Mar25 – May25 | 1 | - 1 | Dec25 – Feb26 | Mar26 – May26 | Jun26 – Aug26 | Sep26 - Nov26 | Dec26 - Feb27 | Mar27 – May27 | Jun27 - Aug27 | Sep27 - Nov27 | Dec27 – Feb28 | | 1 | Sep28 – Nov28 |
| | | Year | | | | Year | | | | Year | _ | | | Year | | | |
| Task | | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |
| Establishment of the coordination office Coordination office as one stop agency for the whole network, organization and plants. | aning of the events | | _ | _ | _ | | _ | _ | _ | | _ | _ | _ | | _ | | |
| Coordination office as one stop agency for the whole network - organization and planing of the events Dialogue with practice - peparation phase with trinational coordination | | | - | | M1 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dialogues with practice in CH practice in CH practice | CH Nancy Freiburg | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dialogue integrated evaluation | | | | | | | | M2a | | | | M2b | | | | M2c | |
| Scientific workshop in Constitution of the Scientific workshop in D | CH Nancy Freiburg | | МЗа | | | | M3b | | | МЗс | | | | M3d | | | |
| SummerSchool in CH Summer Schools SummerSchool in D SummerSchool integrated evaluation | CH Nancy Freiburg | | | | M4a | | | | M4b | | | | M4c | | | | M4d |
| Stakeholder inspired project | | | | | IVI4d | | | M5 | 10140 | | | | TVI4C | | | | 17140 |
| Publications in waldwissen.net | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | $\overline{}$ | | M6 |







Who are the other two partners of the TNFL

TRINATIONAL FORESTLAB





















NFZ.forestnet

The Nancy-Freiburg-Zürich forest research and education network















NFZ.forestnet

- NFZ.forestnet was created in 2006. The network is composed of 7 institutions, universities and research centres, in Nancy, Freiburg, and Zurich and Switzerland.
- All in all, 700 researchers and professors work in NFZ.forestnet member institutions reprenting a hot-spot of modern forest research and education in central Europe.
- The thematic focus of the NFZ.forestnet lies on forestry, forest ecology and forest-related products. It aims at creating and developing collaborative research and education projects.



Who is NFZ.forestnet?

- Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique INRAe Nancy
- University de Lorraine
- AgroParisTech (Natural School of Rural, Water and Forest Engineering, Nancy Centre)

- Forest Research Institute of Baden-Württemberg FVA
- University of Freiburg, Faculty of Environment and Natural Resources



Nancy

- ETH Zürich, Departement of Environmental Systems Sciences
- WSL Swiss Federal Research Institute



What is NFZ.forestnet?



NFZ Summer Schools



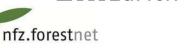
PROMOWOOD

Promotion of wood as key element for achieving net zero











August 25-29th, 2014 Nancy, France

Summer School on "Species Interactions in Mixed Forest Ecosystems"

MIXFOR

NFZ - Summer School 2016: BioFor

Freiburg im Breisgau, Germany



NFZ Summer Schools → 22 since 2005

nfz.forestnet

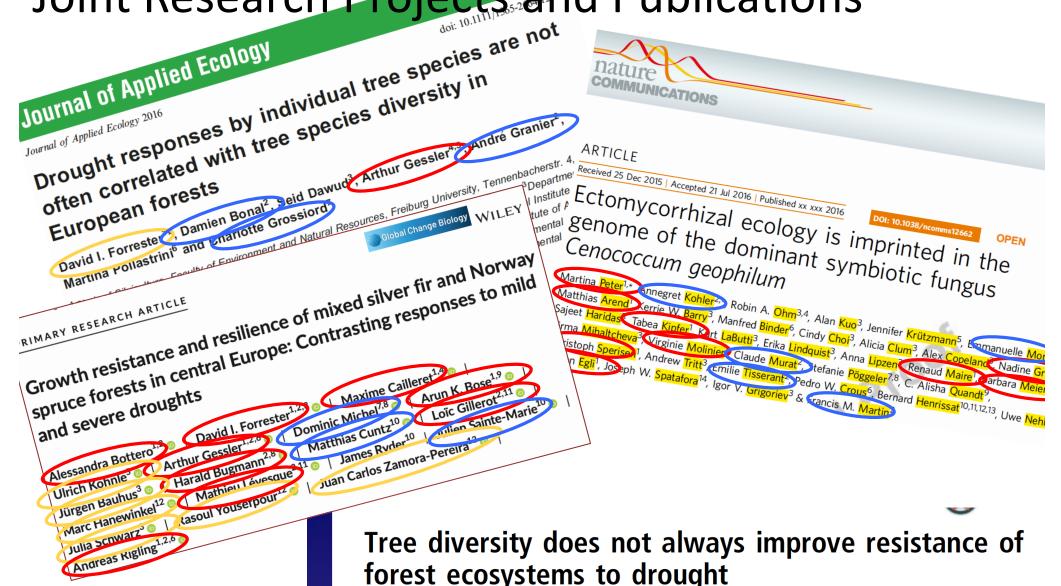
| 2025: Forest planning and management in the 21st century, Nancy, F | *jointly with SFL | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 2024: Forests and Extremes: Crisis or Transition? Davos CH | *jointly with SFL | | | | | | | |
| 2023: Promotion of wood as key element for achieving net zero, Davos CH | *jointly with SFL | | | | | | | |
| 2022: Biodiversity, a key element for temperate forest ecosystems, Davos CH | *jointly with SFL | | | | | | | |
| 2021: Long-term Forest Monitoring, Davos CH | *jointly with SFL | | | | | | | |
| 2020: - | | | | | | | | |
| 2019: Resilience of Forest Ecosystems under Global Change, Davos CH | *jointly with SFL | | | | | | | |
| 2018: Carbon Sequestration in Forest Ecosystems, Davos CH | *jointly with SFL | | | | | | | |
| 2017: International Forestry and Global Issues, Nancy F | | | | | | | | |
| 2016: Bioeconomy - a challenge for European forestry and the bio-based sector, Freiburg D | | | | | | | | |
| 2016: Integrated land-use systems, Freiburg D | | | | | | | | |
| 2015: CC impacts on forest ecosystems: Disciplinary and interdisciplinary challenges across spatial scales, Fafleralp CH | | | | | | | | |
| 2015: Stable Isotopes in Forest Ecosystem Research, Champenoux F | | | | | | | | |
| 2014: Mixed Forests Ecosystems, Nancy F | | | | | | | | |
| 2013: Douglas fir, opportunities and risks for European Forestry, Esthal D | | | | | | | | |
| 2012: Forest Economics in a Changing Environment, Maienfeld CH | | | | | | | | |
| 2011: New Challenges for Interdisciplinary Wood Research, Nancy F | | | | | | | | |
| 2010: Impacts of Climate Change on Growth and Mortality of Forests in Europe, Freiburg D | | | | | | | | |
| 2009: How to Publish and Conference, Zürich CH | | | | | | | | |
| 2008: Modelling Forest Community Organization, Functions] Dynamics for Improving Forest Management, Le Tholy F | | | | | | | | |
| 2007: Innovative approaches for sustainable management of forest ecosystems under a GC, Freiburg D | | | | | | | | |
| 2006: Mountain ecology and alpine ecosystem management, Davos, CH | | | | | | | | |
| 2005: Land use, land-use change and forest history – impacts on the environment, La Bresse F | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |

Teaching: Joint lectures

e.g. The Mountain Forest Ecology Course in Davos Switzerland - A joint activity of University of Freiburg, ETH, WSL, University of Lorraine



Joint Research Projects and Publications





forest ecosystems to drought

Charlotte Grossiond André Graniera, Sphia Ratcliffeb, Olivier Bouriaudc, Helge Bruelheidede, Ewa Chećkof, pavid lan Forrester^{*}, Seid Wung Dawud^h, Leena Finérⁱ, Martina Pollastrini^j, Michael Scherer-Lorenzen^{*}, Fernango Vallagares' Damien Bonal^{a,1,2} and Arthur Gessler^{m,1}

^aUnité Mixte de Recherche 1137, Ecologie et Ecophysiologie Forestiéres, Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique, 54280 Champenoux, France; ^bInstitut für Spezielle Botanik und Funktionelle Biodiversität, University Leipzig, 04103 Leipzig, Germany; Forestry Faculty, University of Suceava, 720229 Suceava, Romania; dInstitute of Biology/Geobotany and Botanical Garden, Martin Luther University Halle Wittenberg, 06108 Halle, Germany; eGerman Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research, 04103 Leipzig, Germany; Faculty of Biology, Bialowieza Geobotanical Station, University of Warsaw, 17-230 Bialowieza, Poland; ⁹Faculty of Environment and Natural Resources, Freiburg University, 79108 Freiburg, Germany; ^hDepartment of Geosciences and Natural Resource

NFZ as main-organizer of





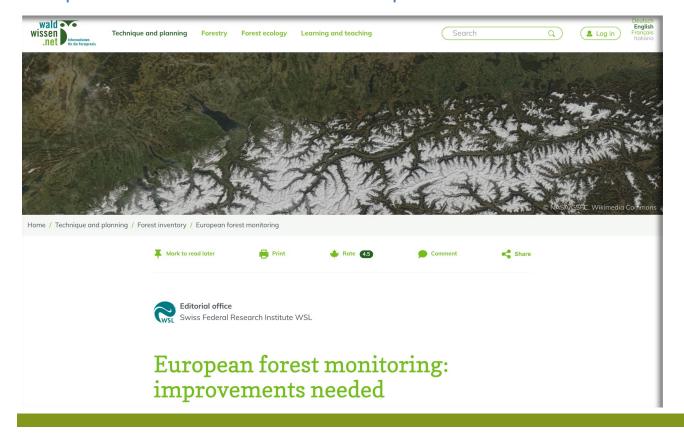




Waldwissen.net

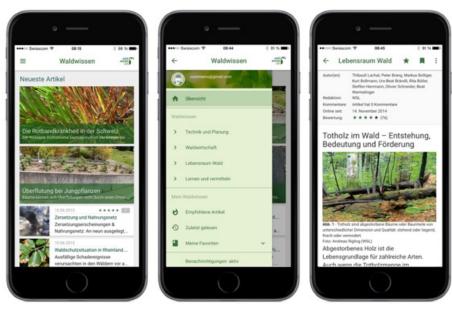


"Provision of practical knowledge about forests and forestry in an easily understandable form for practitioners and an interested public"



- 2005: Joint multilingual information system waldwissen.net goes online with 600 articles
- 2025: >3400 publications online in G, F, I and E (>300)

Waldwissen.net

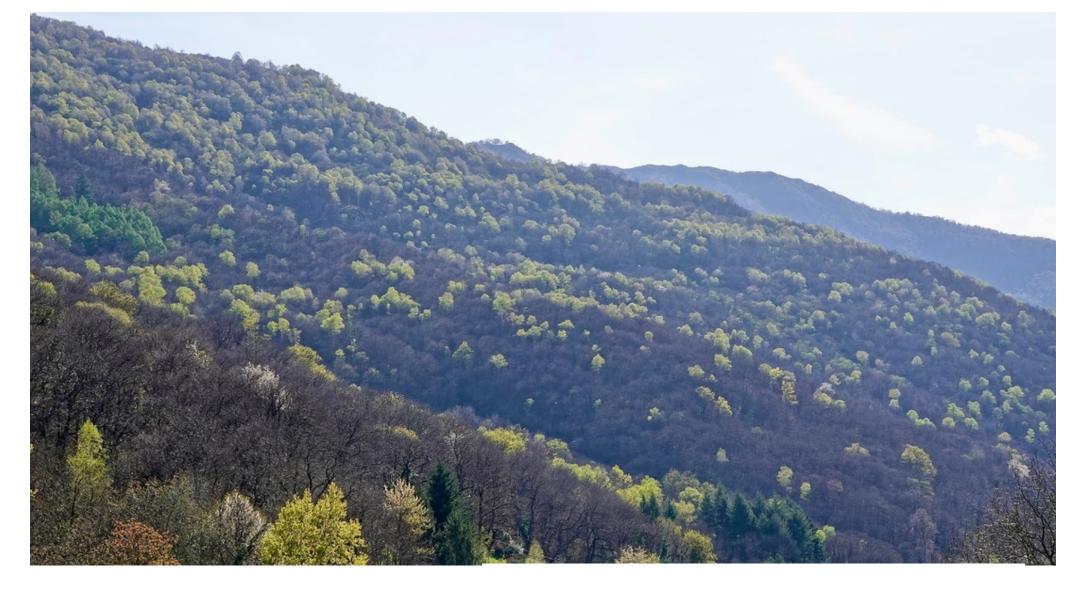


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Waldwissen mobile

- 2'475'994 visits were registered in 2024.
- Meanwhile more than 60% use Waldwissen mobile.





Thank you and the VELUX STIFTUNG

TRINATIONAL FORESTLAB







SwissForestLab (Revision of the statutes)



Context

- Due to the resolutions of the last General Meeting and the financial support from the WSL, amendments to the Articles of Association were necessary.
- Two articles must therefore be amended:

1. Organs of the SwissForestLab

Members of the SwissForestLab are entitled to vote and can be elected to the various bodies of the SwissForestLab. The Steering Committee decides on unclear cases. Decisions are passed by a majority vote (Mehrheitsentscheid). The organs of the SwissForestLab, their structure and explanations of the decision paths are shown at the end of the text in a graph (Fig. 1). In addition to the General Assembly, the central decision-making body is the Steering Committee, which is elected every three years by the members. The members of the Steering Committee may be re-elected once. There is one exception as long as the SwissForestLab is hosted and primarily financially supported by one institution. During that time, the head of the SwissForestLab must be an employee of that institution, and for the sake of internal organisational continuity, this person can be re-elected several times.

SwissForestLab (Revision of the statutes)



2.4. Membership fee:

On 09.02.2024, the General Assembly decided to introduce annual membership fees. Three variants of membership fees were introduced:

Group of >10 members: 1'500 CHF per year Groups of ≤10 members: 1'000 CHF per year

Individual: CHF 200 per year

Membership includes:

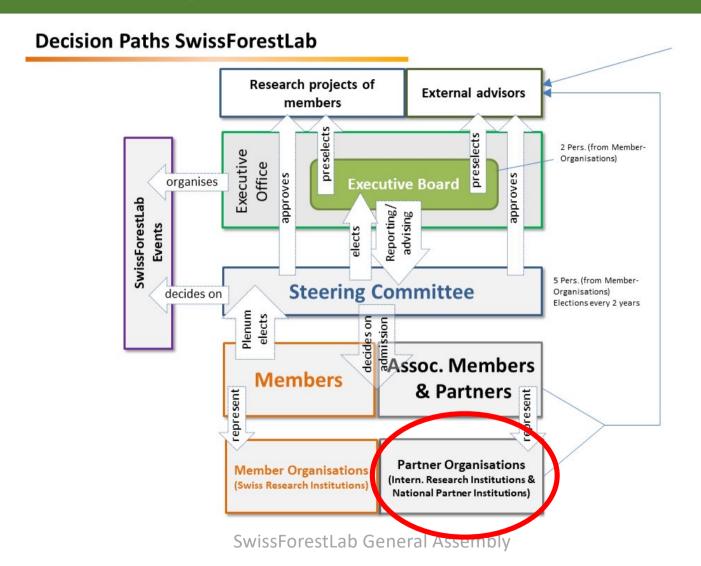
- Organization of thematical workshops (max 3 calls per year)
- Financial support to organize meetings, workshops and invited speakers in the members institution
- Yearly summer school
- Yearly Science Day to showcase the member's research
- Every two years a SwissForestLab Dialog with practitioners and stakeholders
- Access and support to EnviDat (for non-WSL members)
- News flash and social media to showcase your research
- Continued acquisition of further means for SFL projects
- Members of the SFL get discount for events organized by the SFL.

The annual membership fee will be invoiced by the Executive Office after prior notification.

Every year, the Executive Office asks the group leader applicants to update the list of group members.

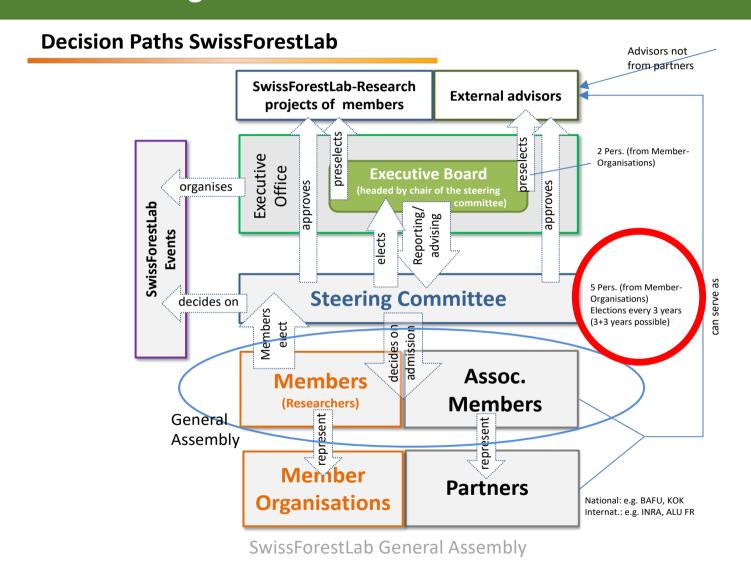
SwissForestLab (Revision of the Articles of Association) with the Swiss of Association (Revision of the Articles of Association)





Steering Committee of the SwissForestLab





The steering committee 2024 – 2025





Andreas Rigling

ETH Zurich

Forest growth and Global

Change; climate-smart and integrated forest management



Arthur Gessler

WSL

Biogeochemical cycles, ecosystem
ecology and long-term forest
monitoring



Charlotte Grossiord **EPFL**Ecophysiology and species interaction



Dr. Günter Hoch
Uni Basel
Ecophysiology of trees, Carbon
reserve functions in plants,
Drought stress physiology, Cold
limits of trees and alpine treelines



Willy Tinner

Uni Bern

Palaeoecology; a long-term perspective
to address questions about the
ecological and societal consequences of climatic change

The steering committee – list of nominees



Steering Committee Members already confirmed last General Assembly



Andreas Rigling

ETH Zurich

Forest growth and Global

Change; climate-smart and integrated forest management



Arthur Gessler

WSL

Biogeochemical cycles, ecosystem
ecology and long-term forest
monitoring



Charlotte Grossiord **EPFL**Ecophysiology and species interaction



Dr. Günter Hoch

Uni Basel

Ecophysiology of trees, Carbon reserve functions in plants, Drought stress physiology, Cold limits of trees and alpine treelines



New Member

The steering committee – The Candidates





Prof. Dr. Benjamin Stocker
Uni Berne

Geocomputation and Earth Observation

From Beni's LinkedIn site:

I am a **climate and environmental scientist** specialising in interactions between climate change and terrestrial ecology and biogeochemistry. My work is dedicated to **providing data-informed predictions** of how land ecosystems respond to a changing climate, increasing CO2 and changes in nutrient cycles. I'm developing **numerical models**, as simple as possible and as complex as necessary to learn the most. I'm proud to be contributing to a better understanding of issues that are becoming increasingly pressing to society and policy and am dedicated

to farsighted thinking and strategic planning for a sustainable future.

Education

- PhD in Climate Sciences, Climate- and Environmental Physics, University of Bern, Nov 2009 Dec 2013.
- MSc in Climate Sciences, Climate- and Environmental Physics, University of Bern, Sep 2007 Oct 2009.
- Undergraduate in Geography with a Minor in Physics, Complementary in General Ecology, University of Bern, Jun 2006.

Employment

- Assistant Professor (Tenure Track) in Geocomputation and Earth Observation, Institute of Geography, University of Bern, Aug 2022 present.
- Assistant Professor (non-Tenure Track) for Computational Ecosystem Science, ETH Zürich, and WSL Birmensdorf, Switzerland, Sep 2019 Jul 2022.
- Several Postdoctoral Positions (including a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Research Fellowship) at the University of Bern,
- the Imperial College London, at ETH Zürich, and the Ecological and Forestry Applications Research Centre (CREAF) in Barcelona, Spain from Jan 2014 Feb 2019.

Acknowledgement





Willy Tinner

Uni Bern

Palaeoecology; a long-term perspective
to address questions about the
ecological and societal consequences of climatic change

Thanks



WSL and BAFU for financial support

Members and partners for their contribution to workshops, summer schools, projects, activities......