

STSM Scientific Report

Grantee:

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COST ACTION	FACEMAP -FPS COST Action FP1201
Action WG	WG1 Forest ownership types and motives
Host	Tatiana Kluvankova-Oravska, SPECTRA Centre of excellence EU, Slovak Academy of Sciences, tana@cetip.sk
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1. purpose of the STSM;

Aim of STSM was to contribute to scientific objectives of FACEMAP action and to get experiences and knowledge about research methods and commons from other countries. Visiting a host institution (country) fosters collaboration and knowledge transfer. In the WG1 we are working on the questions related to ownerships changes, owners' goals, management decisions... One of forest ownership categories are also so called "commons" which are also in focus of WG1. Grantee of this STSM is young scientist interested in commons preparing doctoral theses on commons in Slovenia. Purpose of STSM was to: get familiar with models of commons in other country, meet researchers and experts working on commons and to discuss about research methods for doctoral theses.

Comparing SK and SI model of commons is especially interesting as they are sharing a significant part of their history and political system development (Hapsburg monarchy, communism/socialism and transition) which reflection we can notice also in commons. Scientist from SK and SI are interested in a question: Are commons in transition countries so robust institutions that they can manage their land (forests) sustainable and what happens with knowledge and experiences transfer in the nationalization gap?

2. description of the work carried out during the STSM;

In the STMS programme following persons were involved:

person	organization
Jozef Valaka	director of host institution, SPECTRA, Center of excellence EU, Slovak Academy of Sciences
Tatiana Kulakova Oravska	- host and knowledge support from SPECTRA, Center of excellence EU, Slovak Academy of Sciences
Zuzana Svárašova	organisation of meetings from Department of Forest Economics and Management Faculty of Forestry Technical University in Zvolen
Andrej Udovč	visiting professor at SPECTRA from Biotechnical faculty, University Ljubljana
Robert Zlocha	head of the District Forest Office in Banska Bystrica
Peter Ciampor	chair of the Association of Owners of Private Forests and Forests in Shared Ownership in Banská Bystrica
Jan Bartos	executive secretary of the Association of Owners of Private Forests and Forests in Shared Ownership in Banská Bystrica
Milan Sarvas	the director of the NFC Institute for Forest Consulting and Education
Zuzana Svárašova and Tatiana Kulakova Oravska TEAM	organization of meetings and accommodation

STSM started on Sunday 23.6.2013 with travelling from SLO to SK and ended on Friday 28.6.2013 with travelling back to Slovenia.

- **Monday (Bratislava)**
 - In the morning meeting with host where we have discussed about STMS programme.
 - In forenoon participation on summer school lessons (*Adaptive Governance in Urban Areas: Green and Blue Infrastructure, Summer School – 1st Module in Bratislava (June 22nd – 25th, 2013)*). Lessons were covering issues related to adaptive governances, stakeholder analysis and role of forests in urban areas.
 - In afternoon study of existing literature about commons in Slovakia.
- **Tuesday (Bratislava)**
 - Meeting with scientists – discussion about commons and discussion about elements of doctoral theses, studding available literature, legislation and SK commons web pages (minutes of meetings, presentation of commons...).
- **Wednesday (Zvolen)**
 - Meeting with representatives of “NFC Institute for Forest Consulting and Education”,
 - Meeting on district Forest Office in Banska Bystrica
 - Meeting with representatives of Association of Owners of Private Forests and Forests in Shared Ownership in Banská Bystrica
- **Thursday (Zvolen)**

Field trip in Forestry open air Museum together with researcher from Department of Forest Economics and Management from Faculty of Forestry with discussion related to forest ownership structures, organization of forestry and relations forest owners vs. government in SK.

- **Friday (Bratislava)**

Consultations on Forest commons in Slovakia and Slovenia, impresses from field work in Zvolen, discussion on variables to be included into the data collection guidelines for country reports of FACEMAPS.

3. description of the main results obtained;

During STSM I had a chance to get first hand information about commons in SK from key persons closely linked with commons on SK. First I had a chance to discuss with scientists working on commons, than I had a chance to discuss with foresters as representative of government who are in daily contacts with commons (management issues) and on the end also with commoners and their representatives.

STSM didn't include direct scientific work but in contributed to my knowledge about commons and rise factors and questions interested to study also in case of SI and include them in my doctoral theses.

These questions are:

- Historical and political framework. How it influence on commons development?
- Differences between others ownership types and “commons”. Where are commons straights and were are weaknesses?
- Internal organisation of commons. How and how much members are contributing to management in commons?
- Are commons as an ownership categories fit and contribute to countries RDP goals?
- Which are resources under commons management and how are management?

To answer these questions the appropriate methodology tools are needed. As questions rise on different fields tool box include more tools. There are historical literature and records from legislation process available to study historical and political framework.

There is strong theory about commons available in literature on which commons in SI can be evaluated and described as an ownership category and compare with others. Same theory can be use to evaluate their internal organisation. This theory can be exanimate with questioners, interviews and games.

Information what commons owns or managed and how they managed this is available in government database. For this evaluation GIS tools are needed.

To summarise STMS was a chance to have open discussion about commons and to see in what framework commons are working in other countries. That information is useful for my research work and development.

STMS was quite short but any way we have settle some bases and factors available from researches done on which we can evaluate and make cross country comparison . But we had figure out that more countries from CEE countries (especially those one which share a common history) should be involved in research.

4. future collaboration with host institution (if applicable);

Collaboration between started already before STSM and it is related on researches done with commons. In the future scientists are planning to work together on the tasks from FACEMAP and working together on research questions related to “commons”. Even though COST action contribute to knowledge transfer on the work done or in process persons evolve in this STMS agree that we would have to work on idea to apply a common research project about commons in CEE countries. Especially it will be interesting to compare commons from countries where commons had continually development and commons from countries where continual was interrupted with nationalisation.

5. foreseen publications/articles resulting or to result from the STSM (if applicable);

There is an article foreseen for Slovenian Forestry magazine abut commons in SK as an STMS report.

6. confirmation by the host institution of the successful execution of the STSM;

Visit of T. Premrl late this June provided valuable insight to the history and institutional evolution of forest commons in Central Europe. Building on existing collaboration FACEMAPS can benefit in undertaking responsibilities under the WG1 and in further networking of consortium members. (Tatiana Kluvanova Oravska)

7. other comments (if any).
