



Steiermarkhof, Graz, Austria

Date: April 22-23, 2026



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Women in Forestry: Connecting Across Borders and Generations

Wednesday, 22 April 2026

08:30-09.00 Arrival of participants and registration

09:00-09.30 Introduction and Welcome speeches

Andreas Steinegger, President of the Styrian Chamber of Agriculture, Austria

Nike Krajnc, Head of Slovenian Forestry Institute

Dagmar Karisch-Gierer, FAST Pichl, Forstfrauen Austria and WOFO International

09:30-09.50 Keynote:

International Forest Governance Trends: Competences for Future Forests

Daniela Kleinschmit, President of IUFRO, University of Freiburg, Germany

09:50-10:20 Understanding Women's Pathways in the Forest Sector

Leonie Wagner and Nico Martin, LWF Germany

10:20-10:40 Degrees of Specialisation: How Study Choices Influence Women's Career Paths

Cesira Urzi-Brancati, Eurofound, Ireland (online)

10:40-11:00 Coffee break

11:00-11:30 Women's Mentoring in Forestry - a Successfully Implemented Model

Karin Weber, project manager at BOKU University, Anna-Sophie Pirtscher, Head of FAST

Ossiach, and Franziska Steiner, student at BOKU University, Austria

11:30-11:50 Beyond the Trees: Impact and Challenges of Women Foresters

Khishigjargal Mookhor, "Forest sustainability and women" society, Mongolia

11.50-12.10 From Roots into the Sky - How to Grow Your Association

Izabela Pigan, Chairwoman of Stowarzyszenie Kobiet Lasu, Poland

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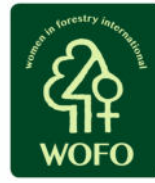


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- 12:10-12:40 From Impact to Transformation: What the Years of Cooperation Reveal**
Round table talk with Nike Krajnc and representatives of women's associations:
Francesca Farmadas, Dagmar Karisch-Gierer, Khishigjargal Mookhor and Izabela Pigan
- 12:40-13:00 Discussion**
- 13:00-14:15 Lunch**
- 14:15-14:45 Keynote: Empowering the Future Workforce - How to Inspire Young Women in Forestry and how Forestry Companies Can Benefit From This**
Christian Schnedl, Managing Director, Marina Kain, Vanessa Pierer, Stefanie Wolfsberger, Papierholz Austria
- 14:45-15:05 Seeing Forestry Through a Gender Lense - Male Allies**
Viktoria Knizia, University of Applied Sciences and Arts, Göttingen, Germany (online)
- 15:05-15:40 From Curiosity to Career: Motivating Young Women to Join Forestry**
Round table with Heidi Gaube, nowa, Austria, and Female Ambassadors
- 15.40-16.10 Coffee break with market place & poster session**
- 16.10-16.40 Changing the Narrative: Promoting Women and Attracting Young Talents to Forestry**
Heidi Gaube, nowa, and Mathias Fraiß, FAST Pichl, Austria
- 16.40-17.00 Closing Discussion and Summary of the Day**
Nike Krajnc, Izabela Pigan and Dagmar Karisch-Gierer
- 18.00 Conference dinner to relax and conclude the first day of the conference, social gathering, and networking (optional)**



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Field trips

Three different field trips are offered. Please note that the number of participants per field trip is limited, so you may be assigned to a different field trip if necessary. The preferred field trip and an alternative field trip can be selected during registration.

The terrain is mostly easy, with a few moderately difficult sections. Walking and standing times of around 1.5-2 hours at each stop should be expected. Lunch will be provided in the form of packed lunches.

Timetable for all field trips

09:15 **Departure** from parking lot at Steiermarkhof, Graz

16:15 **Return** to Steiermarkhof

Field trip 1 **ehp - European Hardwood Production**

Purchasing and processing of hardwood into lumber, lamellas and sawing by-products

Forest holding Liechtenstein

Beech stands management and nature reserve

Field trip 2 **Hasslacher Preding Wood Industry**

Production of constructive and surfaced timber, GLT® Girder Longitudinally Tensiletested

Forest Property of the Seggau Episcopal Estate Administration

Climate-friendly forest management in church-owned forests

Field trip 3 **Sappi Gratkorn Mill**

Production of quality paper for premium magazines, books, and high-end advertising

Almhof Forestry Estate

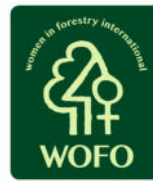
Close-to-nature forestry by a female forest owner



Interreg
Danube Region



Co-funded by
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Forstfrauen
das netzwerk



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The Fem2forest Project team

