



PROJECT *In-Tree*

Introduced tree species in European forests:
challenges and opportunities

Frank Krumm and Lucie Vítková



Discussion

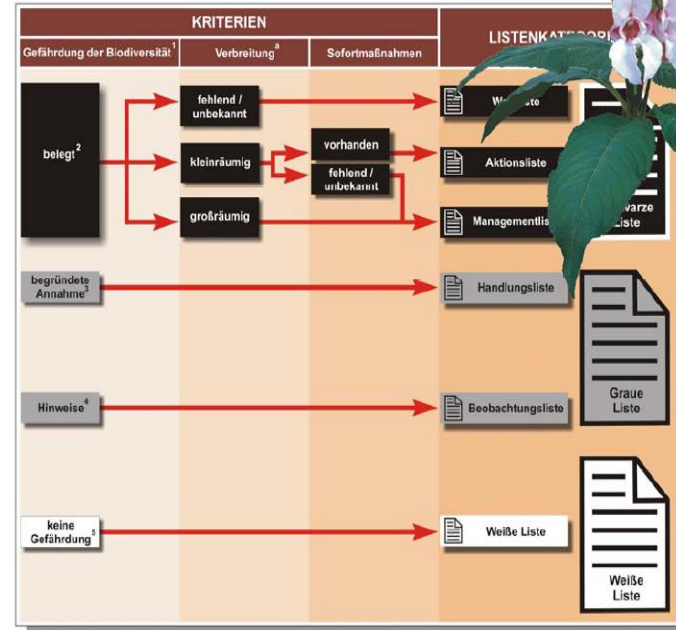
- Emotional discussion, often not evidence based
- Contradicting perspectives (forestry, gardening, nature conservation, society, hunting)
- Definitions and terms are used in different ways
- Various reports conducted by the Federal Agency for nature conservation (BFN). Declaration of Douglas fir and red Oak to be invasive in Germany.
- Ongoing activities on the EU level on the establishment of a black list on Alien Invasive Species (IAS)





**Stefan Nehring,
Wolfgang Rabitsch und
and Franz Essl (Hrsg.)**

**Naturschutzfachliche
Invasivitätsbewertung
für gebietsfremde
Arten BfN-Skripten 340,
2013**





PROJECT IN-TREE

- Background:

- Pro-active request of the German Federal Ministry for Food and Agriculture (BMEL)
- EFI as a unbiased non national organisation to provide the objective scientific state of the art
- Short project duration with a very tough schedule
- Successful project on integrative approaches as an opportunity for the conservation of forest biodiversity (INTEGRATE), coordinated by the European Forest Institute (Central European Regional Office EFICIENT)
- What about the list on IAS?

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PROJECT IN-TREE

- Major deliverables:
 - Book publication
 - Expert exchanges
 - Media tools
 - Policy brief
 - Expert database (Risk platform)
 - Various events

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PROJECT IN-TREE

Scientific advisory board

- **Annemarie Bastrup-Birk**, European Environment Agency (EEA), Denmark
- **Jürgen Bauhus**, University of Freiburg, Germany
- **Etienne Branquart**, Directorate General for Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment, Service Public de Wallonie, Belgium
- **Marco Conedera**, Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research (WSL), Cadenazzo, Switzerland
- **Franz Essl**, University of Vienna and Austrian Environment Agency, Austria
- **Hans-Gerhard Michiels**, Forest Research Institute of Baden-Württemberg FVA, Germany
- **Andreas Rigling**, Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research (WSL), Birmensdorf, Switzerland
- **Jan Wunder**, Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research (WSL), Birmensdorf, Switzerland



Key terms and definitions

Term	Definition	Source
Introduction	A process (or an action) that enables a species (or its propagule) to overcome, through a human agency, a major geographical barrier.	Amended from Richardson <i>et al.</i> (2000)
Introduced species (non-native, alien, non-indigenous, exotic)	A species in a given area whose presence there is due to intentional or accidental introduction as a result of human activity.	Gassmann and Weber (2006)
Native species	Species that have evolved in a given area or that arrived there by natural means without the intentional or accidental intervention of humans from an area where they are (or had been) native.	Amended from Pyšek <i>et al.</i> (2004)
Naturalisation	Process whereby the species establishes new self-perpetuating populations, undergoes widespread dispersal and becomes incorporated within the resident flora.	Richardson <i>et al.</i> (2000)
Invasion	A process whereby a species must overcome a series of barriers to be able to spread into novel areas in which it becomes dominant.	Amended from Valéry <i>et al.</i> (2008)
Invasive species	A species that has been naturally reproducing in large numbers over considerable distances causing negative impact on local ecosystems; i.e. by direct competition for natural resources.	-

- Avoid confusion and misunderstanding
- Ensure clarity of the definitions

Ensure consistency of the terms used throughout the book



Book publication: authors

- Selection of authors:
 - Proven track of:
 - Relevant experience
 - Academic record of relevant literature
 - EFI and *IN-TREE* team's network
 - Availability / Capacity
 - Recommendations of experts and advisory board
 - International Symposium in July 2015
- What's expected:
 - Contribution by spring 2016
 - Review other chapters
 - Translations into French and German
 - Facts and evidence based information





Book publication: aims

- To synthesise current knowledge on introduced tree species across the European continent
- To comprehensively present key challenges and opportunities based on scientific knowledge and case studies:
 - Climate change
 - Pests and diseases
 - Ecosystem services
- To provide a neutral knowledge and evidence-based platform for future activities

*Fact and evidence based
compilation of scientific
and practice knowledge*





Content

Authors

- ✓ 89 authors from research and practice
- ✓ from 18 different countries across Europe and beyond
- ✓ Representing 45 different institutions and enterprises





Book publication

Added value:

- Comprehensive and concise publication
- Open access
- Directed at a wide range of audience
- Disseminated through a wide EFI network
and others

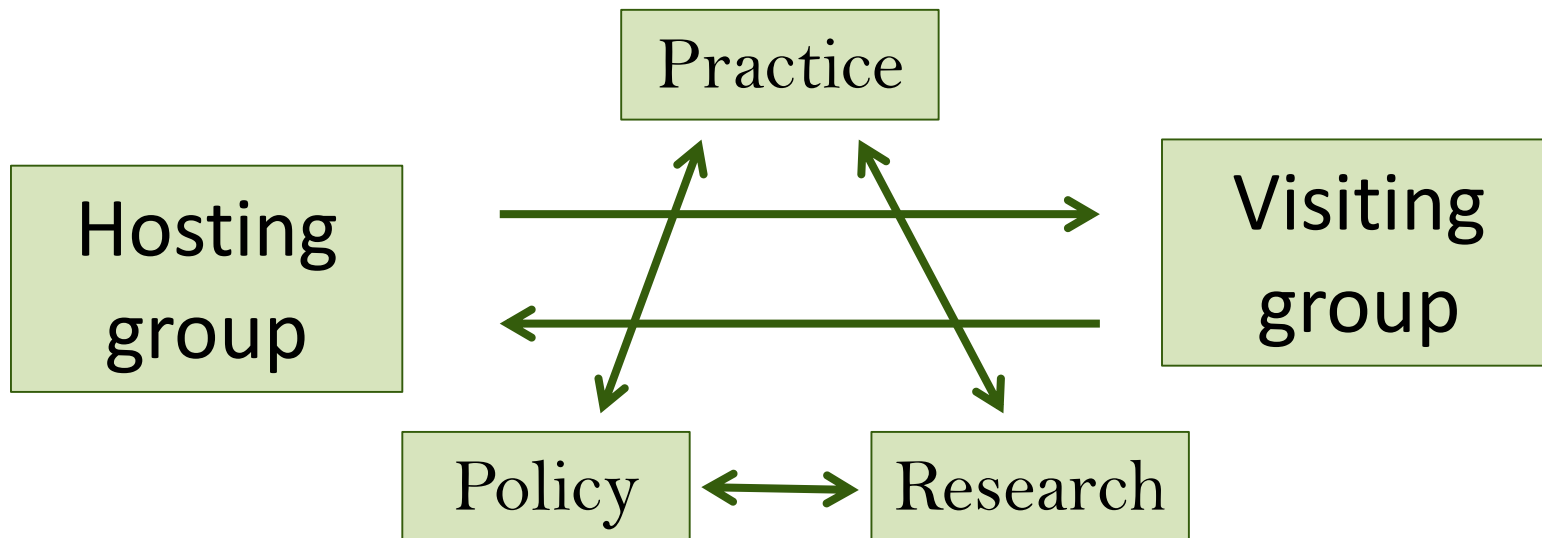




Expert exchanges

First exchange took place in Freiburg City Forest with members of the Irish forest service (topic on Douglas fir)

Further exchanges are planned for April 2016 (Czech rep.) and June 2016 (Norway and Austria)





School project

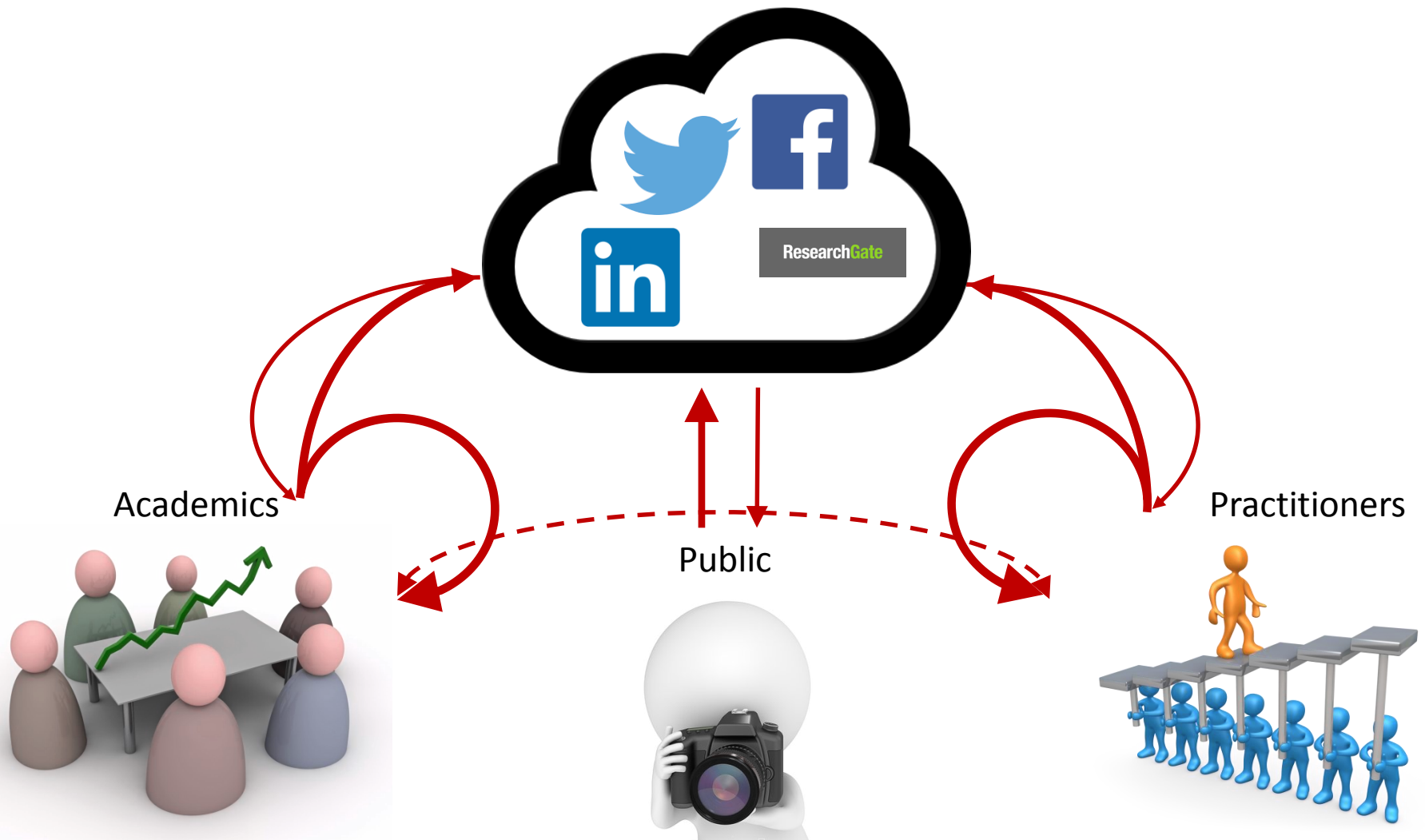
- Aim: how do school kids perceive this topic?
- Partner: Angell school in Freiburg from 5th to 11th grade
- Means:
 - Drawings
 - Theatres
 - Acoustic/musical means
 - Webinar





Risk platform

Use of social networks





Risk platform

Possibilities

- Use RISK Platform as an expert database. Share, collaborate and enhance your network.
- Get most useful information from the field. E.g. observations documented with photos
- Use the information from other networks, not only the scientific view
- Use your rating for your CV



Future events - Conference

- Political event on the 5th of December 2016 in Brussels
 - Aiming at 50-60 Policy makers / politicians (MEP`s) presentations
 - Collaboration with the permanent Czech representation as a part of the Czech-German Dialogue (WP 9)
 - Release of a policy brief (English version)
 - 4-5 Scientists and practitioners should present their contributions
 - Discussion platform including the DG env that is responsible for the establishment and maintenance of the IAS list





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