



**FAO and REUFIS present**

## WEBINAR

### **Contingency plans and early warning systems – how can they help protect forests?**

**Wednesday, 24 November 2021, 11:00 - 14:00 CET**

Forests face new continuous threats from both native pest species with changing biology and behaviour, as well as from non-native, invasive species; the latter of which are often very difficult to manage.

Recognizing this issue, the Forest Invasive Species Network for Europe and Central Asia (REUFIS) has created a platform where scientists, forest managers and policymakers can share information and coordinate activities related to forest invasive species.

Early warning/early action (EWEA) systems are valuable tools to mitigate potentially detrimental events such as pest and disease outbreaks through preventative activities. Contingency plans both generic and pest-specific also have the potential to enable more rapid and efficient response to pest incursions and outbreaks. Well formulated EWEA systems and contingency plans provide better preparedness and guidance to industries, scientists, regulators, communities and public on what actions to take and how to implement them in an event of an incursion or outbreak as well as how to recover from after such event. Both EWEA systems and contingency plans can support forest health and resilience towards pest outbreaks.

## The webinar will:

- Raise awareness and preparedness for future pest and disease outbreaks in our forests.
- Introduce contingency planning and implementation.
- Share experiences on early warning systems and contingency planning.

## Agenda

<b>Welcome/Introduction</b>	
Welcome from FAO	<b>Dr. Shiroma Sathyapala</b> Forestry Officer, FAO HQ Moderator
Welcome from REUFIS, introduction to the webinar	<b>Prof. Dr. Ferenc Lakatos</b> Secretary, REUFIS Director, Institute of Forestry and Forest Protection, University of Sopron, Hungary
Early Warning Early Action (EWEA) systems for forest invasive species in Europe and Central Asia - a review of successes and challenges	<b>Prof. Dr. Andrea Battisti</b> Professor Department of Agronomy, Food, Natural resources, Animals and Environment University of Padova, Italy
<b>Country experiences with Early Warning Systems and Contingency Plans for Forest Invasive Species</b>	
Ukraine	<b>Yuriy Skrylnyk</b> Researcher Ukrainian Research Institute of Forestry and Forest Melioration, Slobozhanskyi National Nature Park, Ukraine
Georgia	<b>Giorgi Berechikidze</b> Head of the Forest Protection Division Forest maintenance and Reforestation Department Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia
Sweden	<b>Dr. Henrik Thurfjell</b> Vertebrate expert Swedish Centre for Species Information, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Sweden
Russian Federation	<b>Dr. Natalia I. Kirichenko</b> Senior research associate Forest Zoology Department, SIF SB RAS Sukachev Institute of Forest, Siberian Branch of Russian Academy of Sciences, Russian Federation
<b>Questions &amp; Answers - Interactive session with participants</b>	All panelists and participants
<b>Concluding remarks</b>	<b>Dr. Norbert Winkler-Ráthonyi</b> Forestry Officer, FAO REU
<b>Wrap-up/Closing</b>	<b>Dr. Shiroma Sathyapala</b> Forestry Officer, FAO HQ Moderator

