

The outcomes of the International conference

The International Conference "Forest ecosystems in the conditions of climate change: regional and international dimensions" was held in Volga Tech during 17th to 19th of May. Since 2005, the international conference has been a standing international forum for discussion regional issues of Russian Federation forestry in the conditions of climate change. In 2012 conference was held under the sponsorships of forestry international organizations IUFRO, NASA, SCANEX and European Forest Institute.

It was organized by the European Union project "Public diplomacy. EU and Russia" and Jean Monnet Center of Excellence at Volga Tech. The Volga State University of Technology traditionally supports and develops international research in the field of forestry and ecology. Since 2005, University participated in four major projects of European Union Tempus programme on different aspects of research and education in the field of forestry. Scientific and Educational Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence in European Expertise and Technology for Environmental Protection and Sustainable Forestry – SUFEX established in 2016 is the first area-specific structure opened in Russian universities within the EU Erasmus+ programme. European Forest Institute, Centre of Sustainable Forest Management and Remote Sensing of Volga Tech and Ministry of Forestry and Game Management of Mari El Republic were partners of the Conference.

The Conference provided opportunity to develop relations with colleagues from the Research Centers of the European Union and Russia. Guests from Germany, Finland and Greece visited Volga Tech. Representatives from the Russian Social and Ecological Union (Moscow), Ministry of Forestry of the Republic of Tatarstan, the National Park "Chavash Varmane" (Chuvashia), the Prisursky Nature Reserve, the Cheboksary Branch of Tsitsin's Botanical Garden of the Russian Academy of Sciences, the Ministry of Forestry and Hunting of Mari El, the Nature Reserve of "Bolshaya Kokshaga", the "Mari El Forest Protection Center" - a branch of Federal State-Funded Institution of "Roslesozashchita", the Department of Environmental Safety, Management of Natural Resources and Population Protection of the Republic of Mari El, employees and students of the Volga State University of Technology participated in conference. Scientists from Moscow, Kazan, Ufa, Syktyvkar and Nizhny Novgorod took part in the Conference as well.

On the first day participants focused on forest management issues under conditions of climate change, participation of Russian scientists in international associations and organizations. Attendees of separate session discussed the problems of using remote sensing methods for the monitoring of forest ecosystems in the EU and Mid-Volga Region.

The second day was dedicated to practical issues of climate change and forest management. In addition, presentations on regional research in the field of assessment and condition of forest stands, assessment of stocks and flows of carbon, using Geo-Information Systems (GIS) and Earth Remote Sensing (ERS) technology in assessing forest were heard in break-out sessions. The third day of the Conference devoted to exploring educational experimental objects of the Institute of Forestry and Nature Management of Volga Tech.

According to results of the Conference participants developed and adopted recommendations for adapting Russian forest complex to global climate change. Volga Tech in conjunction with Ministry of Forest and Hunting will take part as pilot structures for the implementation of the Climate Smart Forestry concept, which has found wide application in the forest sector of the EU countries.



