# Minutes of meeting 22 June 2018 – Forest Information System for Europe (FISE)

**Location**: Skype

**Timing**: 22 June 2018

**Participants**:

* Miruna Badescu, Adriana Baciu - EdW
* Annemarie Bastrup-Birk - EEA
* Koldo Goñi Iza – Tracasa

## Agenda

1. [Annemarie] Use-cases to present on the portal – from which we need to pick a few to present in the following 4 months
2. [Miruna] Status of the first development – displaying the NFI data received from JRC (in progress, ~50%)
3. [Tracasa] GIS and Tableau developments – by Tracasa
4. [Miruna] Web design for the portal – proposal to do this in have two stages and develop a generic one to have the content
5. [Miruna, all] Adding static content in the coming period – train Annemarie and others to add the initial content
6. [all] Schedule – detailed till ~October, when we should have a first release

## Discussions

### 1. User stories

The data we have for the map is currently not enough to build something meaningful. We should try to find meaningful data for the purposes of building applications to respond to the user stories posted on <https://taskman.eionet.europa.eu/issues/95472> (Annemarie, Peter L and Bernd).

### 1.1 Data sources and ideas around them

No signed agreement yet to get the ICP data, data that seems to be very useful for FISE. Eau de Web will contact ICP directly with the request for their data.

EFFIS data is mentioned in the ticket, although it was agreed as being out of scope. However, some of the data may be used from this general forest information system: area and distribution over time, forest fires over time, affected areas.

We need to concentrate on stories which involve a combination on biodiversity, forest health, how the wood is transported from the forest, or the distance to roads, harbors, changes over time

Forest Europe datasets - <http://foresteurope.org>: 46 countries were asked to respond to 34 indicators on voluntary basis. There is information on country level, but few information on sub-country level.

Data can be harvested and extracted from UNECE <http://w3.unece.org/PXWeb2015/pxweb/en/STAT/STAT__26-TMSTAT1__050-TM15_PF2/010_en_TM15_5_r.px/?rxid=4f56747b-9ece-4fcf-a10b-313592a1a288> and FAO <http://www.fao.org/faostat/en/#data/FO>.

We should take two countries and build examples based on user stories: how can we get from general view to specific view.

The two development teams will take a look at Annemarie recommendations and assess how those data can be used.

Those 2 sites (FAO, UNECE) are the backbones of forest data and we should investigate ways to connect this data to data from Art 17, Art 12, Natura2000, EUNIS: species, habitats, red lists etc. EdW has access to these datasets.

We should try to illustrate possible connections between data, such as:

* Connection between watersheds and forests e.g.: watersheds dominated by forests?
* Drinking water, watersheds basin, distance to forest area
* Evolution of the connections

Stories can also be developed around area information, based on COPERNICUS for the area information.

With this information, different DGs have different expectations/wishes; Annemarie and Peter will think of ways of presentation; they will also think about how data from forest fires database can be extracted, used and presented.

Copernicus data to be used to build user stories, combined with other information on map viewers. We shouldn’t try to duplicate existing data visualizations, but combine data to illustrate new stories.

Global forest data presented by Annemarie for use in our maps, with time series.

Avoid repeating what other sites/institutions have done before and assess how available data can be comparable. Identify and isolate the type of indicators to use for data processing.

### 3) Tracasa progress

Koldo presented the current situation of the existing data. Data analysis is ongoing to assess the received data. Some of the data will have to come from COPERNICUS, especially at EU level. Koldo presented to current status of their work on maps on <http://wab.discomap.eea.europa.eu/webappbuilder/apps/116/>

Miruna asked Koldo to provide a schedule for the project, a more detailed one for the upcoming months and less detailed until the end of the year. Koldo will send the list of maps that can be produced from the available data until the end of the year.

Koldo continued the presentation of the work done so far on Tableau:

* Average wood energy consumption (m3/capita) <https://tableau.discomap.eea.europa.eu/views/WoodEnergy/WoodEnergy?iframeSizedToWindow=true&:embed=y&:showAppBanner=false&:display_count=no&:showVizHome=no#3>
* Forest Resources Assessments (based on FAO dataset) <https://tableau.discomap.eea.europa.eu/views/Forest_FRA_FAO/FAOForest?iframeSizedToWindow=true&:embed=y&:showAppBanner=false&:display_count=no&:showVizHome=no>

The statistical data is now linear, on one dimension only, and we should combine it with other data: biodiversity for example. Tableau can support this. We are now using the available data, but we should keep investigating more datasets before the platform will become operational.

Annemarie: we should think of metadata description of the existing data first and then compile and combine data from countries. We should collaborate more with the countries to have them understand how their data is going to be combined and aggregated, we shall continue building trust with them.

### 2) Data delivered by the JRC

Aside from NFI, we received the following partial datasets from JRC: FAO, UNECE and Copernicus.

Miruna talked about the NFI data and discussions with JRC about the way we display them. A faceted search will be built, as it looks like the right way of showing this data. Backend structure in progress, mock-ups to follow.

Annemarie: It is important to process data in a meaningful way, forestry experts should be involved. It is important to maintain the trustfulness of how we are dealing with the data.

Koldo: Information is incomplete from the countries and is not homogeneous – it is difficult to create a map with the data from the JRC (except for Copernicus layers, which will be taken from the EEA).

Annemarie: One idea is to use forest data standardized by the international definitions of FAO and then statistics that Europe can contribute with.

### Other discussions

NRC Forest entered into force and has been endorsed a couple of days ago, and we can ask them to help in some way with their direct contacts to the countries.

Proposal on how to go further, schedule for work and comments:

* Koldo:
  + Suggests to create a map for each use case
  + The GIS team will go through all the use cases, prioritize them and have a schedule on their implementation, based on what is feasible and what else is needed
  + Integrate maps that as soon as they become ready in the demo site
  + Provide a detailed schedule for activities until end 2018, a more schematic schedule for 2019
* Miruna:
  + The portal will be available soon with just minimal layout on demo site, for content uploading. We continue with developing the functionalities of the platform, final layout will be decided during the summer
  + We will start creating the layout of the site and share with stakeholders for comments
  + Guidelines on how to upload content available by the end of next week - a small discussion with Annemarie on how to use the platform for content uploading
* Annemarie
  + Will start adding content in the portal available on demo site

We must prepare a schedule for the entire year and decide on the scope to be ready by 2018.

Beginning of September, NRC EEA’s meeting we plan to have a first prototype of the platform in order to collect early feedback.

During the research for this project, Miruna found <https://www.globalforestwatch.org>, a very easy to use and straightforward web GIS platform, and GIS team should evaluate and extract some ideas for the maps and data display, if applicable.