

EFI Short Scientific Visits 2017

1 BACKGROUND

EFI offers 10 grants for *Short Scientific Visits* (SSV) for Early Stage Researchers¹ from EFI Associate Member organisations. These *Visits* provide a unique opportunity for interested candidates to get involved in international level forest research and research co-operation.

The aims of a *Short Scientific Visit* are to contribute to the scientific objectives of EFI and to strengthen the EFI network by allowing young scientists to: 1) visit an institution in another European country, 2) foster collaboration and 3) learn a new technique, use methods and tools not available in their own institution. The *Visits* should take place between June 2017 and May 2018.

The *Short Scientific Visit* should last for a minimum of two weeks (10 working days).

The topic of the *Visit* should fall within one of the EFI priority research topics:

I. Bioeconomy

Sub-topics:

- I.a The future demand and supply of forest products, forest biomass and ecosystem services, and their implications for sustainable forest and land management, including afforestation and plantation forestry.*
- I.b Sustainability impact assessment and monitoring of forest-based products and services value chains.*
- I.c The future markets of increasingly diversified and cross-sectoral forest-based products and services as a result of socioeconomic and policy changes.*
- I.d The role of innovation and digitalization, and policies affecting sustainable bioeconomy development*

II. Resilience

Sub-topics:

- II.a The impacts of global change and related risks on forest socio-ecological systems, and the strategies to enhance and restore their capacity to adapt and provide forest ecosystem services and products.*
- II.b Policies, strategies and management practices to enhance biodiversity in a rapidly changing environment, considering different regional and socio-economic settings.*
- II.c Strategies and management practices to enhance the role of forests and trees in increasing the resilience of rural areas to climate change, including a better understanding of agroforestry.*
- II.d The role of urban forestry, nature-based solutions and wood construction in developing climate smart cities, better rural-urban interfaces and enhancing health and wellbeing in urban areas.*

III. Governance

Sub-topics:

- III.a Forest and land use conflicts and synergies, including an understanding of key societal demands and the trade-offs between forest ecosystem services, products and land uses.*
- III.b The design of appropriate forest and land use governance schemes, including new and innovative approaches to involve stakeholders, align diverging interests and seek synergies.*
- III.c The impacts of different supply chains and international trade, including agricultural commodities, for international forest governance, land use conflicts and sustainable development.*
- III.d European forest-related policies and forest governance, addressing both regional diversity within Europe as well as emerging global challenges and opportunities.*

¹ Early Stage Researcher – is a researcher whose career span less than 8 years between the date of the PhD/doctorate/MSc and the date of application for the EFI SSV Grant.

2 DEADLINES

- Submission of application 31 March 2017
- Confirmation of receiving the application by EFI within 3 work days. If confirmation has not been sent, please re-send / contact Katriina Pajari
- Informing the results of the evaluation April 2017 (by EFI)
- Signed acceptance letter by the applicant 1 week after receiving the acceptance letter
- Short Scientific Visit June 2017 – May 2018
- Report within 4 weeks after the *Visit* has ended

3 HOW TO APPLY

Application

Candidates interested in a *Short Scientific Visit* should submit the application described below to katriina.pajari(at)efi.int by the deadline of 31 March 2017. Only those applications containing all the required annexes and following the instructions will be considered for evaluation.

1. Application text (*see Annex 1*). Please note:
 - The application should be in one pdf with all annexes, named as SSV_FirstnameLastnameCountry.pdf (e.g. SSV_JarrSmithFI.pdf)
 - The application should be typewritten and dated
2. The following appendices are required:
 - List of publications (if none, please state this)
 - Work plan of the Short Scientific visit (*see Annex 2*)
 - Endorsement by applicant's host indicating i.a. tentatively agreed work plan and suitable dates (*see Annex 3*)
 - *Note: This is to ensure that the candidate has agreed with the host organisation the conditions of the Visit before submitting the application, and that the host organisation is committed to hosting the applicant.*

Acceptance letter

After the evaluation procedure, EFI will send to the Applicant an acceptance letter in which the grantee is informed about:

- the approval of the mission,
- the level of the financial grant given, and
- a payment request form.

The applicant must return to EFI the signed acceptance letter (by email and post), within one week.

Report

After completion of the *Short Scientific Visit* the grantee has to issue a short scientific report on the *Visit*, which has to be submitted to EFI (attn. Katriina Pajari) within 4 weeks after his/her stay. It should contain the following information (*see Annex 4*):

- Short Scientific Visit Report, describing
 - The purpose of the *Visit*
 - The work carried out during the *Visit*
 - The main results obtained
 - Future collaboration with host institution (if applicable)
 - Projected publications/articles resulting or to result from the *Short Scientific Visit* (if applicable)
 - Signed confirmation by the host institute of the successful execution of the mission
 - Other comments (if any)

- Annexed: Boarding pass / stamped travel tickets / signed attendance letter from host institution (in the case of electronic boarding pass / travel tickets)

3 EVALUATION CRITERIA

The applicants are selected on a competitive basis according to the selection criteria stated below. Applicants will be informed of the outcome as soon as the selection process has been finalised.

The following criteria will be used in selecting successful candidates:

- relevance of the research topic;
- applicant's previous experience and work on the proposed research topic;
- overall quality of the work plan;
- feasibility of the work planned at the host institution.

Applicants who have not been previously awarded a SSV grant will have preference.

4 FUNDING

The financial contribution for a Short Scientific Visit will be a lump sum payment of 2,000€ which shall be paid in two instalments, 50% in advance of the visit and 50% after approval of the visit report.

The grant should cover travel and subsistence for a period of at least 2 weeks in the host institution (final duration of the visit should be decided between the awardee and the host institution as appropriate to the proposed work).

The balance of payment will be paid on submission and acceptance of the Report (see above item 3 How to apply, report).

5 HOST INSTITUTION

The applicant is responsible for obtaining the agreement of the host institution before submitting his/her application.

The Short Scientific Visit is open to any European research institution.

6 CONTACT

Should you have any questions, please contact Ms. Katriina Pajari; [katriina.pajari\(at\)efi.int](mailto:katriina.pajari@efi.int)

ANNEX 1.

EFI SHORT SCIENTIFIC VISIT APPLICATION FORM

Date

PERSONAL DATA

Family name (Surname):

First name (Given name):

Gender: Male Female

Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy):

Nationality:

Private address (street, no., floor):

Town:

Province:

Country:

P.O. Box:

Post code:

Tel. (Indicate country and area codes):

Fax (Indicate country and area codes):

E-mail address:

I have received SSV before: yes, year _____

no

Motivation for applying for the *Short Scientific Visit* (max. 250 words)

PROJECT PROPOSAL

Title of the project:

Relevant EFI priority research sub-topic:

Home institution (name (official and in English), country)

Position at home institution

Host institution (name, country)

Please specify the dates at the host institution (dd/mm/yyyy)

—

Abstract of the project (objectives, methodology, data, time schedule) (max. 500 words):

HOST INSTITUTION DATA

Contact person's name and surname:

Contact person's e-mail:

Name of the university/institution:

Department or Faculty:

Complete address:

Country:

Tel. (Indicate country and area codes):

Fax (Indicate country and area codes):

I certify that to the best of my knowledge the information given is correct and I agree to inform of any modification

Date:

Signature:

4. **Links to other relevant activities**

List here other recent or ongoing projects and activities of relevance to the proposed project.

ANNEX 3.

ENDORSEMENT LETTER

MUST BE ON OFFICIAL HEADED PAPER OF THE HOST UNIVERSITY/INSTITUTION

OBJECT: Invitation for a *Visit* to our university/institution in the framework of *EFI Short Scientific Visit*

Dear Sir/Madam,

We hereby invite you to the *(name of the university/institution), (name of the Department/Faculty)*, from *day/month/year* to *day/month/year (XX working days)*, in order to *(please give the purpose of the Visit)*. During your *Visit* at our university/institution, we will help you in carrying out the following activities:

(List of activities to be carried out by the applicant)

(Add any practical arrangements/comments you deem necessary)

For all matters linked to your *Visit*, you can contact *(name of contact person, with contact details)*

Yours sincerely,

SIGNATURE of the person legally authorised to represent the host university/institution

POSITION of the person legally authorised to represent the host university/institution

OFFICIAL STAMP or **SEAL** of the university/institution

ANNEX 4.

SHORT SCIENTIFIC VISIT REPORT

Based on the approved work plan, and following the structure of a scientific publication, it should contain the following information:

1. **Cover Page** Technical Data
 1. Project title
 2. Dates of the visit
 3. Granted person's name, title/affiliation and contact information
2. **Objectives** (Purpose of the *Visit*)
3. **Methodology**
4. Description of the work carried out during the *Visit* (include the work plan) and main **results** obtained
5. **Discussion**
6. **Conclusions**
7. **References**: bibliography, websites, etc.
8. **Future collaboration** with host institution (if applicable)
9. Projected **publications**/articles resulting or to result from the *Short Scientific Visit* (if applicable)
10. **Letter of Confirmation** by the tutor at the host institute of the successful execution of the mission (printed on official headed paper of the organisation):

'Hereby I would like to inform that the above EFI Short Term Scientific Visit has been completed and the scientific report approved by the Host.

Name. Signature and Seal/stamp. Date'.

11. **Abstract** of the Mission (2 paragraphs) for EFI website

Other comments (if any)

Annex: Boarding pass / stamped travel tickets / signed attendance letter from host institution (in the case of electronic boarding pass / travel tickets)