

PRESS RELEASE

Eberswalde, 12th January 2018

Job-Fit: how a new master program in forestry will improve exchange between Europe and Vietnam

Eberswalde University for Sustainable Development will coordinate the European-Vietnamese Higher Education Network for Sustainable Forest- and Bio-Economy project– the kick-off meeting takes place 17th to 20th January.

How can higher education in forestry limber up itself for the future? “Universities face the challenge of producing ‘fit-for-job’ graduates in response to innovative and multidisciplinary sectors and technologies such as Bio-Economy, biomass-production, and environmental planning or nature and biodiversity conservation,” observed professor Jan-Peter Mund of the Faculty of Forest and Environment in Eberswalde (Germany). He coordinates the EU project called BioEcoN which includes six universities from Europe and Vietnam. All noticed, that the multidisciplinary character and interplay of sustainability, bio-economy and other environmental sciences and technologies have changed rapidly. “The innovative sector of the bio-economy emerged just recently within the last five years,” adds professor Jan-Peter Mund. However, a Master of Science programme focusing on the combination of sustainable forestry and Bio-Economy at an international level is missing in Europe.

Together with the University of Valladolid (Spain), South-Eastern Finland University of Applied Sciences, Thai Nguyen University of Agriculture and Forestry, VNU University of Science and Vietnam National University of Forestry, a new programme will be developed over the next three years. The programme is co-funded by the “Erasmus+ Programme” which belongs to the European Union. About 800.000 Euro will be invested among all partners. “Perspectively students will benefit from an international expertise on innovative strategies on sustainable forest management, which will be realized in an Erasmus exchange programme between Europe and Vietnam”, sums up professor Jan-Peter Mund.

Invitation for journalists:

The BioEcon project team kindly invites you to the **Kick-off meeting on 17th until 20th January 2018** at Eberswalde University for Sustainable Development, City Campus, Building No.1, Seminar room. A map can be found here: www.hnee.de/K124 The event will be in English.

The following time slots are available for interviews and photos. Please contact the press office for making an appointment:

Wednesday, 17th January 2018 from 3 pm

Thursday, 18th January 2018 between 9 am – 9.30 am or 11.30 am – 12.30 pm

Further information about the project may be found here:

- www.hnee.de/E9369
- <http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/projects/>

About the previous and related project: www.hnee.de/E9370

For further questions, please contact:

Press contact

Annika Bischof
Communications and media relations
telephone +49 3334 657-227
email: annika.bischof@hnee.de

Expert contacts

Prof. Dr. Jan-Peter Mund
Faculty of Forest and Environment
Dep. Gis and Remote Sensing
Telephone +49 3334 657-189
Email: Jan-Peter.Mund@hnee.de

Dr. Kevin Beiler
Project Coordinator Erasmus+ BioEcoN
Telephone +49 170 810 2524
Email: Kevin.Beiler@hnee.de