



Minutes

Subject: **ISFT Strategy workshop**
Date: 13 February 2023, 10:00-12:00
Place: Landesforstanstalt Mecklenburg-Vorpommern
Fritz-Reuter-Platz 9, Raum 212, 17139 Malchin, Germany

Participants:

- [Prof. Dr. med. Dr. h. c. \(mult.\) Horst Klinkmann, F.R.C.P.](#)
Chairman ISFT, Germany
- [Manfred Baum](#)
Head of State Forestry Agency Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Germany
Deputy Chairman ISFT
- [Sven Rüger](#)
Treasurer ISFT, Germany
- [Kerstin Ofiara](#)
Employee of the State Forestry Agency Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Germany
- [Tomke deVries](#)
Employee of the Waldservice und Energie GmbH Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Germany
- [Dr. Anne Rabes](#)
„International Certification Office Healing Forest“ BioCon Valley® GmbH

Participants (Online):

- [Dr. h.c. Mag. Heinz Boyer](#)
IMC University of Applied Sciences Krems, Austria
Secretary ISFT, Austria
- [Dr. Darija Cviki](#)
College of Hospitality, Wellness and Tourism Bled, Slovenia
Deputy Secretary ISFT, Slovenia
- [Alex Gesse](#)
Forest Therapy Hub, Portugal
Deputy Treasurer ISFT, Germany
- [Dr. Karin Lehmann](#)
Deputy cure director Kaiserbäder Insel Usedom Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Germany
- [Prof. \(FH\) Priv. Doz. Mag. Dr. Gerhard Tucek](#)
IMC University of Applied Sciences Krems, Austria
- [Paul Tucek](#)
Designer ISFT Website, Austria

Agenda:

- 1) Welcome and Call to Order (Prof. Dr. Klinkmann)
- 2) Reports on activities of members of the presidium
Presidential Report (Prof. Dr. Klinkmann/M. Baum)
Treasurer Report (S. Rüger A. Gesse)
Secretary Report (Dr. Boyer/Dr. Cviki)
- 3) Presentation of homepage (P. Tucek)
- 4) Status of congress in Slovenia (Dr. Cviki)
- 5) Status Report of BioCon Valley Certification Office – Dr. Rabes, Biocon Valley® GmbH
- 6) Challenges and future Development of ISFT - ALL
 - Discuss and define major Milestones for mid-term (next 3 years)
 - Define goals and responsibilities for 2023
 - Others
- 7) Views on Status and Meaning of forest therapy – T. deVries colleagues from the Waldservice und Energie GmbH Mecklenburg-Vorpommern
- 8) Others and conclusion - Summary and closing remarks (Prof. Dr. Klinkmann)

1. Welcome

- The general assembly has no objections against the agenda.
- Prof. Dr. Klinkmann provides a short introduction

2. Reports on activities of members of the presidium and Challenges and future Development of ISFT (Agenda item 2 and 6 were combined)

Prof. Dr. Klinkmann and M. Baum

- It is planned that at the congress in Slovenia the statutes and resolutions of the ISFT including a regulation for the membership fees will be finally adopted. All Participants should submit an abstract for the congress in Slovenia
- The abstracts from Mecklenburg-Vorpommern will be collected and then submitted to Slovenia by Ivonne Broneske E-mail: Ivonne.Broneske@lfoa-mv.de
 - Dr. Boyer/Prof. Dr. Tucek will ask Dr. Nuhr to submit an abstract for the Congress
 - T. deVries will be lecturing on the congress about forest therapy
 - Dr. Lehmann will be lecturing on the congress about the healing forest for children
 - Prof. Dr. Klinkmann and M. Baum will be lecturing on the congress about the ISFT
- At the congress in Slovenia, a workshop of the ISFT is to be held Next step is to establish an office by the ISFT which should be financed on the Ministry of climate protection, agriculture, countryside and environment Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (Minister Dr. Backhaus has written a letter to the prime minister Manuela Schwesig, asking her to support the Cluster/Community "Forestry and healthcare" – to date no answer
 - in connection with the office by the ISFT in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, further other Deputy Secretaries in Asia (Republic of Korea, Prof. Dr. Shin), in the USA (A. Clifford) and in Southern Europe should be established

S. Rüger

- The ISFT website is online in English and German, with other languages to follow as needed. The ISFT membership form and the finalized statutes of the ISFT should be uploaded to the website.

The first proposal for the membership fees were written by S. Rüger. He will coordinate the proposal with A. Gesse and send it to the Chairman afterwards. **Prof. Dr. Tucek**

- Introduced the idea of expanding the concept of forest therapy to "nature-based therapies." The programs to be developed would then not only focus on the forest and would possibly appeal to more people. The study program forest therapy at the IMC University of Applied Sciences Krems has not been started yet, because it is expected that the implementation might not be economical. Prof. Dr. Tucek and Dr. H. Boyer propose a continuing education together with MV and ISFT with the goal to catch more students together.

Prof. Dr. Klinkmann:

- The idea of Prof. Dr. Tucek meets with approval in the Presidium. Prof. Dr. Klinkmann proposes to hold a workshop on "Research and Education" to discuss the topic in detail with the relevant stakeholders.
- Prof. Dr. Klinkmann and the ISFT give Dr. Cviki suggestions for the congress program. The state of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania is planning to establish a tourism academy. Here, the topic of healing forest should also be integrated, if possible.

3. Presentation of homepage - P. Tucek

- All participants are invited to send a contribution for the website to P. Tucek.
- All news around the healing forest should be presented on the website. Ideas:
 - Dr. Nuhr should write a contribution for the opening research institute
 - Dr. Lehmann should write a contribution from the healing forest for children
- Suggestion by Prof. Dr. Tucek: conduct a Hackaton to collect more ideas
- The ISFT members should be informed about the release of the ISFT website. The pictures of the homepage should show an optimistic attitude.

4. Status of congress in Slovenia - Dr. Cviki

- Report about the congress/state of affairs
- a „scientific committee“ was founded (review the abstracts – the chairmanship can be take a part)
- the committee get together every other week
- Publisher for proceedings conference was established
- 16 invited speakers, participation confirmed
- 20-25 delegates from Korea are expected
- On 12.12.2022 a new mayor was elected in the municipality of Kranjska Gora. The political change is connected with challenge, because the new leadership must first be familiarized with the issue of healing forest. Sponsors for the congress will continue to be acquired. Prof. Dr. Klinkmann proposes to include the ISFT in the promotion of the Congress in Slovenia. For this purpose he will send a list of contacts to Dr. Cviki

An agreement is to be concluded between the ISFT and the Municipality of Kranjska Gora.

5. Status Report of BioCon Valley Certification office – Rabes Biocon Valley®

- Dr. Rabes informs about the status of the certification office. There are currently several ongoing certification projects in Germany (e.g. Bad Nauheim, Rittergut Stellichte) and internationally (e.g. Portugal, Slovenia, Finland).
- The portfolio of the certification office is regularly presented at (inter)national events and conferences in order to attract new interested parties.
- The certification office works very closely and well with the relevant stakeholders from Mecklenburg-Vorpommern and internationally.
- Dr. Rabes informs those present that there will be personnel changes at the certification office: Dr. Stefanie Frech will be the new contact person for the certification office as of 01.03.2023 (contact: sf@bcv.org).
- Prof. Dr. Klinkmann thanked Dr. Rabes for the good cooperation and wished her all the best for her new task in the future.

6. See under item 2

7. Views on Status and Meaning of forest therapy – M. Baum/ T. deVries

- The continuing education course of forest therapy an forest in 2023 started on april – at this time there are 15 registrations
- two final thesis has an potential for research and development
- idea by G. Tucek: university of Greifwald can be take a part

8. Others and conclusion - Summary and closing remarks – Prof. Dr. Klinkmann

- None

The President closes the meeting. All participants thank for the fruitful cooperation and the constructive exchange.

Annex: Agenda of the meeting 13 February 2023

on behalf of the chairman

Manfred Baum

