



Lyss Forestry Training Centre
Intercantonal Foundation of the Forestry School



**2nd International
Conference of Forestry
Training Centres**

19 to 21 November 2008
Forestry Training Centre
Lyss, Switzerland

Media release

2nd International Conference of Forestry Training Centres in Switzerland

Lack of qualified people: coping with new threat to forests

(Lyss, October 2008) The 2nd International Conference of Forestry Training Centres shall be held November 19 to 21, 2008 in Lyss, Switzerland. Providers of forestry training courses, educational specialists, representatives of employers and employees as well as other specialists from various countries will meet and discuss new methods and instruments in forestry training. They will also share ideas and exchange their experiences with existing trans-national partnerships and explore possibilities for new ones.

Worldwide demand for wood as a versatile and renewable resource has been rising and has thus contributed to more optimism and an upsurge in forestry. There is a huge potential in forests and the demand for wood as a raw material will further expand in the medium and long term. In some countries experts already see a shortage of qualified people.

How can we attract more people to choose an interesting career in the forests? What competences do we have to train for? What challenges will forestry schools have to meet in the near future? What is ahead for forestry training centres? What will have to be done in order to stay tuned? What can we learn from others? Which partnerships have already proved successful? What possibilities are there to create new ones?

Answers to these and other questions will be looked into and given at the second international conference for forestry training centres in Lyss, Switzerland (near Berne) from November 19 to 21, 2008. Famous European experts will present analyses and outlooks for forestry and forestry training. An outline of the demographic change and sociological challenges will be given and the consequences for all providers of education and training will be shown. Of course also the needs and expectations of future employers are taken into consideration.

Other means of formal and informal exchange include panel discussions, exhibitions, presentations, workshops, talks and "market places". Participants should arrive with an idea and should leave the conference at the end with several new ideas in their mind.

Since 2000 some 80 Forestry Training Centres from all of Europe as well as from other countries have joined the Eduforest network (www.eduforest.eu). The whole initiative as well as the conference itself is carried by the Joint FAO/UNECE/ILO experts network for sustainable forest management.

For more information: www.eduforest.eu or www.bzwlyss.ch or contact info@bzwlyss.ch