

## Workshop “Forest inventory with LiDAR”

The Nordeste Transmontano SIMWOOD team organised a knowledge and technology transfer workshop on the use of LiDAR for data collection and analysis in forest inventory on 14 and 15 October in Bragança, Portugal.

This event was also organised as a Regional Learning Lab involving local forest stakeholders such as consultants and practitioners, as well as representatives of forest associations and authorities.

A survey conducted during the event collected the perceptions of participants regarding the forest sector in the region and their expectations of forest mobilisation and the role of new technologies in this process.

On the first day, a series of lectures explored the origins, development and trends of technology in forest measurements and inventory and the foundations and applications of LiDAR technology.



Photo: João Azevedo

In addition, there was a computer laboratory session on data analysis and software tools and a demonstration of the use of drones for small-scale remote sensing applications.



Photo: João Azevedo

On the second day, participants took part in a practical field session on measurements with terrestrial LiDAR.



Photo: Fernando Pérez-Rodrigues

The workshop attracted over 40 participants from 11 companies and forest institutions, as well as students from the Forest Resources Management MSc program at IPB.

Although the lab and field sessions were limited to 23 places, there were a large number of participants who attended lectures only. The workshop was directed at local agents, but many participants came from other regions which made the event relevant on a national scale.

A blog ([workshoplidar.blogspot.com](http://workshoplidar.blogspot.com)) was developed during the preparation of the event for disseminating and transferring the results of the workshop and the interaction with stakeholders interested in the application of new technologies in forestry.

The registered participants will be a target group to work with in the dissemination and application of the remaining tools developed within the SIMWOOD project.

## SIMWOOD promoted at Great Yorkshire Show

Every year RDI support the Yorkshire Agricultural Society to organise the Forestry Arena and the Forestry Information Centre of the Great Yorkshire Show, one of the UK’s largest agricultural shows which attracts around 130,000 visitors across the 3 day event in July.

Over the 3 days members of the SIMWOOD team discussed barriers to wood mobilisation in the region

with a range of stakeholders; including woodland owners/manager, processors and suppliers as well as members of the general public.



Photo: Will Richardson

The show also provided a great opportunity to gather data on the knowledge and skills levels of the sector; which was later used as part of the planned focus study.

Whilst discussions with stakeholder were taking place an action packed arena comprising of demonstrations from chainsaw sculptures, local axemen, horse loggers, a mechanical harvester as well as the Great British Pole Climbing competition; kept people entertained.



Photos: Andrew Kitching

The aim of the Forestry Information Centre and the arena is to raise the profile of forestry amongst the general public and gives them the chance to know more about the sector, as well as an opportunity to

discuss barriers and solutions for wood mobilisation with those that are already involved within the sector.

### Article on wood mobilization

An article written by BTG and Alterra appeared in the 'de Bosbouw' quarterly newspaper (edition 1, April 2015), which is exclusively aimed at forestry and harvesting of wood in the Netherlands.

The article notes that while the state of the forests in the Netherlands is improving, harvesting is still significantly below the annual increment, which leads to an aging forest.

It also mentions SIMWOOD's activities, and that the project seeks to increase mobilisation while taking other interests (nature, biodiversity) into account.

>>Download the article (in Dutch) 'Meer houtoogst in Europa en Nederland', De Bosbouw:  
<http://www.simwood.efi.int/uploads/Publications/De%20Bosbouw%20editie%201%202015.pdf>

### Who to contact for more information

If you would like to become involved in our Regional Learning Labs, please contact the coordinator for your region. You can find them on the SIMWOOD website: [www.simwood-project.eu/contacts.html](http://www.simwood-project.eu/contacts.html)

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