Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Community of Practice on Forest Management Decision Support Systems (www.forestdss.org) we are pleased to invite you to contribute with your research to a special session of the **ICDSST 2016 EWG-DSS 2016 International Conference on Decision Support System Technology** ((https://icdsst2016.wordpress.com/) to be held in University of Plymouth, UK, during 23-25 May 2016.

This ICDSST 2016 will focus on the way of how DSS can help address various sustainability & societal challenges (inspired by the EU Horizon 2020 programme) in order to build a better society for us and for future generations to live in. Addressing societal issues is a daily need for each one of us.

The special session **'The use of DSS in forest resources management and policy analysis'** aims at presenting and discussing the state-of-the-art on the use of DSS in the forest sector and it will include oral presentations as well as posters to be selected according to the relevance for the topic. Decision makers are facing many challenges in managing forest resources in a sustainable manner and addressing the rising demands from society. Although the consideration of the interactions in spatial and temporal contexts between society and forest resource management is complex, there is a need for easy to use decision support tools. The special session of the ICDSST 2016 conference will explore these challenges and discuss options for smart solutions. Kindly submit an abstract by January 30th, 2016 for the session. Abstracts selected will be invited to submit either a short paper (due March 1, 2016) or a poster (due March 25, 2016). Depending on the number and quality of the contributions the organizers of the session are aiming to produce a special issue of the proposed papers in a scientific journal. More details on the SI will be provided later after screening the contributions.

We look forward to your confirmed presence at the ICDSST 2016.

The session organizing committee,

Harald Vacik, Jan Kašpar, and José G. Borges