



**Information about the Call for Expression of Interest in PhD Studies
within the Collaborative Doctoral Partnership
between the Technical University in Zvolen and Joint Research Centre
of the European Commission**

*Technical University in Zvolen in collaboration with the Joint Research Centre of the EC
invite candidates to submit their applications for a PhD position
in Forest Ecosystem Services doctoral study programme*

**Topic: Perception and acceptance of the concept of bioeconomy
and forest ecosystem services**

Collaborative Doctoral Partnership

PhD topic was developed within the framework of the collaborative doctoral partnership between the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission (JRC) and the Technical University in Zvolen. It is expected that the student will start and finish PhD studies at the Technical University in Zvolen and will spend a considerable part of the study (up to 24 months) at the JRC in Ispra (Italy). During this time period the student will be paid according to the corresponding grant holder scheme^{1,2}. The JRC will also associate with the topic JRC advisor and will provide relevant data and access to the necessary research infrastructure.

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/sites/jrcsh/files/jrc_granholder_rules.pdf

² https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/sites/jrcsh/files/jrc_ispra_vademecum-post-2014_en.pdf

Problem description

This topic is aimed at better understanding of the and forest ecosystem services within the context of the EU Bioeconomy in order to contribute to the integration of consumer preferences into a pan-European forest-based bioeconomy modelling platform.

This will be done through the exploration of the diversity of perceptions and acceptance levels of a forest-based bioeconomy and forest ecosystem services in the EU.

Thus, this research will explore interests and foster participation of different forest stakeholders and the broader public and furthermore quantify these normally qualitative aspects through a review of grey literature, stakeholder interviews and microeconomic analyses in order to quantify the consumer's willingness to pay for different services provided by the forests.

Expected outcomes

Outcomes will be quantifications of what stakeholders want and expect from forests in terms of ecosystem services

(including the acceptance, e.g. certification on products, freedom to bird-watch...).

Information about the topic and conditions of the doctoral studies within the Collaborative doctoral partnership with the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission:

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Call information: <https://www.tuzvo.sk/sk/call-expression-interest-phd-studies-0>

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