



21.06.2017

To EFI Members and Member organisations

Connect with us:



Dear Colleagues,

As I am writing this, my thoughts are with the victims of the forest fires of Pedrógão Grande in Portugal and their families. I have contacted the Portuguese member of EFI Council and offered EFI's support, once the immediate crisis is over, to reflect on the recurrent and increasing problem of forest fires in Europe (more information available [here](#)).

As announced by our Chair of the Board in his letter in May, during the first six months of 2017 we have been working on a Strategy Implementation Plan. We will present the plan at the Members dialogue session (open to our Member countries and member organizations) during our Annual Conference in Oslo on 4-6 of October ([link to registration](#)). During our Annual conference we will also discuss the new "EFI Ecosystem" in terms of structures needed to effectively address our new Strategy. We will share information on new funding instruments exclusive for our Associate and Affiliate Members in the form of a new EFI Network Fund as well as specific capacity building grants for our young generation of scientists. Therefore, we feel it is important that as many of you as possible come to learn about the increasing opportunities that EFI will offer you.

Additionally, I want to use this opportunity to welcome two new EFI Member Countries: Lithuania and Belgium.

Finally, I would like to inform you that on the 29th of August we will inaugurate our office in Bonn, hosting the new Resilience Programme. Those of you interested in participating can find more information [here](#).

With my best wishes for a relaxing summer,

Marc Palahí

Director