



**Alexander Pessa** is a seasoned professional in forest industries. He has served at the Finnish Forest Industries Federation, a privately owned interest representation organization of Stora Enso, UPM and Metsä Group, as a Senior Adviser in Trade Policy. During his career Mr Pessa has led a multimillion business development project in forest industry and has been the Project Manager in organizing the IV Finno-Russian Forest Summit in Helsinki in 2012. Alexander holds Master of Business Administration from Tallinn University of Technology. He has studied international business in Finland, France, Russia and Estonia. He is the Founder & CEO of Pessa Consulting Ltd., a company which provides multifaceted and international business consultation.



**Anton Korablin** is a regional sales manager of Ponsse Russia. He is responsible for sales of Ponsse products in Siberia, marketing events and activity of the company in this region. He coordinates the customers with parts support department at different levels of communication. He also explores markets for company development, expansion and sales increase. He graduated from Bratsk State University as an engineer. His specialty is Managing of Woodworking enterprises.



**Arman Kirakosian** works for International Paper Russia as wood commercial director. Previous to that he was in the position of rail road and wood logistic director in International Paper Russia for six years. Arman worked in International Paper Russia for 15 years. He has a degree from University of Design & Technology in St-Petersburg.



**Diana Tuomasjukka** is a Senior Researcher at the Sustainability and Climate Change unit at EFI and Coordinator of ToSIA Management and User Group. Presently, she works on two EU FP7-project, assessing sustainability impacts in innovative bioenergy forest-wood-chain and of environmental services and natural capital in landuse applications. Dr Tuomasjukka received a Diploma and MSc degree in Forestry and Wood Sciences from the University of Munich, Germany; and did her PhD with the Albert-Ludwigs-University of Freiburg, Germany. She has been working in various EU-projects based in Germany, Sweden and Finland mainly in the context of SIA since 2005. She is currently working on cross-sectoral forest-wood-chain modelling at EU and global level, whose assessment is based on an indicator approach covering economic, environmental, social and cultural aspects, as well as corporate social responsibility.



**Eduard Merger** is a consultant and project manager at UNIQUE forestry and land use, a German-based international forest and land use sector consulting firm. He grew up in Russia and serves as the focal point for all Russian speaking countries and manages the Central Asian project portfolio for UNIQUE. Eduard has M.Sc. in Forest Ecology and Management from Freiburg University (Germany) and a postgraduate diploma in Forestry Science from the University of Canterbury (New Zealand). Over the past years he has been working on designing, structuring and implementing of forest and broader land use climate change response projects, programmes, whole-of-ecosystem businesses and related policy in Africa, China and Central Asia.



**Elias Hurmekoski** is a researcher in the Foresight and Policy Support Programme at the European Forest Institute, and a PhD candidate in the School of Forest Sciences at the University of Eastern Finland. His expertise relates to long-term outlook studies and the European wood products industry. He holds a Master's degree in Forest Policy and Economics, and has experience in European level forest sector foresight and market research studies.



**Evgeny Gerasimov** is a leading specialist expert of the Compartment of Land Relations and Forest Register in the Department of Forestry in Central Federal District of the Russian Federation since 2011. He is graduated from the Moscow State Forest University as an engineer for forestry. Currently, in parallel with his work in the department, he is trained as a post-graduate student in forestry economics in the All-Russian Research Institute of Forestry and Mechanization of Forestry, Moscow Region. He has participated in international training programmes in Latvia and Finland.



**Grigory Chirkov** has been working for Russian subsidiaries of Metsä Group as a certification and environmental specialist for almost 10 years. He is responsible for the maintenance and development of wood origin tracing system. Forest management certification, trainings of personnel and environmental audits are his main activities. He has been involved in the pilot project which led to the first PEFC certified forest areas in Russia. Previously he worked as a researcher in the St. Petersburg Forestry Research Institute where he obtained a Master of Science degree in forest inventory.



**Irina Shepelyova** works for Saint Petersburg Forestry Research Institute as a head of forest fire management group. She is involved in development of various guidelines for forest fire protection management, mathematical models and algorithms, and also software development. Her responsibility is to coordinate work in the department. She is currently studying for a PhD degree in forestry and has written several scientific articles.

**Juhani Marttila** is a researcher in the Finnish Forest Research Institute. He specializes in wood construction and Eastern European forestry. He has been involved in several research projects related to forest economy, Russian forestry and wood construction business in Russia and published more than 20 research papers. He was also a coordinator of the project “Central and Eastern European Forest Information Service”. Juhani has a Masters Degree in Forest Engineering and Forest Products Technology from the University of Joensuu.



**Marjo Maidell** started her career as Forest Economist with Indufor Ltd, a Finnish forest consulting company. After finishing her Thesis on international forest investments, she worked mostly on private sector assignments in particular related to forest asset valuations, forest investment analysis, and carbon markets. In 2011 she joined FAO of the United Nations as an Associate Professional Officer in the Forest Policy Team. At the moment, she's looking after her one-year-old daughter. She holds an MSc from the University of Helsinki, majoring in Forest Economics.



**Maxim Trishkin** is a researcher at University of Eastern Finland involved into the Finnish-Russian trans-boundary ENPI KARLANDS project dealing with landscape ecological planning, perceptions of people towards the landscape and networking analysis. He is also a PhD candidate at School of Forest Sciences covering with his research topic the verification of legality of wood origin from Russia. In addition to that his research interest touching the following topics: silviculture, forest growth models, forest pathology, forest logistics, bioenergy, remote sensing and GIS in Russia, CIS, Finland and other EU counties. He has previous working experience also from Finnish Forest Industry in UPM-Kymmene as environmental forestry specialist and from Finnish forestry consulting business.



**Oleg I. Vasilyev** is chief of information and analysis division of Federal State-Funded organization "Saint Petersburg Forestry Research Institute". He's a member of the Council of Young Scientists of Federal Forestry Agency since 2012. He is a team member of publishing a scientific journal "Proceedings of the Saint Petersburg Forestry Research Institute". This year he's a head of the R&D to develop guidelines on the functioning of container tree forest seedling production centers. Oleg was responsible for over 15 institution events, including International scientific-practical conference "Innovation and technology in forestry ITF" with the UNECE, FAO, Forestry and Timber section in 2013. He has a master's degree in engineering and technology from State University of Aerospace Instrumentation.



**Olga Komarova** works as a research assistant for the All-Russian Research Institute of Forest Genetics, Breeding and Biotechnology, an organization that combines fundamental and applied research with silvicultural practice. Her research interests focus on the intensive technologies for forest plantations with short cutting cycle for different purposes, for example early-maturing nut-bearing species for walnuts and fast-growing hybrid aspen for the pulp and paper industry. Before that, she worked as a forest pathologist of the Center for Forest Protection of the Voronezh Region.



**Pavel Trushevskii** is the Director of FSC/PEFC accredited certification body «Forest certification» LLC which is based in Russia. FC was established in 2009, works mainly in Russia and the CIS countries and in progress of developing its business in the Middle East and Asian-Pacific region. Pavel is currently involved in projects focused on legality, bioenergy and certification schemes from other economic sectors. In 2013-2014 Pavel held a position of a head of a division at Forestry Department at the Ministry of natural resources and ecology of Russian Federation.



**Rémi Sournia** works as a Projects & Development Officer in PEFC International. Rémi has worked in the sustainable development field since 2005. Prior to joining PEFC in 2011, he spent two years working for The Forest Trust (TFT) as a Coordinator of the European Union project Timber Trade Action Plan (TTAP). Before that he was in charge of developing and implementing the renewable energy programme of the Hauts-de-Seine, Paris. Rémi holds a Master's degree in Environment and Agronomy from AgroParisTech, France.



**Sergei Kuhotkin** is the Deputy General Manager for ZAO Tikhvinskiy Kompleksny Lespromkhoz (ZAO "Tikhvinskiy KLPKH"), logging company owned by International Paper with the logging operations of more than 600 000 m<sup>3</sup> per year. His responsibility is general company management including forest management, planning, communication with state authorities and contractors. His work experience prior to ZAO "Tikhvinskiy KLPKH" includes 12 years with Svetogorsk Paper Mill, also part of International Paper, as wood sales manager, purchasing and strategy development manager at Wood Department.



**Valentin Sergeev** works as an assistant to Mr. Alexander V. Panfilov, the Deputy Head of the Federal Forestry Agency in Russia. Previously he was assistant to Mr. Sergey Donskoi, who was at the time the Director of the Department of finances and economy of natural resources and environment of the Russian Federation. Valentin has a Bachelor's Degree in Economics and Management in woodworking industry, MSFU, Russia. He is responsible for international cooperation and interaction with different international organizations like WWF, World Bank and others. He is key coordinator of the Federal Forestry Agency of implementing the joint project of the World Bank and Russian Federation "Forest Fire Response Project".



**Vladislava Nemova** is an environmental specialist at Environment and Natural Resources unit of the World Bank, starting her career there since 2002. She works on implementation of a number of environmental projects in Russia in the sphere of sustainable forest management; past environmental liabilities and Arctic 2020 Program. Since 2005 she has been actively involved in the Forest Law Enforcement and Governance Program and currently is one of the key team members implementing the second phase of the European Neighborhood and Partnership Instrument East Countries FLEG II Program. She is also a PhD student at Moscow State University studying economic mechanisms of Russia forest sector modernization and holds a M. A. in Management from Moscow State University, Department of Economics.

Observer from Metla



**Eugene Lopatin** is a Senior Researcher on international forestry related to forestry in Russia and Eastern European countries with economies in transition at the Finnish Forest Research Institute (Metla). Previously he spent 10 years as researcher at University of Eastern Finland and as a consultant for international organizations and companies. He holds a PhD in Forest Management from the University of Joensuu and PhD in Forest Inventory from St. Petersburg State Forestry University. He has published 20 papers and was involved in to 37 development projects related to the business environment in forestry and the forestry industry in Russia. He has forestry project experience in Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Czech Republic and Vietnam.