BIP Forest management and biodiversity conservation in Romania

General information

Objectives and Description:

The main objective is to analyse the Romanian forest management system, high conservation values and forest conservation measures. Students will have the opportunity to identify conservation elements, to assess forest habitats with high conservation value and to learn how Romanian natural areas conserve biodiversity elements.

Objectives:

-Understanding the national network of protected natural areas in different IUCN categories and the types of protected area management;

-Learning to apply vegetation inventory methods: specific sampling techniques, conducting surveys, data processing and analysis.

-Identifying active measures to protect conservation objectives in protected natural areas.

Methods and outcomes:

The BIP program uses a blended learning approach, effectively integrating several teaching methods to cover both theoretical and practical aspects:

- Introductory lectures (online component): The 8-hour online session is used to provide fundamental knowledge through presentations by experts.

- Physical component:

1. Peer learning: The session of presentations and discussions by participating students allows for the exchange of perspectives and knowledge about forest management in different countries, enriching the educational experience.

2. Technical demonstrations: The program specifically includes data collection using modern techniques, which involves practical demonstrations and training on the use of current equipment and research methods in the field of biodiversity conservation and forest management.

3. Field practice (learning by doing) and project-based learning: This is the central component of the physical program (48 hours).

Outcomes:

1. Justification of sustainable forest management and biodiversity conservation in protected natural areas

Result 1.1: The student is familiar with the management of protected natural areas; **Result 1.2**. The student describes the components, phenomena, and processes specific to the economic framework of the forestry sector from the perspective of the direct and indirect benefits provided by protected natural areas; **Result 1.3**. The student uses modern techniques to collect the data necessary for biodiversity assessment; **Result 1.4**. The student makes descriptions (surveys) of vegetation and maps forest habitats in protected natural areas

2. Applying measures to protect, improve, and increase the productivity of forest ecosystems in protected natural areas

Result 2.1. Students assess the current state of the forest using specific inventory and monitoring methods, analyze the effect of the management measures applied, and propose solutions to improve the functional effectiveness of the tree stands; **Result 2.2**. Students identify and set conservation objectives in protected natural areas; **Result 2.3**. Graduates have the ability to establish appropriate conservation measures for maintaining biodiversity in protected natural areas.

Field of Education: Forestry

Target audience / Participants profile: Students at bachelor's degree, Forestry study program (or close to this programme) with minimum knowledge on terminology related to the disciplines of Botany, Dendrology, Soils, Ecology, wildlife management or GIS.

No of ECTS issued: 3 ECTS

Language of instruction and requirements: English B2

Dates for physical activity: 8 – 12 June 2026

Location of physical activity: Brașov, Building S of Transylvania University of Brașov, Beethoven Street No. 1, 500123, Brașov, Field trips (UNITBV teaching facilities in Brașov, Bucegi Natural Park, Lake St. Ana, Piatra Craiului National Park - Zărnești)

Dates for virtual component: 26 May 2026

Virtual Component Description: The 8-hour online session is used to provide fundamental knowledge through presentations given by experts (e.g., introduction to Romania's forests, forest management, biodiversity conservation). This component includes interactive sessions, including interaction between participants to facilitate group cohesion before the physical component.

Organizing Board

Receiving/Host university:

Transilvania University of Brașov, Romania, BIP coordinator: Aureliu-Florin HĂLĂLIȘAN (aureliu.halalisan@unitbv.ro), Erasmus+ Coordinator signing the LA: Mihnea CĂȚEANU (cateanu.mihnea@unitbv.ro); administrative staff: Iuliana DRAGOMIR (outgoing-sd@unitbv.ro)

Sending/Partner universities:

P1. Czech University of Life Sciences Prague, Czech Republic

P2. Poznań University of Life Sciences, Poland

P3. Faculty of Forestry Zvolen/Tehnical University, Slovakia

P4. University of Torino, Italy

P5. Public University of Navarre, Spain

Detailed programme

1. Planned activities during virtual component:

Let's get to know each other!
Introduction to Romania's Forests – Prof. dr. ing. Aureliu-Florin HĂLĂLIȘAN, Prof. dr. ing. Lucian Alexandru CURTU
Management of the National Forest Estate – Prof. dr. ing. Bogdan POPA, Șef lucr. Dr. ing. Nicolae TALPĂ
Biodiversity Conservation in Romania – Prof. dr. ing. Adrian INDREICA

2. Planned activities during physical component:

1st day:

Opening of the Erasmus event, Building S;

Visit to the UNITBV campus and teaching facilities

Presentations and discussions by participating students on forests in different participating countries

2nd day:

Field data collection – Working visit to the forests around Brașov

Data collection using modern techniques - Prof. Dr. Eng. Adrian INDREICA, Prof. Dr. Eng. Mihai NIȚĂ and Ph.D Lecturer Mihnea CĂȚEANU

3rd day:

Practical applications in Bucegi Natural Park: conservation objectives – Prof. Adrian INDREICA, Ph.D Lecturer Mihnea CĂȚEANU, Prof. Florin HĂLĂLIȘAN, PhD. Lecturer Raluca Elena ENESCU.

4th day:

Practical applications in Piatra Craiului National Park: conservation objectives – Prof.Dr. Eng. Adrian INDREICA, Prof. Dr. Eng. Florin HĂLĂLIȘAN, PhD. Lecturer Raluca Elena ENESCU, PhD. Lecturer Mihnea CĂȚEANU

5th day:

Analysis of collected data - Prof. Dr. Eng. Adrian INDREICA, Prof. Dr. Eng. Florin HĂLĂLIȘAN, PhD. Lecturer Raluca Elena ENESCU, PhD. LecturerMihnea CĂȚEANU

Analysis and interpretation of results

Presentation of results

Conclusions on practical aspects

*Field trips have low-medium difficulty and require hiking equipment.

Application procedure

fill in application form available here: *to be generated later*

Students with interest in forestry and conservation biodiversity will apply at their home university. **Acceptance by UNITBV is based on student's letter of intent** (the letter should include information about how the BIP programme supports interest and professional goals, why students are applying for this BIP programme and existing links (connections) to the domain of this BIP programme (maximum 2 pages).

Universities will send to outgoing-sd@unitbv.ro the student nomination lists together with their letters of intent until 23 March 2026. In 30 March 2026 UNITBV will communicate the results of selection.
Details for contact person in UNITBV:

Administrative aspects: outgoing-sd@unitbv.ro

Academic aspects: aureliu.halalisan@unitbv.ro, Aureliu-Florin Halalisan, BIP Coordinator

deadline: Nominations and letters of intent will be sent to outgoing-sd@unitbv.ro by 23 March 2026

Facilities provided to participants:

Accomodation offered in UNITBV residence, around 15 euro/night, limited availability

Lunch: offered by UNITBV

Internal travel: offered by UNITBV