Faculty of Environment and Natural Resources

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Insights 2024

universität freiburg

Overview of Our Topics

Faculty

ENR in Numbers

40 professorships

- 3 additional professorships currently being filled
  - Junior Professorship for Modelling of Social-Ecological Systems with a Focus on Forests
  - Eva Mayr-Stihl Endowed Professorship for Fire Ecology
  - Tenure-Track Professorship for Earth and Planetary Geodynamics
- 37.5 % of professors are female

407 employees

- 285 scientific staff
- 122 non-scientific staff

2,057 students (winter semester 2024/25)

- 1,075 (52 %) female
- 964 (47 %) male
- 18 (0,8 %) divers
- 329 (16 %) international students

Approximately 16 million euros in third-party funding (2023)

9 Appointment Procedures, Evaluation Procedures and Negotiations to Stay (ongoing and completed)

- W3 Professorship for Applied Geochemistry
- W3 Professorship for Forest History and Sustainable Development
- W3 Endowed Professorship (Eva Mayr-Stihl Foundation) for Fire Ecology
- W3 Professorship for Nature Conservation and Landscape Ecology
- Tenure-Track Professorship for Earth and Planetary Geodynamics
- Junior Professorship for Modelling of Social-Ecological Systems with a Focus on Forests
- Tenure evaluation of the Tenure-Track Professorship for Transformation to Sustainable Energy Systems
- Midterm evaluation of the Tenure-Track Professorship for Geomorphology and Recent Morphodynamics
- Midterm evaluation of the Tenure-Track Professorship for Geomaterials and Crystalline Materials

Strategic Focus

Responsibility for the Natural Foundations of Life

In connection with the University of Freiburg's structural and development planning for the period 2024 to 2028, the Faculty of Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) has further developed and sharpened its strategic focus.

In regards to research and teaching, the Faculty concerns itself with the natural foundations of life of humans, plants and animals on all spatial (local, regional, international, global) and temporal (past, present, future) scales. The focus areas in terms of content are

- **Natural resources** (utilisation, protection, conservation)
- **Global change** (climate change, ecosystems, land use, globalisation)
- **Livelihoods** (forests, water, soil, air, biodiversity)
- **Transformation to sustainability** (social-ecological-technical systems)
- **Natural hazards and environmental risks** (resilience, adaptation)

With its three institutes, the Institute of Forest Sciences, the Institute of Earth and Environmental Sciences, and the Institute of Environmental Social Sciences and Geography, the Faculty covers all subsystems of the Earth system relevant to these thematic focus areas.
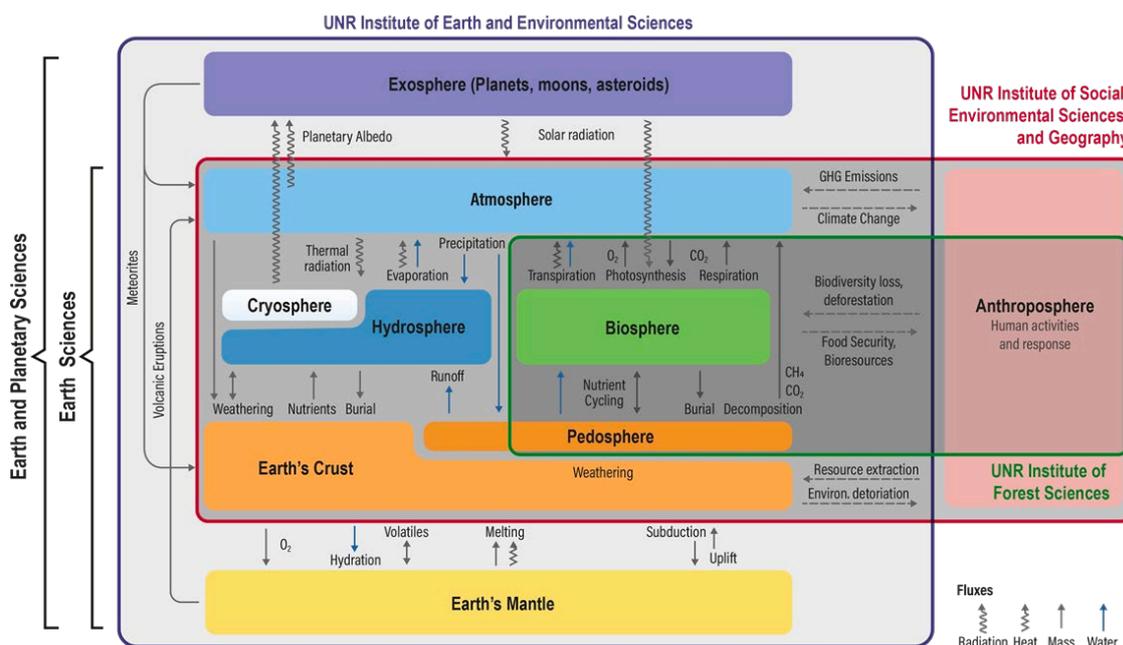
In terms of methodology, the ENR favours both interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches. The ENR's activities cover the entire spectrum from basic research to critical-theoretical reflection on knowledge and the development of knowledge-based solutions to specific environmental and social challenges.

Building and Infrastructure

Renovation of the Herder Building

In 2024, the final phase of the renovation of the Herder Building began. The Herder Building is ENR's largest site and has been undergoing a gradual renovation process since it was first used by the university in the 1990s. The final phase of the renovation will be realised in the coming years.

For this final phase, the office space for six professorships, the Faculty library and student council rooms had to be relocated to Stefan-Meier-Str. 76 in 2024. Nine teaching rooms and large storage areas in the basement and attic had to be vacated. Laboratories and workshops have been relocated to Sonnenstr. 5 and Hermann-Herder-Str. 5.

In connection with the partial clearance of the Herder Building, the six geography professorships with offices and storage space have also been moved from Schreiberstr. 20 to Stefan-Meier-Str. 76; and the building at Werthmannstr. 6, which is used by two ENR professorships, had to be partially cleared to allow the university's print shop to be moved out of the Herder Building on time.

The renovation of the Herder Building is an important step in ENR's spatial consolidation, which is currently spread across 19 locations throughout Freiburg – from

Freiburg-Lehen to Stegen-Wittental, from the Airport campus to Werth-mannstraße. The goal: four ENR locations, namely the Herder Building in Tennen-bacher Straße, the buildings at Alberstraße 23b/c and Hermann-Herder-Straße 5 as well as the laboratory building on the Airport campus.

Laboratory Building for ENR on the Airport Campus

In October 2024, the Baden-Württemberg Ministry of Finance approved the *Planungsauftrag* for the construction of a new laboratory building for the ENR on the Airport campus after the requirements had been adapted to the Energy and Climate Protection Concept for State Properties 2030 (valid since 2023) in close cooperation between the ENR, the university's central administration and Vermögen und Bau Baden-Württemberg, Amt Freiburg. The new building is a prioritised construction project of the state of Baden-Württemberg.

Eva Mayr-Stihl Environmental Technology Centre

The Eva Mayr-Stihl Environmental Technology Centre is of great strategic importance for the ENR: the highly innovative research infrastructure brings together diverse forestry and environmental science research approaches and builds the urgently needed bridge between laboratory research and large-scale field experiments and observation areas. The realisation of the Environmental Technology Centre is funded by the Eva Mayr-Stihl Foundation with a funding volume of 4 million euros; by the Ministry of Food, Rural Areas and Consumer Protection Baden-Württemberg with a funding volume of 880,000 euros and by the Ministry of Science, Research and the Arts Baden-Württemberg with a funding volume of 600,000 euros.
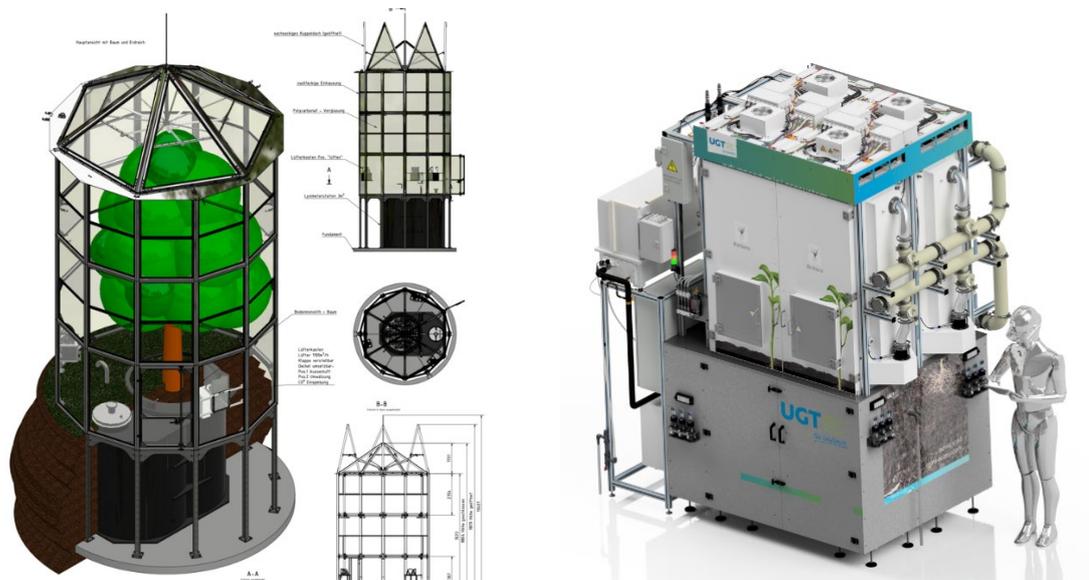
Left: Lysimeter station, right: Ecotron

An ecotron system consisting of six ecotrons (see illustrations showing one ecotron) and a lysimeter system consisting of three lysimeter stations (see illustration showing one lysimeter station) will be procured for the Eva Mayr-Stihl Environmental Technology Centre. The Freiburg ecotrons are climate chambers that will be equipped with highly sophisticated and innovative sensor technology, so that they will offer a worldwide unique range of functions, particularly with the automated measurement of isotope-discriminated CO_2 and water flows. The Environmental Technology Centre also consists of a building to house the ecotrone system, a greenhouse and associated outdoor areas.

Production and final testing of the ecotrones started in 2024. The construction of the lysimeter system has been finalised. A feasibility study for the building, greenhouse and outdoor areas has been drawn up on the basis of updated requirements together with Ernst[2] architects. The Rectorate decided on the details of implementation on 20th November 2024.

Communication

ENR in the Media

In 2024, the ENR was frequently present in the regional, national and international media. It repeatedly succeeded in setting its own accents and actively drawing attention to the Faculty's activities. For example, the national press reported on the flash flood index developed by Prof. Dr. Markus Weiler and his team (including **ZDF heute journal**, **Frankfurter Rundschau**, **Stern**, **SWR Wissen**), on Prof. Dr. Marco Heurich's and Prof. Dr. Ilse Storch's new findings on the return of wolves and other predators to Central Europe (including **ZEIT**, **SZ**, **Stuttgarter Nachrichten**) and on the simulations of meteorite impacts carried out by Prof. Dr. Thomas Kenkmann in the laboratory (**ZDF**).

The ENR activities have also been picked up with lurid headlines: »Baum-Pathologin sucht nach Todes-Pilzen« was the title of the **BILD-Zeitung** portrait of Tenure-Track Prof. Dr. Kathrin Blumenstein's work on the interactions between microorganisms and host plants (more factual reports were published in the **FAZ**, ZEIT and **Stuttgarter Nachrichten**).

ENR researchers were also asked for their expertise on current topics and events, such as Prof. Dr. Andreas Matzarakis on the topic of weather perception in summer heat and winter cold (**ARD**, **RND**, **Augsburger Allgemeine**, **Südkurier**).
In several interviews, which met with a great response in the Upper Rhine region, Prof. Dr. Heiner Schanz categorised the farmers' protests from an environmental social science perspective (e.g. **BNN**, **Chilli**).

Some ENR members have been continuously present in national media for years. Prof. Dr. Jürgen Bauhus was once again a frequently requested interviewee in 2024, for example on the German National Forest Inventory and the question of what climate-resilient forests of the future could look like (including **tagesschau.de (1)**, **tagesschau.de (2)**, **DLF**, **FAZ**, **SWR Wissen**, **SWR Aktuell**, **WDR**). Prof. Dr. Alexandra-Maria Klein was also in demand, mainly due to her expertise on the importance of pollinators and other insects for ecosystems (e.g. **ZEIT Podcast**,

ZEIT, Arte, spiegel.de, taz, BZ). It is particularly pleasing that the work of ENR researchers in early career phases also attracted media interest, for example Dr. Manisha Bhardwaj's research on wildlife road traffic accidents (SWR (1), SWR (2)) and Dr. Catalina Munteanu's documentation of historical ecosystem changes using spy satellite photos (e.g. SWR, BZ, Spektrum).

Forest-related research at the ENR was strongly represented in the media in 2024 – this is particularly important with regard to the Cluster of Excellence initiative »Future Forests«. The Collaborative Research Centre »ECOSENSE – Multiscale Quantification of Spatio-Temporal Dynamics of Ecosystem Processes by Smart Autonomous Sensor Networks« with its co-spokesperson Prof. Dr. Christiane Werner, which investigates stress states of forests using a network of microsensors, has attracted interest (including tagesschau.de, SWR Aktuell, SWR Wissen, RiffReporter, Heute.at, BZ). The Badische Zeitung reported on two ENR projects funded by the Eva Mayr-Stihl Foundation: the »XR Future Forests Lab« project led by Prof. Dr. Thomas Purfürst, Prof. Dr. Thomas Seifert and Prof. Dr. Teja Kattenborn, which is working on digital twins of real forests (BZ), and the newly created ENR Professorship for Fire Ecology (BZ). The appeal by Prof. Dr. Daniela Kleinschmit, the newly elected IUFRO President, for a holistic forest policy was also heard (e.g. Der Standard, Die Presse, Salzburger Nachrichten, SWR).

This selection is by no means exhaustive. Many other ENR members were available to answer questions from the press with their expertise. In particular, established contacts with the Badische Zeitung and SWR were important levers for publicising the ENR's activities. However, the importance of social media for science communication continues to grow. Many ENR projects, labs and researchers already maintain their own channels on LinkedIn, Instagram, X and Co. Last year, the Faculty strengthened its presence on social media with its own LinkedIn and Youtube channel.

Bridging the Communication Gap – AI in science communication

With the »Bridging the Communication Gap« project, the ENR is further developing scientific communication in forestry, environmental and sustainability sciences. Central to this is the development of an AI System that provides significant support in the processing of enquiries and the preparation of media contributions on the basis of existing publications. The development is being carried out in collaboration with the SMC Lab, the Science Media Centre's development laboratory. The aim is to develop a forward-looking model that can also be applied to comparable scientific institutions.

Website Relaunch

In 2024, the ENR began relaunching its websites. With the support of an agency, a template has been developed to ensure that all ENR websites are recognisable as such. The initial focus is on the relaunch of the professorship websites, which is being supported by the Dean's Office. At the same time, an improved version of the Faculty's website will be created. This will be followed by the websites for the Faculty's study programmes.

Freiburger Umweltgespräche in Cooperation with the City of Freiburg

The Freiburger Umweltgespräche has been jointly organised by the City of Freiburg and ENR since 2018. The series of events makes current information on environmental protection, climate protection and climate change directly accessible and easy to understand by bringing an ENR scientist and a guest into dialogue. This format is intended to facilitate and promote dialogue and discourse between urban society, science and local politics on important environmental issues.

In 2024, two events took place:

- 17th April 2024: »How can we achieve a climate-adapted future?«
  with Prof. Dr. Hartmut Fünfgeld (ENR, Professorship for Geography of Global Change) and Prof. Dr Heidi Sinning (Erfurt University of Applied Sciences)
- 20th November 2024: »Can transformations be planned?«
  with Prof. Dr Tanja Mölders (ENR, Professorship for Environmental Planning and Transformation) and Prof. Dr. Rainer Danielzyk (University of Hanover)

Events

ENR Faculty Day 2024

On 24th October 2024, the ENR celebrated its Faculty Day, during which Tenure-Track Prof. Dr. Katharina Schröer (Tenure-Track Professorship for Climate Geography), Prof. Dr. René Orth (Professorship for Biogeochemical Systems Modelling) and Prof. Dr. Teja Kattenborn (Professorship for Sensor-Based Geoinformatics) gave their inaugural lectures: »From Local Storms and Global Trends: How Extreme Events Challenge Climate Research« (Schröer), »The Läb: Modelling of Biogeochemical Systems« (Orth) and »The Terrestrial Biosphere from 1001 Perspectives – A Story of Smartphones, Drones and Satellites« (Kattenborn).

New Professorship

Eva Mayr-Stihl Endowed Professorship for Fire Ecology

The Eva Mayr-Stihl Foundation is supporting the establishment of a Professorship for Fire Ecology at the ENR with 3.5 million euros. The professorship will carry out important research to better understand the consequences of forest and vegetation fires in open areas for biodiversity, ecosystem functions and ecosystem services, as well as the interactions between forest fires and other disturbances in forest ecosystems. With a focus on forest fires in the temperate climate zone, particularly in Central Europe, it has a globally unique orientation.

The professorship is made possible by the Eva Mayr-Stihl Foundation, which is providing 3.5 million euros over a period of 10 years. The cooperation agreement was signed on 17th October 2024 in Freiburg by Michael von Winning, chairman of the Eva Mayr-Stihl Foundation, Prof. Dr. Kerstin Krieglstein, Rector of the University of Freiburg, Prof. Dr. Heiner Schanz, Dean of the ENR, and Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Johann Georg Goldammer, internationally renowned fire ecologist and head of the Global Fire Monitoring Centre at ENR.

The new professorship's research will encompass experimental, observational and model-based approaches, making it an excellent fit for the ENR and its long-standing collaboration with strong forestry and forestry-related stakeholders in Freiburg. The professorship will also network intensively with relevant partners and communities at state level and contribute important basic research, for example in the ForestFireFighting TransferLaboratory, which is currently being set up by the Rottenburg University of Applied Forest Sciences.

Michael von Winning and Rector Krieglstein sign the cooperation agreement for the new Eva Mayr-Stihl Endowed Professorship for Fire Ecology in the presence of Heiner Schanz and Johann Georg Goldammer. Photo: Jürgen Gocke

The new endowed professorship builds on a decades-long tradition of fire ecology at ENR. At the end of the ten-year funding period, the professorship will be continued by the ENR as a regular professorship. The Endowed Professorship for Fire Ecology is the third Eva Mayr-Stihl Endowed Professorship at ENR, alongside the Professorship for Forest Genetics (established in 2021) and the Professorship for Forest History (established in 2005).
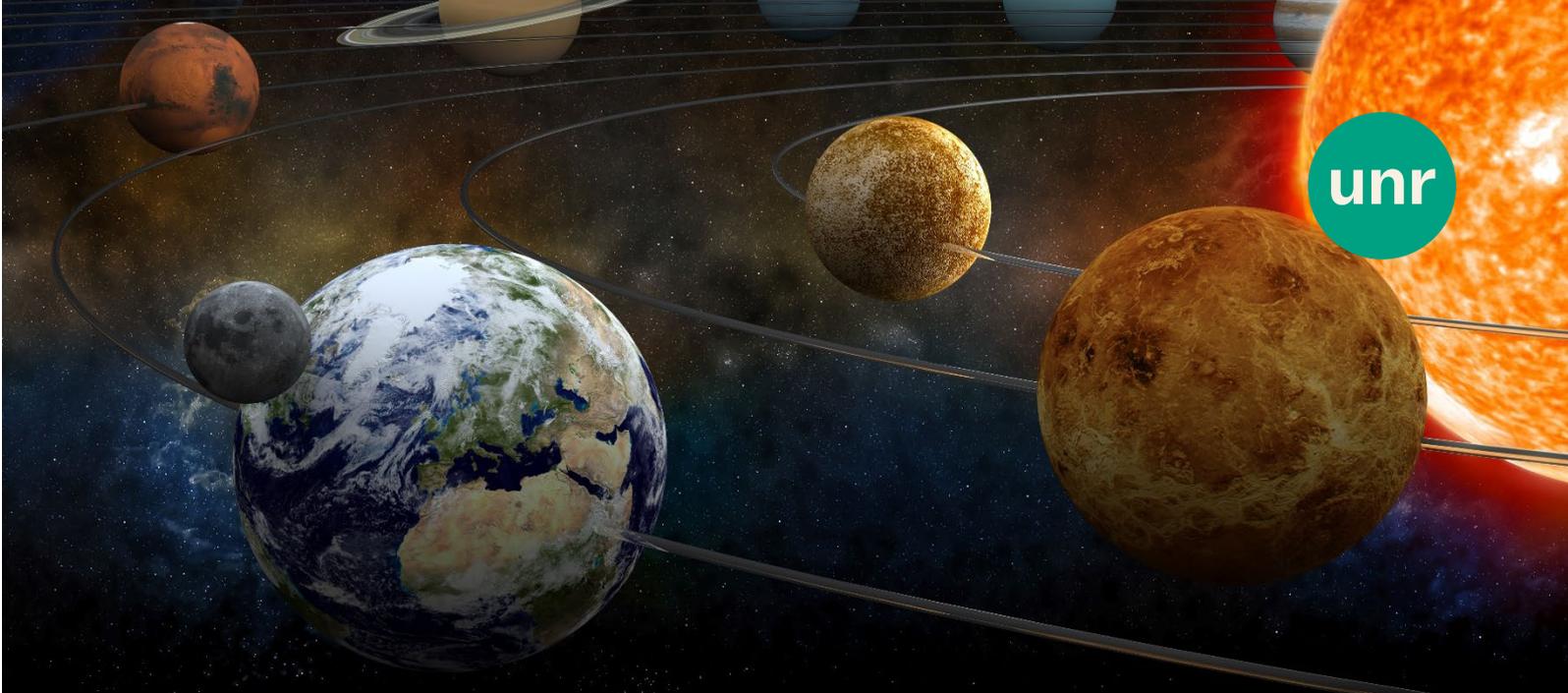
New Professorship

Tenure-Track Professorship for Earth and Planetary Geodynamics

The ENR will establish a Tenure-Track Professorship for Earth and Planetary Geodynamics. This is made possible by the funding acquired in 2024 from the Volkswagen Foundation as part of the »Earth System Sciences« programme. The new tenure-track professorship is part of a strategic initiative to combine Earth system sciences and planetary sciences, for which a total of 2.04 million euros is available.

The initiative aims to systematically incorporate planetary influences on the Earth system and its subsystems into research and teaching by comparing Earth and Venus. The consistent integration of findings from Venus research makes it possible to better understand the planetary factors influencing climate stability, the occurrence of liquid water or the habitability of planets.

Prof. Dr. Thomas Kenkmann, who coordinates the strategic concept for strengthening Earth system sciences at the ENR, and Dr. Anna Gülcher from the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory and the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena (California, USA) were particularly involved in the application. Anna Gülcher's research focuses on the study of Earth and Venus as »twin planets« with an emphasis on

modelling geodynamic processes. She is also involved in NASA's forthcoming Venus mission (VERITAS).

The new tenure-track professorship is a key element of a new strategic orientation of Earth system sciences at the ENR. Under the title »EPSS@UFR – Earth and Planetary System Sciences«, the new concept provides for measures to realise the innovative combination of Earth system sciences with planetary sciences: The newly established Earth System Simulation Lab (EaSySim Lab) will provide infrastructure and computing capacity for modelling and simulations and support the development of a research agenda and joint research projects with national and international partners. The new Master's programme »Earth Sciences« will offer students a focus on Earth and planetary sciences, environmental geosciences, hydrology, environmental modelling and data sciences. Science communication and outreach activities will also be strengthened, for example through collaboration with the Freiburg Planetarium.

Research Funding

Cluster of Excellence Initiative »Future Forests« selected for Full Application

In the current competition round of the Excellence Strategy of the German federal and state governments, the Cluster of Excellence initiative **»Future Forests – Adapting Complex Social-ecological Forest Systems to Global Change«** which is largely made up by ENR members, was the only forest-related initiative in Germany to be invited to submit a full proposal on 1st February 2024 following the review of a draft proposal. This full proposal was submitted to the German Research Foundation on 22nd August 2024. The participating researchers want to make novel contributions to the conceptualisation and analysis of forests as new social-ecological systems.

XR Future Forests Lab Started

The XR Future Forests Lab was launched at ENR in 2024 to develop innovative virtual reality (VR), augmented reality (AR) and mixed reality (MR) applications, particularly for forestry and environmental science research and teaching. This gives researchers and students new opportunities to visualise forestry and environmental science data and simulate changes in forests. The XR Future Forests Lab will also be open to external partners. It is funded by the Eva Mayr-Stihl Foundation with 1.5 million euros.

In the XR Future Forests Lab, real forest stands can be captured as a digital twin, i.e. as a spatial and temporal representation of reality in the computer. Forest growth, forest management processes and the effects of environmental changes can then be simulated on the digital twin. When creating the digital twins, the XR Future Forests Lab draws on the extensive data sets already available at the ENR. In addition, new methods of digitisation, standardisation and modelling of forest stands are being developed and tested using, among others, the 127-hectare Mathislewald, which has served as a research and educational forest of the ENR for decades. The XR Future Forests Lab will make it possible to visualise and experience digital forest data using VR, AR and MR techniques.

Kathrin Blumenstein Successful in the Margarethe von Wrangell Programme

With the realigned Margarete von Wrangell Programme, the Baden-Württemberg Ministry of Science, Research and the Arts, together with the European Social Fund, supports particularly qualified female researchers in the transition from the post-doc phase to a lifetime professorship. In 2024, two female researchers at the University of Freiburg were successful, one of whom is Tenure-Track Prof. Dr. Kathrin Blumenstein (Tenure-Track Professorship for Tree Pathology). She will be able to employ a newly qualified scientist for the next three years to further develop her field of research. In return, the postdoctoral researcher will receive a full-time position and the opportunity to qualify for an advanced position such as junior research group leader or tenure-track/junior professor.

Eva Mayr-Stihl Fellows

In 2024, the following Eva Mayr-Stihl Fellows were guests at the ENR:

- **Dr. David Farias-Barahona** (University of Concepción, Chile); guest at the Professorship for Geomorphology and Recent Morphodynamics; project »Ice-Rich Mountain Permafrost in the Semiarid Andes of Chile (27°S to 35°S)«
- **Dorjburgedaa Lkhagvadorj** (Mongolian University of Life Sciences, Ulan Bator); guest at the Professorship for Applied Vegetation Ecology; project »Ecological and Socio-Economic Aspects of Forest Utilization in Mongolia«
- **Prof. Dr. Jochen Monstadt** (Utrecht University, Netherlands); guest at the Professorship for Environmental Planning and Transformation; project »Planning Transformation – Transforming Planning?«
- **Prof. Klaus J. Puettmann, Ph.D.** (Oregon State University, USA); guest at the Professorship for Silviculture; project »Forest-Based Social-Ecological Systems«
- **Prof. Dr. Sonam Tashi** (Royal University of Bhutan); guest at the Professorship for Applied Vegetation Ecology; project »Vegetation Ecology in Germany and Bhutan«
- **Prof. Nergui Soninkhishig** (National University of Mongolia, Ulan Bator); guest at the Professorship for Applied Vegetation Ecology; project »Ecological and Socio-Economic Aspects of Forest Use in Mongolia«
- **Radnaakhand Tungalag** (National University of Mongolia, Ulan Bator); guest at the Professorship for Applied Vegetation Ecology; project »The Families Phrymaceae, Orobanchaceae, Campanulaceae, Menyanthaceae, Adoxaceae and Caprifoliaceae«
- **Dr. Lennart van de Peppel** (Wageningen University, Netherlands); guest at the Professorship for Forest Entomology and Forest Conservation; project »Potential Cryptic Diversity of Ship-Timber Beetles and their Fungal Symbionts«
- **Prof. Dr. Christian von Sperber** (McGill University, Canada); guest at the Professorship for Hydrology; project »Linkage between the phosphorus cycle to the hydrological cycle«

Philipp Schwartz-Fellowship

Dr. Birtukan Atinkut Asmare was awarded a fellowship in 2024 as part of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation's Philipp Schwartz Initiative for Scholars at Risk. This will enable her to spend two years at the ENR (Professorship for Sustainability Governance) to conduct research on »Climate Change Adaptation as a Gendered Social Practice«. Dr. Asmare completed her doctorate at the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences in Vienna and most recently worked as an assistant professor at Bahir Dar University in Ethiopia.

In Dialogue

ENR and ForstBW

On 27th February 2024, representatives of ForstBW and members of the ENR met in Freiburg for an exchange. ForstBW is the largest forestry company in Baden-Württemberg and manages more than 300,000 hectares of state forest. During the exchange on joint topics for the future, they discussed in particular the possibilities for intensifying cooperation between the two institutions in respect to teaching and research.

As part of the visit, a tour was organised by the Institute of Forest Sciences, which included various stands on current research topics. Particular attention was paid to the DFG-funded Research Training Group »Conservation of Forest Biodiversity in Multiple-Use Landscapes of Central Europe« (ConFoBi), the Cluster of Excellence initiative »Future Forests – Adapting Complex Social-Ecological Forest Systems to Global Change« and the latest approaches to digitalisation in forestry and forest sciences, including the projects »XR Future Forests Lab« (funded by the Eva Mayr-Stihl Foundation) and »WaldAgil – Agiles Forstmanagement durch ein digitales Multi-User-Entscheidungssystem für eine klimaresiliente Waldwirtschaft« (funded by the Baden-Württemberg Foundation).

The exchange on future cooperation in the field of teaching also stood in the centre of attention. As a major employer for future foresters, one focus was on the forestry-related Bachelor's and Master's programmes.

New Master's Programme »Earth Sciences«
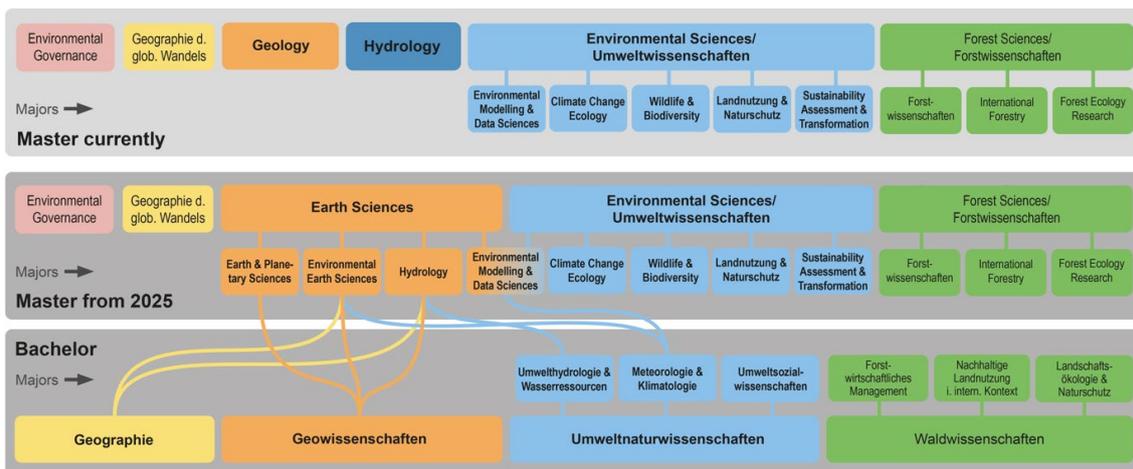
In connection with the successful application to the Volkswagen Foundation's »Earth System Sciences« programme, the ENR completed the design of the new English-language Master's programme »Earth Sciences« with the majors »Earth and Planetary Sciences«, »Environmental Earth Sciences«, »Hydrology« and »Environmental Modelling and Data Sciences« in 2024. This study programme will start in the winter semester 2025/26.

GIS Lecturer

The teaching of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) at the ENR has been reorganised with the appointment of Prof. Dr. Teja Kattenborn as Professor for Sensor-based Geoinformatics. GIS teaching is part of all Bachelor's programmes at the ENR with several compulsory modules. In many Master's programmes, GIS-related topics are taught in close connection with both research-related and application-oriented issues. In order to ensure high teaching quality in this central area of education and to systematically adapt this teaching to current requirements, for example with regard to web services and AI, the ENR created a GIS Lecturer position (permanent academic staff member with a focus on teaching) in 2024.

With this position, the ENR is piloting a university concept for permanent positions beside the professorship.

Deutschlandstipendien

For the academic year 2024/25, the Eva Mayr-Stihl Foundation is funding 15 Deutschlandstipendien and the Sattelmühle Foundation is funding 10 Deutschlandstipendien for ENR students. A total of 26 Deutschland-stipendien have been awarded to ENR students in 2024.

Erasmus Partnership with the Ukrainian National Forestry University

The Erasmus+ application between the ENR and the Ukrainian National Forestry University in Lviv has been approved in 2024 (lead: Professorship for Forest Growth and Dendroecology). Incoming mobilities for twelve students and four staff members from Ukraine will be possible for three years from 2024. Outgoing mobilities are currently excluded.

Graduation Ceremony

On 13th December 2024, ENR bid farewell to its graduates (Bachelor's, Master's and doctoral degrees) and celebrated its silver and golden doctoral jubilees. Former doctoral students of the UNR receive certificates for their 25th or 50th anniversary of their doctorate.

Presentation of the Golden Doctoral Jubilees (left) and Silver Doctoral Jubilees (right)

Golden Doctoral Jubilees

- Dr. Wolfgang Brittinger: »Der sozio-ökonomische Wandel in Kleinstädten im Verlaufe der letzten 25 Jahre, dargestellt an den Beispielen Donaueschingen, Löffingen und Neustadt im Schwarzwald«
- Dr. Jörn Rusch: »Vergleichende anatomische Untersuchungen des Holzes von Wurzel und Stamm bei verschiedenen Laubbaumarten«
- Prof. Dr. Dr. Heinrich Spieker: »Die Simulation als Entscheidungshilfe in der forstlichen Planung«
- Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Tzschupke: »Untersuchung zur automatischen Identifizierung forstlicher bedeutsamer Bildgestalten durch digitale Auswertung von an Infrarot-Farbluftbildern gemessenen Farb- und Texturparametern«

Silver Doctoral Jubilees

- **Dr. Frieder Dinkelaker**: »Der Gemeindewald in der Kommunalpolitik – Eine Untersuchung am Beispiel des kommunalen Waldbesitzes in Baden-Württemberg«
- **Dr. Ansgar Foellmer**: »Schwermetalleinträge durch den Schwarzwälder Bergbau in die südliche Oberrheinebene zwischen Möhlin und Sulzbach«
- **Dr. Peter Kramer**: »Zielorientierte Steuerung im Forstbetrieb - Möglichkeiten und Grenzen am Beispiel eines virtuellen Waldbestandes 1999«
- **Dr. Tobias Kühn**: »Umweltorientierte Beschaffungsentscheidungen in Unternehmen der Holz- und Papierindustrie. Untersucht am Beispiel "zertifiziertes Holz"«
- **Prof. Dr. Jens Lange**: »A non-calibrated rainfall-runoff model for large arid catchments, Nahal Zin, Israel«
- **Dr. Carmen Schraml**: »Untersuchungen zur Stress-Sensitivität von Ökotypen der Buche (*Fagus sylvatica L.*)«

Awards and Prizes

Bundesverdienstkreuz for Johann Georg Goldammer

Federal President Frank-Walter Steinmeier presents the Bundesverdienstkreuz to Johann Georg Goldammer. Photo: Global Fire Monitoring Center

On 1st October 2024, Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Johann Georg Goldammer was honoured with the Bundesverdienstkreuz am Bande by Federal President Frank-Walter Steinmeier in Berlin. The Federal President honoured Goldammer as »one of the most experienced forest fire experts in the world« and emphasised: »He was the one who introduced the topic of forest fire prevention and control to the United Nations.«

Awards and Prizes

Landesforschungspreis for Christiane Werner

Photo: Klaus Polkowski

Prof. Dr. Christiane Werner (Professorship for Ecosystem Physiology) has been awarded the Baden-Württemberg Landesforschungspreis 2024. On 22th October 2024, Minister Petra Olschowski presented her with the most highly endowed research prize of any German federal state in recognition of her scientific achievements in basic research in the field of plant stress physiology.

The Landesforschungspreis has recognised outstanding scientific achievements every two years since 1989. It is awarded to one researcher from basic research and one from applied research. An interdisciplinary jury of renowned scientists decides on the recipient.

Sattelmühle-Förderpreise 2024

Photo: Sattelmühle-Stiftung

Katja Kröner (Professorship for Forest Growth and Dendroecology) and Dr. Tristan Eckerter (Professorship for Nature Conservation and Landscape Ecology) have been awarded the 2024 Sattelmühle-Förderpreis for the best Master's thesis (»Influence of Crown Morphology and Architecture on Tree Radial Growth of Drought-Affected Fagus sylvatica«) and the best dissertation (»Conservation Options for Wild Bees and Wasps in Managed Temperate Forests«). This means that two of the three Sattelmühle-Förderpreise in 2024 went to ENR.

People

Daniela Kleinschmit Takes over IUFRO Presidency

Photo: Jürgen Gocke

At the XXVI World Congress of the International Union of Forest Research Organisations (IUFRO) in Stockholm at the end of June 2024, Daniela Kleinschmit (Professorship for Forest and Environmental Policy) was elected IUFRO President. She will hold the office for five years and is the first woman to head IUFRO.

Jürgen Bauhus is a »Highly Cited Researcher«

Photo: Jürgen Gocke

Prof. Dr. Jürgen Bauhus (Professorship for Silviculture) has been named by Clarivate as one of the most frequently cited authors in his field of research worldwide in the previous decade for the sixth time in a row in 2024.

New Appointments, Successful Negotiations to Stay, Evaluation Procedures

- **Prof. Dr. Kerstin Hockmann** took up her position as Professor for Applied Geochemistry on 15th August 2024.
- **Prof. Dr. Alexandra-Maria Klein** has accepted the offer to remain at the ENR and the University of Freiburg and will remain Professor for Nature Conservation and Landscape Ecology at the ENR.
- **Prof. Dr. Cathrin Zengerling** has successfully completed the tenure evaluation and has been Professor for Transformation to Sustainable Energy Systems since 21st May 2024.
- **Tenure-Track Prof. Dr. Jan Blöthe** successfully completed the midterm evaluation as Tenure-Track Professor for Geomorphology and Recent Morphodynamics in February 2024.
- **Tenure-Track Prof. Dr. Clemens Prescher** successfully completed the midterm evaluation as Tenure-Track Professor for Geomaterials and Crystalline Materials in September 2024.

Retirements

On the 1st October 2024, **Prof. Dr. Uwe Schmidt** (Professorship for Forest History) started a year's leave of absence. Following the year of leave, he will retire on the 1st October 2025. Dr. Andrea Seim took over the *Professurvertretung* of the Professorship for Forest History on 1st October 2024.

In memoriam

- ENR mourns the loss of Dr. Friedhelm Hädrich, who passed away on 21st December 2023 at the age of 91.
- ENR mourns the loss of Ferzan Süha Göğüş, a student on the Master's programme »Renewable Energy Engineering and Management«, who passed away on 1st April 2024 at the age of 27.
- ENR mourns the loss of Leander Gaschler, a student on the Bachelor's programme »Forest Sciences«, who passed away on 3rd April 2024 at the age of 33.
- ENR mourns the loss of Prof. Dr. Hermann Goßmann, who passed away on 10th September 2024 at the age of 85.

Special thanks to Dr. Jonathan Sheppard for his advice as a native speaker.

Contact

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