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FORSU Newsletter

### Editorial Board

Dr. Nikhil Chakma  
Dr. Alamgir Kabir  
Dr. Tran Thi Thu Ha  
Dr. Van Thi Yen  
Dr. Nguyen Thi Thanh Huong  
Dr. Roderich Von Detten  
Dipjoy Chakma

## About FORSU

Higher Education Cooperation for Forest Landscape Restoration and Sustainable Livelihoods in Bangladesh and Vietnam (FORSU). FORSU is a 3-year capacity building project which is co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union. The project includes two European Programme universities: the University of Helsinki (coordinating HEI) & the University of Freiburg, and 2 Partner universities in Bangladesh: Rangamati Science and Technology University & Patuakhali Science and Technology University and 3 Partner universities in Vietnam: Hue University, Tay Nguyen University & Thai Nguyen University of Agriculture and Forestry

The overarching objective of FORSU is to strengthen the capacity of partner higher education institutions to contribute to well-functioning, relevant and accessible forest landscape restoration (FLR) education to meet the needs of graduates, employers, and other stakeholders, for the broader benefit of the environment and society.

## FORSU Project Inaugurated for Capacity Building of Higher Education Institutions on FLR

The FORSU project has been awarded for a three-year period, from December 2022 to November 2025, with the aim of strengthening the capacity of partner Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) to contribute to well-functioning, relevant, and accessible Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) education that meets the needs of graduates, employers, and other stakeholders, for the broader benefit of the environment and society.

The Kick-off meeting of FORSU project was held online on 24 January 2023. All partners participated in this first official meeting and presented their organizations. Additionally, partners discussed all the upcoming deliverables and decided about the next steps of the project.



## FORSU Partners Mid-Term Management Meeting held at RSMU, Bangladesh



On 10 April 2023, a mid-term management meeting of FORSU was held at Rangamati Science and Technology University (RMSTU), Bangladesh with a view to discuss ongoing project activities, progress and reporting. The meeting was presided over Honourable Pro-Vice Chancellor of RMSTU Professor Dr. Kanchan Chakma and key discussant was Mr. Dipjoy Chakma, Project Manager of FORSU, University of Helsinki, Finland. RMSTU representatives Mr. Mohammad Yusuf, Registrar of RMSTU, Dr. Suprio Chakma, Chairman of Forestry and Environmental Science (FES), Ms. Saptarahi Chakma, Assistant Professor of Management Dept., Dr. Nikhil Chakma, Assistant Professor of FES, Mr. Shourav Dutta, Lecturer of FES,



Ms. Rishita Chakma, Lecturer of CSE. Mr. Raskin Chakma, Accounts Officer of RMSTU and representatives from Patuakhali Science and Technology University (PSTU) Professor Dr. Md. Alamgir Kabir and Professor Dr. Md. Ektear Uddin attended the meeting.

Dr. Nikhil Chakma from RMSTU briefed the recent project activities including preparation of Dissemination and Communication Plan (DCP) for FORSU where all the partners approved the DCP. Professor Dr. Md. Alamgir Kabir from PSTU briefed the ongoing and future activities of FORSU. All partners agreed to execute the project activities smoothly to achieve the project objectives.



## Workshop on Upgrading Existing Forestry Courses and Developing under FORSU project held at PSTU, Bangladesh

The workshop titled “Upgrading Existing Forestry Courses and Developing a New Course on Forest Landscape Restoration and Sustainable Livelihoods” was held at Patuakhali Science and Technology University (PSTU) on 29–30 May 2023. The workshop was chaired by the Honourable Vice-Chancellor of PSTU, Professor Dr. Swadesh Chandra Samanta, and presided over by Professor Dr. Md. Alamgir Kabir, Department of Agroforestry, PSTU.

The key discussants were Professor Dr. Roderich V. Detten and Professor Dr. Dietrich Schmidt-Vogt from the University of Freiburg, Germany. Professor Dr. Md. Ektear Uddin, Department of Agricultural Extension, represented PSTU at the workshop. Two representatives from Rangamati Science and Technology University—Mr. Shourav Dutta and Mr. Saddam Hossen from the Department of FES also participated in the workshop.



Following the successful discussions, participants visited the nearby Tengragiri Wildlife Sanctuary in Patuakhali to gain practical insights into the restoration potential of local natural resources. The workshop, field excursion, and fruitful discussions are expected to contribute effectively to the development and implementation of updated forestry course curricula.



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## The visit of Freiburg University Professors to Tay Nguyen University (TNU), Vietnam

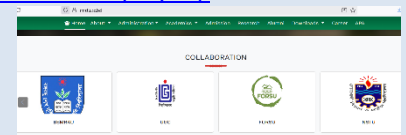
Under the Forest Landscapes and Sustainable Livelihoods in Bangladesh and Vietnam (FORSU) project Professor Dr. Roderich V. Detten and Professor Dr. Dietrich Schmidt-Vogt from the University of Freiburg, Germany visited Tay Nguyen University (TNU) in the Central Highlands of Vietnam.

During the visit, TNU shared its completed and ongoing project activities to facilitate information exchange and enhance the quality of education in the sustainable management and development of forest resources, addressing current needs in the context of increasing climate change.



### Others:

1. For more information: <https://blogs.helsinki.fi/vitriblog/2022/12/12/higher-education-cooperation-for-forest-landscape-restoration-and-sustainable-livelihoods-in-bangladesh-and-vietnam-forsu-a-new-vitri-project/>
2. FORSU logo is in RMSTU website.



## CONTACTS

**Mr. Dipjoy Chakma**  
Coordinator of FORSU Project  
University of Helsinki  
Helsinki, Finland  
Email: [dipjoy.chakma@helsinki.fi](mailto:dipjoy.chakma@helsinki.fi)

**Website: [forsuerasmus.info](http://forsuerasmus.info)**

**Dr. Nikhil Chakma**  
Coordinator, RMSTU Part, FORSU  
Rangamati Science and Technology University  
Rangamati-4500, Bangladesh  
Email: [nikhil.chakma@rmstu.ac.bd](mailto:nikhil.chakma@rmstu.ac.bd)

## FORSU Partners

