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Programme and abstracts





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PoTaRCh and Museums. The ideas for presenting PoTaRCh under the organization of the Museum of Science and Technology in Belgrade

The presentation of forest by-products charcoal, resin, tar, potash (EU-PoTaRCh) in museums that are not specifically dedicated to the fields of charcoal production or forestry, and that are not open-space museums but are located in urban centers, presents a multi-layered problem, especially if the main goal is education and engaging the general public. To meet this goal, it is desirable to interact with the public. Additionally, since museums typically use two main methods to present the existing state and knowledge—exhibitions and workshops—each individual museum needs to assess what would be most effective for presenting this group of non-timber products. Both types of presentation require different preparations and execution. Exhibitions not only require a longer preparation time but also space for displays within the museum, with the exhibition lasting over a longer chronological period. At the same time, exhibitions are static, and the audience must read labels and cards. In discussions about how to present the PoTaRCh product group to the public while maintaining both an educational and interactive character, and appealing to audiences of different ages, we decided to focus on a series of workshops with the working title Month of PoTaRCh.

According to current ideas, this could take place on several levels. For example, the visual component in the form of photographs or videos could be presented digitally. The four key elements of non-timber products would be introduced through workshops, which would include lectures by members of CA22155 and local collaborators. Interactivity would be enhanced by demonstrating certain elements, such as carbonization on a micro level, new materials, and for younger audiences, the opportunity to draw with charcoal or coat cubes with tar in the museum's courtyard. In addition under the organization of the Museum of Science and Technology in Belgrade the other museums like the Ethnographic Museum and institutions i.e. University for Forestry will be included in this work.

Precisely for the above-mentioned reasons, this presentation is dedicated to exploring the possibilities and potential for presenting PoTaRCh products and creating an educational trail through museum displays, serving as a possible example.