

# RECOVER

Science based remote sensing services to support REDD and sustainable forest management in tropical region

## FOREST INTELLIGENCE TO SAVE TREES

Deforestation and forest degradation is responsible for more than 15 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions. Fighting these phenomena, the ReCover project is set to develop state-of-the-art service capabilities for enhanced forest monitoring.

The Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD) initiative is an integral part of global climate change negotiations; as such, it is expected to play a crucial role as part of the successor regime to the current Kyoto Protocol. In recent years, the global importance of forests as planetary carbon sinks has been acknowledged. The ReCover project supports the REDD initiative. Its main research focus is to develop a sound statistical concept and accuracy assessment procedure that enables the generation of more reliable estimates for forest degradation and change, as well as enhanced biomass estimates. The project will use optical and radar remote sensing data from satellites, together with in situ measurements in order to generate forest intelligence products.

Indeed, obtaining more precise measurements of the carbon storage “services” provided by forests is paramount in particular in the world’s tropical region when furthering sustainable forest management. Socio-economic, ethical and cultural factors often contribute to deforestation and forest degradation. Forest intelligence services by ReCover may play a major role in countering those factors.

Moreover, if successful, ReCover will also constitute a major step towards the future sustainability and competitiveness of European Earth Observation services for the green economy, such as the carbon market, sustainable forest management, and environmental management in general.



**TUOMAS HÄME**  
IS PROJECT COORDINATOR



foret, laos © J-F Perigois - Fotolia.com

**ReCover supports the fight against deforestation and forest degradation in the tropical region.**

## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

### What do you want to achieve with this project?

We want to create a novel concept for the monitoring of tropical forest and its biomass by improving the accuracy and reliability. The satellite data based system will help the users to fight deforestation and forest degradation and to practise sustainable forest management.

### Why is this project important for Europe?

ReCover will improve the international position of Europe as the forerunner of sustainable development. It also increases the competitiveness of the European value added services in Earth Observation.

### How does your work benefit European citizens?

Sustainable development globally in natural resources management is in everybody’s interest. The sustainability will improve both business and employment opportunities as well as the stability of the societies thus decreasing the likelihood of conflicts.

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## LIST OF PARTNERS

- VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland, Finland
- Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Germany
- Arbonaut, Finland
- Colegio de Postgraduados, Mexico
- El Colegio de de la Frontera Sur, Mexico
- GMV Aerospace and Defence SA Unipersonal, Spain
- Northern Research Institute Tromsø, Norway
- University of Wageningen, Netherlands

## COORDINATOR

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## PROJECT INFORMATION

Science based remote sensing services to support REDD and sustainable forest management in tropical region (ReCover)

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