



EIP-AGRI Focus Group "New forest practices & tools for adaptation and mitigation of climate change"

PROGRAMME OF THE 1st MEETING

20-21 June 2017
Ljubljana, Slovenia

Preamble

European forests are a crucial resource to provide multiple ecosystem services to society. Climate change including extreme events and associated disturbances affects the growth and stability of forests and could have severe consequences for forest ecosystem services and products provisioning. Consequently, managing forests to mitigate and adapt to climate change is a major challenge facing European forest management over the next decades. Furthermore it is essential to adopt a holistic approach towards forests - integrating the economic, social and environmental dimensions.

This Focus Group will address ways to enhance mitigation and adaptation potential of EU forests, while taking into account that forests provide multiple functions and services to EU citizens. The group will consider trade-offs between mitigation and adaptation, as sometimes addressing mitigation in the short term may affect long-term adaptation capacity.

The overarching **QUESTION** of the Focus Group is: **Which new management practices and tools can improve the climate mitigation and adaptation potential of EU forests?**

The objectives of the Focus Group for its first meeting are to:

1. Identify the main challenges and opportunities posed by changing climate patterns for sustainable forest management in the EU
2. Identify new practices and tools that maintain or increase the carbon sequestration and storage potential of EU forests in the long term while keeping their multifunctional role
3. Identify the needs of forest managers in relation to adaptation to changing climate patterns in the EU including research and innovation needs- as well as the most promising adaptation practices (e.g. by selecting species, provenances and varieties or specific sustainable forest management practices) while keeping the multifunctional role of EU forests
4. Identify new practices and tools (including the use of digital technologies) that contribute to improving resilience of forests ecosystems to extreme weather events such as droughts, forest fires, storms and heavy snows, considering all the actors involved in managing the risks resulting from more frequent extreme events
5. Analyse possible synergies and trade-offs between mitigation practices and long-term adaptation needs
6. Provide examples of practices and tools to improve mitigation and adaptation of forests, including through better stakeholder involvement and synergies with other sectors such as agriculture and tourism.

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Day 1: Tuesday 20th June 2017

08:30	8:45	Welcoming words, scope and purpose of the meeting, expectations from the Focus Group (FG) and introduction to the EIP-AGRI. <i>Antonella Zona (European Commission, DG AGRI)</i> <i>Beatriz Guimarey (Task Manager, EIP-AGRI Service Point)</i>
8:45	10:00	Getting to know each-other: Presentations (homework). <i>FG experts</i>
10:00	10:10	Introduction to Focus Group workflow, roles and agenda of the meeting <i>Beatriz Guimarey</i>
10:10	10:30	Forest practices and climate change: setting the scene <i>Marcus Lindner (Coordinating Expert of the FG, EIP-AGRI Service Point)</i>
10:30	11:00	Coffee break

11:00	11:30	Climate changes challenges across Europe <i>Interactive session coordinated by Marcus Lindner</i>
11:30	13:00	Break out session 1 on forest practices and tools for adaptation to climate change Opportunities and sources of innovation for tackling challenges relating to adaptation to climate change
13:00	14:00	Lunch



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14:00	15:45	Break out session 2 on forest practices and tools for adaptation to climate change Opportunities and sources of innovation for tackling challenges relating to adaptation to climate change
15:45	16:00	Reporting from the break-out sessions
16:00	20:00	Fieldtrip (See description below)
20:00	21:00	Networking dinner

Context of the fieldtrip

Visit to forest stands at the area of Logatec and Hotedršica

The region of Hotedršica was heavily damaged by an ice-break in 2014. These damaged forests are mostly mixed stands mainly owned by small private forest owners. These forest owners started with a sanitation cutting after the storm but in following years a bark beetle attack started as a consequence of large amounts of damaged spruce trees, which resulted in 4,5 mio m³ additional amount of damaged trees (mostly spruce) in past three years.

Experts from Slovenia Forest Service will show the situation and response of forestry sector on natural disasters in Slovenia in general and locally in Hotedršica region with overview of actions taken in last 3 years (after the ice-break).





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Day 2: Wednesday 21st June 2017

08:00	08:10	Travel logistics <i>Beatriz Guimarey, Iiri Raa</i>
8:10	10:00	Break out session on forest practices and tools for mitigation of climate change Opportunities and sources of innovation for tackling challenges relating to mitigation of climate change; synergies and trade offs between mitigation practices and long-term adaptation needs.
10:00	10:30	Coffee break

10:30	10:45	Reporting from break out session
10:45	12:00	Minipapers (Agreement on topics for further work) <i>Marcus Lindner, Beatriz Guimarey</i> Follow up activities and work for 2 nd meeting
12:00	12:30	Conclusions of the meeting <i>(Antonella Zona, Marcus Lindner, Beatriz Guimarey /Iiri Raa)</i> Wrap up of 1 st meeting Introduction of EIP-AGRI website and collaborative space for FG members Follow up activities and agenda. Fixing second meeting (Date, Place)
12:30	13:30	Lunch