

# ENRD Forestry Thematic Initiative

ROMAFORREST2011 CONGRESS



European Commission  
Agriculture and  
Rural Development

## ROMAFORREST2011

### Present and future role of forest resources in the socio-economic development of rural areas

Rome, 23rd-24th June 2011



Promoted by the Italian National Rural Network with the participation of the ENRD, the congress discussed

the role played by the forest sector in the EU Member States and the opportunities provided by the EU rural development policy for a forest-based rural development.



In this context, the congress aimed to answer the following questions:

1. What is the destiny of forest sector in Europe?
2. Where are rural development policies post 2013 heading to?

The congress explored forest-based development of rural and mountain areas and related relevant practices. Parallel sessions focused on specific challenges such as mitigation of and adaptation to climate change, conservation of biodiversity, energy production, water cycle management, desertification, prevention of natural risks and socio-economic aspects of forest-based rural development.

At the conclusion of the event, the EU Commission, Managing Authorities and forestry stakeholders joined a round table to present and discuss proposals for forests and forest resources within the future EU rural development framework.



Forests are a crucial resource for the EU, despite not featuring in its constitutional treaties. For centuries, they have been the main resource for the development of rural and mountain areas, alongside agriculture. Today they are facing new challenges (climate change mitigation, biodiversity conservation, energy production, water management, soil conservation, etc.) becoming major drivers for the socio-economic development of rural areas.



### Day 1 parallel session themes

- Forests, conservation of biodiversity, landscape protection and public services.
- Forests, agroforestry and bioenergy.
- Strategies for mitigation of and adaptation to climate change.
- Competitiveness of the forest sector: wood/non-wood products, supply chains, strategies for forest-based local governance.

### Further information:

documents, presentations and other details can be retrieved at: [www.reterurale.it/romaforest2011](http://www.reterurale.it/romaforest2011)

