



Climate resilient farming
and forestry systems
and water management



AGRI
Innovation summit 2019

EIP AGRI Focus Group

New forest practices and tools for adaptation and mitigation of climate change

Subject of the Focus Group

Which new management practices and tools
can improve the climate mitigation and adaptation
potential of EU forests?

Context for the Focus Group

The challenges posed by climate change, although global, show strong regional differences. Considering the diversity of forest types and contrasting management traditions across Europe, climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies must fit the region-specific climate change projections and local circumstances.

Key Questions

The EIP-AGRI Focus Group on “New forest practices and tools for adaptation and mitigation of climate change” brought together 20 experts in order to exchange on forest practices & tools to tackle climate change and to explore successful experiences and innovation in practice. They put the focus mainly on three aspects:

- how adaptation strategies are selected and implemented,
- the use of decision support tools at the science-practice interface,
- training approaches and ways of sharing experiences.

Main Findings

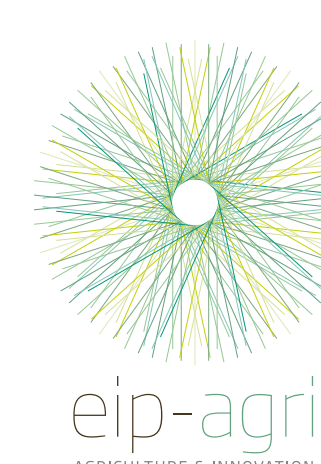
- Improve forest management with special attention to small scale forests: climate smart silviculture, genetic resources, decision support systems (DSS)
- Scaling up management and tackling climate change risks: integrated landscape management, implementation of early warning & innovative risk management strategies (eg. pests, forest fires)
- Adaptation & mitigation: good practices for forest fires prevention (e.g. silvopastoralism), economic incentives to promote adaptation (Climate Smart Silviculture, PES), innovative value chains (new products & uses of wood)
- Knowledge transfer and awareness about climate change (eg. science-policy methods for effective communication about climate change)

Ideas for Operational Groups

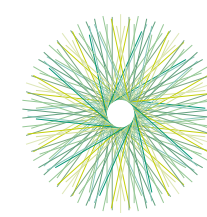
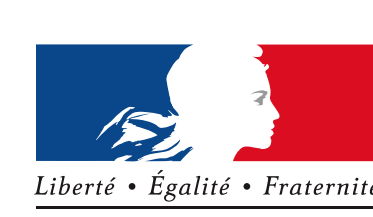
- Methods to boost the use of broadleaves species by increasing their potential in forest regeneration
- Resources & tools to foster local adaptation in forest management: enhancing awareness and peer to peer learning
- Test methods to improve assisted regeneration or afforestation in drought prone areas
- User-friendly early warning system assessing and alerting about local forests health issues
- Enhance landscape management: helping individuals to make decisions aligned with strategies to fight climate change
- Collective and effective plans to mitigate climate change effects (drought, forest fires), promote actions for ecosystem resilience, increase awareness of all actors

Research needs from practice

- Local/regional guidelines for the implementation of innovative silvicultural practices (adapt the forests to the expected future conditions)
- Study carbon dynamics related to the fire regime: forest species (prone vs fire resistant), land uses and practices (e.g. monocultures, agroforestry) and management options (e.g. wild vs prescribed fire)
- Evaluation of how to institutionalize knowledge exchange, including a forester exchange program
- Participatory research on climate change effects and measures that can be taken at farm/plot level
- Characterization of existing collective approaches effectively improving forest management in a context of climate change



All findings from the Focus
Group and more ideas
for Operational Groups
and research needs are
available in the final report
on the EIP AGRI website:
[https://ec.europa.eu/eip/
agriculture/en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en).



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