

SCAR FOREST

**Strategic Working Group on Forests
and Forestry Research and Innovation**

Riga, 5 March 2019

SCAR Baltic Workshop



EUROPEAN UNION

Project co-funded by
H2020 Programme under
Grant Agreement n° 727486

Missions (2016 – 2019)

- *SWG Forest is a source of advice on European forest-based research and innovation (R&I), thus **contributing to the development of a coherent and ambitious forest-based research area***
- ***SWG Forest promotes and strengthens transnational research and cooperation** to meet the challenges of adaptation to and mitigation of **climate changes**, and of increasing **sustainability** and **competitiveness** of the EU's forest-based sector [...]*

Specific objectives

- **Promote forest-based system and value-chain approaches** with consideration of other sectors
- **Provide strategic intelligence** by mapping **national** forest research and innovation capacities, policies, strategies
- **Facilitate knowledge-based input** to public debates
- Provide advice on research and innovation support to the implementation of **national** forest policies and **EU forest strategy**

Strategic Working Group Forest

- **19 member states** (AT, BE, CZ, DE, **EE**, ES, FI, FR, GR, HU, IE, IT, **LT**, **LV**, NO, PL, SE, SK, UK)
- **Observers:** European Forest Institute (EFI), Forest Technology Platform (FTP), Innovawood, DG RTD
- **Core group**
 - Jean-Luc Peyron (FR, Ecofor)
 - Vera Steinberg (DE, Bmelv)
 - Taneli Kolstrom (FI, Luke)
 - Kalliopi Radoglou (GR, Duth)
 - Secretariat: Anaïs Jallais (FR, Ecofor)
- **Terms of reference:** 2016 - June 2019

Activities

- 1. Report on forest bioeconomy research and innovation capacities
- 2. Report on assessment of forest-related ERA-NETs and COST actions
- 3. Workshop on climate change and forests and reflection paper on new horizons for research and innovation (COST connect event, 4-5th June 2018)
- 4. Workshop “International cooperation in research and innovation for the future European forest-based sector” (Brussels, 5th February 2019)

DONE

DONE

DONE

DONE

Activities

- 5. Study on “Digitization and robotization in the forest-based sector” **ongoing**
- 6. Position paper on research and innovation needs for forests and the forest-based sector in Europe **ongoing**
- 7. Report and policy brief on global cooperation in forest research and innovation **ongoing**
- 8. Other Activities:
 - Input to the SCAR 5th Foresight exercise
 - Identification of topics related to H2020, ERA-NET ForestValue and Horizon Europe
 - Coordination with other SCAR SWGs/CWGs
- **All reports and documents:** <https://scar-europe.org/index.php/forest-documents>

1

Synthesis on forest bioeconomy research and innovation

- **Duration:** 04/2017 – End: 12/2017
- **Background:** existing mapping exercises (ERA-NETS Foresterra & Sumforest, ERIFORE...), but overall synthesis missing + need to cover complete forest-based systems in context of circular bioeconomy
- **Budget:** 20 K€
- **Experts:** lead EFI (Marko Lovric, Natasa Lovric, Robert Mavsar) + contribution from other experts (FTP, Innovawood, ..)
- **Objectives:** review and synthesize existing updated information about forest bio-economy research and innovation

Assessment of forest-related ERA-Nets and COST Actions

2

- **Duration:** 06/2017 – 02/2018
- **Background:** Many projects within the framework of ERA-NETs of the forest-based sector or related fields and many COST actions from the “Forest, their products and services” domain or forest related COST actions from other domains
- **Budget:** 18 K€
- **Experts:** lead FCBA (Andreas Kleinschmit von Lengefeld) with Innovawood (Uwe Kies)
- **Objectives:** assessment of forest-related ERA-NETs and COST actions, identification of future areas and topics for joint programming and alignment of research activities.

COST Connect: Climate change & Forests

New horizons for research and innovation

- **Date and location** : 4/5 June 2018, Sofia, Bulgaria
- Cooperation SCAR-COST
- **Concept of COST Connect events** : Pro Action café
Methodology for creative and inspirational conversations. All participants are invited to share their questions in three rounds guided by a few generic questions to help deepen and focus their discussions.
- **Participants**: Stakeholders in the field (SCAR, DG RTD, JRC, JPI, EIP, EFI, FTP, Innovawood, IUFRO) and representatives of more than 15 COST Actions

International cooperation in research and innovation for the future European forest-based sector

4

- **Date and location** : 5 February 2019, Brussels, Belgium
- **Concept:**
 - Introduction from SCAR FOREST, CASA and CE
 - First session with speakers from FTP, ForestValue, Bio-East, UNECE/FAO, University of Freiburg...
 - Second session with messages from other participants
 - World Café in three groups
 - To rebound after recent and present activities
 - To emerge with emerging issues
 - To broaden the scope of international cooperation
 - Conclusions



CASA, Support to SCAR

5

Study on digitization and robotization in the forest-based sector

- **Duration:** 03/2019 – 06/2019
- **Background:**
 - Importance of ICT and robotization increasing
 - Feeling that there is less research and innovation activities in the forest based sector
- **Budget:** 12 K€
- **Experts:** Innovawood (Uwe Kies), FCBA (Andreas Kleinschmit von Lengefeld) and LUKE (Taneli Kolstrom)
- **Objectives:**
 - What is the current state of development in the forest-based sector (i.e. both forest products and ecosystem services)?
 - Which are the most fruitful changes for the future?
 - Where research and innovation efforts should be prioritised?

The study should give some hints to answering these questions



CASA, Support to SCAR

Main message

On a European level

- CWG/SWG Forest has been crucial in setting up the ERA-NET Sumforest and ForestValue
 - Supporting forest research projects in the range of 30 M€
- Designing Annual Work Programmes in FP 7 and Horizon 2020 (SC 2)

On a national level

- Coordinating the many ministries dealing with forest issues:
 - Agriculture, Environment, Industry, Infrastructure, Research,.....
- Enabling national research to contribute on a European level through participation in ERA-NET and Joint Programming Initiatives (e.g. Sumforest, ForestValue, FACCE,....)



EUROPEAN UNION

Project co-funded by
H2020 Programme under
Grant Agreement n° 727486

THANK YOU for your attention

Martin.Greimel@bmnt.gv.at

