

Organisation

20 Member states and 2 observer organisations participate in SCAR FOREST which is managed and coordinated by a core group:

- Jean-Luc Peyron (coord., France)
- Martin Greimel (Austria)
- Karin Perhans (Sweden)
- Kallioppi Radoglou (Greece)



Contacts

www.scar-europe.org

If you would like to get in contact with the SCAR FOREST, please send an e-mail to:

jean-luc.peyron@gip-ecofor.org

Martin.Greimel@bmnt.gv.at

kradoglo@fmenr.duth.gr

karin.perhans@formas.se

Meeting in Barcelona, Spain



scar
forest

Strategic Working Group on Forests and
Forestry Research and Innovation

SCAR
Standing Committee
on Agricultural Research



Context and rationale

Forests and forest-based products and services are major components of the biosphere and of societal wellbeing. Globally, they make a significant contribution to local and national economies, to rural development and to individual livelihoods.

In Europe, forests and other wooded land are expanding and cover over 40 % of the EU's land area; they represent a large diversity of ecosystems and habitats for animals and plants across regions, and they play a major role in mitigating climate change and providing other environmental services.

Wood is the main source of financial revenue from forests, and forest biomass is currently the most important source of renewable energy.

Though their socio-economic importance is often underestimated, they are becoming increasingly important for the supply of raw material to emerging bio-based industries and for transition towards low-carbon economies.

In the context of continuous environmental, societal and policy changes, their adaptation and the continued delivery of forest-based services and products in a sustainable and efficient way, requires increased research, innovation and knowledge from many disciplines.

Objectives

SCAR FOREST mission is to be a source of advice on European forest-based research and innovation (R&I), thus contributing to the implementation of EU Forest Strategy through the development of a coherent and ambitious forest-based research area. Under current mandate (2016-19), the main objective is to promote and strengthen transnational research and cooperation between member states 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, by sustainably providing biomass and products for a growing bio-based economy, and other ecosystem services for societal wellbeing.

Specific objectives of SCAR FOREST include:

- promoting forest-based systems and value-chain approaches with due considerations of synergies and interrelations with other sectors;
- providing strategic intelligence by mapping national forest R&I capacities, policies, strategies;
- facilitating knowledge-based input to public debates on forest-related EU policy areas and global issues (climate change, water, bioenergy, biodiversity, plant health, trade, etc.);
- providing advice on R&I support to the implementation of national forestry policies and the EU Forest Strategy.

Activities

Activities are focused on 3 main topics and groups of tasks:

1. Forest-based Bioeconomy

Tasks: mapping, analysis and synthesis on forest-based bioeconomy research and innovation in Europe.

Deliverable: report from expert study on forest-based bioeconomy R&I (2017)

2. Transnational Collaboration

Tasks: assessment of forest-related ERA-NETs and COST actions, identification of future areas and topics for joint programming and alignment of research activities.

Deliverables: report from expert study (2018), joint event with COST (5th June 2018)

3. International Cooperation

Tasks: mapping of international forest related scientific cooperation, identification of key areas for future development

Deliverable: synthesis report on global forest R&I cooperation (2019)

