

# PRESENT AND FUTURE ROLE OF FOREST RESOURCES IN THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL AREAS

ROME, 23RD-24TH JUNE

## CONGRESS REGISTRATION

Registration is required to attend the conference as well as to submit extended abstracts for oral presentations and posters.

Registration and participation are free of charge.

To register, please visit [www.reterurale.it/romaforest2011/registration](http://www.reterurale.it/romaforest2011/registration), and follow the instructions.

 For info please contact [info.romaforest2011@inea.it](mailto:info.romaforest2011@inea.it)



## INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF FORESTS • 2011

A two-day event to describe, analyze and discuss the role played by the forest sector in the rural development of European Countries.

Invited speakers and submitted presentations will share best practices, explore the opportunities provided by EU programmes and debate about weaknesses and threats related to the development of rural and mountain areas.

Parallel sessions will focus on important challenges such as mitigation of climate change, conservation of biodiversity, energy production, water cycle management, desertification, prevention of natural risks and socio-economic aspects of forest-based rural development.



Rete Rurale  
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## FIRST DAY: THURSDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> JUNE 2011

### MORNING - PLENARY SESSION

The congress will open with a plenary session of six presentations about the relationships between forest resources and socio-economic development of rural areas.

1. Welcome and opening remarks.
2. Forests in European Union Policies.
3. Future scenarios of European forests.
4. Rural Development Policies and Forestry: the point of view of central and northern European.
5. Rural Development Policies and Forestry: the point of view of Mediterranean Countries.
6. Present opportunities of sustainable and multifunctional forest management for the Development of Rural areas.

### AFTERNOON - PARALLEL SESSIONS

Concrete experiences, best practices, case studies and researches to highlight opportunities and constraints for a forest-based socio-economic development of European rural areas.

### THEMES:

#### 1) Forest and conservation of biodiversity

Forest management and Rural Development in relation to biodiversity: an announced damage, a need to conserve habitats and ecotones?

#### 2) Agroforestry

The combination of technologies for agriculture, forests and pastures is really a “new” opportunity to generate more profits and a sustainable land use for rural areas?

#### 3) Strategies for mitigation of and adaptation to climate change

How can forestry measures of rural development contribute to contain climate change effects on European forests? Which adaptation measures can be implemented? Which strategy could be more convenient in a perspective of climate change mitigation: forest management or abandonment?

#### 4) Forest, landscape protection and public services

The role of active forest management in meeting social needs (hydro-geological protection, culture, recreation, health, tourism, etc.) and landscape protection. What does society require from forests?

#### 5) Forests and bioenergies

Forest management and Rural Development in relation to the production of energy from biomass. Utopia or real opportunity for environment and employment?

#### 6) Competitiveness of the forest production sector

Forest management and Rural Development related to the production of renewable raw material and to its competitiveness within the international trade. Ideal or factual contribution to European economy and occupation?

## SECOND DAY: FRIDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2011

### MORNING - PLENARY SESSION

A second plenary session will provide an opportunity to resume and focus on the experiences presented during the first day. Rapporteurs will present and summarise relevant issues discussed during each parallel session.

A lecture by a representative of the European Commission will follow.

The session will be closed with comments and proposals from invited stakeholders.

### AFTERNOON - ROUND TABLE

A round table with EU Commission representatives, stakeholders and managing authorities will be set to prepare a document with shared proposals for EU future strategies concerning forest and Rural Development.

### CALL FOR PAPERS

Authors interested in presenting case-studies and experiences related to the congress' topics are asked to submit an abstract following the instructions reported on the website [www.reterurale.it/romaforest2011](http://www.reterurale.it/romaforest2011)

Deadline for submitting extended abstract is May 1, 2011

Abstracts must be submitted by email as word document to [romaforest2011@inea.it](mailto:romaforest2011@inea.it)

Notification of acceptance: May 15, 2011

Full text paper and poster abstracts will be published in the Conference Proceedings within winter 2011