

Rome, 23rd-24th June 2011

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



www.reterurale.it/romaforest2011

The Pontifical Urbaniana University - in the heart of the Vatican City - 16, Via Urbano VIII, Rome.

ITALIAN NATIONAL RURAL NETWORK FOREST EVENT



Congress presentation

For centuries forests have represented, along with agriculture, the main resource for the development of rural and mountain areas. Today, great emphasis is placed by society and by international/national policies on environmental protection. This attention means that today the role of forests go beyond the production-related objectives, involving new issues and challenges such as climate change mitigation, biodiversity conservation, energy production, management of the water cycle, soil erosion and desertification containment, prevention of natural risks and management of forest historical-cultural landscape.

Forests represent a very important issue for the European Union, even though they are not taken into account by EU's constitutional treaties. Thus, they have no specific dedicated Common Policies and, according to the subsidiary principles, they are still under the full competence of EU Member States.

In the last few decades, the role of forests have become more and more important in a perspective of socio-economic development of rural and mountain areas and within the environmental protection strategies. The European Union has launched several actions related to the forestry sector, even if without activating a dedicated forest policy but operating within other thematic areas such as agriculture and the environment.

In the Eighties European Union adopted a set of Regulations aiming to contain deleterious anthropic impacts on forests [Reg. (EC) No 3528/86 and No 3529/86; Reg. (EC) No 2157/92 and No 2158/92; Reg. (EC) No 2152/2003 "Forest Focus"; Reg. (EC) No 614/2007 LIFE+].

The first actions of forest policy were formulated as part of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). An example is provided by the two main accompanying measures: the EU Reg.2080/92 (funding "*first afforestation of agricultural lands*"), and the EU Reg. 867/90, (funding "*forest firms' investments*").

In the late Nineties, with the aim to solve all the problems affecting the whole European forest sector, the EU approved the Resolution 1999/C/56/01 for a Common Forest Strategy. With this Resolution the Council asserted that "*EU can positively contribute to the implementation of sustainable forest management and can promote the multifunctional role of forests, giving to member States the role and responsibility in the formulation of forest policies*". This is the actual first Common Forest Strategy, which revises and reorganises all the forestry measures that were implemented to date in different ways across Europe. The Resolution provides an explicit connection to the international commitments undertaken for the forest sector (Rio de Janeiro 1992, MCPFE, etc).

With Agenda 2000, policies and strategies for the forest sector, start to assume a relevant and integrated role within Rural Development, both at National and European level. This scenery is today confirmed in the 2007-2013 Programming period, where a pool of forestry measures is provided within the four different prior axis of the Rural Development Policy. In this way sustainable forest management and forest multifunctionality assume a strategic role, also based on the relevance of the financial resources allocated to forest measures.

With the aim to achieve a sustainable forest management and to increase the value of forest multifunctionality, in 2006 EU adopted [COM (2006)302] its own Forest Action Plan (FAP). The FAP intends to increase the value of the European forest heritage, conserving and empowering the multifunctional role of forests by stimulating an environmental-aware forest management. This has been done to provide renewable and environmentally-sustainable raw material and to foster – especially in rural areas – local development, employment, environmental protection and public services.

In 2010 these concepts have been recalled within the EU Green Paper on “*Forest Protection and Information in the EU: Preparing forests to climate change*” [COM(2010)66].

In this context, given the new relevance held by the forest sector under the European Policy for Rural Development, some questions arise:

1. what will be the destiny of forests in Europe?
2. which are the orientations of rural development policies concerning the forest sector for the programming period 2013-2020?

The planned two-day congress aims to describe, analyse and get acquainted with the actions provided for forests and the forest sector by Rural Development, identifying strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats and proposing ideas and suggestions for the present and future Common Program.

FIRST DAY: THURSDAY 23RD JUNE 2011

MORNING – PLENARY SESSION

9.00: Registration.

9.30: Welcome and opening remarks.

On. Francesco Saverio ROMANO - *Italian Minister of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies.*

Giuseppe BLASI - *Director General for Rural Development – Ministry of Agricultural Food and Forestry Policies.*

10.00 -13.00 *The relationship between forest resources and socio-economic development of rural areas.* Chairman: **Alberto MANELLI** – *Director General INEA – Italian National Institute of Agricultural Economics.*

- **Forests in European Union Policies.** **Davide PETTENELLA** – *Professor of Forest Economics, University of Padua.*
- **Future scenarios of European forests.** **Gert-Jan NABUURS** – *Assistant Director of EFI – European Forest Institute.*
- **Rural Development Policies and Forestry: the point of view of central and northern European.** **Norbert WEBER** – *Professor of Forest Policy and Forest resource economics – Dresden University of Technology.*

11.00/11.15 Coffee break

- **Rural Development Policies and Forestry: the point of view of Eastern Countries.** **Branko GLAVONJIC** – *Professor of Forest Economics at the Faculty of Forestry of the University of Belgrade.*
- **Rural Development Policies and Forestry: the point of view of Mediterranean Countries.** **Inacio MARTINEZ de ARANO** – *USSE - Union of Silviculturists of Southern Europe.*
- **Present opportunities of sustainable and multifunctional forest management for the Development of Rural areas.** **Bill SLEE** – *Macaulay Land Use Research Institute, Scotland.*

13.30 - Lunch

AFTERNOON – PARALLEL SESSIONS

14:30: Registration.

- **Session 1 - Forests, conservation of biodiversity, landscape protection and public services.** *Keynote Speaker: Clunie KEENLEYSIDE – Institute of European Environmental Policy (IEEP), United Kingdom.*
- **Session 2 – Forests, agroforestry and bioenergy.** *Keynote Speaker: Giuseppe SCARASCIA MUGNOZZA – Head of Department of Agronomy, Forestry and Land Use, Agricultural Research Council (CRA) Italy.*
- **Session 3 – Strategies for mitigation of and adaptation to climate change.** *Keynote Speaker: Lorenzo CICCARESE – Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA), Italy.*
- **Session 4 – Competitiveness of the forest production sector: wood&non-wood products, supply chains, and strategies for a forest-based local governance.** *Keynote Speaker: David JENKINS – Director of Coed Cymru, NGO, Wales.*

A Refreshment Room will be available to participants all day long

SECOND DAY FRIDAY 24TH JUNE 2011

MORNING – PLENARY SESSION

9.00 Reporting Day 1 Parallel sessions: *Chairman: Gerard BUTOUD, Professor of Forest Policy, University of Tuscia, Viterbo, Italy.*

- **Session 1 - Forests, conservation of biodiversity, landscape protection and public services.** *Rapporteur: Marco MARCHETI, Head of STAT Departement, University of Molise, Italy - Coordinator IUFRO UNIT 4.02.00.*
- **Session 2 – Forests, agroforestry and bioenergy.** *Rapporteur: Anna BARBATI, Researcher of Forest Economy, University of Tuscia, Italy.*
- **Session 3 – Strategies for mitigation of and adaptation to climate change.** *Rapporteur: Marili PARISSAKI, ENRD Contact Point expert.*
- **Session 4 - Competitiveness of the forest production sector: wood & non-wood products, supply chains, and strategies for a forest-based local governance.** *Rapporteur: Antonio BRUNORI, Secretary General of PEFC, Italy.*

10.30/11.30 Poster Session and Coffee break

11.30 The future of Policies - Lectures by the European Commission

- **DG AGRI.** Tamas SZEDLAK, *Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development, Unit H.4*
- **DG ENV.** Joost VANDEVELDE, *Directorate-General for Environment, Unit B1.*
- **DG CLIMA.** Oskar LARSSON, *Directorate-General for Climate Action, Unit A.2.*
- **DG ENER,** *Directorate - General for Energy, Unit C1.*

Final remarks: Lorenza COLETI, Italian State Forest Service (CFS).

13.30 – Lunch

AFTERNOON – PLENARY SESSION

14.30/17.30 Round table. The future of European policies for forest resources. Comments and proposals from invited stakeholders.

EU Commission, European forest stakeholders (public and private), National Authorities, Associations and Non-profit Environmental Organizations. Drafting of a summary document reporting shared proposals for future forest strategies within EU Rural Development.

Moderator: Alessandra PESCE, Responsible for the INEA Macroeconomic research Sector.



Rete Rurale
Nazionale
2007.2013

Typology: European Congress.

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

Dates: 23rd-24th June 2011.

Duration: 2 days.

Location: Rome.

Language: English.

Organising committee:

MIPAAF-NRN (National Rural Network - Italian Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies).

INEA-FO (Forest Observatory of the National Institute of Agricultural Economics),

Promoters:

ENRD (European Network for Rural Development),

FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations)

IUFRO - Unit 4.02.00 (International Union of Forest Research Organizations - Forest resources inventory and monitoring)

EFI (European Forest Institute)

CRA (Italian Agricultural Research Centre),

CFS (Italian State Forest Service)

PQSF (Framework programme for Italian forestry sector)

Target people and Congress structure

Researchers

Governmental institutions

Academics

Professionals and Technicians for Rural development and forest sector

Entrepreneurs and firms from the forest sector

Associations and NGOs



Rete Rurale
Nazionale
2007.2013

Organising secretariat: info.romaforest2011@inea.it

Extended abstract: romaforest2011@inea.it

Preliminary contacts: cesaro@inea.it, romano@inea.it, marandola@inea.it

Scientific Committee:

Gerard Buttoud	UniTUS – University of Tuscia, Italy
Luca Cesaro	INEA–Forest Observatory, National Institute of Agricultural Economics, Italy
Lorenza Colletti	CFS - State Forest Service, Italy
Fabio Cossu	EN RD – European Network for Rural Development
Danilo Marandola	INEA–Forest Observatory, National Institute of Agricultural Economics, Italy
Marco Marchetti	UniMOL – University of Molise, Italy
Alessandro Monteleone	INEA-NRN – National Rural Network, Italy
Gert-Jan Nabuurs	EFI - European Forest Institute
Davide Pettenella	UniPD - University of Padua, Italy
Ewald Rametsteiner	FAO - Food Agriculture Organization
Raoul Romano	INEA–Forest Observatory, National Institute of Agricultural Economics, Italy
Giuseppe Scarascia Mugnozza	CRA - Agricultural Research Council, Italy
Bill Slee	Macaulay Land Use Institute, Scotland

Organising Team Leaders: Luca Cesaro, Raoul Romano, Danilo Marandola

Organising Team: Danilo Marandola, Giuseppina Costantini, Sonia Marongiu, Fabio Di Pietro, Stefano Cilli, Diego Florian, Filippo Chiozzotto, Mario Cariello, Andrea Romano, Isabella Brandi, Maria Giglio.