



Rome, 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2011  
Parallel Session

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

## Parallel Session 4

*Competitiveness of the forest production sector: wood & non-wood products, supply chains, and strategies for a forest-based local governance*

# *Role of institutions in the implementation of forest measures of the Rural Development Plan: the case study of the Lazio Region*

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- **Stakeholders are very pessimistic about the successful of the forest measures of RDP 2007-2013 of Regione Lazio;**
- **From their point of view institutional framework is the major responsible of these results;**
- **Institutional frameworks has been quoted as one of the weak points of the past programming periods from many reports related to the RDP (as preliminary reports, intermediate or final).**

## Aims

- What is the current level of implementation from RDP 2007-2013 related to the forest measures;
- Verify the hypothesis if and how the institutional framework are influencing the forest measures implementation;
- the forest policy what can learn from the Regione Lazio RDP 2007-2013 experience's?

# Outlines

- **Forest sector and Rural Development Plan 2007-2013 of Lazio Region;**
- **RDP numbers' and results of interviews;**
- **Discussion about the role of Institutions;**
- **Conclusions**

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# Forest sector of Regione Lazio

Source: *IFCN, 2005*

**Forest area** : 605,589 hectares (35.21%);

## **Typologies of forest:**

**coppice** 340,657 hectares (56.25%);

**high forest** 97,338 hectares (16.07%);

**other forest** 167,594 hectares (27.67%);

## **Species prevalent:**

**oak ss.pp.** covers 225,191 hectares (of which Turkey Oak 107,931 hectares);

**beech** covers 71,710 hectares;

**Chestnut** covers , 33,161 hectares;

# Forest sector of Regione Lazio

## Type of properties (source: IFCN, 2005):

**Public owners:** 287,963 hectares (49%);

**Private owners:** 300,034 hectares (51%);

## Forest firms (source: ISTAT, 2001):

➤ less than 100 hectares: n° 46,132 – forest area 52,244 hectares (average: 1.13 hectares)

➤ more than 100 hectares: n° 813 - forest area 205,200 hectares (average: 252 hectares)

## Protected areas (source: Regione Lazio, 2011):

160,518.40 hectares , of which forest are 72,192.40 hectares (44,97%)

# Rural Development Plan 2007-2013 of Lazio Region

Axis	Misura	Budget managed by the Agricultural Office part of which could be used by forest sector too	Budget managed by other Regional Office part of which could be used by forest sector too	Budget managed by the Forest Office	
I - Improving the competitiveness of agricultural and forestry sector	111	Vocational training and information actions	<b>4 M</b>		
	114	Use of advisory services	<b>8.4 M</b>		
	115	Setting up of management, relief and advisory services	<b>0.5 M</b>		
	121	Modernizations of agricultural holding	<b>52.7 M</b>		
	122	Improvement of economic value of forest			<b>5.5 M</b>
	123	Adding value to agricultural and forestry products	(29M)		<b>3.4 M</b>
	124	Cooperation for development of new products	<b>8 M</b>		
	125	Infrastructure related to the development and adaptation of agriculture and forestry	(7.6M)		<b>6.9 M</b>

# Rural Development Plan 2007-2013 of Lazio Region

Axis	Misura		Budget managed by the Agricultural Office part of which could be used by forest sector too	Budget managed by other Regional Office part of which could be used by forest sector too	Budget managed by the Forest Office
II - Improving the environmental and the countryside	221	First afforestation of agricultural land	3 M (+11,7) <sup>1</sup>		
	222	First establishment of agroforestry systems on agricultural land	0.6 M		
	223	First afforestation of non-agricultural land			1,8 M
	<b>224</b>	<b>Nature 2000 payments</b>			<b>6,8 M<sup>2</sup></b>
	226	Restoring forestry potential and introducing prevention actions			6,5 M
	227	Non-productive investments			3,4 M

<sup>1</sup> Budget used for covering the afforestation cost realized with Reg. 2080/92 e Reg. 1957/1999;

<sup>2</sup> Measure which has the highest budget amongst all forest measures.

# Rural Development Plan 2007-2013 of Lazio Region

Axis	Misura		Budget managed by the Agricultural Office part of which could be used by forest sector too	Budget managed by other Regional Office part of which could be used by forest sector too	Budget managed by the Forest Office
III – The quality of life in rural areas and diversification of the rural economy	311	Diversification into non-agricultural activities (energy)		2,8 M	
	312	Business creation and development		3,5 M	
	323	Conservation and upgrading of the rural heritage		5,8 M	

Axis			
I	77,20	0	13,70
II	2,10	0	18,50
III	0	12,10	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>79,30</b>	<b>12,1</b>	<b>32,20</b>

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# Rural Development Plan 2007-2013

## update to the 31 december 2010

Measures	Project proposal	Proposal rejected	Proposal admitted to the next administrative steps	Comments
111	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	Very few proposals have been submitted from forest sector.
114	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	
115	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	
121	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	
<b>122</b>	<b>2+3PIF</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2+3PIF</b>	<b>PIF: Project integrated</b>
123	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	
124	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	
<b>125</b>	<b>20+1PIF</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13+1PIF</b>	
221	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	Very few proposals have been submitted from forest sector.
222	none			No call will be published in the next future
223	1	-	1	
<b>224</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4</b>	
<b>226</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>11</b>	
<b>227</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	
311	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	-
312	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	-
323	>10			Date related to the forest management plan

# Interviews

Demands are related to kwon

*what are the aspects that conditioned the forestry firms (public and private) to use the finance support foreseen from forest RDP 2007-2013.*

## Questionnaire:

- 10 close demands
- 1 open demand

**Answers should be express using a percentage metric, which the amount for all demands must be 100%.**

Stakeholders involved are:

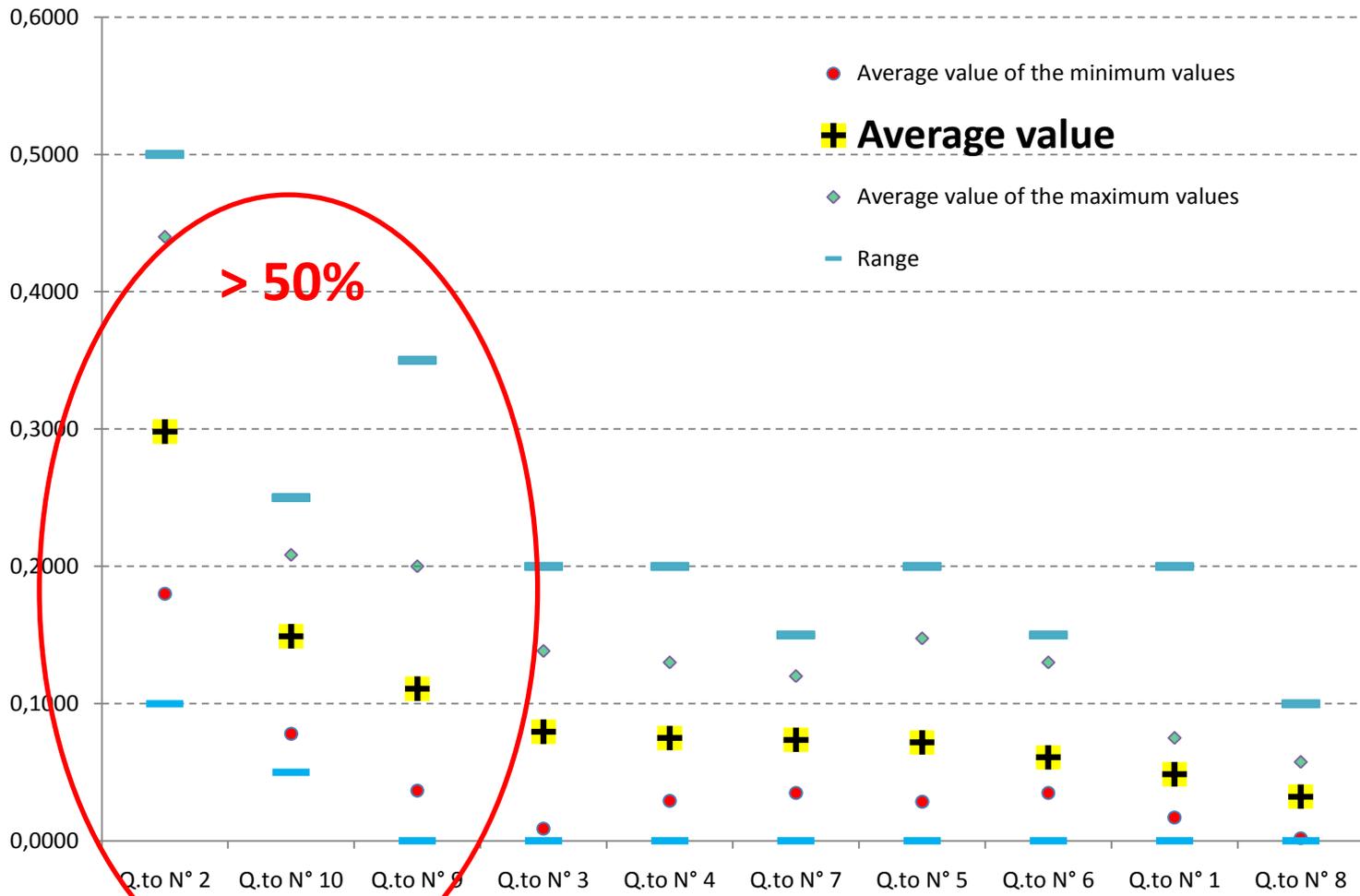
*Regional employers; Forest experts; Forest consultants; Forest owners*

Example of question submitted:

Do you believe that the accession from the forestry firms (public and private) to the RDP 2007-2013 is conditioned by ...

*... The volume of rules and regulations produced from the European, national, regional and local institutions, which governing access/implementation/execution of the forest measures/actions of the RDP 2007/2013 ? (question n° 2)*

# Results of the interviews



# Results of the interviews

From the stakeholders point of view, the 3 major motivation of the RDP results are:

- (q.to n° 2) **the volume of rules and regulation from European, national regional and local institutions (29,82%);**
- (q.to n° 10) the difficulties of the Regional administration in the management of the forest measures/actions (14,91%);
- (q.to n° 9) the new obligations/commitments/constraints that forest firms could be subjected (11,09%)

# Results of the interview

Typologies	Questions	Value	Totale
Aspects related to the institutional picture	Q.to n° 2	29,82%	47,00%
	Q.to n° 6	6,09%	
	Q.to n° 9	11,09%	
Aspects related to the RDPs	Q.to n° 3	7,95%	15,45%
	Q.to n° 4	7,50%	
Aspects related to the Regione Lazio organization	Q.to n° 5	7,18%	22,09%
	Q.to n° 10	14,91%	
Aspects related to the forest firms	Q.to n° 7	7,36%	10,59%
	Q.to n° 8	3,23%	
Past experience with RDP 2000-2006	Q.to n° 1	4,86%	4,86%
			100,00%

69,09%

**Institutional framework explains 69,09% of the current low adhesion from forest firms to the RDP 2007-2013.**

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# Evidence about the role of institutions

## Measure 224 – Nature 2000 payments

### **Aim:**

*conservation of forest ecosystems of high environmental value;*

### **Goal:**

**payments for 7,000 hectares of forest;**

*Results (update 31 december 2010):*

*Payments have been done for n° 4 private forest owners only, and 25 hectares are the aggregate forest land involved.*

# Evidence about the role of institutions

## Measure 224 – Nature 2000 payments

### EU rules:

- forest private owners;
- granted annually with a support fixed between minimum €/ha 40, maximum €/ha 200;

Public forest owners are excluded!

Each year forest owner must be produce the proposal to obtain a small amount!  
Opportunity cost to produce the proposal is higher than the fund granted!!!

### Regional rules:

- forest owners must submitted the proposal by software devoted and they must fill completely all requested;

Format is the same for all RDP measures. Private forest owners usually don't have many of the information requested!!!

- forest owners must have the management forest plan;

Very few private forest owners have the forest management plan!!!!

- forest owner must managed its forest according to the regional forest rules (R.R. 7/2005) and Nature 2000 rules (DGR 363/2006, DGR. 928/2005);

Procedure articulated, expensive and time consuming, specially for cutting area more than 10 hectares!!!

### National rules:

- accepted the proposal from the regional forest office, the forest owners will be paid from AGEA (national agency for EU payments).

Very time expensive!!!

# Evidence about the role of institutions

## Measure 224 – Nature 2000 payments

### Evidence:

*Given the transaction costs that should sustain the private forest owners, becomes more convenient the alternative to give up to the funds of RDP !!!!.*

And

if the Regional forest Office want to change something in order to make the Measure 224 more attractive, what is the procedure?...

**... the proposal of changing should be discussed with the Agriculture Department, and if the changes are relevant, it needed to have the consensus from the EU!!!**

Very time expensive!!!! Sometimes more than 1 year!

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## Conclusions

Institutional framework has adversely affected the implementation of the Regione Lazio RDP's

Forest Office of the Regione Lazio, has more than 2 years to improve the RDP performance's, however, in the near future the EU should proceed with the automatic cancellation of the RDP funds not used by the regions.

Forest Office want to overcome the hard constraint of the forest management plan, present in almost all forest measures. Proposal is to delete it.

This drastically changes the RDP aim's: from the first period where the aim has been to improve the efficiency of the regional forest system, for the future the aim will be to spend as possible as funds from RDP.

## What learn the forest policy from the Regione Lazio experience?

Institutional framework should become one of the major component in the future programming, in order to identify simplification in the administrative procedures and to reduce the transaction costs for forest owners.

Some stakeholders have put this question:

***Do you think that RDP is a forest policy tools?***

*Many of them think that it is an agricultural policy tools adopted to the forest sector.*

**... this is all!!!**

**Many thanks for your attention!!!**

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