

Mobilising research in support to the EU forest strategy for 2030

How can research on temperate and tropical forest ecosystems meet the objectives of European environmental policies?

7 December 2023

Maison Irène et Frédéric Joliot Curie, Brussels

This event will be a unique opportunity of dialogue between science and policy on how research on temperate and tropical forest ecosystems can meet the objectives of European environmental policies, particularly in a context where European forests and forestry stakeholders in Member States are facing major and growing challenges, as they are asked to combine the environmental, economic, social and territorial role of forests while being exposed to various threats exacerbated by climate change.

Morning

Understanding forests to better protect them: the role of research on temperate and tropical forest ecosystems

9h30-10h00

INTRODUCTION

- Welcoming word: Louise Vaast, European Affairs Officer, INRAE
- Opening keynote: Thierry Caquet, Scientific Director for Environment, INRAE
- Opening keynote: Greet Janssens-Maenhout, Head of the Forests and Bioeconomy Unit, JRC D1

10h00-11h00

Panel 1 – RESILIENCE: Improving the resilience of forests and forest sector facing climate change, multiple hazards and biodiversity loss

Moderator: Georg Winkel, Chair of the Forest and Nature Conservation Policy Group at Wageningen University

Panellists:

- Claire Veneault-Fourrey, Senior Scientist on Tree-Microorganism Interactions, INRAE
- Marielle Brunette, Senior Scientist at the Bureau for Economic Theory and Application, INRAE
- Angelika Rubin, DG ENV D3, European Commission

Presentations followed by discussion with the room

11h20-12h30

Panel 2 – MONITORING: Improving the monitoring of EU forests to assess the state of forest ecosystems and enable data-driven decision-making

Moderator: Oliver Brendel, Senior scientist, INRAE

Panellists:

- Nicolas Barbier, researcher on Tropical Ecology, French National Research Institute for Sustainable Development, IRD
- Laurent Saint Andre, Senior Scientist at the 'Biogeochemical Cycles in Forest Ecosystems' Unit, INRAE
- Frédéric Frappart, Senior Scientist at 'Atmosphere Plant Soil Interactions' Unit, INRAE
- Ion Codescu, HoU Land Use and Management, ENV D1, European Commission

Presentations followed by discussion with the room

12h30-12h40

Wrap up of the morning panels

Thierry Fourcaud, Deputy Director for Research and Strategy, CIRAD

12h40-14h00
Networking lunch

Afternoon

Strengthening a holistic and future-oriented EU forestry policy

14h00-14h20

Introductory talk: The EU forest strategy: where do we stand and what remains to be done?

Gaëlle Marion, HoU Environmental Sustainability, AGRI B2, European Commission

14h20-15h30

Roundtable: Which priorities of forest stakeholders for a holistic vision of forests?

Moderator: Maurice Hoffmann, Alternet Network Council Chair

Speakers:

- Nicolas Picard, Co-chair of the SCAR Forest
- Piotr Borkowski, Executive Director, European State Forest Association (EUSTAFOR)
- Michele Bozzano, Coordinator of the European Forest Genetic Resources Programme
- Johan Elvnert, Secretary General of the Forest-based Sector Technology Platform

15h30-16h00

CONCLUSION

- Catherine Bastien, Head of the 'Ecology and Biology' Scientific division at INRAE
- Bram de Vos, General Director Environmental Science Group, WUR