



European Union Strategy for the Alpine Region (EUSALP)

Annual Forum

CONCEPT NOTE

10th December 2020 - SESSION 15:25-16:25

Multifunctional alpine forests: what contradictory interests & what solutions?

Session organisers

Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region, plus EUSALP Action Groups 2, 6, 7, 8 and 9

Title, topic, perimeter and target groups of the session

Multifunctional alpine forests: what contradictory interests & what solutions?

The ability and responsibility of forest owners to manage forests sustainably and keeping them resilient, is crucial for protecting biodiversity, and to deliver ecosystem services for people, nature and the economy: **support** the photosynthesis or nutrient cycles, **regulate** the water cycle, temperature, or CO2 sequestration, **provide** timber, food, feed, or fiber and deliver with heritage, aesthetic, spiritual values, and its contribution to recreation and health an **cultural** impact as well. Despite this, conflicting interests and risks create major challenges for setting priorities in multifunctional forest management. Because of the impact of climate change on the forest and timber value chains, innovative green business solutions are needed.

As a result, the session will focus on:

- Multifunctional Forestry in light of the new developments at the EU policy level
- Pulling on the tablecloth – exploration of the contradictory interests and risks emerging from the multifunctional use of forests in the Alpine Region by the ARPAF2 project “REDIAFOR”
- the role of protective forests as nature-based solutions for the safety of people, buildings and infrastructures
- relaunching the Task Force on Multifunctional Forestry and Sustainable Use of Timber

Origin and history of this session

The multifunctional roles of forests are often overlooked and thus remain underestimated, even if they represent a valuable asset and shaping power in the Alpine region. Their contribution to the quality of our living environment is manifold and is recognized as an essential driver in responding to major societal expectations, such as those enshrined in the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement as well as the objectives of the European Green Deal.

It is therefore important that all opportunities and challenges faced by the forests are taken into account in the policy debate at the EU level.



Timeline and agenda

15:25	Welcome and Introduction
15:30	Multifunctional forests between climate crisis, biodiversity and the people's expectations – new developments at the EU policy level 1) Marco Onida from the European Commission – representing the perspectives of DG ENVI; DG AGRI & DG CLIM in elaborating the new EU Forest Strategy. 2) Nathalie Hufnagl-Jovy , representing the Confederation of the European Forest Owners (CEPF). To be confirmed
15:50	From contradictory interests to dialogue: an Alpine perspective Klaus Pukall: Preliminary Results from the ARPAF project “REDIAFOR”
16:00	The role of protective forests, and applicable nature-based solutions Frédéric Berger (INRAE) , Institut national de recherche pour l'agriculture, l'alimentation et l'environnement Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur
16:10	Relaunch of the “Task Force on Multifunctional Forestry and Sustainable use of Timber” Christian Hoffmann & Gian Antonio Battistel
16:15	Debate and conclusion

Moderation: Raimund Becher, Bavarian State Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Forestry

Expected results and output for the future

The lessons learned and findings from this workshop will be used for the further work of the 5 AGs shaping the TF on multifunctional forestry and sustainable use of timber. Thereby the economic, environmental and social benefits for the territories and people of the EUSALP regions are valorized and sustained. In alignment with the EU policies, the adapted measures also comply with the EU energy transition.

