

Session 1

FORESTERRA progress and future expectations

- **FORESTERRA ERA-Net: context, scientific plan, FORESTERRA Call**
– David González
- **Existing forest research capacities and priorities in the Mediterranean basis** – Giuseppe Scarascia



FORESTERRA

Enhancing FOrest RESearch in the MediTERRAnean
through improved coordination and integration



FORESTERRA Networking Workshop

Marseille Saint-Charles
12 December 2013

FORESTERRA ERA-Net:
context, scientific plan, FORESTERRA call



FORESTERRA ("Enhancing FOrest RESearch in the MediTERRAnean through improved coordination and integration"), Grant Agreement n° 291832, is an ERA-NET funded by the European Union's FP7.

What is an ERA-NET:

Its objective is to strengthen the coordination of national and regional research programmes by developing joint activities or by mutually supporting joint calls for trans-national proposals.

Under a ERA-NET, national and regional authorities identify research programmes they wish to coordinate mutually.

The participants are 'owners' (typically ministries defining research programmes) or programme 'managers' (research councils or research funding agencies managing programmes).

Context:

FORESTERRA reinforces the scientific cooperation on Mediterranean forests through a transnational Mediterranean ERA-Net, which also builds new transcontinental cooperation among Mediterranean Climate Areas in order to reduce fragmentation and maximise the impact of research activities and the exchange of information.

FORESTERRA

- ✓ started in **January 2012** and will finish in **December 2015**
- ✓ is part of the **7th Research Framework Programme**
- ✓ has a European contribution of almost **2 M. EUROS**
- ✓ has partners from **12 countries**: Spain, France, Italy, Turkey, Portugal, Tunisia, Morocco, Bulgaria, Slovenia, Croatia, Greece and Algeria, as well as two international institutions, the European Forest Institute (EFI) and the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM).

FORESTERRA Networking workshop

Marseille, 12-13 December 2013

Objective: Foster the clustering of existing national research organisations as well as of relevant and strategic research projects

Expected result: to improve future coordination of FORESTERRA's network and creating new and developing networks based on FORESTERRA's strategic agenda

On-going work under FORESTERRA

- Implementation of joint activities: Networking Workshops and a FORESTERRA call, funding networking and collaborative projects with real impact on ***“Mediterranean-scale approach to study global change drivers, impacts & indicators on forest ecosystems and to foster forest system resilience through managing biodiversity”***
- Increasing the exchange of information with MCAs (Chile, South Africa, Australia and USA) and identifying common strategic activities and scientific priorities of mutual interest.

FORESTERRA Scientific plan

- 4 multi-disciplinary and cross-cutting research themes, in the framework of the MFRA, and of strategic Pan-Mediterranean relevance, were identified:
1. Understanding global change drivers, indicators and impacts on Mediterranean forest ecosystems: a Mediterranean-scale approach
 2. Fostering forest system resilience through managing biodiversity, from genes to communities
 3. Multi-purpose forest landscapes management to enhance the role of non-wood products and related ecosystem services in rural development
 4. Integrated watershed management for delivering forest water-related services

FORESTERRA Transnational Joint Call for Proposals on:

*Mediterranean-scale approach to study global change drivers,
impacts & indicators on forest ecosystems and to foster forest
system resilience through managing biodiversity*

<http://www.foresterra.eu/foresterra-call/>

- **Based on the principles of scientific relevance and funds necessity and effectiveness:**

One-step
procedure

The Call has been organized in two sections:

1. Networking Action → Understanding global change drivers, impacts & indicators on forest ecosystems: a Mediterranean-scale approach (Global Change). Max. 250,000 EURO

2. Collaborative projects → Fostering forest system resilience through managing biodiversity, from genes to communities (Biodiversity). Max. 1,500,000 EURO

Two-step
procedure

Transnational call: Networking Action

Objectives of the Networking Action - “Global Change”:

- **Coordination**, capacity building and networking of research activities around global change and Mediterranean forests
- Develop a plan to **support the transnational access** to existing research programmes, networks and infrastructures or/and to establish new structures
- It is expected to fund 1 consortium with a minimum of 3 different funding countries and all relevant scientists with own resources
- Estimated duration: up to 3 years

Transnational call: Collaborative project action

Scope of the Collaborative project -“Biodiversity”:

- An interdisciplinary effort is required, combining expertise in environmental sciences, ecology, genetics and population biology, forest management, governance and economics
- It is expected to fund 1 consortium with a minimum 3 different funding countries and all relevant scientists with own resources
- Estimated duration: up to 3 years

Main Call dates

Launch of the call: 4 November 2013

➤ Collaborative projects:

- ❖ First stage (Pre-proposal): 15 January 2014
- ❖ Second stage (Full proposal): 7 June 2014
- ❖ Estimated starting date: December 2014-January 2015

➤ Networking Action:

- ❖ Full proposal: 15 January 2014
- ❖ Estimated starting date: from July 2014

FORESTERRA future expectations

Different options for future coordination activities:

1. ERA-Net Cofund actions. Submit a new proposal on forest research in the Mediterranean region - FORESTERRA 2
2. Other kind of instruments: Standing Committee on Agriculture Research (SCAR) Strategic Working Group (SWG) Forestry

Further discussion during:

- Session 4. Transnational Joint Research Units
- Session 5. Meeting of directors of Forest Research Institutes and FORESTERRA partners. Scientific cooperation debate: “how to strengthen the FORESTERRA network in the future?”

Info Day in Brussels on 16th January 2014:

Infoday on ERA-NET Cofund under Horizon 2020

ERA-NETs under Horizon 2020 will be implemented by using a specific, new type of action: ERA-NET Cofund with important changes compared to FP7.

The infoday will include a general introduction on detailed information on the features of the ERA-NET Cofund actions including the provisions from the model grant agreement, the relevant calls in 2014 and 2015 and information on proposal submission, evaluation, grant preparation and reporting.

Info Day in Brussels on 17th January 2014:

Information on the new Horizon 2020 calls for proposals on:

- Societal Challenge 2 (Food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine and maritime and inland water research and the Bioeconomy)
- Leadership in enabling and industrial technologies (LEIT).

SC2 covers 3 calls for proposals under which projects can apply for funding:

1. Sustainable Food Security
2. Blue Growth and Innovative Sustainable
3. Inclusive Bioeconomy



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Thank you!

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