

Forest Bioenergy in the Protected Mediterranean Areas

Technical panel in Valencia (Spain)
2nd workshop (1st thematic workshop) **“Assessment of threats and benefits of
forest biomass harvesting/extraction”**



Workpackage 4 - Transferring
Activity A.4.2. - Technical panels

November 2017

WORKSHOP REPORT

Workpackage 4	Transferring
Activity A.4.2	Technical Panel
Deliverable D.4.2.1	Workshop Report

Pilot Area	<p>Enguera (Valencia):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Headquarters of the Association of Forest Municipalities in the Comunitat Valenciana - Navalón Forest - V074
Involved partner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Association of Forest Municipalities of the Comunitat Valenciana (AMUFOR) • Official Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Services and Shipping of Valencia (COCINSV)
Responsible partners	Project Partner (PP5) – AMUFOR
Work mode	Thematic session: assessment of threats and benefits of forest biomass harvesting/extraction
Location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plaza Manuel Tolsá s/n, 46810 Enguera (Valencia) • Navalón Forest – V074
Date	15.11.2017
Participants	12 participants: local public authority; higher education and research; enterprise and SME and business support organisation.
Experts	Prof. Dr. José-Vicente Oliver Villanueva
Workshop Material	1 Power point presentation - ForBioEnergy Project: outcomes and next steps. Methodology for the assessment of sustainable indicators after forestry interventions.

Workshop's Outline

In the first part of the workshop, the objectives of the ForBioEnergy project were presented, along with its outcomes and its next steps. The presentation allowed having a wide knowledge on the project regarding the thematic session in which the assistants were called.

Subsequently to the presentation of the context, the methodology, in which the project ForBioEnergy is working, was presented. Concretely, the indicators were put in value before, during and after forestry intervention. The objective was that the experts could identify the main socioeconomic and environmental indicators after using the forest biomass and exchange, at the same time, strategies and operative solutions to valorise the benefits derivate of a sustainable and subsidiary forest management as a tool to rural development in the Mediterranean protected areas.

Following, all the participants were to the ForBioEnergy Pilot Area. There, the intervention which had done almost 6 years ago, during the development of the INTERREG MED Proforbiomed project, was explained. These Pilot Areas are being study in the INTERREG MED ForBioEnergy project. Therefore, knowing the context of the survey, as well as the methodology, the experts gave us their technical contribution. It is noted that the study of the carbon balance, the biodiversity, the landscape and the quality of the land and water, were outlined.

Finally, afterwards exhaustive discussions, different and relevant contributions of indicators were effectuated. These contributions will be reflected in the ForBioEnergy project.

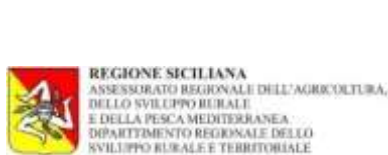
<p><i>Main criticalities</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of studies that quantify the improvement of the environmental services before (B.I), during (D.I.) and after (A.I.) a forestry intervention: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complexity of applying indicators of biodiversity in areas where any intervention has not been done due to the density of the stand that prevents its accessibility (B.I.), - Difficulty to quantify the carbon fixed in the below-ground biomass (B.I., D.I., A.I.), - Limitations of the landscape study for the lack of quantitative studies (B.I., D.I., A.I.). 2. Short-term vision that leads to reticence of performing forestry interventions, this reticence is increased due to the erroneous vision regarding the compatibility to do a sustainable forest management in protected areas as the Natura 2000 is. Furthermore, there are studies in which the improvement of the habitat through a forest management is excluded, being focused only on the conservation of specific species. 3. Lack of knowledge of certain groups about the employment generated due to forest management, including the reduction of the rural depopulation.
<p><i>Main solutions</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Study methodologies to quantify the improvement, in terms of benefits, of the environmental services after forestry intervention: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concerning the carbon balance, it is proposed to quantify it through the growth potential, by satellite images, as well as by the net substitution effect. 2. Regarding the landscape, at this moment, it is proposed to make a sociological distribution that includes the rural-urban perception and to continue researching in quantifiable studies. 3. To present specific studies in which the methodology of the Natura 2000 has been applied for the quantification of the improvement of the specific habitats, such as the habitat 6220 which includes species of the genus <i>Brachypodium</i> after forestry interventions. 4. Apply socioeconomic indicators in real studies that allow quantifying the increase in employment and the reduction of rural depopulation after a forest management. <p>In general terms, the accessibility has to be improved through forestry interventions and reduce the rotation, when it is necessary, in order to enhance the vitality of the stand and its later regeneration.</p>

Agenda of the Workshop

ITEM	SPEAKER	SCHEDULE
Registration of the participants	---	9:00 - 9:15
Presentation of the ForBioEnergy project: objectives, outcomes and next steps in relation to the thematic topic.	Fernando Pradells and Rafael Mossi	9:15 - 10:45
Presentation of ForBioEnergy methodology: sustainable indicators before, during and after forestry interventions.	José-Vicente Oliver	10:45-11:15
Trip to the Navalón Forest		
Participatory workshop. Main socio-economic and environmental indicators from the use of forest biomass. Strategies and operative solutions. Pilot Area 1	Everybody. Coordinated by José-Vicente Oliver and Rebeca Aleix	11:45 – 12:45
Participatory workshop Main socio-economic and environmental indicators from the use of forest biomass. Strategies and operative solutions. Pilot Area 2	Everybody. Coordinated by José-Vicente Oliver and Rebeca Aleix	13 -14:00
Conclusions. Next steps in the project framework.	Fernando Pradells	14:00 – 14:30

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<https://forbioenergy.interreg-med.eu/>



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Petralia Sottana



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SLOVENIAN FORESTRY INSTITUTE



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