

Q1- How can you use CAP interventions / and other funding sources to achieve multiple benefits from forests in forest-dominant rural areas?



Payments for ecosystem services - how to calculate / are these sufficient to achieve uptake [NB: work being done on this by EC - report being prepared]

To note the recent changes to state aid rules - will allow a higher proportion of funding beyond costs incurred / income foregone

IT examples:
- Project for enhancing infrastructure for public use of forest areas;
- restoring forests from climate related damages.
- Consolidation of fragmented forest parcels into larger areas to help with management
Communication also very important to reach forests-owner. (IT)

New element (HU): cooperation measure: allow to gather diff types of stakeholders (farmers, foresters, local majors) at local level - requires that at least 5 partners should work together.
Purpose: water retention in Forests around settlements.

Importance of extension services, also to explain new regulation that will affect Forests in the future. (HU)

Funding program at the state level provided for specific activities.

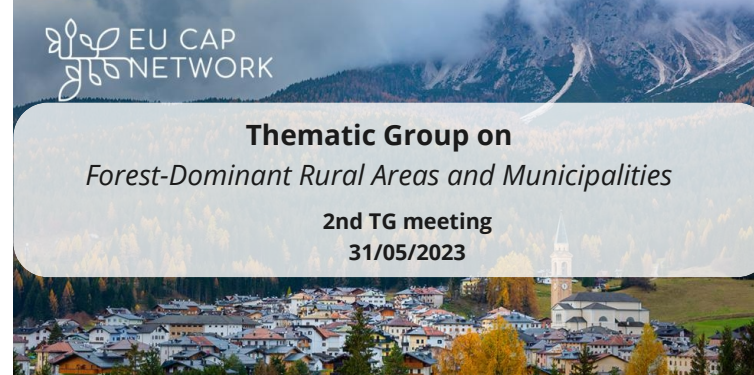
stimulate simplification of administrative procedures to have max effects on participation in EU initiatives.

17% target for afforestation in IE - supported through public funds

Research activities carried by private consultancies to achieve targets - although this is very important funding has not been extended also to extension services which are also essential to meet the target

Group 3

Q2- What role can networking (working in partnership) and communication with different stakeholders play in helping balance the different needs and interests in forest-dominant rural areas?



Idea of developing a Platform via EU CAP Network website, where outputs of specific initiatives and projects could be shared.

Benefit: Once the project is finished no need to transfer the outputs to another forum. online community will still exchange in the same platform.

Idea to send a questionnaire to all participants of the TG to find out their strengths to enable collaboration in smaller groups

Knowledge Centre created (HU) (NGO) to bridge academic knowledge and practice

- to know which are the needs, issues, challenges of a given group of stakeholders;
- continuity of networks created by project - keep the contact alive
- complicated to engage in project without a partner.

Networking is most successful when there is a common problem to resolve and easier to sustain afterwards as people are more keen to stay in contact.

Question is how to sustain networks beyond the life of the project - needs leadership / animator + potentially also funding

Group 3

What are the best ways of achieving multiple benefits from forests in forest-dominant rural areas through the use of networking, communication, and EU funding?

Networking and communication

Idea to create a platform for sharing information / outputs from different projects

Institutional networking between Member States is important - need to start the conversation

Find ways to bridge academic knowledge and translate it onto the ground in forests.

Not only research - how to bring together useful elements from projects & initiatives to share the findings more widely.

EU Funding

More funding /emphasis on extension services

Value of cooperation - look to see how the cooperation has been used in different MSs to benefit networking & collaboration in relation to forest areas.

There are lots of CAP interventions that can be used to support forest areas (specific and horizontal - But there is a lack of a centralised place to look for funding for forest areas - find ways to bring this information together in an accessible way