



EUROPEAN FOREST
INSTITUTE

Forest-based policy pathways towards a climate-neutral society: introducing the ForestPaths project

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JRC LULUCF Workshop, 20-21 June 2022

ForestPaths

CO-DESIGNING HOLISTIC FOREST-BASED POLICY
PATHWAYS FOR CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION

Duration: September 2022 – February 2027



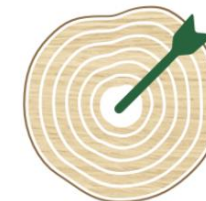
CHALLENGE

EU targets to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and become climate neutral by 2050 require urgent and major reforms by all sectors. Simultaneously, the EU has committed to conserve biodiversity.



OPPORTUNITIES

Clear policy pathways are needed to meet these multiple targets. They need to outline alternatives for how European forests and the forest-based sector can contribute to achieving a climate-neutral and resilient society and economy.



AIM

ForestPaths will co-design, quantify and evaluate holistic forest-based policy pathways to optimise the contribution of EU forests and the forest-based sector to climate change mitigation, while considering the need to adapt forests to climate change, conserve biodiversity and sustain forest ecosystem services provisioning.

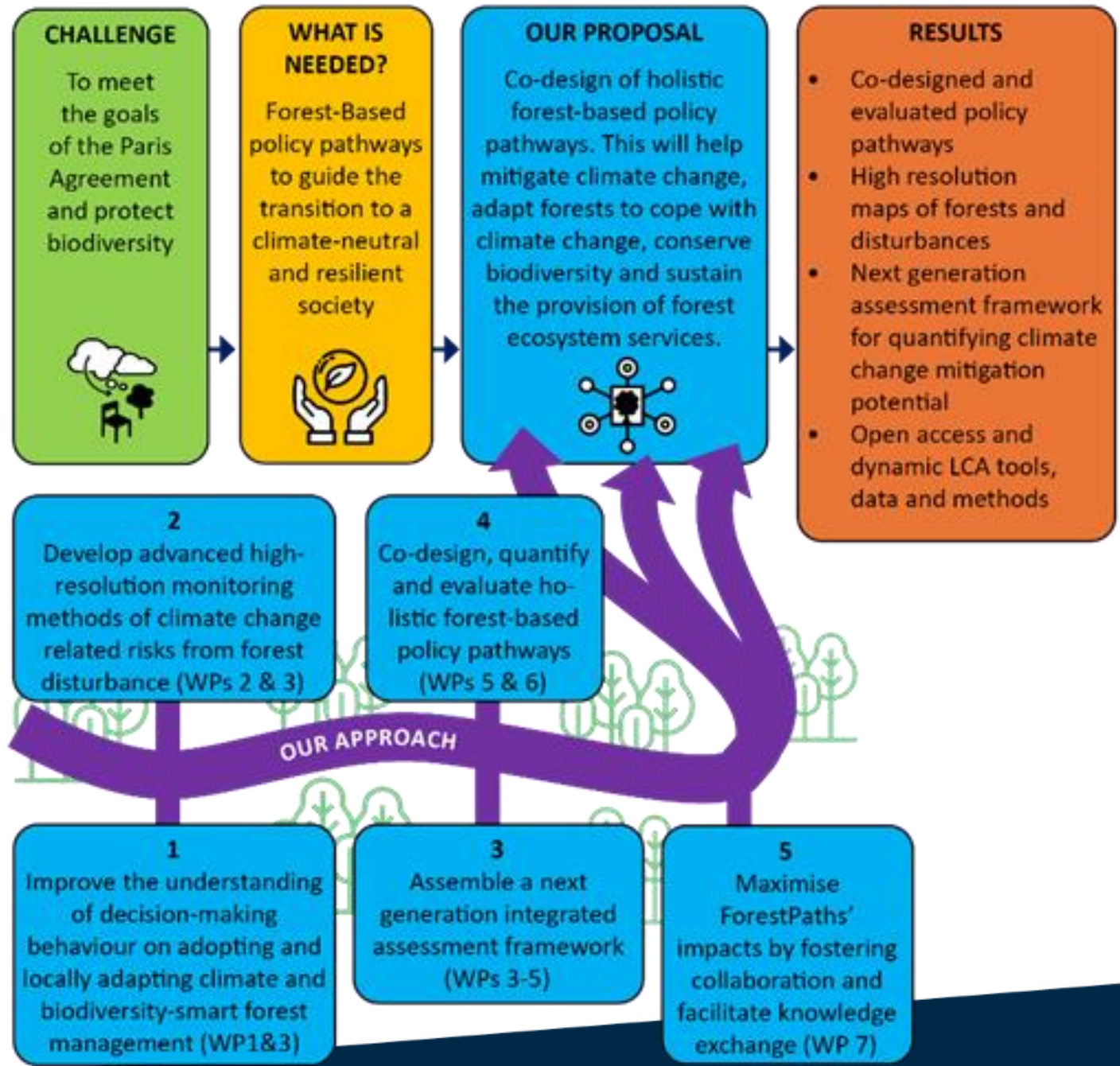


This project receives funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under No 101056755, as well as from the United Kingdom Research and Innovation Council (UKRI).

The ForestPaths consortium

PARTNERS

- European Forest Institute
- Lund University
- Technical University of Munich
- Karlsruhe Institute of Technology
- Natural Resources Institute Finland
- Stichting Wageningen Research
- Flemish Institute for Technological Research
- PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency
- Oeko Institut
- Euro-Mediterranean Center on Climate Change
- Prospex Institute
- Transilvania University of Brasov
- Pensoft Publishers
- Joint Research Centre – European Commission
- University of Aberdeen
- University of Edinburgh

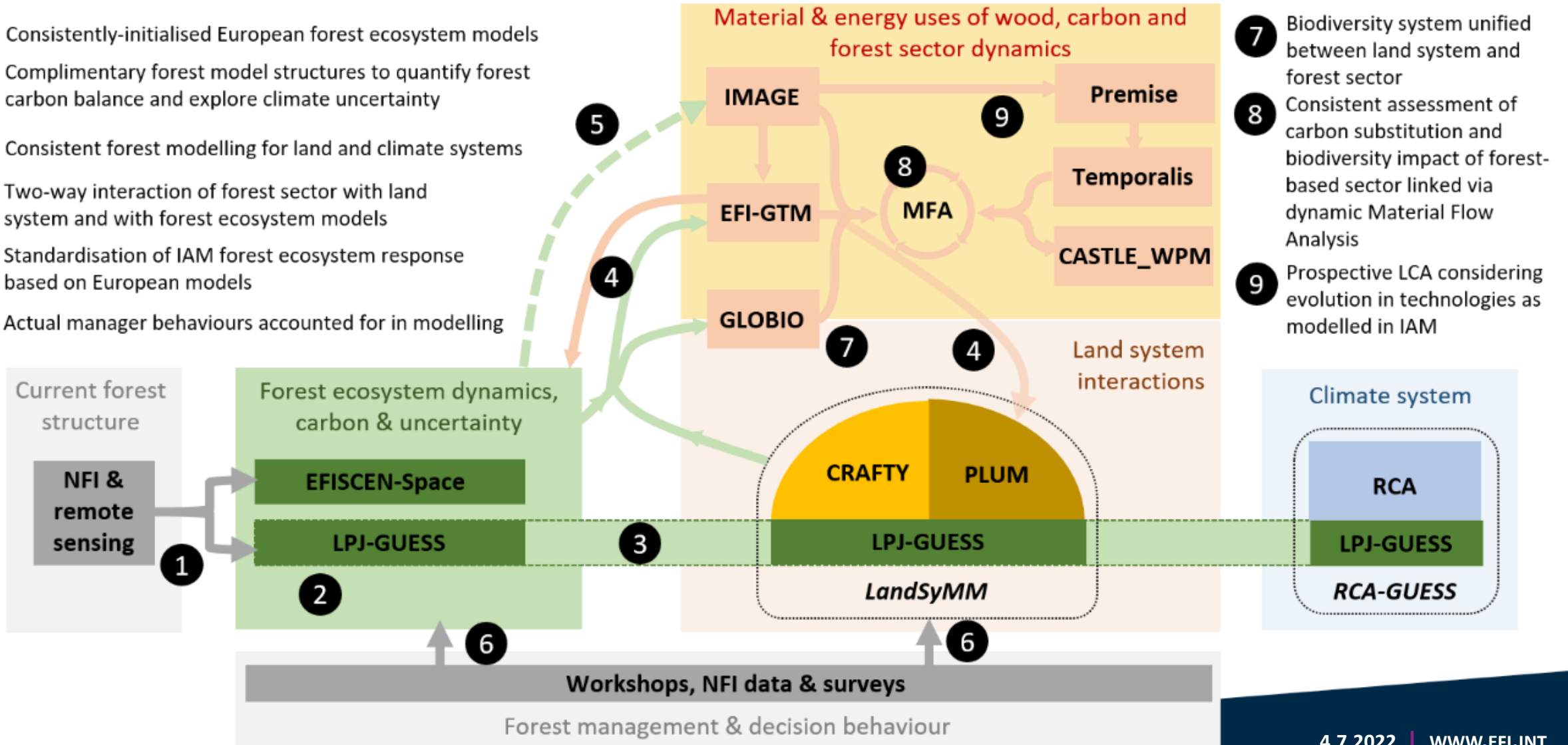


Project activities



Modelling approach

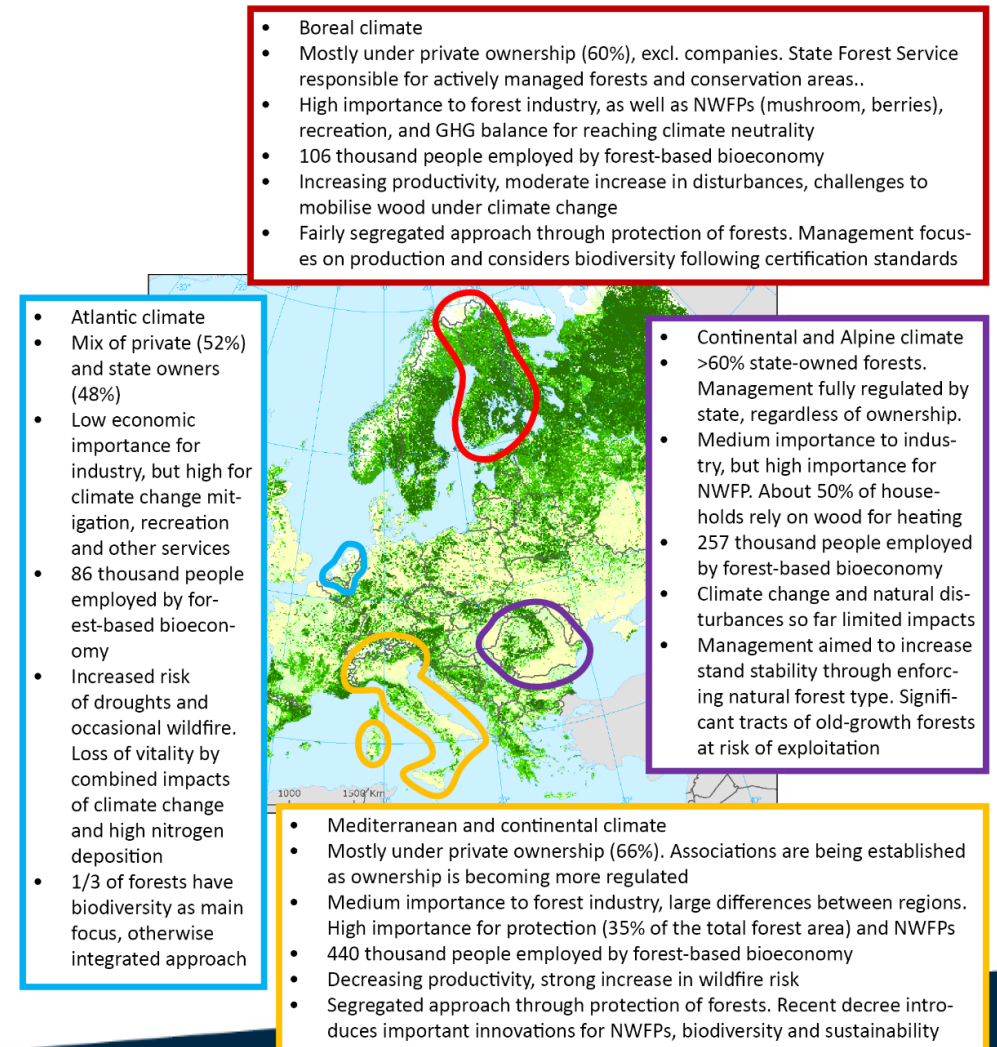
- 1 Consistently-initialised European forest ecosystem models
- 2 Complimentary forest model structures to quantify forest carbon balance and explore climate uncertainty
- 3 Consistent forest modelling for land and climate systems
- 4 Two-way interaction of forest sector with land system and with forest ecosystem models
- 5 Standardisation of IAM forest ecosystem response based on European models
- 6 Actual manager behaviours accounted for in modelling



- 7 Biodiversity system unified between land system and forest sector
- 8 Consistent assessment of carbon substitution and biodiversity impact of forest-based sector linked via dynamic Material Flow Analysis
- 9 Prospective LCA considering evolution in technologies as modelled in IAM

Policy Labs and demo cases

- Series of Policy Labs to:
 - i. identify policy objectives, stakeholder needs and visions on European forests and the forest-based sector, and policy actions and opportunities to achieve them;
 - ii. critically examine initial simulation results;
 - iii. provide policy recommendations derived from the pathway analysis and evaluation.
- Confirmed support by multiple stakeholders (national ministries, forest extension services, forest based sector, certification bodies, civil society)
- Four demo cases to ensure practical usability and relevance of the knowledge generated in ForestPaths



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Thank you!

More information: <https://blog.efi.int/>



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