



## **EUSALP Task Force “Multifunctional Forests and Sustainable Use of Timber” (TF MFSUT)**

### **Mandate 2021/2022<sup>1</sup>**

The EUSALP Task Force “Multifunctional Forests and Sustainable Use of Timber” (TF MFSUT) has been established by the Board of Action Groups Leaders at their meeting on 28 February 2019 in Milan with the objective of fostering a cross cutting and interactive cooperation among the EUSALP Action Groups 2, 6, 7, 8 and 9 regarding topics linked to forests and wood.

The TF MFSUT received the mandate to support mechanisms for exchanging information among the concerned Action Groups, to further coordinate the elaboration of the ARPAF II project proposal “REDIAFOR” and to prepare a concept for a joint workshop at the Annual Forum 2019 in Milan. This mandate has been implemented until the end of 2019.

Currently many initiatives and proposals related to forest and wood issues are waiting to be tackled within EUSALP. As the TF MFSUT has proven its utility in the past, the Leaders of the Action Groups 2, 6, 7, 8 and 9 propose to give the Task Force a second mandate and ask the EUSALP Executive Board for endorsement of this mandate.

In the period from April 2021 until June 2022, which corresponds to the end of the AlpGov 2 project, the TF MFSUT shall carry out the following tasks:

- Develop a statement of the Action Groups involved to the consultation-process for the new “*EU Forest Strategy*” (ending on 19 April 2021);
- Contribute to the EUSALP Annual Fora 2021 and 2022;
- Contribute to the AlpGov2 strategic priority policy area “*Innovation hub for Green business models*” regarding the forest and timber value chains;
- Support the elaboration of a “*Study on Climate Resilient Spatial Planning*” foreseen in the strategic priority policy area “*Spatial Planning – for a joint territorial perspective*” enhancing the linkages between forest functions and spatial planning;

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<sup>1</sup> This mandate has been endorsed by the EUSALP Executive Board in its meeting on 8 April 2021.

- Contribute to the development of the document to be published under the French EUSALP Presidency called *“Forests and multifunctionality: nature-based solutions as tools for the resilience of alpine territories”*;
- Develop recommendations based on the findings from the following workshops held under the frame of the EUSALP:
  - ✓ *“Climate Crisis and its effects on Forest and Timber Value Chains”* held at the 3<sup>rd</sup> EUSALP Annual Forum on 28/29 November 2019 in Milan,
  - ✓ *“Mountain Forests & Climate Change in the Alpine Region”* held on 3/4 September 2020 in Aix les Bains,
  - ✓ *“Multifunctional alpine forests: what contradictory interests & what solutions?”* held at the 4<sup>th</sup> EUSALP Annual Forum on 10 December 2020, and
  - ✓ *“Climate Change impact & Adaptation. How can we address common challenges in the “Alpine Space” in a more effective way?”* held at the Digital “International Expert Workshop” of ARPAF REDIAFOR Project on 27 January 2020;
- Elaborate a project application to the INTERREG Alpine Space Program focusing on multifunctional forests in times of climate crisis and promoting cooperation between institutions along the forest-timber value chains, actors involved in the EUSALP, the “Alpine Climate Board” of the Alpine Convention and other interested partners;
- Support the information exchange among the Action Groups involved regarding issues linked to forests and wood.

The TF MFSUT currently consists of highly committed representatives of the EUSALP Action Groups 2, 6, 7, 8 and 9 and remains open for other Action Groups, which may wish to contribute to the topics linked to forests and wood. Each Action Group is represented by a maximum of two members.

The work of the TF MFSUT is based on self-organization and a constant flow of information from the TF MFSUT to the Leaders of the Action Groups involved shall be ensured.

The members of Action Group 6 Gian Antonio Battistel and Christian Hoffmann were selected as coordinators of the TF MFSUT.