

STRATEGIC FACILITATION



As part of the **REDIAFOR** project, an exploratory approach to prepare for conflicts in mountain forests was developed (training sessions). It is based on the strategic facilitation method, presented below.

IN WHAT SITUATIONS?

- An elected official, public operator, or sector is having difficulties because of mounting conflicts;
- When repeated attempts to resolve the situation are unsuccessful;
- When it becomes hard to discuss certain topics;
- When the quality of the forest deteriorates or is hard to manage.

KEYWORDS

Prevention

Conflict management in mountain forests

Approaches and methods for public or private owners and managers

strategic facilitation

WHAT FOR?

To allow stakeholders in a given area to develop their forestry-based project and reposition possible conflicts within a territorial context that can manage them more effectively.

This method encourages stakeholders to create a shared vision, develop their own culture of territorial facilitation, and draft action plans that respect each person's freedom (co-action).

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Strategic facilitation, or “**heritage assets-based**” **approach**, is a process of territorial transformation with a focus on action. It is a form of “open” facilitation, meaning it involves many stakeholders who do not necessarily want to work together at first.

It is **led by independent strategic facilitators**. These facilitators work within a strong ethical framework and use structured procedures based on a “**strategic discussion method**”, the IDPA grid (Identification, Diagnosis, Prospective, Action).

It is founded on **deep listening** of each participant and all participants listening to each other. It takes place in several successive stages:

- A time for participants to listen to and express themselves, followed by discussions to build a shareable vision of the entire situation;
- Time for group work so participants can move from a shareable to a shared vision;
- Time to support taking action or even the development of a specific form of governance.

¹ Method developed in France.