



Title	Acronym	Topic	Starting Date	Coordinator
Resilience mechanisms for risk adapted forest management under climate change	REFORCE	Risk resilient forest management - Adapting forest management regimes which incorporate risk assessment related to potential climate change impacts to inform policy decisions.	31/03/2017	Irstea – National research institute of Science and Technology for Environment and Agriculture (France); Björn Reineking; bjoern.reineking@irstea.fr ; Tel: 0033 47676 2866

Project Partner
KU LEUVEN - University of Leuven (Belgium) PIK - Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (Germany) University of Regensburg (Germany) SFI Slovenian Forestry Institute (Slovenia) BOKU - University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (Austria) Universidade de Vigo (Spain)

Project Abstract:

Climate change will increase risks for the provision of forest products and services. Enhancing forest resilience thus becomes a key objective for adapting forests to climate change. To achieve this objective, researchers, policy-makers and managers must UNDERSTAND the mechanisms underlying forest resilience to climate change, and how they are influenced by forest management; ASSESS management options and their implications for ecosystem services in different European regions and under different environmental conditions; and ENHANCE the science-policy practice interface to ensure that research results are informative for management and policy decisions.

Building on prior and on-going EU projects, REFORCE addresses these problems by:

- developing recommendations for operational forest resilience measures in multifunctional forestry
- mapping the resilience of forest productivity to climatic events across Europe and North-East Canada with remote sensing at a variety of scales, and identifying gradients of resilience within and between regions
- analysing ecological mechanisms of forest resilience that can be influenced by management on short- (e.g. thinning and drought resistance) and long (demographic processes) time scales, with mechanistic and empirical models informed by monitoring data
- evaluating approaches to managing resilience, including the risk reduction potential of coordinated risk management in multi-owner landscapes using mechanistic forest models and economic analyses
- fostering the implementation of resilience management by co-developing management alternatives with local stakeholders in different regions and by developing strategies for efficient communication between scientists and decision makers.

As a result, REFORCE will develop and evaluate regionally-adapted, climate-resilient and risk-aware management regimes for multifunctional forestry.