# **LIFE Platform Meeting on "LIFE and European Forests Restoration"**

Brasov, Romania – 3 - 5 June 2025

Venue: <u>Kronwell</u> Brasov, <u>Bulevardul Gării 7A, Brașov 500203</u>, Romania https://www.carpathia.org/life-platform-meeting-on-forest-restoration-in-europe/

**Draft** (27/05/2025)

Monday 2 June 2025					
17:30-19:00	Early Registration	Registration and Help Desk at the entrance of Ceremonies II room (lobby, 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor)			
Tuesday 3 J	une 2025				
07:30-08:50	Registration and Help Desk at the entrance of Ceremonies II room (lobby, 2 <sup>nd</sup> floo				
<b>Keynotes an</b> Room: Cerer	Jan Sliva (ELMEN)				
09:00-09:15	Event opening, organisation, programme and housekeeping rules	Simona Bacchereti (CINEA) and Ioana Lucaciu (ELMEN)			
09:15-09:30	(1.1) Welcome Address: European Forests - Essential for our <i>Life</i>	<b>Dănut Jacob.</b> Director General of Forests at the Ministry of Environment. Water and Forest			

Marco Onida, European Commission, Team Leader for Forests DG ENV.D1 - Land Use &

	biodiversity and climate goals set out in the European Green Deal and the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030	Management	
09:50-10:10	(1.3) European forests and the EU Nature Restoration Law: Challenges and opportunities in European forest restoration under the EU Nature Restoration Law	Gonzalo Gonzales Jurado, European Commission, DG ENV D.3 – Nature Conservation	
10:10-10:30	(1.4) Restoring Europe's Forests: Benefits of the EU LIFE Programme for Society, Biodiversity, and Climate	Simona Bacchereti & Boyana Vasileva, European Commission, CINEA	
10:30-11:15	Coffee break (lobby)		
11:15-12:45	PANEL, part 1 Opening presentation (20') Barbara & Christoph Promberger, Foundation Conservation Carpathia FCC, Romania: The contribution of LIFE Programme to the health of the forests on the example of Southern Carpathians  Panel composition: Marco Onida • Gonzalo Gonzales-Jurado • Simona Bacchereti • Boyana Vasileva • Elisabeth Schatzdorfer • Barbara & Christoph Promberger		

(1.2) The New EU Forest Strategy for 2030: Pursuing the

09:30-09:50



14:00 – 18:00 Plenary Session 2: Keynotes - Inspiration for Working Groups			
Room: Ceremonies II			
Session Chairp	Session Chairperson: Ioana Lucaciu (ELMEN)		
14:00-14:30	(1.5) WG Theme 1 - European forests: Ecological restoration and natural regeneration  EU Nature Restoration Law and EU Forests - Upscaling of urgent ecosystem restoration for forest related biodiversity and ecosystem services.  Elisabeth Schatzdorfer, European Forest Institute, Bonn, Germany (Horizon Europe SU		
14:30-14:50	0 (1.6) WG Theme 2 - European forests and climate change Improving Forest resilience to Global Change Improving Forest resilience to Global Change		
14:50-15:10	(1.7) WG Theme 3 - Silvo-pastoral systems and agro-forestry Revitalising silvo-pastoral and agroforestry systems for biodiversity and sustainability: a German-Romanian perspective	Jacob Bussmann & Frank Wagener Institute for Applied Material Flow Management (IfaS), Trier University of Applied Science, Germany (LIFE22-CCA-DE- <u>LIFE-AFaktive</u> )	
15:10-15:30	(1.8) WG Theme 4 - Financing forest restoration  Diversifying financing sources and options for forest restoration.	Mihai Zotta & Daniel Mircea Bucur, Foundation Conservation Carpathia FCC, Brasov, Romania (LIFE18 NAT/RO/001082 LIFE Carpathia)	
15:30-16:15	Coffee break and networking		
16:15-17:45	PANEL, part 2 Opening presentation (20') Radu Vlad, World Wide Fund For Nature (WWF) Romania: Building Resilience for Europe's Forests: Insights from Romania – Best Practices, Challenges, and Future Solutions  Panel composition: Marco Onida • Gonzalo Gonzales-Jurado • Boyana Vasileva • Radu Vlad • Laura Bouriaud • Jacob Bussmann • Daniel Mircea Bucur • Mihai Zotta		
17:45-18:00	Closing remarks / Information to the Day 2		



## Wednesday 4 June 2025 - Working Groups

venue Kronwell Brasov, Bulevardul Gării 7A, Brasov 500203, Romania

There will be **4 work groups dealing with four main themes**: All four groups will run simultaneously. There will be **four rounds** within each working group during the day allowing each participant the opportunity of joining all workshops. We expect to have around 20 participants in each round. Each working group will be located in the same room throughout the day, while participants will rotate between the groups. Each round will accommodate two project presentations focusing on a specific issue within the thematic focus.

### Working Group I: European forests: Ecological restoration and natural regeneration

- Large-scale implementation of ecological restoration techniques, including reforestation with native tree species and habitat restoration for key species.
- Promotion of cost-effective, natural regeneration as a fundamental approach to forest recovery.
- Management and protection of old-growth forests and primeval forest areas.
- Adoption of Close-to-Nature Forest management principles that enhance biodiversity, improve ecological resilience, and integrate sustainable forestry practices.

## Working Group II: European forests and climate change

- Enhancing the resilience of forest ecosystems to climate change, drought, storms, and forest fire risks.
- Exploring the role of forests in carbon sequestration, adaptation strategies, and mitigation measures.
- Strategies to improve the sustainability of forest biomass use while maintaining biodiversity and ecosystem integrity.
- Strengthening early warning systems and adaptive management for extreme weather events and pest outbreaks.

### Working group III: Silvo-pastoral systems and agroforestry

- Integrating sustainable tree cultivation within agricultural and pastoral systems to improve ecosystem services and rural economies
- Revitalising traditional silvo-pastoral systems to enhance landscape resilience, soil fertility, and biodiversity
- Evaluating the role of agroforestry in sustainable food production, climate adaptation, and supporting local economies
- Policy measures to encourage agroforestry adoption across European landscapes.

### Working group IV: Socio-economic opportunities and financial tools

- Unlocking the potential of sustainable bioeconomy models for forest-based livelihoods.
- Exploring financial mechanisms such as Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES), carbon credits, and biodiversity certification schemes to support forest restoration.
- Engaging local communities and stakeholders in participatory forest management and governance.
- Fostering cross-sectoral collaboration between forestry, agriculture, and conservation to support sustainable forest restoration initiatives.

Each Working Group will have a dedicated **facilitator** (ELMEN team) to guide and accurately record the main points of the discussion. Each session will be interactive with audience participation throughout – **we encourage all participants to bring along their own results to share during the sessions**.

## Each round:

Introduction of the speaker(s) > Presentation project max. 10' the entire content to stimulate discussion > Facilitated discussion > Conclusions and drafting outcomes and recommendation.

The final session will be in plenary when facilitators will provide feedback on the issues discussed and the preliminary outcomes.



# Working Group I: European forests: Ecological restoration (part 1) Room: See the room name at registration Facilitator: Ioana Lucaciu (ELMEN)

racilitator.	Ioana Lucaciu (Elivien)		
09:00-10:00	Round 1	(2.1.1a) LIFE19 NAT/RO/000023 LIFE Rosalia (Conservation of saproxylic beetles in the Carpathians)  - Speaker: Marian Mirea Dumitru  (2.1.1b) LIFE19 NAT/IT/000104 LIFE SPAN (Saproxylic Habitat Network: planning and management for European forests)  - Speaker: Bruno de Cinti	
10.15 11.15	Dound 2		
10:15-11:15	Round 2	(2.1.2a) LIFE18 NAT/BG/001051 LIFE for Eagle's Habitats (Conservation measures for the Lesser Spotted Eagle and its habitats in Bulgaria) – - Speaker: Vanya Ratarova-Georgieva	
		(2.1.2b) LIFE17 NAT/UK/000020 Celtic Rainforests LIFE (Restoring the Celtic Temperate Rainforest of Wales toward Favorable Conservation Status) - Speaker: Gethin Davies	
11:15-12:00	Coffee break, N	letworking	
12:00:13:00	Round 3	(2.1.3a) LIFE20 NAT/ES/000021 LIFE ALNUS TAEJO (Conservation and restoration of Mediterranean alder forests priority habitats in western international Tajo river basin)  - Speaker: José Luís Garcia Rodriguez & Martin Cruz Gimenez Suarez	
		(2.1.3b) LIFE21-NAT-IT-LIFE-GOPROFOR-MED (Improvement of the conservation status of forest habitats in the Mediterranean Biogeographical Region applying restoration and conservation techniques and close to nature management)  - Speakers: Serena Corezzola & Serena Buscarini	
13:00-14:30	Lunch break		
14:30 – 15.30	Round 4	(2.1.4a) LIFE19 NAT/UK/000147 LIFE in the ravines (Restoration of ravine woodland in the Peak District Dales SAC to mitigate effects of Ash Dieback)  - Speaker: Katie Brownbill (2.1.4b) LIFE22 NAT/ES/101113584 LIFE Phoenix (Restoration and improvement of Priority Habitat 9370* Palm groves of Phoenix)  - Speaker: Gustavo Viera Ruiz	
15:30 – 16:00	Poster session	See project list below	
16:00 – 17:00	Coffee break a	offee break and poster networks	
17:00 – 18:00	Debrief & Closing	Debrief in Plenary - Closing Statement: Simona Bacchereti (CINEA) - Information to excursions	



# Working Group II: European forests and climate change Room: See the room name at registration

Facilitator: See the room name at registration Edyta Owadowska (ELMEN)

Facilitator:	Luyta Owauc	DWSKa (ELIVIEN)	
09:00-10:00	Round 1	(2.2.1a) LIFE20 CCA/ES/001624 RedBosques_Clima (Nature-based solutions to improve adaptation of forests to climate change) - Speakers: Jose Atauri & Francisco Rivero	
		(2.2.1b) LIFE21-IPC-EE-LIFE-SIP-AdaptEst (Implementation of national climate change adaptation activities in Estonia) - Speaker: Argo Orumaa	
10:15-11:15	(2.2.2a) LIFE19 CCA/GR/001185 LIFE STEMMA ATHOS (Strategic Environmental Management in Mount Athos under Climate Chan - Speaker: Nikolaos Gounaris		
		(2.2.2b) LIFE20 CCA/ES/001809 ADAPT-ALEPPO (Adaptive management of Mediterranean <i>Pinus halepensis</i> forests in the face of climate change) Speaker: Miguel Chamon Fernandez	
11:15-12:00	Coffee break, N	letworking	
12:00:13:00	Round 3	(2.2.3a) LIFE20 CCM/ES/001778 LIFE +REB (Quercus pyrenaica forest management to obtain cascading use of timber products as a tool for mitigation in Castilla-Leon)  - Speakers: Saúl Gutiérrez García & Tomás Sánchez Pellicer	
		(2.2.3b) LIFE19 CCM/ES/001199 LIFE NIEBLAS (Reforestation & Climate Change Mitigation: tests, evaluation and transfer of innovative methods based on fog collection)  - Speaker: Francisco González	
13:00-14:30	Lunch break		
14:30 – 15.30	7 – 15.30 Round 4 (2.2.4a) LIFE22-CCM-ES-LIFE HFH 101114227 <u>Hardwood For The Home</u> - Speakers: Tomás Sánchez Pellicer & Silvia Gómez-Fernández		
		<ul> <li>(2.2.4b) Horizon Project OptFor-EU: Decision Support System (DSS) for optimizing forest ecosystem services, enhancing resilience, and strengthening capacities to mitigate climate change in Europe</li> <li>Speakers: Sorin Cheval (National Meteorological Administration, Romania) &amp; Tudose Nicu Constantin (National Institute for Research and Development in Forestry, Romania)</li> </ul>	
15:30 – 16:00	Poster session	n See project list below	
16:00 – 17:00	Coffee break and poster networks		
17:30 – 18:00	Debrief & Closing	Debrief in Plenary - Closing Statement: Simona Bacchereti (CINEA) - Information to excursions	



# Working Group III: European forests: Ecological restoration (part 2), silvo-pastoral systems and agroforestry

**Room**: See the room name at registration

Facilitator: Cristóbal Ginés Camahort)

Facilitator:	Cristobal Gines Camanort)		
09:00-10:00	Round 1	(2.3.1a) LIFE20 NAT/AT/000063 LIFE WILDIsland (Danube Wild Island Habitat Corridor) - Speaker: Elena Kmetova-Biro & Costel Petcu (2.3.1b) LIFE22-NAT-AT-LIFE-RESTORE-for-MDD (Preserving and restoring floodplain forest habitats along the Mura-Drava-Danube rivers) Speaker: Lisa Wolf	
10:15-11:15	Round 2	(2.3.2a) LIFE20 CCA/ES/001682 LIFE AgroForAdapt (Agroforestry systems for climate change adaptation of Mediterranean agricultural and forest areas)  - Speaker: Míriam Piqué (2.3.2b) LIFE22-CCA-PT-LIFE ResLand (Adapt and Promote a Resilient and Firewise Living Landscape) Speaker: Marlene Marques & João Cardoso de Melo	
11:15-12:00	Coffee break, N	letworking	
12:00:13:00	Round 3	(2.3.3a) LIFE21-NAT-SK-LIFE Metamorphosis (Developing best practices in butterfly conservation in Central and Eastern Europe) Speaker: László Rákosy (2.3.3b) LIFE17 IPE/CZ/000005 N2K Revisited (Integrated LIFE project for the Natura 2000 network in the Czech Republic) - Speakers: Michal Pánek & Zdena Koberová	
13:00-14:30	Lunch break		
14:30 – 15.30	Round 4	(2.3.4b) Interreg COOP4SAFE (Cooperating for safeguarding biodiversity and ensuring viable human - wildlife coexistence in the Slovakia - Romania - Ukraine transboundary area) Radu Melu, WWF Romania  (2.3.4a) LIFE18 NAT/RO/001082 LIFE Carpathia (Creation of a Wilderness Reserve in the Southern Carpathian Mountains, Romania) - Speaker: Mihai Zotta	
15:30 – 16:00	Poster session	See project list below	
16:00 – 17:00	Coffee break and poster networks		
17:30 – 18:00	Debrief & Closing	Debrief in Plenary - Closing Statement: Simona Bacchereti (CINEA) - Information to excursions	



# Working Group IV: Socio-economic opportunities, financial tools & complementary topics in ecological forest restoration Room: See the room name at registration

Facilitator: Rent Jensen (FLMENI)

Facilitator:	Bent Jepsen (	(ELMEN)	
09:00-10:00	Round 1	(2.4.1a) LIFE21-CCM-ES-LIFE TOKEN CO2 (Validation of an advanced CO2 life cycle model and non-speculative Emissions Trading System in a digital platform for an efficient sustainable forest management)  - Speaker: Jose Luis Durán-Sánchez (2.4.1b) LIFE21-CCM-IT-LIFE-ClimatePositive (Promoting SMART associations and innovative financing for responsible forest management and carbon sink enhancement) Speaker: Maria Giulia Pelosi	
10:15-11:15	Round 2	(2.4.2a) LIFE22-CCM-ES-LIFE CO2RK (Slow growing forests management for Climate Change Mitigation) - Speakers: Guillermo Palacios Rodríguez (2.4.2b) Forest Stewardship Council – FSC Certification in Romania - Speaker: Alexandra Popa	
11:15-12:00	Coffee break, Networking		
12:00:13:00	Round 3	(2.4.3a) LIFE19 IPE/LV/00001 LIFE-IP LatViaNature (Optimising the Governance and Management of the Natura 2000 Protected Areas Network in Latvia)  - Speaker: Girts Baranovskis (2.4.3b) LIFE20 NAT/ES/000309 Steps for LIFE (Long Distance Non Motorized routes such as Green Infrastructures)  - Speaker: Enrique Guillermo Soria Eiroa	
13:00-14:30	Lunch break		
14:30 – 15.30	Round 4	(2.4.4a) LIFE19 NAT/NL/000821 LIFE Resilias (Making ecosystems resilient to Invasive Alien Species)  - Speaker: Bart Nyssen (2.4.4b) Special perspectives in ecological restoration and natural regeneration of European forests (indicative title)  - Speaker: Marius Skolka, Ovidius University of Constanta, RO	
15:30 – 16:00	Poster session	er session See project list below	
16:00 – 17:00	Coffee break and poster networks		
17:30 – 18:00	Debrief & Closing	Debrief in Plenary - Closing Statement: Simona Bacchereti (CINEA) - Information to excursions	



#### REGISTERED POSTERS

- 1. **LIFE17 NAT/ES/000568 LIFE BIORGEST** (Innovative Forest Management Strategies to Enhance Biodiversity in Mediterranean Forests. Incentives & Management Tools) Lluís Comas & Jordi Vayreda
- 2. LIFE22 NAT/ES/101113584 LIFE Phoenix (Restoration and improvement of Priority Habitat 9370\* Palm groves of Phoenix) Kostas Kontos, Christos Georgiadis
- 3. LIFE19 CCA/SK/001276 CLIMAFORCEE LIFE Yana Barzova
- 4. LIFE19 CCA/GR/001185 LIFE STEMMA ATHOS (Strategic Environmental Management in Mount Athos under Climate Change) Spiridon Galatsidas
- 5. LIFE20 CCA/ES/001809 ADAPT-ALEPPO (Adaptive management of Mediterranean Pinus halepensis forests in the face of climate change) Lourdes Vicente Valero
- 6. LIFE17 IPE/CZ/000005 N2K Revisited (Integrated LIFE project for the Natura 2000 network in the Czech Republic) Johana Drlíková
- 7. LIFE20 NAT/ES/000309 Steps for LIFE (Long Distance Non-Motorized routes such as Green Infrastructures) Antonio Urchaga Fernández, Marta Valle
- 8. LIFE19 NAT/UK/000147 LIFE in the ravines (Restoration of ravine woodland in the Peak District Dales SAC to mitigate effects of Ash Dieback) Martin Evans
- 9. LIFE21-CCA-CZ-LIFE-Adapt-Brdy (Climate Change Adaptation of Forests in the Brdy Highland) Petr Machacek, David Novotný
- 10. Provincie Overijssel Tim Boerrigter, Gert-Jan Hoeve, NL
- 11. Project SINTETIC Ciproan Musca (ASFOR), RO
- 12. Forests and climate change Ivana Vasić, Aleksandra Nikolić, Bojan Tubić, Miljan Velojic (VOJVODINAŠUME public enterprise), RS
- 13. **LIFE-IP NATURA 2000 SVK** (Role of the Natura 2000 network and management of some prioritized habitats in the integrated landscape protection in the Slovak Republic) Ján Šmídt, Jakub Korytiak & Michal Némethy

# **LIFE Networking Dinner**

- **Wednesday, 4 June 2025**
- **19:00 22:00**
- P Downtown Brașov

Join us for an evening of great food, drinks, and relaxed conversations at the **LIFE Networking Dinner** — a perfect chance to tals with all your old friends and make new ones in the LIFE Platform community. This informal gathering is **free of charge** for all registered Platform participants.

Full details will be shared during the event. We look forward to seeing you there!



Thursday	Thursday 5 June 2025 – Field Day			
08:44	Please report to the assembly point – please be prompt!  More details are in the field trip notes on the website.  Emergency number is available in case you get left behind!	Assembly point: Kronwell Hotel		
09:00	Depart			
	Excursion 1. One-Day Trip to LIFE CARPATHIA Project After about an hour attendees will visit the Beaver's House in Rucăr, a visitor centre created as part of the project. Then the group will continue to Valea Dâmboviței with stops at the nursery of forest saplings, at a plot successfully completed by restoration works, beaver dam and reach the Richita Nature Education and Activities Center.  Excursion 2. One-Day Trip to LIFE ROSALIA Project			
	After approximately 2 hours, the group will arrive at the project site in the Putna-Vrancea Natural Park. On-site, we will observe the project's results and learn about the actions and challenges related to the conservation of saproxylic insects in the Carpathians.			
	Excursion 3. <b>Two-Day Trip to LIFE CARPATHIA &amp; Poiana Tămaș Camp</b> On the first day, the itinerary will be similar to the one-day programme of Excursion No. 1. Additionally, after visiting CAEN Richita, the group will hike up to the camping site in Poiana Tămaș, where it enjoys a campfire dinner and continue with informal discussions. In the morning, we will have breakfast, followed by a visit to a clear-cut restoration site and an artificial spruce monoculture reconversion site where Conservation Carpathia specialists will be our guides.			
18:00	Arrival at Brasov for the excursions 1. and 2. on 5 June 2025 Arrival in Brasov for the excursion 3. on 6 June 2025			

