

INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS TO SMALL-FORESTS PROPERTIES

SMURF is a transformative project aimed to provide sustainable and profitable solutions that benefit the entire **European forest-based value chain**

This includes addressing ecological concerns, promoting **economic viability** through wood and non-wood products, and considering the social and **cultural aspects of forest management** with a multidisciplinary approach and inclusive stakeholder engagement.

SMURF is aligned with the **EU's Forest Strategy 2030** and will work over the next **four years** to enable **20 million forest owners across Europe** to generate economic activity and provide employment in forests, while managing forests to conserve and adapt to climate change.



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A project by:



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THE SMURF PROJECT, IN LINE WITH EU'S FOREST STRATEGY, WILL HELP PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT MODELS AND VALUE CHAINS FOR SMALL FORESTS



Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or European Research Executive Agency (REA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them

NEW FOREST MANAGEMENT MODELS: CLOSE TO NATURE SILVICULTURE (CNS)

SMURF seeks to broaden European forest management approaches by embracing a variety of models and emphasizing diversification of products and services, promoting biodiversity. Through collaboration with organizations like **Pro Silva** and **Association Forêt Irregulier (AFI)**, SMURF will develop and implement **11 forest management models** for different European forest types, establishing **7 Pilot Study Areas** and **11 Demonstration Stands** and will try to incorporate them into the **Integrate Network**.

CAP Network

CLUSTERING

SMURF is willing to collaborate with related projects and networks sharing similar aims.

4 thematic focus groups

HUB

CASCADE FUNDING

THE EU SMALL FOREST HOLDINGS NETWORK

EU Conference on Small Forest Holdings. SPRING 2025

EXPLOITATION

SFH 2030 Roadmaps, 2027 National Action Plans, and Policy Recommendations will boost lighthouse implementation, refine legal frameworks, and enhance support systems.

15 national working groups

WE SEEK TO TRANSFORM FOREST MANAGEMENT PROJECT OBJECTIVES

1

Analyze the whole forest-based value chain focussing on small-forest properties in different European regions.

2

Provide innovative tools to small-forest owners to valorise unexploited non-wood products and damaged/infected wood.

3

Establish innovative management models based on Closer to Nature Silviculture practices (CNS).

4

Propose a new standardised Payment for Ecosystem Services system (PES), empashizing carbon and biodiversity criteria.

5

Co-create a comprehensive framework to support small-forest owners throug trainings, guidelines and recommendations.

SMURF IN A NUTSHELL CORE DATA

A Horizon Europe's project under the topic HORIZON-CL6-2023-CircBio-01-12

With a funding of 5,4M €

10 partners, 6 countries

4 years: Jan. '24 - Dec. '27

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