



Sustainable forests for a
sustainable future

Research
and innovations for
the services that
forests provide
to society

Novel policies
and new business
models to support
forest services

Connecting knowledge
and expertise from
practice, science and
policy across Europe and
beyond

Local stakeholders
play a key role in
design, implementation
and evaluation in
eleven case studies

Exploring new approaches to connect profitable forest management with changing societal demands



Spurring INnovations for forest eCosystem sERvices in Europe (SINCERE) responds to society’s demands for services from forests such as recreation, biodiversity protection and carbon storage.

The project looks at innovative ways to value and implement such “forest ecosystem services” through the development of novel policies and new business models, connecting knowledge and expertise from practice, science and policy, across Europe and beyond.

Eleven Innovation Actions (case studies) provide the basis for continuous collaborative learning in nine regions in Europe and two internationally, in Peru and Russia.

Local stakeholders in each region form Multi-Actor Groups, which are involved in the design, implementation and evaluation of their case study, as well as learning from it, through facilitated meetings at key stages.

Forest Ecosystem Services: The contribution of forests to people

Forests provide multiple goods and services that benefit people, either directly or indirectly, in many ways: economically, materially, health-wise, emotionally or socially.

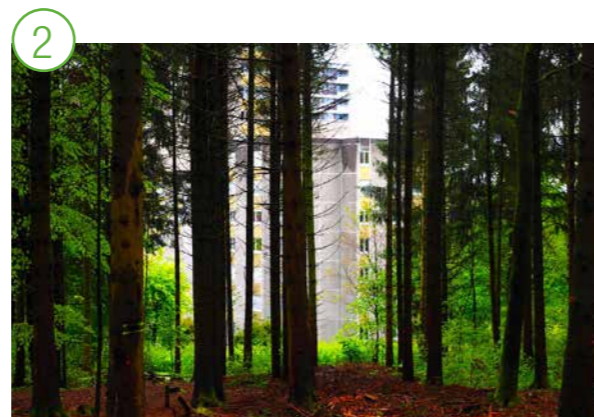
Examples of Forest Ecosystem Services include:

1. Edible and non-edible products that come from trees or grow in forests

2. Improvements to water, air and soil quality

3. Hunting, fishing, tourism and leisure activities

4. Nutrient and water cycling.



Why do Forest Ecosystem Services need support?

Demand for Forest Ecosystem Services is increasing, due to growing populations and socio-economic changes.

These increasing demands can be complicated to manage, especially as the demand for wood is also increasing and forest management practices often value wood production over other services.

Only some of the goods and services that forests provide are formally part of markets or value chains; many important services have no direct monetary value.

Forest Ecosystem Services need policy and economic incentives to support them, and ways to value services with no direct market value, so that forest managers and owners have additional motivations to supply these services.



SINCERE Innovation Actions: The Case Studies



Forests for water in Catalonia

Strengthening the link between forests and water to diversify the financing of forest management.

Spain

[Visit case study](#)



Club GREY HORSE: Multiple ecosystems services via forest renters

Multi-purpose lease by one lessee on a rented forest plot, to increase the economic efficiency of forestry.

Russia

[Visit case study](#)

ECOPAY Connect: Forest-habitat biodiversity payment scheme

Linking social and ecological benefits with economic aspects through the spread of FSC® certification.

Italy

[Visit case study](#)



Landscape and Recreation Value Trade

Compensation for forest owners for voluntarily enhancing the provision of landscape and recreational values.

Finland

[Visit case study](#)



The Mushrooms of Borgotaro IGP

Online platform to improve commercialisation of recreational permits for wild mushrooms' collection.

Italy

[Visit case study](#)



Paying for watershed services to cities in Peru

Reward for restoring ecosystems of a micro-watershed around a near-city lake via an increment in the urban water tariff.

Peru

[Visit case study](#)

SINCERE Innovation Actions: The Case Studies



◀ Reverse auctions pilot for biodiversity protection, Denmark

Supporting the protection of biodiversity and landscapes as equal to the production of other services.

Denmark

[Visit case study](#)



◀ Spiritual forests and forest kindergartens

Exploring spiritual forests and kindergartens, their related goods, benefits and uses, and their adapted management needs.

Switzerland

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▶ Understanding the health functions of peri-urban forests in protected areas

Evaluating health as a component of forest ecosystem services, developing payments for ecosystem services.

Croatia

[Visit case study](#)

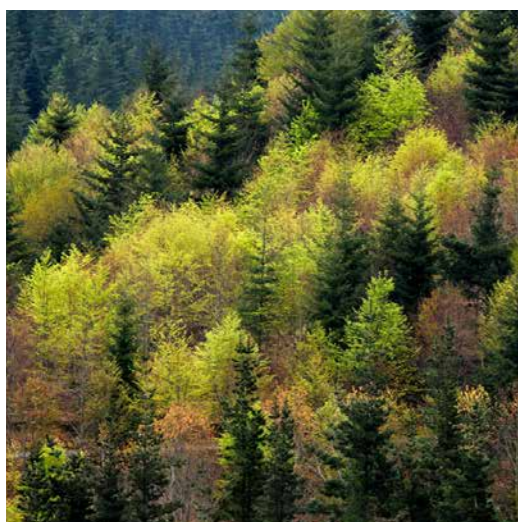
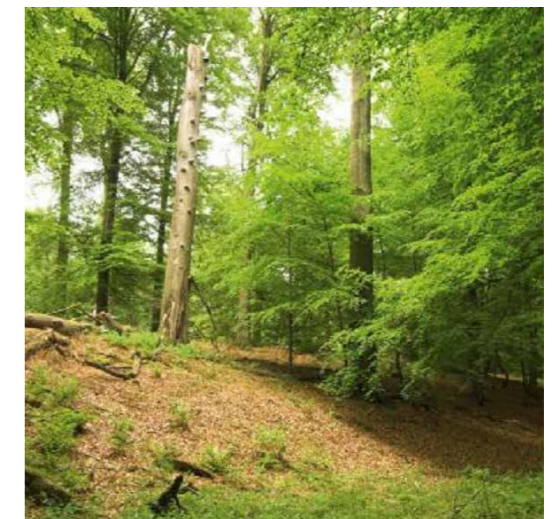


▶ Reverse auction pilots for forest ecosystem services in rural & peri-urban areas

An alternative approach to stimulate the generation of much needed forest ecosystem services in a densely populated region.

Belgium

[Visit case study](#)



◀ New legal framework for forest ecosystem services for Bizkaia county

A new legal framework for forest and forestry to improve the provision, valuation and monitoring of ecosystem services.

Spain

[Visit case study](#)

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Innovating for Forest Ecosystem Services

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