

# LIFE Platform Meeting on “LIFE and European Forests Restoration”

Brasov, Romania – 3 - 5 June 2025

Draft version (12/03/2025)

<b>Monday 2 June 2025</b>		
<b>Venue: Kronwell Brasov</b> , Bulevardul Gării 7A, Braşov 500203, Rumänien		
17:30-19:00	Early Registration	At the Registration and Help Desk at the entrance of Ceremonies II room
<b>Tuesday 3 June 2025</b>		
<b>Venue: Kronwell Brasov</b> , Bulevardul Gării 7A, Braşov 500203, Rumänien		
08:00-08:45	Registration	At the Registration and Help Desk at the entrance of Ceremonies II room
<b>08:50 – 11:00: Plenary session 1: Inspirational Welcome and Introducing the RBaPS Panel</b>		
Session Chair: Ioana LUCACIU (ELMEN)		
08:50	Event Opening Organisation, programme and housekeeping rules	<b>Simona Bacchereti</b> (CINEA) and <b>Ioana Lucaciu</b> (ELMEN) (Chairperson)
09:00-09:15	Inspirational message I: e.g. Challenges in the sustainable management and ecological restoration of forests within the context of national policies. (Romanian Ministry of Environment)	<b>Mircea Fechet</b> , Minister of Environment, Water and Forests (TBC) or <b>Paul Romeo Barbur</b> , Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests - Secretary of State in charge of Forest policy (TBC)
09:10-09:30	Plenary 1: Environment, Conservation and Forestry– challenges and opportunities	Speaker: n.n. European Commission: DG Environment or CINEA
09:30-09:50	Plenary 2: The new EU Forest Strategy for 2030 - Pursuing the biodiversity and climate neutrality goals set out in the European Green Deal and the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030.	Speaker: n.n. European Commission: DG Agri or CINEA
09:50-10:10	Plenary 3: EU Nature Restoration Law and EU Forests - Upscaling of urgent ecosystem restoration for forest related biodiversity and ecosystem services	Speaker: <b>Elisabeth Schatzdorfer</b> European Forest Institute (EFI)
10:30-10:45	Plenary 4: State of Romanian forests – management – conservation – biodiversity.: successes, failures and challenges	Speaker: n.n.
10:45-11:00	Plenary 5: The contribution of LIFE Programme to the health of the forests in the Southern Carpathians	Speaker: <b>Barbara &amp; Christoph Promberger</b> Foundation Conservation Carpathia (FCC)
11:00	Coffee break	



<b>11:45 – 13:00 Plenary Session 2: Panel Discussion</b>	
Panel Facilitators: Jan SLIVA (ELMEN) & Simona BACCHERETI (CINEA)	
	Opening Address and Rules for the Panel Session Jan SLIVA (ELMEN)
11:45	<p><b>Panel composition: Names of panelists will be published at the later stage</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questions submitted by the participants in advance – read out by the participant and directed to a specific panellist</li> <li>• Facilitators ask the targeted panellist to respond – panellists will have the questions in advance of the meeting to allow time to prepare answers</li> <li>• Other panellists will then be asked to join in (facilitators will check in advance that others have an opinion on the topic)</li> <li>• Facilitators will go back to the questioner for a response and invite the audience for supplementary questions</li> <li>• We will make sure every panellist has one question directed at them as the main speaker</li> <li>• We will ask a lighter (possibly topical) question at the end of the session</li> <li>• Panellists will be asked to end on their policy message</li> </ul>
12:45	Lunch Break and networking



<b>14:00 – 15:30 Plenary Session 3: Inspiration for Working Groups - Case Studies from across Europe</b>		
Session Chairperson: Ioana LUCACIU (ELMEN)		
14:00	Plenary 9: Conservation & Restoration of biodiversity in European Forests (Theme 1) LIFE project: <b>LIFE21-NAT-IT-LIFE-GOPROFOR-MED</b>	<i>Speaker: n.n.</i>
14:15	Plenary 10: Improving Forest resilience to Global Change (Theme 2) LIFE project: <b>LIFE19 CCA/SK/001276 CLIMAFORCEELIFE</b>	<i>Speaker: n.n</i>
14:30	Plenary 11: Financing forest restoration (Theme 3) LIFE project: <b>LIFE21-PRE-IT-LIFE ProForPES</b>	<i>Speaker: n.n</i>
14:45	Plenary 12: Silvo-pastoral systems and agro-forestry at the forefront of farming sustainability in multifunctional landscapes in Europe (Theme 4) HORIZON Europe project: <b>REFOREST</b>	<i>Speaker: n.n</i>
15:00	<b>Q&amp;A Session</b>	
<b>15:20</b>	<b>Coffee break and networking</b>	

<b>16:00 – 18:00 Plenary Session 4: ‘Elevator Pitch’ – Get to know each other!</b>		
Session Facilitator: Jan SLIVA (ELMEN)		
16:00	<p><b>‘Elevator Pitch’</b> to get a brief insight into as wide a range of projects as possible</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 4’ short intro from each project presenter of day 2</li> <li>● Timing will be VERY strict!</li> <li>● Estimated 20-25 projects presenting</li> <li>● Presentations will be targeted towards one of the 4 themes</li> <li>● Participants have been given a template to follow</li> <li>● Opportunity to match faces to projects and find people later you may be interested in networking with</li> <li>● Workgroup presenters will also be giving you a taster of what they will be presenting in the workgroup sessions</li> <li>● (Participants have been asked to end on their policy message!)</li> </ul>	
17:40 – 18:00	Closing remarks	
19:00	<b>Networking Dinner - Address Downtown</b>	



**Wednesday 4 June 2025 – Working Groups**  
**venue Kronwell Brasov, Bulevardul Gării 7A, Braşov 500203, Rumänien**

There will be **4 workgroups dealing with four main themes**: All four groups will run simultaneously. There will be **four rounds** within each working groups during the day allowing each participant the opportunity of joining all workshops. We expect to have around 20 participants in each round and that the participants in each working group. Each working group will be located in the same room throughout the day, while participants will rotate between the groups. Each round will start with one or two project presentation 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.



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

Each Working Group will have a dedicated **Facilitator** to guide discussion and foster inclusion and **Rapporteur** to 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.

There will opportunities for bi-lateral and small group networking, private conversations, and destressing in the coffee area outside the workgroup rooms! Posters will also be on display in this common area.

**Each round:**

- Introduction of the speaker(s) and optionally 1-2 additional panel experts per group
- Presentation project (approx. 10' the entire content) to stimulate discussion.
- Can be presented over the whole duration of the workgroup session with interaction from the participants
- Presenters will be provided with speaker notes and suggestions for how the presentation should flow and there will be a video briefing
- Closing discussion
- Conclusions and drafting outcomes and recommendations



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

Room: .....

Facilitator: .....

09:00-10:00	<b>Round 1</b>	<b>LIFE19 NAT/BG/000986 LIFE REFOREST</b> (Enhancing the restoration, climate resilience and biodiversity value of priority forest habitats within Natura 2000 SCIs) - Speaker:  Available slot project ..... - Speaker:
10:15-11:15	<b>Round 2</b>	<b>LIFE19 NAT/RO/000023 LIFE Rosalia</b> (Conservation of saproxylic beetles in the Carpathians) - Speaker:  <b>LIFE19 NAT/IT/000104 LIFE SPAN</b> (Saproxylic Habitat Network: planning and management for European forests) - Speaker:
11:15-12:00	Coffee break, Networking	
12:00-13:00	<b>Round 3</b>	<b>LIFE20 NAT/ES/000021 LIFE ALNUS TAEJO</b> (Conservation and restoration of Mediterranean alder forests priority habitats in western international Tajo river basin) - Speaker:  Available slot project ..... - Speaker:
13:00-14:30	Lunch break	
14:30 – 15.30	<b>Round 4</b>	<b>LIFE19 NAT/NL/000821 LIFE Resilias</b> (Making ecosystems resilient to Invasive Alien Species) - Speaker:  Available slot project ..... - Speaker:
15:30 – 16:00	<b>Poster session</b>	
16:00 – 17:00	Coffee break and poster networks	
17:30 – 18:00	<b>Debrief &amp; Closing</b>	<b>Debrief in Plenary</b> Closing Statement: Simona Bacchereti (CINEA) Information to excursions



**Working Group II: European forests and climate change**

Room: .....

Facilitator: .....

09:00-10:00	<b>Round 1</b>	<p><b>LIFE20 CCM/ES/001778 LIFE +REB</b> (Quercus pyrenaica forest management to obtain cascading use of timber products as a tool for mitigation in Castilla-Leon)</p> <p>- Speaker:</p> <p><b>LIFE19 CCA/GR/001185 LIFE STEMMA ATHOS</b> (Strategic Environmental Management in Mount Athos under Climate Change)</p> <p>- Speaker:</p>
10:15-11:15	<b>Round 2</b>	<p><b>LIFE19 CCA/NL/001218 LIFE CLIMATE FOREST</b> (Towards climate resilient forests and forest management)</p> <p>- Speaker:</p> <p>Available slot project .....</p> <p>- Speaker:</p>
11:15-12:00	Coffee break, Networking	
12:00-13:00	<b>Round 3</b>	<p><b>LIFE21-CCA-CZ-LIFE-Adapt-Brdy</b> (Climate Change Adaptation of Forests in the Brdy Highland)</p> <p>- Speaker:</p> <p>Available slot project .....</p> <p>- Speaker:</p>
13:00-14:30	Lunch break	
14:30 – 15.30	<b>Round 4</b>	<p><b>LIFE20 NAT/AT/000063 LIFE WILDIsland</b> (Danube Wild Island Habitat Corridor)</p> <p>- Speaker:</p> <p><b>LIFE22-NAT-AT-LIFE-RESTORE-for-MDD</b> (Preserving and restoring floodplain forest habitats along the Mura-Drava-Danube rivers)</p> <p>- Speaker:</p>
15:30 – 16:00	<b>Poster session</b>	
16:00 – 17:00	Coffee break and poster networks	
17:30 – 18:00	<b>Debrief &amp; Closing</b>	<p><b>Debrief in Plenary</b></p> <p>Closing Statement: <b>Simona Bacchereti</b> (CINEA)</p> <p>Information to excursions</p>

**Working Group III: Silvo-pastoral systems and agroforestry**

Room: .....

Facilitator: .....

09:00-10:00	<b>Round 1</b>	<b>LIFE21-IPC-EE-LIFE-SIP-AdaptEst</b> (Implementation of national climate change adaptation activities in Estonia) - Speaker: Available slot project ..... - Speaker:
10:15-11:15	<b>Round 2</b>	<b>LIFE20 CCA/ES/001682 LIFE AgroForAdapt</b> - Speaker: <b>LIFE15 IPC/DE/000005 LIFE ZENAPA</b> - Speaker:
11:15-12:00	Coffee break, Networking	
12:00-13:00	<b>Round 3</b>	<b>LIFE17 IPE/CZ/000005 N2K Revisited</b> (Integrated LIFE project for the Natura 2000 network in the Czech Republic) - Speaker: Available slot project ..... - Speaker:
13:00-14:30	Lunch break	
14:30 – 15.30	<b>Round 4</b>	<b>LIFE22-CCA-PT-LIFE ResLand</b> (Adapt and Promote a Resilient and Firewise Living Landscape) - Speaker: Available slot project ..... - Speaker:
15:30 – 16:00	<b>Poster session</b>	
16:00 – 17:00	Coffee break and poster networks	
17:30 – 18:00	<b>Debrief &amp; Closing</b>	<b>Debrief in Plenary</b> Closing Statement: Simona Bacchereti (CINEA) Information to excursions



**Working Group IV: Socio-economic opportunities and financial tools**

Room: .....

Facilitator: .....

09:00-10:00	<b>Round 1</b>	<p><b>LIFE18/NAT/RO/001082 LIFE CARPATHIA</b> (Creation of a Wilderness Reserve in the Southern Carpathian Mountains, Romania)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Speaker: Daniel Mircea Bucur</li> </ul> <p><b>LIFE22-CCM-ES-LIFE CO2RK</b> (Slow growing forests management for Climate Change Mitigation)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Speaker:</li> </ul>
10:15-11:15	<b>Round 2</b>	<p><b>LIFE21-CCM-IT-LIFE-ClimatePositive</b> (Promoting SMART associations and innovative financing for responsible forest management and carbon sink enhancement)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Speaker:</li> </ul> <p>Available slot project .....</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Speaker:</li> </ul>
11:15-12:00	Coffee break, Networking	
12:00-13:00	<b>Round 3</b>	<p><b>LIFE21-CCM-ES-LIFE TOKEN CO2</b> (Validation of an advanced CO2 life cycle model and non-speculative Emissions Trading System in a digital platform for an efficient sustainable forest management)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Speaker:</li> </ul> <p>Available slot project .....</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Speaker:</li> </ul>
13:00-14:30	Lunch break	
14:30 – 15.30	<b>Round 4</b>	<p><b>LIFE19 IPE/LV/00001 LIFE-IP LatViaNature</b> (Optimising the Governance and Management of the Natura 2000 Protected Areas Network in Latvia)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Speaker:</li> </ul> <p>Available slot project .....</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Speaker:</li> </ul>
15:30 – 16:00	<b>Poster session</b>	
16:00 – 17:00	Coffee break and poster networks	
17:30 – 18:00	<b>Debrief &amp; Closing</b>	<p><b>Debrief in Plenary</b></p> <p>Closing Statement: Simona Bacchereti (CINEA)</p> <p>Information to excursions</p>



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	
	<p>Excursion 1. <b>One-Day Trip to LIFE CARPATHIA Project</b> 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.</p>	
	<p>Excursion 2. <b>One-Day Trip to LIFE ROSALIA Project</b> 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.</p>	
	<p>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 enjoy 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.</p>	
18:00	<p>Arrival at Brasov for the excursions 1. and 2. on 5 June 2025 Arrival in Brasov for the excursion 3. on 6 June 2025</p>	

