

## **PRESS RELEASE**

Brussels, Belgium – 11 February 2025

## Building a sustainable Forest future together: the sixth edition of the Forest Innovation Workshop launches today in Brussels

Gain valuable insights into innovation within the EU forestry sector and the significant role of regional administrations: this is the aim of the sixth edition of the Forest Innovation Workshop. The event, titled *"Inform-Prioritize-Collaborate: Building a Sustainable Forest Future through Regional Cooperation and Innovation"* will be hosted by the Representation of the <u>Free State of Bavaria to the European Union</u> on 11 and 12 February 2025 in Brussels, together with the mid-term conference of the <u>OptFor-EU project</u>.

Over these two days, attendees will be able to engage in discussions around innovative solutions for sustainable forest management, focusing on key topics such as forest restoration, non-wood forest products, and agroforestry innovations. Breakout sessions, interactive panels, and regional authority roundtable discussions will provide insights into collaborative efforts for achieving a low-carbon, climate-resilient forest future.

Gathering over 50 speakers, this workshop is an opportunity to promote collaboration among stakeholders in the sector and regions, to establish a supportive framework for innovation in forestry and to advocate for increased coordination between the numerous measures adopted at European, national and regional level.

The event organizers are: <u>EFI</u>, <u>ERIAFF</u>, <u>OptFor-EU</u>, <u>Forest4EU</u>, <u>COPA-COGECA</u>, EFI Bioregions Facility, CEPF, <u>ELO</u>, <u>EUSTAFOR</u>, <u>EUROMONTANA</u>, <u>Region of Tuscany</u>, and <u>the Free State of Bavaria</u>.

**Institutional actors and stakeholders involved:** DG Agri and EU Research Executive Agency; regional authorities, research institutes, scientific foundations, forest owners and managers.

**Event's numbers:** 2 days, 55 speakers, 13 projects in the programme, 14 operational groups sharing best practices, over 210 participants registered.

More information: <a href="https://forestinnovation.eu/">https://forestinnovation.eu/</a>

Full programme: <u>https://forestinnovation.eu/?page\_id=31</u>

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**Event organised by** 



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