

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project title: EU BIOCLIMA – European Union Biodiversity and Climate strategies Assessment

Project ID: 243

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The main project goal is to review and assess EU policies on land-use with diverse objectives from forestry, food production, climate change mitigation and biodiversity conservation, and then assess their impacts on biodiversity (e.g. species conservation status and ecosystems extent and condition) and on carbon stocks and flows.

The project has an EU focus and is intended to be an ex-ante assessment of existing policies and policy proposals, that will provide much needed evidence-base to support the implementation of national and EU policies aimed at realizing the ambitions of the European Green Deal.

In this context, the project will employ the forest model G4M to forecast forest management and forest attributes relevant for biodiversity under different policy scenarios and considering multiple management alternatives to promote biodiversity, including the expansion of protected areas and increasing deadwood amount on forest stands. To this end, we will further refine the deadwood dynamics in model with the support of the ICP Forests database, which will also be employed to initialize the carbon stocks related deadwood at the grid cells. These will include species-specific and climate sensitive decay rates and also modify soil carbon input, allowing for an improved quantification of carbon fluxes on forest ecosystems. The outputs of the forest growth model will subsequently be used as input data to species distribution models for biodiversity assessment.