

*The leading forest research network in Europe*



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## News from EFI

### New EFI Publications on Integrated Fire Management



EFI Research Report 23, Towards Integrated Fire Management – Outcomes of the European Project Fire Paradox by Joaquim Sande Silva, Francisco Rego, Paulo Fernandes and Eric Rigolot (editors) Download here: [http://www.efi.int/files/attachments/publications/efi\\_rr23.pdf](http://www.efi.int/files/attachments/publications/efi_rr23.pdf)

EFI Policy Brief 4, Towards Integrated Fire Management by Francisco Rego, Eric Rigolot, Paulo Fernandes, Cristina Montiel and Joaquim Sande Silva Download as pdf here: [http://www.efi.int/files/attachments/publications/efi\\_policy\\_brief\\_4\\_en.pdf](http://www.efi.int/files/attachments/publications/efi_policy_brief_4_en.pdf)

### Joining forces for renewable energy, bio-based products and sustainable construction in Europe

Europe's research driven clusters in sustainable forest management and wood based industries will get new co-operation opportunities within the ROKFOR project starting on 23 February, 2010. This cooperative action project 'Sustainable Forest Management Providing Renewable Energy, Sustainable Construction and Bio-based Products' (ROKFOR) will join forces in which five European regions in order to create both individual and regional research agendas and action plans in the fields of renewable energy, bio-based products and sustainable construction. The regions involved are Baden-Württemberg in Germany, Aquitaine in France, Basque country in Spain, Catalonia in Spain, North Karelia in Finland, as well as Croatia and Serbia. The three-year project is based on each region's current strengths in the forest sector. The project also aims to strengthen and promote competitiveness within the forest sectors without jeopardizing sustainability.

After the agreed upon research agendas and action plans are completed, the project will begin the implementation process. During implementation, the regional public administrations involved will play a crucial role as funding organizations.

Each participating region is represented by a cluster consisting of enterprises, regional policy makers and researchers. Altogether, there are 20 partners fulfilling the roles and requirements of the project. This ensures the involvement of the entire forestry chain including innovations, production and financing of the activities. Many of the partners represent large enterprise clusters, e.g. Science Park in Joensuu, Finland and Xylofutur in Aquitaine, France, which serve as umbrella organizations for hundreds of SMEs in their respective regions.

**More information:**  
see [www.efi.int](http://www.efi.int)

The sectors covered by the project (bioenergy, biobased products and wooden construction) are based on the Lead Market Initiative being instituted by the European Commission. The market demand is thus the decisive factor to which the activities are targeted. All of the sectors covered by the project are significant for the future bio-based economy and for adaptation to climate change.

The project is coordinated by Dr. Timo J. Hokkanen from the Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment for North Karelia. And, the European Forest Institute will also play a key role in coordinating the interregional joint action plan.

The total budget of the ROKFOR project is approximately 1.7 M€, which is funded by the EU's 7th Framework Programme (Capacities/Regions of Knowledge).

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#### **"Towards integrated wildland fire management – Outcomes of the European Project FIRE PARADOX"**



New views and perspectives on the use of fire in the prevention and response phases will be presented at the conference "Towards integrated wildland fire management – Outcomes of the European Project FIRE PARADOX" on 25–26 February in Freiburg, Germany. The aim of the conference is to report stimulating new strategies and policy actions towards integrated fire management (IFM) at regional, national and European levels. IFM is a concept for planning and implementing operational systems that include social, economic, cultural and ecological evaluations with the objective of minimizing damages and maximizing benefits from fire. These systems include a combination of prevention and suppression strategies and techniques integrating the use of technical fires and the regulation of traditional burning.

This conference is targeted (but not limited) to European and national policy makers and representatives of agencies/organizations responsible for forest and land management and fire protection. The main outcomes of the project– will be presented along the pillars – prescribed burning, wildfire management, and fire use practices and policies. The presentations will be complemented by interactive demonstrations and poster sessions.

The social, economical and environmental consequences of the current wildfire regime in southern Europe are severe, and are likely to aggravate and geographically expand in the future. FIRE PARADOX, has developed contributions for mitigating fire impacts by creating the scientific and technical foundation for practices and policies consistent with the concept of integrated wildland fire management (e.g. modelling tools predicting fire spread, draft fire regulation to achieve European dimension, guidelines for assisting fire managers in decision-making and planning process).

To achieve effective integration and coherence FIRE PARADOX has approached fire from four complementary sides:

1. prescribed burning (proactive management tool for mitigating wildfire risk),
2. wildfire initiation,
3. wildfire propagation and
4. techniques of suppression fire (use of fire in fire fighting).

The conference is an event organized by the FIRE PARADOX consortium, consisting of 31 partners, lead by the Centre of Applied Ecology "Prof. Baeta Neves", Technical University of Lisbon, Portugal. It is hosted by the Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC) and the European Forest Institute's Central European Regional Office - EFICENT, both located in Freiburg, Germany.

More information: [www.fireparadox.org](http://www.fireparadox.org) or  
conference secretariat: [freiburg2010@fireparadox.org](mailto:freiburg2010@fireparadox.org)

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