AGFORWARD

Agroforestry for Europe

Aim of the project

AGFORWARD is a four-year project (2014-2017), co-funded by the European Union, which is promoting AGroFORestry practices that Will Advance Rural Development in Europe. The project is using experimental and participative research to identify and develop appropriate agroforestry practices that provide profits for farmers, benefits for the environment, and sustainable food and woodland products.

What is Agroforestry?

Agroforestry is the practice of deliberately integrating woody vegetation (trees or shrubs) with crop and/or animal systems to benefit from the resulting ecological and economic interactions. The AGFORWARD project is working with farmers on four types of agroforestry systems:

- Existing agroforestry systems of high nature and cultural value such as the Dehesa and Montado systems in Spain and Portugal, wood pastures in Germany, and parklands in the UK;
- Integrating grazing or intercropping in high value tree systems including olives, fruit trees, and walnut and cherry grown for high value timber;
- Integrating trees into arable systems, and
- Integrating trees in livestock systems with a particular focus on pig, poultry, and ruminant systems.
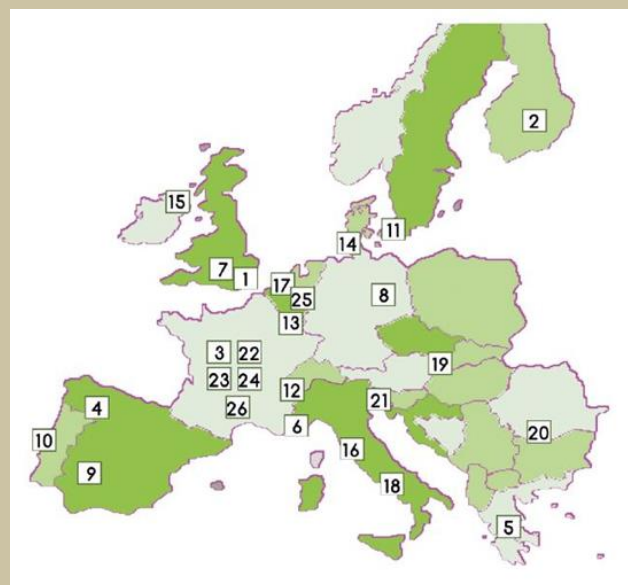
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www.agforward.eu

Objectives

The project has four objectives:

1. to **understand** the context and extent of agroforestry in Europe;
2. to **identify, develop and field-test** innovations (through participatory research) to improve the benefits and viability of agroforestry systems in Europe. This is focused on the four systems described overleaf;
3. to **evaluate** innovative agroforestry designs and practices at a field and farm scale, and at a landscape scale, and
4. to **promote** the wider adoption of appropriate agroforestry systems in Europe through policy development and dissemination.

How can I get involved?

The project led by Dr Paul Burgess (Cranfield University, UK) involves the European Agroforestry Federation, the European Forest Institute, the World Agroforestry Centre, and 22 other institutions from across Europe. By visiting our website (www.agforward.eu) you should find a network or national agroforestry organisation that is advancing agroforestry practices near you.

1, 7, 15	UK	Cranfield University, Organic Research Centre, Agrifood & Biosciences Institute
2, 26	European	European Forest Institute European Agroforestry Federation
3, 6, 22, 23, 24	France	INRA, ACTA, Agroof, AFAF, APCA
4, 9	Spain	Universidad de Santiago de Compostela, Universidad de Extremadura
5	Greece	TEI Stereas Elladas
8	Germany	BTU Cottbus – Seftenberg
10	Portugal	Instituto Superior de Agronomia
11, 14	Denmark	University of Copenhagen, Aarhus University
12	Switzerland	Agroscope
13	Belgium	Wervel
16, 18, 21	Italy	CRA OLI, Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Veneto Agricoltura
17	Netherlands	Louis Bolk Instituut
19	Hungary	NymE KKK Nonprofit Kft
20	Romania	Universitatea Babes Bolyai
25	International	World Agroforestry Centre