



EUROPEAN FOREST  
INSTITUTE

# **Integrate Network – new opportunities with the proposed Multi-Donor Trust Fund (I-MDTF)**

Presented at the Annual Integrate Network Meeting in Neuchatel  
on 27th of October 2021

*“The European Integrate Network promotes and advances forest management approaches for the integration of nature conservation into sustainable forest management at three levels: the decision-making policy level, the level of forest practitioners/managers, and the level of research and academic knowledge*”

# The Integrate Network

- Initiated in 2016 by **Prague Declaration on Forests** and received a mandate by the **EU Standing Forestry Committee**
- Works according to **Terms of Reference** and **Working Modalities**
- **19 Member Countries** (2021), European Commission as **Observer** (DG AGRI & DG ENV)
- **Chairs:** DE (2017), CZ (2018), PL (2018/2019), DK (2019/2020), CH (2020/2021), ES (after 29<sup>th</sup> of October 2021)
- EFI facilitates the network as **Secretariat**, in the past and currently (until 07/2022) funded by BMEL

## INTEGRATE

Country reports on Integration of Nature Protection in Forest Policy

Integrative approaches as an opportunity for the conservation of biodiversity

## INTEGRATE+



Kick-off meeting European Network INTEGRATE



Białowieża Science Initiative

2010

- 2013

2013

2014

2015

2016

2017

- June

December

2018

- July

August



Kick-off Meeting in France

First Integrate+ Marteloscope Ebrach, Germany

Catalogue of Tree Microhabitats

German and French version of the Integrate book

Catalogue of Tree Microhabitats App

Wise use of our forest: the integrative approach (movie)

INFORMAR Kick-off workshop



Marteloscope Manager Workshop in Ebrach

Catalogue of Tree Microhabitats available in 15 languages, Integrate movie published in German and French

# Projects supporting the Integrate Network and related activities



- **Integrate I** (2010-2013, Federal State of Baden-Württemberg, WSL)
- **Integrate II** (2011-2013, BMEL **350.000 €**, several donors covering 50.000 € for book translation, incl. BAFU, French Ministry for Agriculture, Bavaria, Baden-Württemberg, Canton Waadt)
- **Integrate+** (2013-2017, BMEL **1.542.000 €**)
- **INFORMAR** (2017-2020, BMEL **1.063.000 €**) + oForest book (BAFU, **300.000 €**, event, BMEL, **50.000 €**)
- Current project: **FoReSite** - *Managing Forests for Resilience and Biodiversity – Bridging Policy, Practice, Science and Education* (05/2020-07/2022, BMEL **548.000 €**) + Swiss pledge for 2021 (BAFU, **22.000 CHF**)
- Total financial contribution so far **~ 4 Mio. €**

# Future of the network – internal consultations



- **Early 2021** – Discussions during several SC meetings
- **April 2021** – Option-paper on future funding shared
- **June 2021** – First feedback from members (13)
- **July 2021** – Results of first round of consultations shared
- **July 2021** – Discussions with the SC on a revised feedback and possible options
- **August 2021** – Preparation of the possible solutions by the Secretariat and feedback loops with the SC
- **September 2021** – Preparation of the working plan and first draft of the I-MDTF
- **October 2021** – Discussion on the draft with the SC
- **October 2021** – Sharing the draft with the all members
- **28<sup>th</sup> of October** – Discussion on the future of the Network in Neuchatel

# Country feedbacks on interest in Integrate, support preferences

## Unanimous support for the continuation of the Network!

Question on different scenarios of contributions: 13 countries have given preferences

### Scenario I

Long-term commitment for regular, assessed contributions

5 countries

### Scenario II

Annual fixed membership fee committed for an agreed period, same for all members

No votes

### Scenario III

Voluntary contributions, without a long-term commitment

5 countries

### Other type of contributions

e.g. in-kind, hosting meetings

3 countries

1 country suggests focusing funding on the facilitation of exchange meetings and a new mode of financing them (e.g. by a participation fee).

2 countries are currently not in a position to support any of the scenarios but do not exclude contributions in the future.

# The new Integrate Multi-donor trust fund (I-MDTF) in short



- Purpose is the **operationalisation** of the activities of the Integrate Network
- **European countries and regions voluntarily contribute financially**
- Administered by **EFI** as the Integrate **Secretariat** according to a set of ***,I-MDTF rules‘***
- **Strategic direction** from existing Integrate Network ***,Terms of References‘***
- Within the framework goals of the *ToR*, the **members suggest activities**
- EFI organises the **implementation** of these activities according to annual ***,Work and Budget Plans‘*** (prepared by EFI and decided upon by the Members Committee)
- **Members Committee** highest decision making body – consists of all Members who have financially **contributed in the last 12 months** (minimum contribution **5.000 € per year**)
- **Board** (previous, current and future **Chairs**, largest 2 donors) mainly with advisory and preparatory function
- **Observers**: Entities providing key relevant input (5y), new potential members or members not able to afford the contribution (12M)

# Work plan and funding requirements



## **Basic Secretariat activities** (+/- fixed funding needs ~110k €/y):

- Support of the Chair, the Board and the Members Committee
  - Communication and outreach, Maintaining Marteloscope database and webpage, Key network meetings (Annual meeting in the chair country + 1 Webinar), Strategic networking (IOs like IUCN, etc.), Preparation of the Work and Budget Plan

## **Optional activities** (variable top-up funding, Members choose/ express preferences in Contribution Agreement):

- ,Evidence Studies' (ideas: Collection and analysis of integrative forest management practices across Europe, Barriers and Enablers, Impacts of measures on BD and other ES, Perception and Communication Strategies, etc.)
- Establishment of new demonstration sites
- Exchange of experts, field exercises/ visits to demo sites for multiple stakeholder interaction
- Any other activity agreed upon by the Network

# Next steps



- Consider your comments and suggestions, share an updated I-MDTF rules in ~ a week
- **Final clarifications** in virtual meeting, all countries, **16<sup>th</sup> November** 10-11:30 CET
- **EFI Director Marc Palahí establishes the I-MDTF** (plan: 1st of December 2021)
- **All current Integrate Member Countries** will temporarily be on the Members Committee (**Members until July 2023** even without financial contribution), can adapt the I-MDTF rules whenever needed
- **First Work and Budget Plan** will be prepared in spring 2022
- FoReSite project ends in July 2022
- **First activity/implementation period August 2022-July 2023**



Thank you!  
Questions? Feedback!

