Mediterranean Network of Forestry Research and Innovation
The Challenge
The Mediterranean Region will become one of the most vulnerable areas to global change. While in European Mediterranean countries land abandonment is promoting new unmanaged forest cover, increasing fire and pest risks, in the south of the basin, forest intensification results in the threat of desertification.

Forest management strategies must promote mitigation of global change effects and guarantee the sustainable use of ecosystem goods and services, all in order to achieve a resource efficient, low-carbon economy.

Spatial analysis tools from the north of the Mediterranean could help stopping deforestation while obtaining economic benefits of landscape management in the south, and traditional knowledge from the south may help decreasing land abandonment in the north by developing eco-innovative business.

Project Objectives
MENFRI will become a dialogue and action platform in forestry, encouraging scientific and technological collaboration within the Mediterranean.

The main goal of the project is therefore to create a favourable environment for the development of forestry as an innovative and job creating business sector in this region while facing climate change.

The project will help bridging the gap between research and innovation by improving performance in managing, transferring and using the knowledge resulting from ecological research and forest management and by better aligning both research and economic objectives to societal needs.

Work Packages
WP1 Management of the project and coordination with INCO-R2I community.
WP2 Mediterranean assessment of forest spatial analysis resources and tools.
WP3 Mediterranean assessment of traditional management strategies and techniques.
WP4 Mediterranean assessment of the forestry sector and network establishment.
WP5 Training and exchange of best practices.
WP6 Dissemination and exploitation of knowledge and interface of EC.

Expected Results
- Elaboration of a Spatial Information Toolkit
- Elaboration of a Traditional Management Compilation Toolkit.
- Organisation of visits and courses on forest business, spatial resources, traditional initiatives, business innovation, COSME & Horizon 2020.
- Organization of a brokerage event.
- Elaboration of a Mediterranean R2I Forestry Policy Guide.
TITLE
Mediterranean Network of Forestry Research and Innovation

KEY WORDS
Climate change, land use change, Mediterranean Region, Research to Innovation, forestry, eco-innovation, north and south initiatives, network, policy guide.

INSTRUMENT
FP7-INCO-2013-9
Reinforcing cooperation with European Neighbourhood Policy countries on bridging the gap between research and innovation (R2I-ENP)

DURATION
36 Months
START DATE
01 - 12 -2013

PROJECT PARTNERS
CREAF (Coordinator)  AliénorEU  WARRANT GROUP  CONSORCI FORESTAL DE CATALUNYA  UNIVERSITE HASSAN II  INRGREF
This project has received funding from the European Union’s Seventh Framework Programme for research, technological development and demonstration under grant agreement no 609542.

CONTACT

Coordinator
CREAF
D. Enrique Doblas
e.doblas@creaf.uab.es