



Official Participant

## Report Template for Events at EXPO

organised in the frame of the Week of DG AGRI stakeholders' at Expo Milano

Event Title :	Agroforestry: sustainably feeding the planet and providing energy	Date:	12 September 2015
Event Organiser:	European Agroforestry Federation (EURAF)		
Event Target Group:	Farmers, researchers, teachers, politicians...		
Rapporteur (name and email address):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rosa Mosquera-Losada; <a href="mailto:mrosa.mosquera.losada@usc.es">mrosa.mosquera.losada@usc.es</a></li> <li>• Adolfo Rosati; <a href="mailto:adolfo.rosati@entecra.it">adolfo.rosati@entecra.it</a></li> <li>• Andrea Pisanelli; <a href="mailto:andrea.pisanelli@ibaf.cnr.it">andrea.pisanelli@ibaf.cnr.it</a></li> <li>• Nuria Ferreiro Domínguez; <a href="mailto:nuria.ferreiro@usc.es">nuria.ferreiro@usc.es</a></li> </ul>		
<b>Event Concept</b>			
<p>This event sought to explain how agroforestry can contribute to improve food, fibre and energy security in Europe while enhancing the environmental benefits. Firstly, Rosa Mosquera Losada (President of EURAF) and Adolfo Rosati from CREA explained what is EURAF and what is agroforestry, respectively. Moreover, Simone Borelli (FAO) explained the FAO vision concerning the role of agroforestry to promote food security and Antonio Brunori (PEFC Italy) talked about the certification of agroforestry products. These initial presentations were followed by talks related to the role of agroforestry within European agricultural policy, provided by the European Commission (Tamas Szedlak) and the European Environmental Bureau (Faustine Bas-Defossez). Later on, Paul Burgess from the University of Cranfield (UK) presented the AGFORWARD project and Fabien Balaguer from the French Agroforestry Association (AFAF) and Andrea Pisanelli from the CNR showed excellent examples of agroforestry implementation in France and Italy, respectively. In the afternoon, the presentations were focused on Italian agroforestry best practices: eg: "Death and Rebirth of "Piantata" in the Po area" (Viviana Ferraio from IUAV), "Modernity of Integrated Agro-silvo-pastoral Systems in Italy" (Marcello Mele from UNIPI), and "Water Purification Functions of Tree Systems in the Plains" (Bruna Gumiero from UNIBO). Finally, two presentations showed the benefits that agroforestry provides from a practical point of view: "Growing Hardwoods in a Modern farm in the Veneto Region: the Casaria di Masi farm" (Giustino Mezzalira from AIAF), and "Agroforestry and Conservation Agriculture: the case of Francesco da Schio's Farm" (Francesco Da Schio). The event ended with a round table, where the speakers tackled important agroforestry issues like how to remove technical, administrative, and policy obstacles to agroforestry development.</p>			
<b>Expected Outcomes</b>			
<p>Increasing awareness about how agroforestry can fulfil different EU objectives regarding food safety, productivity and quality. Agroforestry allows obtaining food products in a sustainable way and therefore fulfilling aspects related with the optimisation of the use of natural resources, while considering ecosystems services and environment issues (biodiversity, climate change, etc).</p>			
<b>Main Conclusions</b>			
<p>In concrete the conclusions were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agroforestry practices have to be spread across Europe in order to produce sustainability in arable and forestry lands.</li> <li>• Policy should promote agroforestry, so recommendations for policy makers should be carry out. An Agroforestry European Strategy should be developed as it is done in USA, India or Brazil.</li> <li>• Innovation on agroforestry is strictly necessary, so Rural Development programmes should be used to promote it (ie. focus groups and operational groups).</li> <li>• Education systems dealing with integrated forestry and agricultural land use and management at</li> </ul>			

plot, farm and landscape level should be developed at different levels (technical courses for professionals, University courses).

- Research applying locally agroforestry principles and demonstrative activities should be carried out.

The successful event was followed by several press releases like the one published by [Teatro Naturale](#) with the heading “Agroforestry is the Future”, the one in [Agricoltura News](#) titled “Bring Back Trees in Fields” or the one in [Mondo Agricolo](#) titled “Agroforestry, different plants on the same land”. A summary of the event was also published in the [EURAF newsletter](#).

#### What follow-up actions emerged from this event?

EURAF is working in the development of the different conclusions developed in the event at different levels:

1. Education: [a Parliament event](#) was held in Brussels on 9<sup>th</sup> December in which it was highlighted the need of good professionals and good education systems to provide excellent agroforestry professionals that are needed to implement agroforestry.
2. Innovation: [AGFORWARD project](#) is working with 800 stakeholders to involve farmers in research results. EURAF through its participation in the innovation group is nowadays pushing agroforestry Focus Group. EURAF is also pushing the creation of regional, national and transnational level agroforestry Operational Groups.
3. Research: AGFORWARD project is working in policy currently. An inventory of main agroforestry practices (silvopasture, silvoarable, kitchengardens, etc) has been developed as well as a comparative evaluation of agroforestry within the previous and current CAP.
4. The participation of EURAF in the European Network of Rural Development (ENRD) as well as in the different Civil Dialogue Groups (CDG) pushes agroforestry forward in the EU Commission. Different meetings with EPM have also carried out in order to push the European agroforestry strategy.