

IMACFORD «Improving and Advancing Co-ordination of Forest Research and Development in Europe»

FOREST RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES: FOREST OWNERS ORGANISATION POINT OF VIEW

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AFLOPS: Who Are We?

- Forest owners organisation
- Area of intervention: Alentejo and Ribatejo
- 177 associates
- 140.000 hectares of associated forest properties
- Human resources:
 - 13 graduates (Forestry, Agriculture, Economy, Biology and Landscape Architecture)
 - 2 Bachelors (Forest Operations and Geographical Information Systems)
 - 12 forest guards



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AFLOPS: Purpose

- *Defend and promote the interests of forest producers and owners and develop measures to preserve and improve the land and forests assets, the associated natural areas, flora and fauna, as well as improve the land and forests and woodlands of its members as a whole.*



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AFLOPS: Main Activities

- ✓ Defend the interests of forestry producers and forest owners
- ✓ Improve land and cultural assets
- ✓ Technical Forestry support
- ✓ Prepare, manage and monitor forestry projects, management plans and environmental protection plans
- ✓ Promote measures to protect forests against physical and biotic agents
- ✓ Promote educational programs
- ✓ Prepare Professional training plans
- ✓ Collect and distribute relevant information on forestry work and its legal framework



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Forest Research and Development: Essential Guidelines


- Answer the user needs;
- Generate new products or opportunities (anticipate the user need);
- Application of new technologies;
- Make the results known.



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Forest Research and Development: General Future Needs

- Silviculture/management techniques for the main portuguese forest species;
- Development of growth models;
- Increase and/or ensure profitability of the (all) forest functions;
- Sustainable forest management models, practices and techniques;
- Logistics and forest operation systems;
- Market requirements and opportunities;
- Health condition and vitality of forest stands.



SELOFF
Sustainable Ecosystems for Local and Global Forests

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Forest Research and Development: Some Specific Needs

- Stone Pine (*Pinus pinea*): increase the pine cones production, develop a pine cone growth model and inventory methodologies;
- Pine Wood Nematode: curative control;
- Sustainable forest management: evaluation of SFM indicators;
- Natura Network 2000: viability between conservation values and local forest economies (forestry, hunting, etc);
- New management methods to optimise CO₂ storage in Mediterranean forests and the cost of the sequestration on private forests.