



CONNECT

COLLECT

EXCHANGE

# *Towards a European Forest Risk Facility (FRISK)*

## *Why*

*European forests have always been exposed to disturbances such as **wildfires, storms, biotic damages, drought, flooding** and **browsing**. Forest disturbance regimes have intensified in the last decades as has vulnerability. Catastrophic events do not stop at country borders nor do they occur only in places where experience and knowledge of forest risk may be available.*

*Numerous studies have repeatedly called for **more transfer** of scientific knowledge to practice, as well as an increased **cooperation** and **coordination** of forest risk management **across borders** and **languages**. Such knowledge is required also as input for **policy development**.*

*A proposed European Forest Risk Facility aims to be a*

- **networking platform**
- **honest broker**
- **facilitator** of a **science – policy – practice dialogue**
- **lessons learned** centre for **good practice** guidance and stimulating research, monitoring and **mitigation**.



## CONNECT

A wealth of forest risk knowledge and experience exists across Europe. Knowledge is continuously being created by different expert communities while **new risks** and **unexpected crisis** situations appear in a changing forest environment. Often this expertise asks for speedy **dissemination, translation** and **contextualization**. **Training** is making the knowledge **accessible** and **applicable** for a wider audience. **Connecting experiences** amongst and between disturbances through well established **multi-disciplinary, cross-border networks** is the foundation for supporting the vision of FRISK towards more **resilient forests**.

May workshop ++++++ May 2014: Multinational Workshop on Fire ++++++ November 2014: Multinational Norway workshop++++

## COLLECT

Continuously **collecting** and **sharing** know-how, skills, technological advances and experience based on a well developed network of partners from research, operations –and forest management constitutes a solid basis of **references** and **decision support** in forest risk management and **mitigation**. The role of FRISK as an **'honest broker'** stimulates collaboration between science, policy and operational management by providing tailored **products and services**.

A forest risk **case study and lessons learned** library supports the development of own suitable risk management. FRISK promotes the **compilation** of latest knowledge.

Damage to Forests ++++++ 2012: Storm management handbook ++++++ 2013: Living with Storm Damage to Forests ++++++

## EXCHANGE

Exchanging **knowledge, skills** and **experience** across Europe in the form of **professional exchange, training** seminars or forest risk workshops is **fast-tracking of experience**. The personal exchange is providing insight in forest risk scenarios that may not be common at present in a country/region but allow for preparing for the unexpected.

Knowledge and experience in complex forest risk management takes many years for people to attain. Theory needs to be understood and observed in real crisis situations to gain **experience** and confidence. Large scale disturbances happen only rarely in the professional life of a forest manager. Any experience not shared retires with the expert.

Exchange of Experts (EoE) 2014/15: Ice sleet, Slovenia-Germany-UK ++++++ Fire, Norway-Spain-Germany++++

**Making FRISK a reality asks for a multi- donor funding model!**

With support from



Federal Ministry  
of Food  
and Agriculture



by decision of the  
German Bundestag