



Enhancing sustainable forest management in Brasov in Romania

Case Study 2



Enforce



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Location

Braşov, Central Romania



Local Context

- Romania's forests cover approximately 6.5 million hectares (almost 30% of the country's surface), with Braşov being one of the most significant areas in terms of forest coverage and species variety.
- The region's economy relies heavily on tourism and agriculture, with wood harvesting and processing ranking third—accounting for more than 25% of the country's wood processing.
- The reinstatement of private property rights in Romania has led to conflicting interests between state and private forest owners, creating issues such as uncontrolled, and often illegal, forest exploitation.

Planned Actions

01

Assess decision support systems (DSS) used at local and national levels for sustainable forest management.

02

Address the functionality and compatibility of these tools for formulating policies and implementing actions.

03

Increase awareness for forest protection, and strengthen the capacity to resolve conflicts between private and public interests in forestry management.



Key Conducted Activities

- Inventory of relevant policy and legislation framework, procedural law, and literature review
- Stakeholders' mapping and analysis
- Conducting preliminary engagement activities to promote the ENFORCE aim, objectives, and expected results, with particular focus on the Brasov case study ambitions (first workshop organised in April 2025, bilateral interviews and meetings conducted with key stakeholders)
- Capacity building by joining Earth observation knowledge sharing initiatives and participation in relevant conversations at the EU level (DG ENV Stakeholder Workshop)
- Contribution to use case scenarios and user requirement matrix at the project level
- Desk research for existing wood tracking tools, gathering information on functionality and limitations for general use



Expected Impacts

The project seeks to strengthen decision support systems for sustainable forest management, boost forest resilience, and protect biodiversity. ENFORCE will encourage collaboration among local communities, authorities, and market actors, promoting citizen involvement and enhancing the region's ability to tackle environmental challenges. By establishing a living lab, the project will link different DSSs, fostering collective learning, knowledge exchange, and better governance. Ultimately, the Brasov case study will contribute to the European Green Deal Data Space by developing a framework for citizen engagement in forest management.



The Challenge

- Challenging stakeholders' landscape due to the new election cycle and the new sector regulation (Forestry Code recently adopted in Romania)
- Limited access to citizen science (historical) data collected through the Forest Inspector application for the case study area
- Involvement of central authorities



Partners Involved



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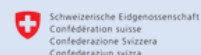


Funded by
the European Union



UK Research
and Innovation

Project funded by



Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Economic Affairs,
Education and Research EAER
State Secretariat for Education,
Research and Innovation SERI

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe programme under grant agreement 101134447— ENFORCE. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them. Co-funded by UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) under the UK government's Horizon Europe funding Guarantee. This work has received funding from the Swiss State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI).