



Live session at the IUFRO World Day (Talk and Networking)

# Nontimber Forest Products and the European Union Bioeconomy

Task Force on Unlocking the Bioeconomy and  
Nontimber Forest Products

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28 September 2021, 13:45 - 14:45 UTC

📍 Barcelona, Spain (on the IUFRO World Day Map)

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## ABSTRACT

Bioeconomies emphasize knowledge-based production and use of renewable biological resources to provide existing and new products, through sustainable processes. Non-timber forest products (NTFP), goods used by humans for food, medicine, and other essential items, are for the most part 'invisible' in the accounting of forest-based economies and management of the resources that supply such economies. They are under-reported in forest products statistics at all levels, obscuring their contribution to reducing poverty, providing for food and health security, and social stability, as well as forest biodiversity globally. Transitioning to sustainable bioeconomies has emerged as a global issue, with forest-based economies as fundamental to that shift.

Nontimber forest products have been recognized as essential to bioeconomies by leading forestry research institutions, centred in Europe and progressing across the globe. The Task Force “Unlocking the Bioeconomy and Nontimber Forest Products” is coordinating with global experts from more 25 institutions to improve knowledge and understanding about these neglected forest resources and elucidate pathways to ensure their integration into bioeconomies. In this session, experts from the European Forest Institute and partners discuss EU focused research efforts that documented contributions of NTFP to regional economies and are driving the transition in the region.

#### KEYWORDS

- Non-wood Forest Products
  - Forest Economics
- Human Health and Well-being
- Sustainable Forest Management

#### SPEAKERS



Dr. Marko Lovrić

holds a PhD degree in forest policy from the University of Freiburg, Germany. He specializes in forest policy and economics. Before joining EFI he worked as an assistant in forest policy and management of protected areas at the Faculty of Forestry, University of Zagreb. He also worked as a FSC auditor for Soil Association, UK. Currently he is working on analysis of European ecosystem services and on transition towards bioeconomy. He has 14 years of experience in research on forest policy and economics.

His work explored certification of forest management and chain of custody, valuation of forests, formulation and implementation of national and international forest focused and forest related policies, international trade of wood, and collection and consumption of non-wood forest products and factors framing uptake of agroforestry practices across Europe. Dr. Lovrić was involved in many FP7 and H2020 projects as a researcher and project manager. See more at my organizational page or Google Scholar.



Inazio Martínez de Arano

holds a degree in biology from the University of the Basque Country, a master's degree in land management from the Polytechnic University of Valencia and a master's degree in forest sciences, forestry, from the Austral University of Chile. He has been Executive President of the Union of South European Foresters (USSE), where he was involved in the analysis of the evolution of forestry policies at European and global level, and the assessment of the possible effects of policies and regulations on Mediterranean and South Atlantic forests and forestry.

Inazio Martinez was a forestry research coordinator and researcher at the Basque Institute for Agricultural Research (NEIKER), as well as a university lecturer at the University of Concepción, Chile. As President of the European Institute of Cultivated Forests (IEFC), he participated in the establishment of the European Atlantic Regional Office - EFIATLANTIC. Currently, Inazio Martinez de Arano is Head of the Mediterranean Regional Office of the European Forest Institute (EFIMED).

#### *PROGRAM*

- 13:45-13:55 Welcome & Introduction to the Task Force
- 13:55-14:20 Presentation by Speakers
- 14:20-14:40 Questions & Discussion
- 14:40-14:45 Conclusion & Closing

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