

MANAGEMENT OF FARMING, FOOD AND FORESTRY SYSTEMS & VALORIZATION OF THE TERRITORY

Forest management and fire prevention

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Tiago Oliveira, head of Dept. of Innovation and Forestry Development at The Navigator Company up to 20th of October 2017. Forest protection (2008-2016). Assistant lecture at MedFor Master (Universidade de Lisboa) - Wildfire Risk Management. Executive Coordinator of the Technical proposal of the National Fire Plan (2005) and technical advisor for the XV and XVII Portuguese Government. He holds a PhD in forestry (Univ. Lisbon), grounded with 25 years of experience in national and international activities.



Since 21st of October/2017 he was appointed President of the Special Unit for Integrated Management of Rural Fires, superintended by the Prime Minister of Portugal.

CHALLENGES

- Societal challenges -> Foster United Nations development goals & Climate change;
- Support policies, management, operations and techniques with sound science;
- Assessment and evaluation of forest resources;
- Capture the full value of forest resources to landowners / forests owners;
- Long term and spatial scale.

PRESENTATION

Every year in Portugal lives are endangered and fire destroys large areas of forests that nature took years to grow. Land abandonment and climate change exponentially increase fire vulnerability.

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However, there is a growing demand for forest resources (products and services). To tackle these problems it is important to: gather/develop data, information, models, analysis and decision support systems; operational innovation to foster efficiency and outreach and capacity building. Plenty progress has been done but much remains to be done: a few hot issues were raised on the presentation: risk management – how safe is safe enough; where, when and how to treat fuel load without jeopardizing sustainability; it is just not technology but involving people and communities – resource governance in a socio-ecological system; assessment and evaluation of environmental services – complexity and ambiguity.



MAIN OUTCOMES FROM THE DISCUSSIONS

Based on a selection of poster presentations and output from discussion groups what stood out as more innovative in the projects presented was:

- Holistic approach in order to improve the value chain in a sustainable way;
- The capacity to align stakeholders "strategies";
- Actors Networking– collaborative groups involving researchers, policy makers and end-users;
- Transdisciplinarity – research designed, shaped & implemented by the many for the benefit of the many (cross sectorality);
- Different collaborative approach for innovating forest ecosystems using internet, high resolution databases for optimisation (self sustainable ecosystems, in which ecosystems means Forest + Farming + combine sectors (agro and forest)).

The following advice on innovations has been formulated:

Common platform, remote collection, integrating, sharing, cost effective big data to feed support decision tools;

- Sharing valuable and quality data and information;
- New technologies to create metadata/ open data platform to share information;
- Many opportunities are provided by data sharing, modelling, monitoring variety of actors;

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- Integration of existing systems for farm + forest specific decision support tool (economic, technical, diversity, bio economy and risk prevention).

INNOVATION PROJECTS

At this thematic session, each participant assisted to the presentation of 3 of the following posters:

- **AGRIFORVALOR**
- **Aliens and Flames**
- **FitoMicorrizas** - Mycorrhizae Plants Production
- **G(i) PIN** - Integrated management of pine grove/Pine wood nematode *Bursaphelenchus xylophilus*
- **GOTECFOR** - Technology for the mobilization and use of Forest Biomass in agro-industry;
- New aspects of micropropagation of fruit and other deciduous trees
- **OakRegeneration** - The reassessment of regeneration strategies in the Mediterranean scattered-oak woodlands
- **OUI-GEF** - Innovative tools for collaborative forest management
- **SHORT-ROTATION COPPICE** - an opportunity for future regional bio-refineries?

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