Community forests in NRW and legal framework



The ownership of the forests is shared by the stockholders as an historically rooted legal framework. Due to different backgrounds in formation, there is no relation between the size of community forests and the number of stockholders.

The four cornerstones of the community forest law from 1975 are:

All stockholders are part of a public corporation, the forest cooperative

It is forbidden so dissolve forest areas which are part of a community forest

Consistent management policies for all kinds of community forests

The possibility to merge forest cooperatives or create new ones

For the creation of the community forest law in 1975, an advisory board with participants from all existing forms of community forests was formed. Because if this involvement the framework is well accepted and has proved its practicability. Since the implementation of the community forest law until 2002 only two new forest cooperatives have been founded. It is not easy to convince private forest owners to make this step

There are several advantages of community forests compared to small private forests:

a chairman can decide for all members how to manage the forest, especially after calamities such as a storm merger of forest cooperatives and newly founded cooperatives improve the forest ownership structure

DETAILS		
ORIGIN OF WOOD	MOBILIZATION POTENTIAL	
Forest	1 - 2 m³/ha in region of NRW	
TYPE OF WOOD		
Stemwood	SUSTAINABILITY POTENTIAL - VALUE	
KIND OF WOOD CONCERNED	EASE OF IMPLEMENTATION	
Stemwood	high	
IMPACT ON ENVIRONMENT & BIODIVERSITY	EASE OF IMPLEMENTATION - EVALUATION	
Positive - depending on management decisions		
INCOME EFFECT	KEY PREREQUISITES	
Positive	Regional ownership structures and legal frameworks need to be suitable;	
	participation processes needed in the implementation	
EXPLOITATION POTENTIAL	TYPE OF EVENT WHERE THIS BPI HAS BEEN FEATURED	
HUB	JOB EFFECT	
	More efficient forest operations and thinnings possible with higher forest	
	work force	
ECONOMIC IMPACT	COSTS OF IMPLEMENTATION (EURO - €)	
Estimated up to 50€/ ha		

SPECIFIC KNOWLEDGE NEEDED

Medium; need for specific regional structure knowledge and also administrative expertise

MORE DETAILS				
CHALLENGE ADDRESSED	DOMAIN		TYPE OF SOLUTION	
	Ownership, cooperation			
KEYWORDS	DIGITAL SOLUTION		INNOVATION	
	No		No	
COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	SCALE OF APPLICATION		START AND END YEAR	
Germany	Regional/sub-national			
REFERENCES AND RESOURCES				
MAIN WEBSITE		RESOURCES		
https://recht.nrw.de/lmi/owa/br_bes_detail				

PROJECT WEBSITE

PROJECT REFERENCE

PROJECT UNDER WHICH THIS FACTSHEET HAS BEEN CREATED

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