


Description of best practice

Best practice	
Title	Forest Management Contracts
Picture	
Domain	Forest ownership and land tenure. Sustainable management and planning. Risks management. Silviculture
Source of wood	Stemwood. Above and below ground woody biomass (ex. shrubs, wood for fibres, wood for energy). Provenance: Forest, Municipal woodlands, Private forests
Location	Spain
Implementers	Agresta S.Coop
Actual status	Running
Approach	<p>Many forests that could generate income are not really managed and forest-owners don't take care of them. The causes are very often the low profitability of wood exploitation and the complexity of its management. Forest owners are not usually specialists and are not engaged in forestry activities. This leads to no incomes and to an increased risk of fires and pests. Faced with this situation, Agresta proposes specific contracts to forest-owners, making it possible a professional sustainable management allowing revenues, forest planning, wood mobilization, and infrastructure and silvicultural operations.</p>
Main results	<p>More than 15.000 ha of forests are being managed in a professional way through specific contracts with more than 20 forest-owners in several regions in Spain, according to a sustainable forest management plan.</p> <p>An annual average of 15.000 m³ of wood is mobilized and putted into market by Agresta from these forests.</p> <p>These owners have a new commitment with their forest, thanks to</p>

	<p>a regular communication with management contractor, participating in most important decisions but without worrying about technical and marketing tasks that are assumed by Agresta. Silvicultural operations are undertaken every year to improve quality of wood, fire prevention and other risks along with infrastructure improvements, like forest roads.</p> <p>All investments and forest management are being financing by forest incomes, especially timber sales, generating revenues for forest-owners, forest managers and forest workers.</p>
Lessons learned	<p>Forest management is not enough to get many forests out of abandonment. It is important to be in contact with main stakeholders and the reality of the markets, something that a forestry company can assure.</p> <p>It is necessary to work with professionalism, entrepreneurial vision and long-term commitment, in a collaborative relationship and win-win with the owner.</p> <p>The specialization in turnkey forest management by a company allows improving and making profitable the management since it increases the innovation capacity, including the technological one (management software, forest inventories with remote sensing...)</p>
Contact information	dgarcia@agresta.org
Link to website	www.agresta.org
Code	BP_ES_01

Region	Spain
Time scale	Since 2009
Mobilization Potential	25.000 m3 per year
Kind of wood concerned	Stemwood
Sustainability Potential	Very positive
Impact on environment & biodiversity	Taking into account environmental and heritage issues of sustainable management
Ease of implementation	Medium
Economic impact	High impact for forest owners, more valuable forests
Job effect	Locally high
Income effect	Locally high
Specific knowledge needed	Forest management concepts
Costs of implementation	5-15 €/ha-year (recovered with the revenues obtained thanks to the improvement in management)
Technical readiness level	Applicable
Key information for adoption	