EU Twinning Project KS09IBEN02 Further support to sustainable forest management Pristina, 21-25 November, 2011







Elaboration of a combined concept to develop the National Forest Extension Service and PFO Association

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What is an Extension service?



There is not an accepted definition of forestry extension concept. It can be considered in different ways depending to the **context** and the **objectives**. In rural context, often the Extension service is create to help rural families in their living or to educate rural people.

In our case, an Extension service can be conceived as

- a way to help forestry farms to improve their efficiency in the forestry activities
- an assistance service to help forestry farmers in identifying and analyzing their production problems and searching for the opportunities for improvement.



Forestry Extension = the application of scientific research and knowledge to forestry practices through forestry farmers education.

The field of extension includes a <u>wide range of information and training</u> <u>activities</u> organized for all the people (adult and young people) involved in the system at different levels.

What is the mission?



The main objective of the mission is to elaborate a combined concept to develop the National Forest Extension Service (NFES) and PFO Association. Only a good NFES can guarantee an efficient PFO Association system.

Professional formation at different levels

Professional formation is an instrument for **promoting professional qualification** in order to satisfy the growing needs of society for production, protection and for the environmental functions of the forest ecosystem.

As a consequence, the NFES activities involve

- forestry farmers
- private forest owners association
- NGO and state forest services and companies
 - educational institutions
 - research centers

The Italian example



In Italy, the NFES is structured in different levels

- Educational level: schools and universities
- Administrative level: policy and law
- Technical level: training courses for private forestry workers
- Specific education and training for the State Forest Service



- at a **national level** (for instance the curriculum of the Forest Science Faculty that is the same in all the country or the training system for the State Forest Service foresters; the Forest Observatory; IPLA; CNR, etc.)
- at a **regional level** (for instance the case of Piedmont or Friuli Venezia Giulia or the training courses funded by the EC (rural development plans)
- at a **local level** forestry experts, depending from the specific needs (the Italian forests are very different from the north to the south and often forest and agriculture activities are carried out together)

The Italian example



In Italy, the first action to promote training in the forest sector was held to solve a problem of unemployment.

The aim of the Law 264/1949 was the increasing of the professional training by the institution of yards in which to carry out activities and practice of planting and taking care of trees in the State owned forests. This promotion action was emphasized in particular in the areas with the highest rates of unemployment and the activities was focused on cutting, hauling, nurseries, forest maintenance, public utility activities.





The art.12 of the Decree 227/2001 establishes that the Regions are responsibles for the training and the professional education of all the people working in the forest sector at any level. In Italy every region

Education and training for the State Forest Service



The State Forest Service agents and rangers attend two schools:

- 1. The Forest Institute of Vallombrosa (Firenze, Tuscany)
- 2. The Forest School of Cittaducale (Rieti, Lazio)



The **Forest Institute of Vallombrosa** starts its activity in 1869 as a Royal Forestry college, following the examples of Nancy, Munchen and Tharandt where forest courses were activated in 1867. Vallombrosa is located in Reggello, in the Florence municipality and was a convent (Benedictine Congregation).

After the religious order suppression in 1866 it was converted in a forest school with a 3-years course structured including theoretical lessons and practical training in the forest, considered as the most important didactic laboratory where the new technologies and methodologies was experimented (including the plantation of exotic species). At the end of their study, the students became a part of the State Forest Service or the National Forest Administration.

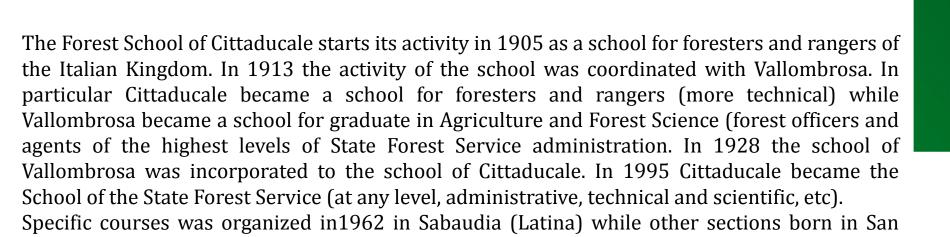
After 1920 the school was transferred in Florence as a sort of 2-years master reserved t the graduates coming from the faculties of Agricultural and Forest Science. The school was incorporate to Cittaducale forest school. Today it is used to make practical training.

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Nazario (VI), Fogliano (LT), Mongiana (VV), Marsiliana (GR), Antrodoco (RI) e Rieti.

Education and training for the State Forest Service



(... continued Cittaducale)

Other structures are located in Monte Terminillo (ski and mountain training for SFS staff), Auronzo di Cadore (athletic ski training for the athletes of the SFS) and in Rocca di Mezzo (Abruzzo).

The educational and training activities of Cittaducale are focused on different topics

- International and national forestry laws and regulations
- International and national legislation about environment, civil protection, forest fires, etc.
- New issues about environment, forest and protected areas ecology, biology, etc.
- Practical training in forest
- Activities with the schools







Forestry educational system: the Universities



The first Forest Science Faculty was activated in the University of Florence. The second one was Padova (Veneto) and today this faculty is present in other cities: Torino, Bari, Palermo, Ancona, Campobasso, Napoli, Potenza, Reggio Calabria, Sassari e Viterbo.

Organization

To became a graduate in Forest Science is necessary to attend on a 3-years course (3-years degree or short degree) with basic subjects. This first period can be followed from a 2-years period of specialization with more technical studies (specialist degree, similar to a master degree).



People with a Forest Science degree have the possibility to be registered in a Roll of Agronomists and Foresters, passing a special exam. In Italy, these professional roles are strictly linked but the foresters have a specific expertness about forestry topics and problems. The Roll is regulated by a Decree (328/2001) that regulate responsabilities and specific skills (technical assistance for private forest owners, information, administrative assistance, etc.)

Forestry educational system: secondary schools



Differently from other European Member States, in Italy does not exist a system of secondary schools with an organic and complete course of studies dedicated only to forest and environments. So, we do not have a specific forestry expert that support the activities of the graduates foresters coming from the University.

However, there are some professional agricultural institutes that, starting as forestry schools, have maintained their characteristics modifying the curricula and creating a specific professional figure expert in ecologic and forestry issues.

- Professional College Camaiti, Pieve Santo Stefano (Arezzo, Tuscany)
- Professional College Meneghini, Edolo (Brescia, Lombardy)
- Professional College Ormea (Cuneo, Piedmont)
- Professional College Della Lucia (Feltre, Veneto)



INEA - Forest Observatory http://www.inea.it/prog/osservatorio_foreste/it/



It is a section of the National Institute of Agricultural Economics (INEA) and works in the field of forest policy. One of the tasks of the Observatory is the Research activity and the Technical

Assistance:

Research, projects and activities in the forest sector

- MIPAF (Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry) support and assistance
- Activity with the Italian Regions
- Other activities (organization of meeting, seminars, etc.)

Some activities of the Forest Observatory are very interesting for the private forest owners sector (also in indirectly). For instance: the monitoring of rural development measures, the collection of information, statistical data, analysis useful to define strategies, to plan intervention and to evaluate forest policies., the cost and revenues analysis of forestry farms, etc..

INEA has a regional structure (one central office and 20 regional offices) so it is easy to implement the activity of the Observatory in all the regions where the forest resources are more important.

Regional examples: the case of Piedmont



In the field of forest training, one of the most active Italian Region is Piedmont, located in the north-western part of Italy.

High Education: Faculty of Forest Science (Torino)

Forestry experts: AIFOR Applied research: IPLA

Piedmont is one of the most vanguard Italian regions in terms of professional training in this field having formed since 2002 a body of trainers and established specific formation paths and professional qualifications for forestry jobs.

The region has also created a Roll of Forestry Trainers to make it easier to find trainers with proved know-how and competence.



AIFOR – Associazione Italiana Istruttori Forestali Italian Association of Forestry Trainers





AIFOR

http://www.aifor.it (italian and english)

Woods are the best classroom for forestry education

→ Courses have a highly practical content, with 90% of the time dedicated to demonstrations and field work.

AIFOR is a national Association located in Piedmont region which main aim is the training activity. In particular, **professional formation courses** are intended for adult staff operating or going to operate in wood harvesting, arrangement of the territory by means of environmental engineering techniques and care and maintenance of ornamental green areas. The professional profile of the operators is acknowledged by a professional qualification certificate issued by Piedmont Region after the course and a final exam.

AIFOR – Associazione Italiana Istruttori Forestali Italian Association of Forestry Trainers



In order to reach the goals of professional formation with a highly practical content, the relation between instructor and trainees is kept close (1 to 4 or 1 to 5) in all proposed courses.

The didactic activity is modular, in order to allow trainees to take an articulated formation path with short courses leading to a professional qualification.

The level for access is established based on know-how and experience of the trainee at the beginning. It is not compulsory to attend all the lessons, but one can attend just a few modules in order to obtain specific competence and titles in relation with the activities the trainee is most interested in.

The courses offered by the Trainers concentrate in particular on accident prevention and safety at work according to Law Decree 81/08, which stresses the fact that the <u>most important accident prevention and health protection instrument is professional formation</u>.

Some example of courses organized by AIFOR



Forestry utilization workers course

Is intended for public forestry operators and private workers. They last 1 or 2 weeks according to their specialization level and include teaching techniques for tree felling and logging.

Soil bioengineering course

Is intended for workers in order to solve problems of re-planting, consolidation and drainage of slopes, escarpments and river banks. The building materials used are wood and plants, sometimes associated with stones and other aggregates. The courses usually take place at some didactic yards and last one week, at the end of which piling, benching and paling activities are carried out.

Tree-climbing course

Is intended for the operators of public and ornamental green areas. Knowledge of tree physiology and pruning are associated with tree climbing, securing and working at a height by using ropes in compliance with the norms of Law Decree 235/2003.

IPLA: Istituto per le piante da legno e l'ambiente (Wood plantations and Environment Institute)





IPLA – Wood Plantation and Environment Institute is located in Torino, in the Natural Park of Superga Hills, in the city borders.

www.ipla.org (only in italian)

- It is a public funded company working in Piedmon and Valle d'Aosta region and in the Torino municipalità. Piemonte is the majority shareholed.
- The main task of IPLA is to offer technical assistance, developing innovations and supporting the application of environmental and forestry policy (also in the private sector). Moreover it works in the energy resources sector. IPLA carries out management activities and applied research.
- It is a structure with an high and differentiate specialization and it is now a valid technical and scientific instruments in the protection, planning and valorization of environmental resources in particular in the protected areas and in forestry ecosystems.
- •IPLA works in Italy but not only, collaborating in international project especially in the developing countries.

IPLA: Istituto per le piante da legno e l'ambiente (Wood plantations and Environment Institute)





Two technical areas

- 1. Environment
- 2. Renowable resources

Environment technical area is divided into more sections

- Landscape
- Soil
- Forest —
- Biodiversity
- Environmental diseases
- Projects
- Laboratory

- Application of multifunctional planning methodologies for the management of forestry resources, in particular developing the forestry information system
- <u>Development of the Regional and local Forestry Plans</u>, <u>coordination and technical assistance</u>
- Assessment of the guide lines for the sustainable silviculture in particular in case of abandoned forests or bad managed forests.

Other sources of information and knowledge







Forlener, the forest-wod energy chain fair

It is the main Italian fair exclusively focused in the forest-wood energy chain. Born in Biella (Piedmont) in 2001, it is a biennial appointment, held this year from the 23 to the 25 September.

More than 17,000 square meters of exhibition area, divided in internal pavilions and ground demonstration areas for a fleet of machines in motion unique in its type.

FORLENER covers all the products and services from forest management and plantations of fast-growth species to the utilization of wood as an energy source at all levels: (household, communities, industries); machinery and equipment for cut, pick-up and first manufacture of timber; anti-fire equipment and safe working devices.



Regional examples: the case of Friuli Venezia Giulia





CESFAM = Service Center for forest and mountain activity. =Centro Servizi per le foreste e le attività per la montagna It is a structure depending from the Central Division of rural, agrofood and forestry resources of the Friuli Venezia Giulia Region. It is located in Paluzza, in the heart of the Alps (Alpi Carniche).

The Center offers different services to public and private operators especially in the forest wood energy chain. Starting from 2002 it is became one of the most important regional center of basic and advanced education, training, vocational and continuing education (for professional and technical foresters and for manager) in the field of forest, environment and mountain.

CESFAM organization



The activity of CESFAM is carried out through courses, masters, seminar, congress, field trips and stages. In the xylotheque the most important Italian woods can be analyzed and studied also in a technologic point of view.

There are also specific mechanic laboratories and carpentry.

In the classroom and in the laboratory, trainees learn the use and upkeep of machinery and equipments and all the aspects linked with safety and organization of the timber yards. Particular importance is reserved to all the prevention risk activities.

Practical training → is made in the regional forest of Pramosio (certificate PEFC). It is the educational site. This forest is located 1100-1600 m above the sea level, is extended in 165 hectares and composed by spruce, silver fir, beech and larch. It has a good system of forestry road and is possible to carry out all the different logging operations.

logging operations.

The trainers have a good experience in the management and organization of timber yards and have high theoretical knowledge.

Courses organized by CESFAM



- Traditional logging techniques (chainsaw, forestry tractors, winch, etc.)
- Innovative logging techniques (harvester, forwarder)
- Silviculture and sustainable management of the forest
- Forestry and environmental education
- Engineering and application in the soil protection and environment

Energy sector and renewable energies

CESFAM organized educational training and seminar concerning the valorization of the woody biomasses, from the timber yards to the final destination on the market. In particular, attention is paid on the qualitative aspects of the market, the modern technologies to produce generate bioenergy from wood. Moreover, there are specific deepening about the coming from emissions the combustion, the economic and efficiency evaluation of the plants, etc.. The course include a theoretical part followed by the analysis of specific case studies in Friuli Venezia Giulia.

Building sector

The Service Center offers educational training also in the building technologies and materials linked to the use of wood and natural materials. There are theoretical and practical applications. This specific course is attended by designers, technicians and responsible of the local administration. It is possible to change the curricula depending on the specific needs and requirements.

Courses organized by CESFAM



Stages

The service Center organized also stages for the Italian and foreign universities finalized to the deepening of specific issues included in the curricula. The subjects and the contents of every stage are decided together with the teachers and professors (classification of the forest types, simulation of logging, forestry certification, safety and organization of forestry yards, logging techniques.

Training for public companies and civil protection

The Service Center organized education also for the public administrators of forestry, environment sector, civil protection, etc.

Training and information activities in the EU rural development policy



Rural and regional policies implemented by the EU promote both training and information activities which are required to spread know-how and knowledge provided for by law. They promote also the skills needed to implement these activities, following evolution and specialization of forestry.

These activities are regarded as a goal and an opportunity

- → to support and develop economy and employment
- \rightarrow to carry out forest activities on the basis of the criteria established for sustainable forest management.

Moreover, training and information are provided for as mandatory by law (in Italy with the law 626/94), with regard to **safety at work** (in the forest sector a number of activities are considered to be high risk activities for the workers concerned, especially when cutting and hauling timber by mechanical means and when fighting forest fires).

Training and information activities in the EU rural development policy



The topics of these activities are two.

- 1. Competitiveness of the agricultural and forestry sector
- 2. Management of the territory and the environment

Both objectives are aligned with the politic priorities mentioned in the conclusions of the European Councils of Lisbona and Goteborg and are related to the competitiveness and the sustainable development.

The European Community, with the **Regulation 1698/2005** (period 2007-2013) funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD), has drawn up specific measures to provide training and information activities and to exchange the knowledge for the workers that operate in the agricultural and forestry sector (for instance measure 115 – Business advice and forestry advice)

The European Social Fund (Regulation 1081/2006) provide for specific actions to valorize the human resources with training and information actions that are carried out under the objectives of "Convergence" and "Regional competitiveness and occupation" fixed in the Regulation 1083/2006 for the regional policy.

Proposal for the regulation on support for rural development 2014-2020



<u>Art.15 of Section I – Knowledge transfer and information actions</u>

Support under this measure shall cover vocational training and skills acquisition actions, demonstration activities and information actions. Vocational training and skills acquisition actions may include training courses, workshops and coaching.

Support shall be for the benefit of persons engaged in agricultural, food and foresty sectos. Support under this measure shall not include courses of instruction or training which form part of normal education programmes or systems at seconday or higher levels.

Eligible costs shall be the costs of organising and delivering the knowledge transfer or informatio action (in some cases also investment costs).

The link between NFES and the PFO



A NFES have to target specific activities to satisfy the need and the requirements coming from the PFO and their Association. Looking to the Italian experience, there are specific issues

- Sustainable forest management
- Forest certification
- Quality certification
- Post-harvest processing of non timber forest products
- Forest legislation
- Afforestation and management of abounded agricultural lands

<u>Usually, small size forest owners remain outside extension activities. As a consequence, the Association among small owners in very important to orient specific extension activities and to keep high the interest in forest training and education.</u>

Some concerns about Associations



The European Regulation 1257/1999 (period 2000-2006), art. 30 provided for the contributes to the institution of Forestry Association:

The establishment of associations of forest holders that are set up in order to help their members to improve the sustainable and efficient management of their forests

Excluding five Italian Regions, all the other have activated measures to promote the Forestry Association.

One of the examples is the case of Trentino, where during 2000-2006 period, 13 Associations among private forestry owners born (3 privates and 10 publics) over 70.500 hectares of forested lands.

The private properties are very small and fragmented. The use of European contributes for rural development has permitted the institution of PFO association with particular regards to those which objectives where forestry roads, maintenance, planning. One article of Association's Statute deal with the importance to the training, education, advices and support to the Associated owners.



An experience of Consortium in Puglia





CO.LA.FOR = Consortium of Agro-forestry works is an agricultural cooperative born in 1991 from the union of 5 cooperatives operating in the evironment and forestr sector. It is located in Puglia, in the south of Italy.

Its main activity is the realization of forest activities funded by the Regional, National and European regulations. It operates also in the maintenance of forestry roads and protection of forests against forest fires. The collaboration with different municipalities and with the owners of agro-forestry lands has increase the Consortium estates during the years (22.000 hectares).

To activate specific intervention the Consortium operates by means of the Cooperatives, promoting the creation of new cooperatives and helping the management.



CO.LA.FOR Organization



During the time, the Consortium has acquired all the machinery and equipments useful to carried out every forest work (afforestation, maintenance of roads, protection against forest fires, etc..). It has a technical office coordinate with the technical services of the cooperatives able to give every technical service in the environment and forestry sector (projects, management plans, studies, researches, etc.).

The Consortium organizes specific training courses for the associated cooperatives. One of the most important is the course about the work safety in the timber yards (first aid and protection against forest fires).

The courses are organized with theoretical lessons and practical training.



Thank you for your attention

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Alcune riflessioni sull'associazionismo forestale

Filippo Brun

Dipartimento di Economia e Ingegneria Agraria, Forestale e Ambientale Sez. Economia Via Leonardo da Vinci, 44 - 10095 Grugliasco – (TO)

Convengo: "L'Associazionismo quale strumento per la valorizzazione del patrimonio forestale montano"

Organizzato dall'Istituto Forestale di Ormea

ORMEA (CN) 8 maggio 2004

Obiettivo della presentazione:

fornire un quadro sulle opportunità
dell'associazionismo in Italia
e uno spunto di discussione per superare
alcuni dei punti critici che emergono da tale
quadro

Opportunità per l'associazionismo: una lunga storia di provvedimenti

II RDL 3267/23 Promuove e finanzia Aziende Speciali e Consorzi, evidenziandone il ruolo gestionale e sociale, senza entrare nel merito della natura giuridica del collettivismo (propr. Collettive, usi civici, demani comunali)

La prima legge della montagna L. 991/52 riafferma e rafforza il ruolo dei Consorzi e delle Aziende Speciali.

La L. Quadrifoglio 984/77 rilancia i consorzi volontari tra proprietari e conduttori di terreni, (tralasciando gli strumenti finanziari)

Continua

- Lo Schema di Piano Forestale Nazionale (CIPE il 2.12.1987) individua l'associazionismo come uno degli "strumenti cardine di valorizzazione del sistema forestalegno" Per il miglioramento della gestione forestale si prevedevano contributi pari a 200.000 lire/ha una tantum per la costituzione di consorzi forestali e di 50.000 lire/ha annui per il loro funzionamento
- il Reg.CE 1609/89 estende ai consorzi gli aiuti alle misure di espansione delle superfici forestali (mentre tale possibilità è stata esclusa nelle norme attuative del Reg. 2080/92)
- La sfortunata L. 97/1994 arriva a proporre la costituzione di gestioni consortili coattive.

Continua

- Reg. 1257/1999 sostegno alle zone rurali dell'UE Art.
 30 1° comma 5° trattino (Misura I)
- Delibera CIPE 21/12/99 n° 219 Progetto Foresta
 Appenninica per il rafforzamento della gestione forestale
 associata e del sistema dei Consorzi Forestali nelle aree
 montane della Dorsale Appenninica
- articoli 7 e 8 della Legge 57/2001 (L delega per la modernizzazione..) e
- Decreto Legislativo 227/2001 art. 5

E le Regioni?

- Tranne Abruzzo , Molise Campania, Sicilia e Sardegna tutte le regioni hanno attivato le misure in favore dell'associazionismo forestale
- Purtroppo però tale misura ha una rilevanza marginale nel bilancio complessivo. Le "Altre misure forestali" incidono nel complesso per meno del 5% del totale della spesa.
 - Imboschimento sup non agricole
 - Pianificazione e inventari
 - Raccolta trasformazione commercializz
 - Infrastrutture e strade
 - Associazionismo
 - Incendi e ricostituzione disastri
 - Stabilità ecologica
 - Difesa incendi e fasce tagliafuoco

Effetti: 26 consorzi forestali riconosciuti dalla giunta della Lombardia

- Agro-Silvo_Pastorale Valle San Martino ONLUS
- ALTA VAL TIDONE -
- ALTA VALLE BREMBANA
- ALTA VALLE CAMONICA
- ALTA VALLE STAFFORA
- AITA VAITFIIINA –
- ALTO SERIO -
- BASSA VALLE CAMONICA –
- BOSCHI D'ISOLA
- DEL TICINO -
- Della Madonna di Montù
- DUE PARCHI s.n.c.
- LARIO INTELVESE

- PADANO –
- PIZZO BADILE -
- PIZZO CAMINO –
- PRANDAGLIO -
- PRATA CAMPORTACCIO -
- PRESOLANA –
- REGANZO –
- SEBINFOR
- SILVACONSORZIO –
- UNIONE AGRICOLTORI di Pavia
- VALLE DEL TICINO –
- VALLE DELL'ALLIONE -
- VALVESTINO -

In Piemonte

- 7+3 Nuovi consorzi ed associazioni
- Ripresa della Associazione Forestale del Piemonte: nascita di un coordinamento regionale

Nel complesso un progresso nelle superfici gestite non sufficiente

- Nel 1994 gli ettari gestiti da strutture consortili (25) aderenti a Federforeste erano circa 200'000
- Nel 2000 gli ettari sono saliti a 340'000 con 45 strutture consortili
- Attualmente molti consorzi appenninici stanno per aderire grazie anche al progetto CIPE

Soci di FEDERFORESTE

			Univ. Usi Civici,	Comuni	Altri		
Soci	Aziende	Consorzi	Regole	CM Prov.	soci	totale	%
Piemonte		2				2	3%
Lombardia		16		1		17	25%
Veneto			2			2	3%
Trentino Alto Adige	1	2		3		6	9%
Friuli Venezia Giulia		2		1	1	4	6%
Emilia Romagna		5	1	2		8	12%
Toscana		4		1		5	7%
Marche	1	4		1	2	8	12%
Basilicata				1		1	1%
Abruzzo		1		1		2	3%
Umbria			1		1	2	3%
Lazio				2	2	4	6%
Calabria		1		1		2	3%
Sardegna				2	1	3	4%
Sicilia	2					2	3%
Totale	4	37	4	16	7	68	100%

Perché sono importanti i consorzi?

- un indicatore del livello di sviluppo economico è dato dal numero e dalla diversificazione del sistema delle imprese di servizio alla produzione.
- tale indicatore è valido anche per il settore forestale dove tradizionalmente il proprietario, date le dimensioni delle unità produttive, può usare imprese terze per la lavorazione in bosco, per le cure colturali e spesso per la progettazione ed esecuzione dell'impianto.
- I problemi derivanti dalla frammentazione è dalla necessità di fornire una serie di servizi giustificano la nascita dei consorzi

I servizi sono la chiave dello sviluppo

Fra quelli forestali (Musotti e Petrella, 1996):

- funzioni normative
- funzioni operative con rilevanza interna
- funzioni operative con rilevanza esterna
- funzioni politico-amministrative

Funzioni Normative

- stipulazione di contratti di fornitura;
- creazione di marchi di qualità;
- certificazione dei sistemi di gestione ambientale;
- controlli di conformità sull'attività degli associati;

funzioni operative con rilevanza interna

- assistenza tecnica e formazione professionale;
- fornitura di equipaggiamento, attrezzature, mezzi di trasporto;
- predisposizione di piani di gestione;
- esecuzione di piantagioni, miglioramenti boschivi, utilizzazioni forestali per conto degli associati;
- manutenzione di impianti e infrastrutture;
- prima trasformazione del legname grezzo e dei prodotti forestali non legnosi conferiti dagli associati;
- organizzazione di servizi di sorveglianza e difesa antiincendio;

funzioni operative con rilevanza esterna

- concentrazione fisica dell'offerta;
- ricerca di canali di distribuzione;
- organizzazione e regolamentazione di attività turistico-ricreative e sportive nei terreni degli associati;
- ricerche di mercato e azioni promozionali;

funzioni politico-amministrative

- assistenza alla predisposizione della contabilità aziendale degli associati;
- assistenza e compilazione pratiche amministrative da parte degli associati;
- espletamento di pratiche amministrative per richiesta autorizzazioni, licenze, incentivi;
- funzioni di lobbying e di rappresentanza degli interessi degli associati

Ed inoltre:

 NON SOLO o NON PIU' servizi per la GESTIONE FORESTALE ma servizi per la pianificazione e la gestione TERRITORIALE che prevedono anche la fase di realizzazione in economia diretta degli interventi

I consorzi come una forma moderna e snella di gestione del territorio

- Sovente ci si interroga sulle possibili forme di gestione del territorio, delle sue componenti più ricche, come di quelle più fragili, fra cui la montagna
- La gestione del territorio montano e quella forestale che ne rappresenta, almeno nel nostro paese, un sotto insieme, rientrano appieno nel dibattito che coinvolge i complessi rapporti esistenti fra proprietà e collettività. Si tratta di individuare un equilibrio che non è solo ecologico ed economico, ma anche sociale e politico

Questione di stile

- Il nostro Paese è caratterizzato da difficili condizioni naturali e strutturali, legate all'estensione del territorio montano.
- Alla minore capacità reddituale del settore primario si sono sommati gli effetti negativi di una ridotta efficacia dell'azione pubblica, dedita prevalentemente a misure non strutturali.

Questione di stile

- Un'abitudine cronica che ha impedito, di fatto, alla questione della gestione sostenibile del territorio di trovare una soluzione
- non solo non si è definito il modello di sviluppo, nonostante numerose leggi abbiano tentato di formulare una politica per la montagna, ma ancor più inesplorati sono stati gli strumenti d'attuazione.
- La gestione delle foreste si è trovata inoltre stritolata fra le maglie dell'indeterminatezza dei processi di decentramento delle competenze alle regioni, prima, ed alle province e comunità montane dopo, tanto che non si conosce neppure più chi debba gestire.

Questione di stile

- le difficoltà strutturali e politiche si ripercuotono sulla competitività del comparto e non ci si può attendere un nuovo impulso dal settore dell'imprenditoria privata forestale causa l'elevata percentuale di boschi caratterizzati da una ridotta redditività
- Il sostegno alla montagna ed alla gestione del suo territorio non è assistenzialismo!

I consorzi non sono la panacea, ma...

- Una soluzione per far fronte alle molteplici condizioni avverse che hanno sostanzialmente causato l'abbandono della montagna risiede nella valorizzazione delle molteplici risorse territoriali e nel sostegno delle forme razionali della loro gestione.
- Una gestione che rimanga inoltre di "competenza" della dimensione locale: se è vero che la fase di pianificazione può essere concepita in base a diverse dimensioni territoriali, quando si pensa alla gestione, viene spontaneo fare riferimento alla dimensione locale, perché locali sono le prime ricadute economiche, sia in termine di costi, sia in termini di benefici economici ed occupazionali.