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Presentations	Session 5.1	*Comparative analysis of policymaking and implementation regarding integrated forest management.*

Abstract Session 5.1 – Changes of mountain forest policies – results of a survey in the EUSALP region.

The EU ARPAF-Project REDIAFOR, which was initiated by the task force "Multifunctional Forests and Sustainable Use of Timber" of the EUSALP (EU-Strategy for the Alpine Region), aims to promote cooperation in the Alpine forestry sector and initiate future dialogue as a path to overcome tensions arising from divergent interests. Central work package was an online survey of 624 forestry, natural hazards, nature protection and hunting actors (response rate nearly 30%) in all 50 EUSALP regions. On the basis of a literature review and the expert knowledge of the project partners a list of 16 policy issues was developed which are relevant in the Alpine region. The respondents assessed the importance of these issues, the quality of the existing policy programs and policy change regarding these issues. Overall, climate change mitigation and adaptation, disasters in forests, protection forest management und hunting are evaluated as the most important issues. Regarding differences between regions and countries no clear patterns could be observed. The main exception is Italy – the issues agroforestry, non-wood-forest products and increase of forest area are higher ranked than in the other countries. The issues of large carnivore management, nature protection, hunting and recreation are characterized by influential interest groups and conflict. Especially in Germany and Austria the high influence of nature protection actors on these topics are mentioned – in this countries nature protection actors are also seen as very important also for ecomonic issues like the profitability of forest enterprises and the mobilization of timber for the wood industry. The issues of climate change adaptation and mitigation are hampered by a lack of political will in the view of the respondents. Good practice examples like the Bavarian „mountain forest offensive" or a regional network actor, which brings together communities, industry and forest owners to implement climate change mitigation measures in mountain forests could be used for policy learning across the EUSALP regions.

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