

FRANCE

Implementing local development strategies

Location

Bar-le-Duc

Programming period

2007 - 2013

Axis / Priority

Axis 4 – LEADER

Funding (EUR)

Total budget 55 000

EAFRD 27 825

National/regional 27 175

Project duration

2009 – 2011

Project promoter

LAG Pays Barrois

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Additional information

[Structuring the forestry industry on regional basis \(FR\)](#)

A LAG from eastern France prepared a territorial supply plan to help forest decision-makers to monitor and coordinate supply and demand for their territory's timber products.

Summary

French rural areas use a tool known as a Territorial supply plan (Plan d'approvisionnement territorial – PAT) to develop and coordinate knowledge about opportunities from woodland areas. One such PAT was co-financed by the Lorraine region's Pays du Barrois LEADER LAG, which operates in a heavily forested area.



Goals for the Pays du Barrois PAT focused on providing decision-makers (local politicians, forest planners etc.) with an up-to-date and detailed picture that covered the territory's forest resources. This would be used to help better inform the way the area's development plans were implemented. PAT content was prepared by specialists who collated data covering the quality and quantity of different types of wood stocks in different locations, as well as different options for harvesting, extracting and commercialising the territory's various timber reserves. Other possibilities for improving the processing capacities of local timbers mills were also investigated and scenarios were devised to contract supplies of forest biomass for energy use in wood fuel boilers.

Results

The PAT took account of the forests' multifunctional purposes and presented an action plan that successfully balanced the interests of differing user groups.

Outcomes gave authorities a much better understanding about the potential demand for forest products from their area. New data were gathered to help determine the logistics of mobilising unused timber reserves.

The PAT provided financial figures estimating overall costs involved in extracting wood. This included expenditures required to purchase specialised machinery and build access roads in forests, etc.

All PAT content sought to respect forests' biodiversity habitats, productivity cycles, and recreational usage by both local residents and tourists.

Lessons & Recommendations

- ❑ Attention is needed to avoid duplication of effort. This is because regional supply chains may overlap (in this case from Alsace, Luxembourg, and Belgium). Therefore, more understanding was required about how this issue could affect the development of such plans.
- ❑ Fragmentation of forest ownership can be a potential management challenge, which would need careful consideration and coordination at a territorial level.
- ❑ Good practice aspects of the territorial cooperation and planning activities is having project partners agree a set of performance indicators to monitor progress. These targets and milestones could measuring the project's longer-term impacts in terms of renewable energy, jobs, and climate change.