



EUROPEAN FOREST
INSTITUTE

Letter of Support

The LULUCF Regulation no. 841 of the European Parliament and of the Council from May 2018 defines rules for how the sinks and emissions from Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) are taken into account in the EU's climate targets for the period from 2021 to 2030. The LULUCF Regulations requires EU member states to develop National Forestry Accounting Plans, including a Forest Reference Levels (FRL), which is an estimate of the average annual net emissions or removals in the periods 2021-2025 and 2026-2030. To estimate such Forest Reference Levels, research activities are needed to provide an effective reporting framework to assessing emissions/removals from the LULUCF sector.

Within this context, we are issuing this letter of support to the National Institute for Research and Development in Environmental Protection from Bucharest, Romania, to encourage the further study and analysis of Land Use, Land Use Change, and Forestry (LULUCF) sector in Romania. As part of the project entitled *'Determining the methodology and coefficients specific to Romania in order to quantify GHG emissions and absorptions'*, which is financed by Ministry of Education and Research from Romania, experts from the Institute participated in a training in the use of the European Forest Information SCENario model (EFISCEN). The training took place on 4-8 November 2019 at the premises of the European Forest Institute in Joensuu, Finland, in cooperation with Wageningen Environmental Research. The training focused on the general understanding of the EFISCEN model and included sessions on model functioning and parametrization, defining scenarios and conducting simulations, together with application of the model in the context of greenhouse gas emission inventories and reporting for the LULUCF sector. Moreover, the training addressed National Forestry Accounting Plans and Forest Reference Levels.

We want to emphasize the importance of carrying out projects on LULUCF sector issues in Romania and we recommend the Institute for carrying out similar projects, considering the good starting point on activities related to assessing emissions / removals from this sector.

Dr. Pieter Johannes Verkerk

19.10.2020, Joensuu, Finland

Dr. Mart-Jan Schelhaas

19.10.2020, Wageningen, the Netherlands