

## **Executive Forest Agency**

## Ministry of agriculture and food

## Bulgaria

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## **Project Partner 9**

Executive Forest Agency (EFA) is a legal entity financed by the state budget – secondary manager with budget credits within the Ministry of Agriculture and Foods, with central office in Sofia. EFA is responsible for the implementation of the state policy in the Bulgarian forest sector and the control over the fulfilment of the national and EU legislation in the field of management and protection of woodlands, forest territories and resources.

The Agency has 16 Regional Forest Directorates and 20 Specialized Territorial Units.

The Executive Forest Agency (EFA) is responsible for the control on implementation of sustainable forest management in all types of forest in the Republic of Bulgaria. EFA has control functions and is responsible for the implementation of the Forest law.

Executive forest Agency is responsible for elaboration and controls the implementation of forest management plans regulating the following activities:

- regeneration of forests, afforestation, anti-erosion activities, thinning
- protection of biodiversity
- protection of forests from pests and diseases
- sylvicultural activities
- utilization of timber and non-timber forest resources

Its **participation in the project** is related to forests, playing a crucial role in sustaining and protecting water resources, erosion control, flood and landslides prevention.

Analysis and modelling of the relationships between forests and water and forests impacts on the water regime in climate change conditions are of great importance to safeguard water resources and reduce flood risk and for development of functional forest management plans. Recommendations of appropriate forest management regimes will be the base for development of best practice catalogue on a transnational level.

EFA will be actively involved in all work packages of the project and will be a Lead partner of WP6 "Progressive Danube".