



Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, Austria



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Lead Partner

The Forest Department (FD) of the Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management is responsible for coordinating the outcomes of the nine federal states regarding forest management in relation to timber production, drinking water protection, protection against natural hazards, provision of welfare and recreation.

FD's main fields of activity are environmental monitoring, forest status assessment, forest policy and strategy preparation. The involvement of relevant stakeholders in the fields of functional forestry, protection against natural hazards, balance of forest and game, forest and wilderness, conservation of biodiversity within forests, the maintenance of Natura2000 areas is processed in recurrent round table discussions.

In the field of international programmes FD is providing both specialist input in the professional tasks of projects relating to the Alpine Convention, the FAO/ European Forest Commission and also participates in dissemination and knowledge-transfer activities in developing countries. FD has gained comprehensive experiences within a

period of 15 years of INTERREG projects through their respective coordination and participation.

As the main focus within CAMARO-D is laid on the development of a transnational “Land Use Development Plan” related to river catchment areas and a strategy towards its implementation an intensive cooperation and know-how exchange between multisector and multilevel institutions are inevitable.

FD will carry out best forest management practices especially in a pilot case near Steyr, a forested drinking water protected area situated at the river Enns gravel terrace. Due to experiences of previous projects a comprehensive target-oriented, tailored concept will be developed and implemented in close cooperation with the Forest Service of Upper Austria. Also intensive agricultural use on slopes along river Raab (SE Styria) will be surveyed and adequate measures developed.

As governmental institution the BMLFUW has the possibility to influence future strategies towards an optimal forest land use management within river catchments by involving developed best practices into River Basin Management Plans in Austria.

In CAMARO-D, the Lead Partner is supporting 2 Associated Partners – Forest Service of the Upper Austrian Federal State Government (www.ooe.gv.at/forst) and the Bavarian State Institute of Forestry (<http://www.lwf.bayern.de>).