

# Marc Palahí

## Director of the European Forest Institute

Marc Palahí is a leading expert on forests and global change, with a new vision of the transformational role forests can play in fighting climate change and developing a circular bioeconomy.

He has been Director of the European Forest Institute since 2015, driving its development as a pan-European science-policy platform, and working to connect knowledge to action at the interface of science, policy and business. Marc has a PhD in forestry and economics and his work, which has featured in *Nature* and other high-level scientific journals, focuses on the development of a sustainable circular bioeconomy that prospers in harmony with Nature. Marc leads the [Circular Bioeconomy Alliance](#) established by His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales.

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

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Name: Marc Palahí  
Address: Yliopistokatu 6 B, 80100 Joensuu, Finland  
Email: [marc.palahi@efi.int](mailto:marc.palahi@efi.int)  
Nationality: Spanish

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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2015 – present	Director European Forest Institute
2014	Interim Director European Forest Institute
2013 – 2014	Deputy Director European Forest Institute
2011 – 2013	Assistant Director in Policy Support European Forest Institute
2007 – 2011	Head of the Mediterranean Regional Office European Forest Institute
2002 – 2007	Programme Manager Forest Technology Centre of Catalonia

## EDUCATION AND TRAINING

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2000 – 2002	Doctor of Forest Science, University of Joensuu, Finland
1998 – 2000	Master's Degree in Forestry, University of Joensuu, Finland
1996 – 1998	Forestry Engineer, University of Lleida, Spain
1992 – 1996	Agriculture Engineer, Polytechnic University of Catalonia, Spain

## PROFESSIONAL DISTINCTIONS

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- Alfons Borja Award from the Alumni of the University of Lleida in recognition of achievements in science, sustainability and leadership in developing a new vision for a future economy: a circular bioeconomy
- Chair of the Circular Bioeconomy Alliance established by His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales
- Medal of Honor from the Spanish foresters association "Colegio Oficial de Ingenieros de Montes"
- Honorary member of the International Forestry Students' Association (IFSA)
- Honorary Member of the Italian Academy of Forest Sciences

- Tim Peck award for the most prominent young forest scientist in Europe
- Editor-In-Chief of EFI series: What Science Can Tell Us

## SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

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- Nabuurs, G.J., Harris, N., Sheil, D., Palahí, M., Chirici, G., Boissière, M., Fay, C., Reiche, J., Valbuena, R. 2022. Glasgow forest declaration needs new modes of data ownership. *Nature Climate Change*. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41558-022-01343-3>
- Palahí, M., Valbuena, R. et al. 2021. Concerns about reported harvests in European forests. *Nature* 592: E15–E17. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-021-03292-x>
- Palahí, M., Pansar, M., Costanza, R., Kubiszewski, I., Potočník, J., Stuchtey, M., Nasi, R., Lovins, H., Giovannini, E., Fioramonti, L., Dixon-Declève, S., McGlade, J., Pickett, K., Wilkinson, R., Holmgren, J., Trebeck, K., Wallis, S., Ramage, M., Berndes, G., Akinnifesi, F.K., Ragnarsdóttir, K.V., Muys, B., Safonov, G., Nobre, A.D., Nobre, C., Ibañez, D., Wijkman, A., Snape, J., Bas, L. 2020. Investing in Nature as the true engine of our economy: A 10-point Action Plan for a Circular Bioeconomy of Wellbeing. Knowledge to Action 2, European Forest Institute. <https://doi.org/10.36333/k2a02>
- Hetemäki, L., Palahí, M. and Nasi, R. 2020. Seeing the wood in the forests. Knowledge to Action 1, European Forest Institute. <https://doi.org/10.36333/k2a01>
- Verkerk, P.J., Costanza R., Hetemäki, L., Kubiszewski, I., Leskinen, P., Nabuurs, G.J., Potočník, J., Palahí, M. 2020. Climate-Smart Forestry: the missing link. *Forest Policy and Economics*, vol 115. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.forpol.2020.102164>
- Hetemäki, L., Hanewinkel, M., Muys, B., Ollikainen, M., Palahí, M., Trasobares, A. 2017. Leading the way to a European circular bioeconomy strategy. From Science to Policy 5. European Forest Institute. <https://doi.org/10.36333/fs05>
- Reyer, C.P.O., Bathgate, S., Blennow, K., Borges, J.G., Bugmann, H., Delzon, S., Faias, S.P., Garcia-Gonzalo, J., Gardiner, B., Gonzalez-Olabarria, J.R., Gracia, C., Guerra Hernández, J., Kellomäki, S., Kramer, K., Lexer, M.J., Lindner, M., van der Maaten, E., Maroschek, M., Muys, B., Nicoll, B., Palahi, M., Palma, J.H.N., Paulo, J.A., Peltola, H., Pukkala, T., Rammer, W., Ray, D., Sabaté, S., Schelhaas, M.-J., Seidl, R., Temperli, C., Tomé, M., Yousefpour, R., Zimmermann, N.E. and Hanewinkel, M. Are forest disturbances amplifying or canceling out climate change-induced productivity changes in European forests? *Environment Research Letters* (12). <https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-9326/aa5ef1>
- Verkerk, P.J., Martinez de Arano, I., Palahí, M. 2017. The bio-economy as an opportunity to tackle wildfires in Mediterranean forest ecosystems. *Forest Policy and Economics*. Volume 86, January 2018, Pages 1-3. doi: 10.1016/j.forpol.2017.10.016
- Fares, S., Scarascia-Mugnozza, G., Corona, P., Palahí, M. 2015. Sustainability: Five steps for managing Europe's forests. *Nature* 519: 407–409. doi:10.1038/519407a.
- Bonet, J.A., de-Miguel, S., Martínez de Aragón, J., Pukkala, T., Palahí, M. 2012. Immediate effect of thinning on the yield of *Lactarius group deliciosus* in *Pinus pinaster* forests in Northeastern Spain. *Forest Ecology and Management* 265 (2012) 211–217.
- Bravo, F., Alvarez-Gonzalez, J.G., del Rio M., Barrio, M., Bonet, J.A., Bravo-Oviedo, A., Calama, R., Castedo-Dorado, F., Crecente-Campo, F., Condes, S., Dieguez-Aranda, U., Gonzalez-Martinez, S.C., Lizarralde, I., Nanos, N., Madrigal, A., Martinez-Millan, F.J., Montero, G., Ordoñez, Palahi, M., Pique, M., Rodriguez, F., Rodriguez-Soalleiro, R., Rojo, A., Ruiz-Peinado, R., Sanchez-Gonzalez, M., Trasobares, A., and Vazquez-Pique, J. 2011. Growth and yield models in Spain: historical overview, contemporary examples and perspectives. *Forest Systems* 2011 20(2), 315-328.

- Gonzalez-Olabarria, J.R., Mola-Yudego, B., Pukkala, T., Palahi, M. 2011. Using multiscale spatial analysis to assess fire ignition density in Catalonia, Spain. *Annals of forest science*, Volume 68, Number 4, 861-871.
- Guzman, G., Pukkala, T., Palahi, M., De Miguel, S. 2011. Predicting the growth and yield of *Pinus radiata* in Bolivia. *Annals of forest Science*: DOI: 10.1007/s13595-011-0162-3.
- Mehtatalo, L., Comas, C., Pukkala, T., Palahi, M. 2011. Combining a predicted diameter distribution with an estimated based on a small sample of diameters. *Can. J. For. Res.* 41:750-762.
- Shater, Z., De Miguel, S., Kraid, B., Pukkala, T., Palahi, M. 2011. A growth and yield model for *Pinus brutia* Ten. Stands in Syria. *Annals of forest science*. Vol. 68. Num. 1: 149-157.
- Bonet, J.A.; Palahí, M.; Colinas, C.; Pukkala, T.; Fischer, C.R.; Miina, J. & Martinez de Aragón, J. 2010. Modelling the production and species richness of wild mushrooms in pine forests of Central Pyrenees in north-eastern Spain. *Can. J. For. Res.* 40: 347-356.
- Bugmann, H., Palahi, M. And Tomé, M. 2010. Trends in modelling to address forest management and environmental challenges in Europe. *Forest systems* 19(SI): 3-7.
- Calama, R., Tomé, M., Sánchez-González, M., Miina, J., Spanos, K., Palahi, M. 2010. Modelling Non-Wood Forest Products in Europe: a review. *Forest systems* 19(SI): 69-85.
- De Miguel, S., Pukkala, T., Shater, Z., Assaf, N., Kraid, B., Palahi, M. 2010. Models for simulating the development of even-aged *Pinus brutia* stands in the Middle East. *Forest systems* 19 (3): 449-457.
- Muys, B., Palahí, M. 2010. Simulation tools for decision support to adaptive forest management in Europe. *Forest systems* 19(SI): 86-99.
- Blasco, E., González-Olabarria, J.R., Rodríguez-Veiga, P., Pukkala, T. Kolehmainen, O. Palahí, M. 2009. Predicting scenic beauty of forest stands in Catalonia (North-east Spain). *Journal of Forestry Research* 20(1):73-78
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- Bonet, J.A., Pukkala, T., Fischer, C.R., Palahi, M., Aragón, J.M., Colinas, C. 2008. Empirical models for predicting the production of wild mushrooms in Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris* L.) forests in the Central Pyrenees. *Ann. For. Sci.* 65 (2): 206.
- González, J.R., Palahí, M., Pukkala, T., Trasoabres, A. 2008. Optimising the management of *Pinus nigra* Arn. stands under endogenous risk of fire in Catalonia. *Investigaciones Agrarias: Sist. Recur. For.:* 17(1): 10-17.
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- González, J. R.; Trasoabres, A.; Palahí, M.; Pukkala, T.; 2007. Predicting tree survival in burned forests in Catalonia (North-East Spain) for strategic forest planning. *Annals of Forest Science*, 64: 733-742.
- Palahi, M., Pukkala, T. and Trasoabres, A. 2007. The use of tree level vs. stand level data in forest planning calculations – does it really matter?. *Annals of Forest Science* 64: 1-9.
- Palahí, M., Pukkala, T., Trasoabres, A. 2007. Modelling the diameter distribution of *Pinus sylvestris*, *Pinus nigra* and *Pinus halepensis* forest stands in Catalonia using the truncated Weibull function. *Forestry* 79(5):553-562.

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- Palahí, M., Pukkala, T., Trasobares, A. 2006. Calibrating predicted tree diameter distributions in Catalonia (Spain). *Silva Fennica* 40(3): 487–500.
- González, JR., Pukkala, T., Palahí, M. 2005. Optimising the management of *Pinus sylvestris* L. stand under risk of fire in Catalonia (north-east of Spain). *Annals of Forest Science* 62: 493–501.
- González, JR. & Palahí, M., Pukkala, T., Trasobares, A. 2005. Integrating fire risk considerations in forest management planning—a landscape level perspective. *Landscape Ecology* 20 (8), 957-970.
- Palahí, M., Tomé, M., Pukkala, T., Trasobares, A., Montero, G. 2004. Site-Index Model for *Pinus sylvestris* in north-east Spain. *Forest Ecology and Management* 187 (1): 35-47.
- Palahí, M., Pukkala, T., Pascual, L., Trasobares, A. 2004. Examining alternative landscape metrics in ecological forest landscape planning: a case for capercaillie in Catalonia. *Investigaciones Agrarias: Sist. Recur. For.* 13 (3), 527-538.
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- Palahí, M., and Pukkala, T., 2003. Optimising the management of Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris* L.) stands in Spain based on individual-tree models. *Annals of Forest Science*, 60: 105-114.
- Palahí, M., Grau Corbí, J. 2003. Site index model and individual-tree growth and mortality models for Black pine (*Pinus nigra* Arn.) in Catalonia (Spain). *Invest. Agr.: Sist. Recur. For.* Vol.12 (1) 137-148.
- Palahí, M., Miina, J., Tomé, M., Montero, G., 2002. Simultaneous stand level growth and mortality models for Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris* L.) in north-east Spain. *Invest. Agr.: Sist. Recur. For.* Vol.11 (2).
- Pukkala, T., Miina, J., and Palahí, M. 2002. Thinning Response and Thinning Bias in a Young Scots Pine Stand. *Silva Fennica* 36(4): 827-840.

## RECENT VIDEOS

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- March 2022 [Global Forest Summit 2022 - Official closing](#)
- March 2022 [Living Labs: a journey towards regenerative landscapes and resilient communities](#)
- November 2021 [Zero-Hour Sessions at COP26: Investing in nature at scale](#)
- February 2021 [How the fashion industry is turning to forests for the fibres of the future](#)

## RECENT POPULAR PUBLICATIONS, BLOGS AND SPEECHES

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- September 2021 [Rethinking our cities](#)  
Blog post
- May 2021 [Is forest harvesting increasing in Europe?](#)

	Blog post
May 2021	<a href="#">EU forest strategy: adapt, innovate, employ</a>
	Article in Nature
April 2021	<a href="#">A New Deal for European forests</a>
	Open letter
April 2021	<a href="#">Speech to Forest Europe Ministerial Conference</a>
	Speech
October 2020	<a href="#">Why the world needs a 'circular bioeconomy' - for jobs, biodiversity and prosperity</a> (World Economic Forum Agenda)
	Blog post
June 2020	<a href="#">De pandemias e incendios forestales</a>
	Opinion piece in El Pais
June 2020	<a href="#">On pandemics and forest fires</a>
	Blog post
April 2020	<a href="#">Seeing the wood in the forests</a>
	Blog post
March 2020	<a href="#">Bioeconomy: the missing link to connect the dots in the EU Green Deal</a>
	Blog post
March 2020	<a href="#">The bioeconomy – bringing life to the center of our economy</a>
	Opinion piece in Revolve Media

A full archive of videos, speeches and popular publications are available on the EFI website:  
<https://www.efi.int/director>

## **EXAMPLES OF INITIATIVES DEVELOPED AND LEAD BY MARC**

### **Circular Bioeconomy Alliance**

The Alliance established by His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales in 2020 provides knowledge-informed support as well as a learning and networking platform to connect the dots between investors, companies, governmental and non-governmental organizations and local communities to advance the circular bioeconomy while restoring biodiversity globally.

More information: <https://circularbioeconomyalliance.org/>

### **ThinkForest Forum**

European high-level science-policy forum on the future of forests. Chaired by former Swedish Prime Minister Göran Persson 2012–2019 and by former EU Commissioner Janez Potočnik 2019 – present.

More information: <https://efi.int/policysupport/thinkforest>

### **ERA-Net FORESTERRA**

Enhancing forest research in the Mediterranean region. EU Research framework. 2012-2015.

### **AGORA**

Advancing Mediterranean forest research capacities. EU Research Framework. 2010-2012.

**LANGUAGE SKILLS**

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Spanish, Catalan	Mother tongue
English	Proficient user
French	Independent user
Russian	Basic user