EUROPEAN FOREST INSTITUTE

CALL FOR GRANT

I.   ACTIVITY TO BE SUPPORTED BY THE GRANT

To support ongoing and future policy processes at the European Union level and strengthen the role that forests play in these processes, a harmonized and robust reliable European forest monitoring system is required that can be updated and enhanced as new data, new technologies and new knowledge become available. The system must efficiently integrate different data sources and help to overcome difficulties of data inconsistency.

The funding under the grant is provided by the European Forest Institute (EFI) Network Fund, which aims at fostering the transnational cooperation of EFI Associate and Affiliate members in implementing the EFI Strategy. Thus, the grant is primarily targeting EFI associate and affiliate member organisations with relevant expertise to collectively reflect, contextualize and synthesize existing scientific research and knowledge and develop a conceptual framework for a harmonised European forest monitoring system.

II.   GENERAL INFORMATION

Reference	G-01-2021
Title	EFI Network Fund, Towards A Harmonised European Forest Monitoring System
Maximum grant value	EUR 200,000 – lump sum payment
Number of grants	1

The Grant submission guidelines, which contain more detailed information on the requirements stated in this Call for grant, are available at the EFI website at https://efi.int/grants-training.

In addition to the terms and conditions as stated in the Call for grant, and Grant submission guidelines, EFI applies the EFI Grant rules which have been made available at https://efi.int/grants-training.

III. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Applications shall, to be eligible for the grant, comply with the following eligibility criteria:

Criteria	Description	Clarification
E1	Submitted by at least three EFI member organizations (Associate or Affiliate Members), with memberships not suspended, from at least three different countries.	For avoidance of doubt: other economic operators can participate in the Study
E2	The Coordinator must be an EFI Associate Member, with membership not suspended	

Applications not fulfilling the above stated eligibility criteria will be rejected.

IV. ADMISSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

All applications shall apply the following structure:

I. Administrative information

- o Cover letter, using template annex 1

- o Identification form, for each of the participating economic operators (Coordinator and Study partners), using template annex 2

- o Power of Attorney for Coordinator, for each of the other participating economic operators (Study partners), using template annex 3

- o Declaration on Principles for funding and Exclusion from funding, for each of the participating economic operators (Coordinator and Study partners), using template annex 4

II. Technical proposal

III. Budget and requested grant

Procedure to follow for applying:

Grant application shall only to be submitted to grants@efi.int.

The email with the application shall contain only the following heading in the subject line:

Application for grant G-01-2021, EFI Network Fund

The grant application must have been received by EFI by the following deadline at the latest:

30 March 2021 at 21:00 UTC

V. AWARD CRITERIA

Criteria that will be applied for awarding of the grant:

Excellence	▪ Clarity and relevance of the proposed activities
	▪ Credibility of the proposed methodology
	▪ Level of ambition
	▪ Soundness of the Application
	▪ Complementarity of the team members and extent to which the Application brings together the necessary expertise
Impact	▪ The extent to which the outputs and outreach activities contribute to the objectives and expected outcomes as stated in the Call for grant and Grant submission guidelines
	▪ Contribution to establishing and strengthening a durable cooperation between the team members implementing the study
Implementation	▪ Quality, coherence, and effectiveness of the work plan, including extent to which the resources assigned are in line with the objectives and expected output and outreach activities
	▪ Appropriateness of the allocation of tasks

Applications will receive a score in the range of 0-5 for each of the criteria. Scores can be given in half points.

Applications must receive a score of at least 3 points in each of the categories *Excellence*, *Impact*, and *Implementation* to be considered for award of the grant.

The highest total score (*Excellence + Impact + Implementation*) will be awarded the grant.

In case of equal scores the Applications will be ranked according to the score under criteria *Excellence*, and after that *Impact* and last *Implementation*.

VI. QUESTIONS

Questions regarding the grant process may be sent to the following address:

robert.mavsar@efi.int

EFI is not bound to reply to questions received later than the following deadline:

28 February 2021 at 21:00 UTC

Questions and answers for this tendering process will be published at *https://efi.int/grants-training* on

5 March 2021

Individual questions will not be replied to separately.

Potential applicants are advised to visit *https://efi.int/grants-training* regularly before the deadline for the submission of applications for any updates or modifications regarding this grant process.