

# **EUROPEAN FOREST INSTITUTE**

## **Grant submission guidelines**

**G-01-2022**

**Young Scientist Climate Smart Forestry**

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**Presentation in EFI Annual conference**

## 1. ACTIVITY TO BE SUPPORTED BY THE GRANT

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To achieve the objectives of the Paris Climate Agreement, a significant reduction in carbon dioxide emissions is needed, as well as increased removals by carbon sinks. Forests and forestry can play an important role in this context through a wide set of measures, adapted to local circumstances.

Unfortunately, their role in mitigation and adaptation are often not considered together. In this context, Climate-Smart Forestry has been introduced as a holistic approach to guide forest management, with the aim of connecting mitigation with adaptation measures, enhancing the resilience of forest resources and ecosystem services, and meeting the needs of a growing population.

Climate-Smart Forestry builds on the concepts of sustainable forest management, with a strong focus on climate and ecosystem services. It builds on three mutually reinforcing components<sup>1</sup>:

- Increasing carbon storage in forests and wood products, in conjunction with the provisioning of other ecosystem services
- Enhancing forest health and resilience through climate change adaptive forest management, and
- Using wood resources sustainably to substitute non-renewable, carbon-intensive materials.

Climate-Smart Forestry aims at a mix of these by developing spatially diverse forest management strategies that acknowledge all carbon pools, emissions and removals simultaneously to provide longer-term and larger mitigation benefits, while supporting biodiversity and other ecosystem services. Such strategies should combine measures to maintain or increase carbon stocks in forest ecosystems and wood products, and maximize substitution benefits, while taking regional conditions into account.

EFI is arranging a session at the annual session of the EFI Conference (EFI Annual Conference) 5 October 2022 (14:45-17:00 CET) in Sant Pau, Barcelona, where the Climate Smart Forestry concept will be presented, followed by a discussion on how it relates to other forest management concepts and present the ongoing research of Young Scientists in this field in Europe.

EFI is providing an opportunity, including financial support in the amount of 750 euro, for Young Scientists in the field of climate-smart forestry in EFI Associate and Affiliate member organisations to give a 10 min presentation in person on their research and participate in panel

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<sup>1</sup> P.J.Verkerk, R.Costanza, L.Hetemäki, I.Kubiszewski, P.Leskinen, G.J.Nabuurs, J.Potočník, M.Palahí. Climate-Smart Forestry: the missing link. *Forest Policy and Economics*, Volume 115, (open access): <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.forpol.2020.102164>

discussion in the 2022 annual session of the EFI Conference. For complete eligibility requirements, please see section 3 below.

The presented research shall address one or several of the following sub-topics:

- Increasing carbon storage in forests and wood products, in conjunction with the provisioning of other ecosystem services
- Enhancing forest health and resilience through climate change adaptive forest management, and
- Using wood resources sustainably to substitute non-renewable, carbon-intensive materials.

A maximum of 5 grants will be awarded.

## 2. QUESTIONS

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

questions.grantsprocess@efi.int

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

7 June 2022

Questions and answers for this tendering process will be published at [efi.int/grants](https://efi.int/grants) on

10 June 2022

Individual questions will not be replied to separately.

Potential applicants are advised to visit <https://efi.int/grants-training/grants/G-01-2022> regularly before the deadline for the submission of applications for any updates or modifications regarding this grant process.

### 3. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

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

| Criteria |  |
|----------|--|
| E1       | Applicant is affiliated with an EFI member organization (Associate or Affiliate Member), with membership not suspended   |
| E2       | Applicant has graduated with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- a MSc (or equivalent), graduation date 1 July 2017 or later</li><li>or</li><li>- a PhD/Doctorate, graduation date 1 July 2019 or later</li></ul> |

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

## 4. ADMISSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

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### I. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The Application shall include the following administrative documentation:

1. Cover letter, using template annex 1
2. CV of the Applicant, clearly indicating degree awarded (MSc and/or PhD) and date of graduation
3. Written confirmation from the EFI member organisation (Associate or Affiliate member) on Applicant's affiliation with the organisation, signed and dated by a representative of the EFI member organisation
4. Declaration – exclusion from funding, using template annex 2

### II. PROPOSAL

In order to evaluate the application against the award criteria, the Applicant shall submit a proposal consisting only of the following parts:

1. Written abstract of presentation/research, maximum 250 words
2. Introduction video:
  - length of maximum 60 seconds
  - must address:
    - short introduction of the candidate
    - topic of presentation/research
    - main points to be addressed during presentation
    - motivation for participation in the event
  - format must be .mp4 or .mov
  - resolution must be 720p HD at 30 fps
  - file size must not exceed 100 MB

### III. PROCEDURE TO FOLLOW FOR APPLYING:

The Grant application shall only to be submitted to [grants@efi.int](mailto:grants@efi.int).

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

Application for grant G-01-2022, Young Scientist CSF

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

30 June 2022, 23:00 UTC

## 5. AWARD CRITERIA

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Criteria that will be applied for awarding of the grant:

| Criteria |  |
|----------|--|
| A1       | Relevance of presentation: pertinence to the topic |
| A2       | Quality of abstract: clarity                       |
| A3       | Applicant's presentation skills                    |

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 2.5 points in each of the categories A1, A2, and A3, to be considered for award of a grant.

The five applications with the highest total score  $A1 + A2 + A3$  will be awarded a grant.

## 6. TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION

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- 6.1 In addition to what has been stated in the Call for grant and these Grant submission guidelines, EFI applies the EFI Grant rules which have been made available at <https://efi.int/grants-training/grants/efi-grant-rules>
- 6.2 By submitting an application for a grant, the applicant accepts all the terms and conditions set out in the Call for grant and these Grant submission guidelines (including its annexes), and waives all other terms.
- 6.3 EFI may reject an application that is not in compliance with the instructions in the Call for grant or the Grant submission guidelines.
- 6.4 No information communicated in this grant process, including the Call for grant and these Grant submission guidelines (including its annexes), bind EFI in any way to an award or a grant agreement. EFI shall only be bound by written grant agreements.
- 6.5 An applicant must be able to prove, to the satisfaction of EFI, any information given as part of its application. Failure to do so, within a time limit set by EFI, may result in rejection of the application.
- 6.6 EFI may ask the applicant for clarifications regarding any information submitted as part of the application. EFI may reject any applicant from the grant process that fails to submit the requested clarification.
- 6.7 Only applications sent to [grants@efi.int](mailto:grants@efi.int) will be considered.
- 6.8 Applications submitted after the deadline for submission will not be considered.
- 6.9 An Applicant may only submit one application. In case of multiple applications from the same economic operator EFI will only consider the last one received.
- 6.10 Withdrawal of an application shall be done in writing.
- 6.11 All applications shall be quoted in Euros.
- 6.12 Expenses incurred in the preparation and dispatch of an application will not be reimbursed by EFI.
- 6.13 Applications must be legible. EFI may reject applications that are not legible.
- 6.14 EFI will disregard any information given by an Applicant outside the format for submission as stated in the Call for Grant or Grant submission guidelines.
- 6.15 The application shall be complete when submitted. EFI will disregard additional documentation or information submitted separately from the application, where not requested by EFI.
- 6.16 EFI may at its own discretion disclose the contents of any application, as well as information on the Beneficiary awarded the grant as well as any other information of the grant awarded.
- 6.17 Unless otherwise stated in the Call for grant and these Grant submission guidelines, the Application and all correspondence related to it shall be in English. EFI retains the right to



correspond in English with the Applicant even if the application may be submitted in a language other than English.

- 6.18 Applicants are not entitled to contact EFI staff members or any other person referred to in the EFI grant rules after the closing date of the receipt of applications to ask for information on the evaluation. EFI may eliminate from the evaluation any Applicant contravening this provision.

## Annexes

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- Annex 1      Cover letter
- Annex 2      Declaration – exclusion from funding
- Annex 3      Grant agreement