

Promoting and evaluating social innovation models in forestry



Goal of the subject is to introduce students to the field of social innovation in forestry sector. Social forestry is the management and protection of forests and afforestation of barren and deforested lands with the purpose of helping environmental, social and rural development and provide benefits to local communities as much as possible.

The aim of this course is to provide to students a detail comprehension of the concept of social innovation when applied to the forestry sector in rural areas. By the end of the course the students will be able to understand, categories, evaluate and promote social innovations in rural contexts. The course includes theory, practical tools, and content from real case examples taken from different areas in Europe and non-European Mediterranean countries.

Foreign lecturer: Valentino Marini Govigli, junior assistant professor, Department of Agricultural and Food Sciences, University of Bologna (Italy). He holds a PhD in Forest and Cultural ecology, a MRes in Ecology and Environmental Management, and a BAE in Economics. His fields of expertise are socioeconomics of agro-forest goods and services, consumer behaviour and stakeholder preferences, intangible ecosystem services assessment, social innovation brokerage and multi-actor engagement.

Time and form of teaching: classes will take place during 4 days (in March). Then a grade will be awarded from the subject. Students will receive a certificate of completion. The course will be part of the diploma supplement. Students participating in the course will be excused from other subjects which they have during this week.