

# Towards climate-smart Alpine forests

Manage sustainably mountain forests and reverse biodiversity loss - UN SDG 15

SAVE THE DATE

30 September 2021

9 – 13 CET

IN PERSON & ONLINE, BY INVITATION

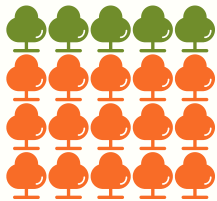
Pre-COP26 UK House, Villa Necchi,  
Milan



British Embassy  
Rome



The Alps, a huge geological belt, crossing Europe, define and regulate the climate beyond its confines, enclosing great geophysical diversity of rock formations, glaciers and watersheds, which divide North/Central Europe from the Mediterranean/North Africa.



Infinite **biodiversity** has evolved across these mountains, building up a complex genetic library, performing key regulating and maintenance ecosystem services such as preventing soil erosion, regulating water flows, storing carbon, providing habitats for rare species, yet climate change now poses a **critical threat** to this hypercomplex system.

25%

of the world's biodiversity  
lives in forests

60/80%

of the world's fresh water is  
provided by forests

Violent **storms**, such as Vaia in 2018, have become more frequent, threatening the physical stability of forests, while drought increases their vulnerability to **pests**.

Experts from leading institutions, across **two thematic roundtables**, will first debate on cutting-edge **forestry management** and **scientific research**, and then on how the pricing of ecosystem services and innovative technologies can all contribute to increasing the adaptation and resilience of mountain forests. The panels, introduced by Jill **Morris**, UK Ambassador to Italy, followed by a scene-setting speech from Mathias **Rotach**, Innsbruck University, and an ice-breaker talk by Harald **Bugmann**, ETH Zurich, will be organised as follows:

**Growing resilient and climate-smart  
Alpine forests: physical stability and  
forest pest management**

**Developing resilient mountain  
watersheds: environmental, policy  
and technological perspectives**

Christian **Annewanter**, Land Tirol; Aurora **Bozzini**, University of Padua; Colin **Campbell**, James Hutton Institute; Laurent **Clergue**, Atos; Michele **Da Pozzo**, Ampezzo Dolomites Natural Park; Frank **Hagedorn**, WSL Birmensdorf; Emanuele **Lingua**, University of Padua; Lucia **Luzietti**, e-Geos; Sigrid **Netherer**, BOKU Vienna; Gernot **Paulus**, FH Kärnten; Chris **Pollard**, Forest Research; Rosalaura **Romeo**, Mountain Partnership Secretariat, FAO; Martin **Schebeck**, BOKU Vienna; Hannes **Schuler**, Freie Universität Bozen; Ana **Stritih**, ETH Zürich; Giorgio **Vacchiano**, University of Milan; Borut **Vrščaj**, KIS Lubiana; Kurt **Ziegner**, Land Tirol.

**for webinar registration, please  
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