

International, national and local research projects and activities at Etifor (reverse chronological order)

Progetti di ricerca internazionali, nazionali e locali svolti presso/per conto di ETIFOR Srl (in ordine cronologico inverso)

Period <i>Periodo</i>	National (N) or international (I) project <i>Progetto nazionale (N) o Internazionale (I)</i>	Project title <i>Titolo progetto</i>	Client <i>Committente</i>	Role and activities implemented <i>Ruolo e attività svolte</i>
2026-in corso	I	Economic Valuation of Ecosystem Services EU for Green Agenda in Serbia: Protecting and Investing in Biodiversity and Water for Enhanced Climate Resilience	United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Serbia Project manager: Luma Vasconcelos	Analysis of ecosystem services in protected areas in Serbia and identification of strategies, policies, and mechanisms for their conservation and valorization.
2025-in corso	N	Strumenti innovativi per la tutela della biodiversità nel settore idrico: opportunità per il distretto idrografico del fiume Po	Autorità di bacino distrettuale del fiume Po (ADBPO) Project manager: Giacomo laghetto	Analysis of the impacts of water abstraction and use on biodiversity in the Po River Basin, alongside the identification of potential financial and fiscal levers, as well as strategies for internalizing environmental and resource costs.
2023	I	Desarrollo sostenible de la industria forestal como parte integral de la estrategia de bioeconomía en Paraguay	Organizzazione Internazionale Italo-Latino Americana (IILA) e Programma AL INVEST VERDE (Componente II) della Commissione Europea Project manager: Dr. Mauro Masiero	Analysis of the forest-wood sector in Paraguay to evaluate its potential and identify strategic development pathways within the framework of the transition to a bioeconomy. Development of a summary report and presentation of the findings at the Ministry of Commerce of Paraguay and other local venues in Paraguay, as well as at the Italy–Latin America Forum on Small and Medium Enterprises (Bergamo, October 2023).
2022-2025	N	Valutazione dei servizi ecosistemici erogati dal verde pubblico e privato del Comune di Brescia	Comune di Brescia Project manager: Giulia Amato	Identification of methodologies and models for the biophysical and economic valuation of ecosystem services provided by horizontal and vertical urban green infrastructure in the Municipality of Brescia. Application of the selected models to perform the valuation of ecosystem services.
2021-2022	N	Valutazione delle esternalità positive legate alla realizzazione di un grande bosco urbano nelle aree agricole del SIN Brescia-Caffaro (BS)	Ente Regionale per i Servizi all'Agricoltura e alle Foreste (ERSAF) della Regione Lombardia Project manager: Giulia Amato	Technical support for identifying alternative solutions to the environmental remediation of the Caffaro Site of National Concern (SIN Caffaro, Brescia), and valuation of the ecosystem service flows associated with the implementation of these solutions (urban woodland and wood-pasture/parkland).
2020-2021	N	Stima dei servizi ecosistemici forniti dal verde urbano della Città Metropolitana di Torino	Comune di Torino Project manager: Dr. Alessandro Leonardi	Identification of methodologies and models for the biophysical and economic valuation of a set of nine ecosystem services provided by horizontal and vertical urban green infrastructure across the Metropolitan City of Turin (Torino). Application of these models to perform ecosystem service valuations, and support for the development of a QGIS plug-in to automate assessments as a tool for integrating environmental compensation procedures. Testing of potential nature-based solutions across two pilot sites in the city that face severe climate risks, specifically focusing on the urban heat island effect and urban flooding/inundation risks from frequent and intense rainfall events.
2020-2021	I	SESA (<i>Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment</i>) per la	World Bank	Integration of Phase I of the project, conducted between 2017 and 2018 (see

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		formulazione delle politiche e dei programmi REDD+ (<i>Reducing Emission from Deforestation and Forest Degradation</i>) in Sudan - Phase II	Project manager: Dr. Alessandro Leonardi	below), aimed at enabling more comprehensive data and information collection as well as a more impactful stakeholder consultation process, thereby strengthening the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF). Specifically: (i) review and integration of national and international environmental and social safeguard policies and approaches; (ii) review and update of the stakeholder consultation phase; (iii) support for communication and dissemination activities.
2019-2020	I	A guide to forest-water management	Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) delle Nazioni Unite Project manager: Dr. Alessandro Leonardi	Contribution to the development of Chapters 3 (Trade-offs between forest-water and other ecosystem services) and 4 (Valuing forest-water ecosystem services for implementation) of the publication: FAO, IUFRO and USDA. 2021. A guide to forest-water management. FAO Forestry Paper No. 185. Rome, FAO. https://doi.org/10.4060/cb6473en
2018	I	Interreg Program, Alpine space, RockTheAlps	Ente Regionale per i Servizi all'Agricoltura e alle Foreste (ERSAF) della Regione Lombardia Project manager: Dr. Mauro Masiero	Development and implementation of a methodology for estimating the economic value of the rockfall protection service provided by forests at the regional scale in Lombardy. The methodology developed and adopted included the use of a Delphi panel to gather expert opinions and the execution of simulations using the Hy-Stone software, carried out in collaboration with the Applied Geology research group of the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences (DISAT) at the University of Milano-Bicocca. Development of a summary report and a scientific journal paper. Application of the ASFORESEE model (Alpine Space FORest Ecosystem Services Economic Evaluation), developed by the University of Turin, to two pilot sites in Lombardy (Cevo and Valdidentro) to harmonize the economic valuation of the rockfall protection service.
2017-2018	I	SESA (<i>Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment</i>) per la formulazione delle politiche e dei programmi REDD+ (<i>Reducing Emission from Deforestation and Forest Degradation</i>) in Sudan - Phase I	World Bank Project manager: Dr. Alessandro Leonardi	The main activities performed as a non-key expert included: (i) review of national and international environmental and social safeguard policies and approaches; (ii) definition of arrangements and procedures for the screening, assessment, and preparation of the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF); (iii) identification of the main activities underlying the "Strategic Options"; (iv) identification and significance assessment of potential environmental and social impacts.
2016-2018	I	<i>Forests and Water: Valuation and Payments for Forest Ecosystem Services</i>	UNECE/FAO, Forests Land and Housing Division Project manager: Dr. Alessandro Leonardi	Contribution to writing the report with reference to: 1.2 Water forest regulative frameworks, 3. Payments for water related forest ecosystem services, 3.2 Financing water related forest ecosystem services – general approaches, 3.3 Challenges related to payments for water related forest ecosystem services, 4. Application of water related valuation and payment schemes in the region).

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2016-2018	I	DURAFOR-EST - Projet pilote d'appui au secteur forestier à l'est de la RDC (Provinces du Nord Kivu et de l'Ituri) pour favoriser l'exploitation légale du bois (Democratic Republic of Congo)	FAO-FLEGT Program Project manager: Dr. Lucio Brotto	Support in drafting the project proposal and defining project activities. Definition of the contents for the project's training and educational activities, as well as the strategies for capitalizing on and disseminating project outputs.
2015-2018	N	Ecopay-connect - Analisi dei servizi ecosistemici forniti dal Parco Oglio Sud (MN) e identificazione di possibili meccanismi di remunerazione degli stessi	Fondazione Cariplo e Parco Oglio Sud Project manager: Dr. Alessandro Leonardi	Support in defining the survey/research methodology (stakeholder interviews and implementation of InVEST models) and conducting the literature review to identify ecosystem service remuneration mechanisms suited to the study context.
2015-2016	N	Controlled Wood Risk Assessment for Italy	NepCON (now Preferred by Nature) Project manager: Dr. Mauro Masiero	Literature review, data collection, and expert interviews. Processing and synthesis of collected data, followed by the compilation of a risk assessment summary matrix for forest management in Italy regarding: (i) legality, (ii) High Conservation Value Forests (HCVFs), (iii) conversion of forests to other land-use types, and (iv) the use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs).
2015	N	Supporto allo sviluppo del "Documento Programmatico e di Supporto alle Linee Guida per la Determinazione dei Costi Ambientali e della Risorsa Idrica"	Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare Project manager: Dr. Mauro Masiero	Development of a technical contribution on Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES) within the Strategic Policy Document Supporting the Guidelines for Determining Environmental and Resource Costs in the Water Sector. Participation as a speaker at the national conference for the launch of the document.
2015	N	<i>Progetto Microperla</i> sulle energie rinnovabili a piccola scala in Calabria	Istituto di Certificazione Etica e Ambientale (ICEA) Project manager: Dr. Mauro Masiero	Analysis of the potential availability of forest and agroforestry woody biomass for energy purposes in Calabria. Support in developing the final report.
2014-2016	N	Life "MGN – Making Good Natura"	Ente Regionale per i Servizi all'Agricoltura e alle Foreste (ERSAF) della Regione Lombardia Project manager: Dr. Mauro Masiero	Valuation of the recreational and tourism value of four regional state-owned forest areas in Lombardy. Definition of the survey methodology for both the visitor survey (sampling design, survey framework, and questionnaire development) and the expert panel (questionnaire design for Delphi survey). Participation in field data collection through face-to-face interviews and subsequent data processing. Estimation of the recreational and tourism value of the four regional state-owned forest areas using indirect valuation methods (Travel Cost Method) and user profile analysis. Identification of potential strategies to enhance the value of the areas. Drafting of the final project report and presentation of findings at a public event. Preparation of a scientific paper for publication in a national journal.
2013-2015	N	<i>InBioWood – Increasing Biodiversity through Wood Production</i> con riferimento all'analisi e stima di aspetti socioeconomici associati alla realizzazione di piantagioni policicliche permanenti nella pianura veronese	Consorzio di Bonifica Veronese Project manager: Dr. Lucio Brotto	Support for estimating the Cost-Benefit Analysis (CBA) comparing conventional land-use practices (annual crops), traditional poplar plantations, and permanent polycyclic plantations. Support in defining the survey methodology regarding the willingness of local businesses to invest in permanent polycyclic plantations to offset

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2013	N	MED Program, “ <i>Forclimadapt - Adaptation of Mediterranean woodland to climate change</i> ”	RDM Progetti and Regione Umbria Project manager: Dr. Mauro Masiero	environmental impacts arising from standard operations. Development of a study evaluating the economic benefits of a Local Forest Fire Prevention Plan and key communication strategies regarding forest fires at the regional level. Specifically including: (i) a rapid assessment of forest fire damage (2012) in the Lower Valnerina territory (Terni); (ii) media coverage and framing analysis of forest fire issues in Umbria during June–August across 1998, 2007, and 2012; (iii) development of "Guidelines for Effective Communication on Forest Fires," providing operational recommendations for media relations as well as for planning and executing broader public information and awareness campaigns. Publication of a magazine article on forest fires and the role of the media in a national scientific journal.
2012-2015	I	Leonardo-Transfer of Innovation Program, “ <i>DRYMOS - New Skills for New Jobs in the Forest Sector</i> ”	Union for the Protection and Development of Hymettus Mountain (SPAY) (Greece) Project manager: Dr. Alessandro Leonardi	Participation in the working group dedicated to training needs analysis and the development of specialized training tools, with a specific focus on training modules covering the EU Timber Regulation, Climate Change, and Forest Certification. Support for pilot-testing the e-learning format of these training modules.
2011-2014	I	MED Program, “ <i>Proforbiomed - Promotion of residual forestry biomass in the Mediterranean basin</i> ”	Fondazione Lombardia per l'Ambiente Project manager: Dr. Mauro Masiero	Development of a protocol for the traceability of forest-derived woody biomass. Support in preparing forest management plans tailored for energy biomass production (study area: Valsassina). Dissemination at national and international levels through participation in conferences and seminars.