



Acronym	CALI-LAB
Full Title	Co-Creating Climate Resilience in Volcanic Forests: The Călimani Living Lab
Partner(s)	Institutul pentru Științele Vieții (<i>coordinator</i>) Administrația Parcului Național Călimani
Grant Theme	Establishing Climate-Smart Forestry and forest restoration pilots in Europe with citizen and stakeholder engagement
Start Date	April 2026
Duration	12 months
Description	The CALI-LAB project addresses the critical vulnerability of volcanic forest ecosystems in the Călimani Mountains to climate-driven disturbances, specifically windthrows and bark beetle outbreaks. These threats compromise carbon sequestration and biodiversity, creating an urgent need for evidence-based Climate-Smart Forestry (CSF). The primary objective is to establish a network of field trials to test adaptive forest management and restoration practices that strengthen climate mitigation and ecosystem resilience. To achieve this, the project will implement two main action pillars: 1. Evidence Generation: Establishing three new field trials (3 hectares total) to measure comprehensive forest vegetation and soil parameters following ICP-Forest protocols, including tree species composition, dimensions, precise locations, crown condition, defoliation, growth increment, soil carbon stocks, and dead wood volumes. Impacts will be quantified using 10 specific CSF indicators including carbon stocks, sequestration rates, forest health, productivity, and structural diversity. 2. Citizen and Stakeholder Co-Creation: Engaging Forest managers and the public through a "Living Lab" approach to co-design restoration practices and raise awareness about climate adaptation. The methodology ensures high-quality data collection following ICP Forest standards, with all measurement data provided through open access to feed into the pan-European ForestWard Observatory. By integrating scientific rigor with inclusive stakeholder engagement, CALI-LAB provides a scalable model for volcanic forest restoration, ensuring long-term ecological monitoring and policy alignment for a minimum of three years post-project.



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