



CONSORCI FORESTAL DE CATALUNYA

FORESTRY CONSORTIUM OF CATALONIA

Presentation of the Forest Landowners Association and associated organisations

Santa Coloma de Farners, 1st March 2006

INTRODUCTION

The **Consorti Forestal de Catalunya – Forestry Consortium of Catalonia** (CFC) was created in 1948 as an association to defend the interests of forest landowners in areas with the highest forestry tradition at national level. After more than 55 years, the organisation now concentrates the most dynamic sector of forestry landownership in Catalonia.

As indicated in its by-laws, the main objectives of the CFC are:

- To represent and defend the legitimate interests and claims of the forestry sector.
- To encourage the articulation of the forestry sector at all levels.
- To promote harmonisation of environmental functions, natural and landscape conservation, social and economic functions within the framework of a transversal forestry policy directed at consolidating the development of rural areas.
- To offer services and support to exploitations in order to improve their competitive capacity and management.
- Provide aid to forest landowners and professionals of the sector through training and assessment in technical and legal issues.
- To promote associations, the integral planning of forestry space and investment in the sector.

At regional level, the CFC acts as an articulating agent and driving force of the Catalan forestry sector as an intermediary between forest landowners and the administrations, media and sectorial organisations.

To meet these objectives and in view of the increased demand from its members for technical services, in 1996, the CFC created **Serveis del Consorci Forestal de Catalunya, SCCL** (Serveis del CFC), **a cooperative of forestry services**, which is currently a major factor to develop the activities of the organisation.

At state level, the CFC is the oldest organisation representing the sector in Spain, and is founder of the Spanish Confederation of Forest Landowners (COSE), which is now chaired by the CFC.

At international level, the CFC actively participates in the main organisations and forums of the sector, namely:

- Founder member and vice-president of the Union of Foresters of Southern Europe (USSE)
- Vice-president for Southern European countries of the Confederation of European Forest Owners (CEPF)
- Member of the European Organisation of Subericulture (EUROLIEGE)

STRUCTURE

In accordance with current law and as indicated in its by-laws, the **CFC** bases its structure and decision-making process on the following bodies and levels.

- **General meeting (GM)**
 - The maximum decision body, with the participation of all members.
 - 1,200 members
- **Governing board (GB)**
 - Management
 - This board is elected by the GM and has representatives of all the forestry areas of Catalonia.
 - 25 members
- **Permanent Commission (PC)**
 - Responsible for executing the policies and guidelines set by the GB.
 - Formed by the president, vice-president, treasurer, secretary and two members.
- **Professional structure**
 - 1 Secretary general
 - 1 Managing director
 - 4 Department heads (Administration and finance, technical and services, communication, institutional and international relations).

To develop their activities, the four departments use the following external services:

- 3 legal, tax and labour assessment
- 1 Press office

To provide technical and management services, **Serveis del CFC** also has the following structure:

- 275 members / clients
- 1 Managing Director
- 2 Department heads (Technical Department and Administration and Personnel Department).
- 5 Technicians (forestry engineers/assistant forestry engineers)
- 3 external professional assessment companies

The structure of the CFC is additionally complemented with:

- Federation of Young Agricultural and Cattle Farmers of Catalonia (JARC)
 - Present in all four provinces with a total of 13 offices (9 own offices and 4 collaborating offices)
 - Structure formed by 16 engineers (agricultural, assistant agricultural and forestry technicians)
- SAT FORESTAL DE CATALUNYA
 - Sociedad Agraria de Transformación, a company specialising in marketing chopping wood.
 - It currently sends practically all the wood to Saint Gaudens (France)
 - It links forestry landowners with loggers
 - Occasionally it collects and markets wood (forest fires and other natural disasters).

Finally, to develop its activities, the organisation has two offices (Santa Coloma de Farners and Solsona) and three additional technical offices through collaboration agreements with forestry engineers linked to the organisation.

AREA OF INFLUENCE AND TERRITORIAL IMPLEMENTATION

- **Area of activity:** Catalonia
- **Members:** today the organisation represents almost 1,200 members, or almost 20% of *private* forestland.
- **Typology of members:** to assess territorial implementation and the capacity to manage and mobilise wood resources, the close collaboration of the CFC with loggers and service companies of the sector is particularly relevant. In this sense, we would like to mention the presence of the following members in the organisation:
 - 21 loggers
 - 25 forestry service companies
 - People / organisations offering management services (particularly important in the poplar subsector).
- **Additional data:** the collaboration with forest landowner organisations and cooperatives of the South of France is particularly significant
 - GEIE FORESPIR
 - COFOGAR
 - Syndicat des Propriétaires Forestiers Sylviculteurs des Pyrénées Orientales

MAIN LINES OF ACTION OF THE CFC

- Institutional and international
 - Lobbying in defence of the sector before the Administration and society in general.
 - CPF Presidency as it gained the most votes in the elections.
- Technical Department
 - Forestry training and communication (technical sessions, seminars, study trips and exchanges)
 - Research and development projects
- Services to members
 - Drawing up of reports and technical projects
 - Technical assessment and support (resources, appraisals, reports,...)
- Communication
 - Web page: www.forestal.net
 - Bimonthly magazine, Catalunya Forestal (4,500 copies)
 - Newsletters

TECHNICAL SERVICES

The technical department of the CFC is responsible for the technical, legal and tax assessment service targeted at members.

The **CFC** and **Serveis del CFC** also collaborate and work together with forest landowner organisations and forestry cooperatives, both from the point of view of forest owner associations and groups and to market wood.

The main activities of Serveis del CFC are:

- Planning and ordinance of forestry exploitations by drawing up the corresponding ordinance instruments (Technical Forestry Management and Improvement Plans, Simple Plans and Ordinance Plans).
- Information and management of forestry subsidies,
- Drawing-up of Hunter Kill Programmes and Fire Prevention Programmes.
- Cartography and fencing work of forestry estates (GIS-GPS)

- Production and marketing of forestry reforestation material. To guarantee a good quality selection of products, the CFC, together with nurseries, produces selected forestry material of the main species used, such as the cork oak (*Q. Suber*), the cluster pine (*Pinus pinaster*) and the insignis pine (*Pinus radiata*), and also markets their seeds.
- All types of projects and actions associated with forestry activities.

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