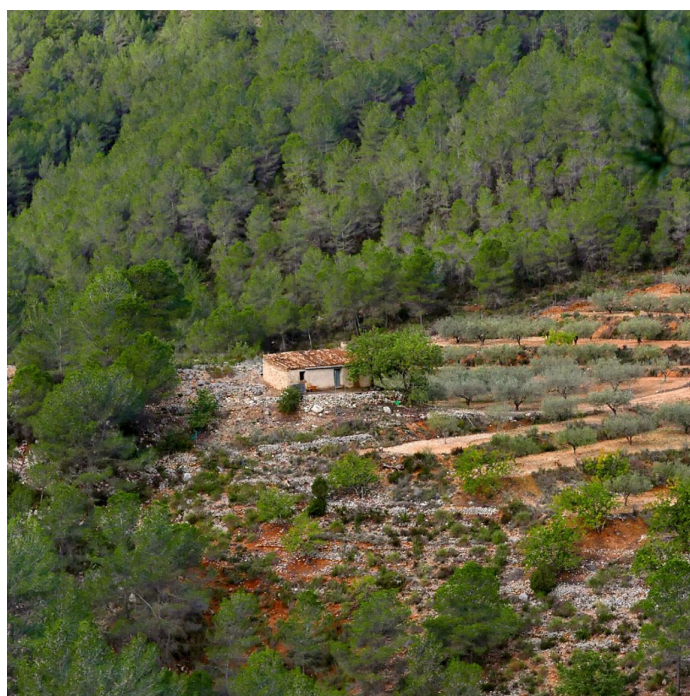


# MY STORY, OUR STORY

*The situation of our Mediterranean forests cannot go unnoticed...*



*"SFM can be viewed as the sustainable use and conservation of forests with the aim of maintaining and enhancing multiple forest values through human interventions. People are at the centre of SFM because it aims to contribute to society's diverse needs in perpetuity" (FAO 2018).*



Dear friend,

I am writing to you because I need your help. My current situation is very serious. At the present day, no one use me and therefore, I do not generate value; no-one seems to care. Sincerely, this situation is unacceptable. I thought that you would manage with the knowledge that our ancestors have left us.

Understand friend that, if you do not improve my vigour, I will not grow and I will not be strong to face a disturbance. So, I will not have the ability to preserve our ecosystem.

In my ecosystem multiple goods and services are generated. In addition, our characteristics are ideal to generate products, but... How did your (great-) grandparents to heat up and what roof they lived on? Make yourself that reflection.

We want that you do not export us to other distant places. We want to be sustainable and thus contribute to the current commitment of society "to reach a low carbon economy". We are the largest manageable terrestrial carbon sinks. So, my friend, why do not you use us? Our ecosystems are weakening and we need you to do it; manage us, please!

The experts know how to conserve us. They want to preserve our ecosystem and that your children, nephews/nieces and grandchildren can be with us, as you are now....

For this reason, leave behind the selfishness and see beyond, that in the short term you will avoid a catastrophe and in the medium-long term, if you have patience, you will see the positive changes that we are making (and the vigour that we will have ...)

That the bureaucracy cannot with you and allow that our allies - yes, the technicians and researchers, and the rural population in general - to value us, only in this way, we can continue to fulfil our function. Some of us, old or weak, cannot continue absorbing CO<sub>2</sub>... and even emit it! Can you imagine it? ...

If you do not manage us, many of us will not be able to be vigorous and our functions will be seriously affected. This will lead to a negative impact on the whole society. Do you want that? Can you tell me what will happen to us if the fire comes? If we do not have enough strength to cope it, then... we will have to tell you "goodbye" and maybe we will never recover, since nothing was done to conserve us...

Friend, do not forget us... Now is time to act, not when everything is black and there is not none of us left. If the fire is to come, let's face it and make ourselves strong to achieve our common goal "conserve our ecosystem under a sustainable development"