



Agroforestry Virtual Space

establishing an agroforestry community-driven architecture

Palma JHN¹, Tomás A¹, Smith J¹, Kay S², den Herder M³, Rønn-Andersen K⁴, Bernascone M⁵, Lawson G⁶, Gosme M⁷

¹ MVARC, Moinhos de Vento de Baixo, Espírito Santo, Mértola, Portugal

² Agroscope, Research Division Agroecology and Environment, Zürich, Switzerland

³ European Forest Institute, Joensuu, Finland

⁴ RegenFarmer ApS, Odense, Denmark

⁵ ReNature, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

⁶ European Agroforestry Federation (EURAF), Montpellier, France

⁷ ABSys, Univ Montpellier, CIHEAM-IAMM, CIRAD, INRAE, Institut Agro, Montpellier, France

Introduction

One of the goals of the DigitAF EU research project (July 2022 - June 2026), is to provide the main agroforestry actor groups with tools answering their needs, in particular digital tools. In this context, we proposed to build the so-called “**Agroforestry Virtual Space**” that aims to be relevant to a diverse array of stakeholders involved in agroforestry, climate change mitigation, and sustainable natural resource management. In particular, targeting those seeking more centralised information on available **tools and data** related to agroforestry, while, at the same time, interested in **boosting the cooperation** in development of such tools and data availability.

Approach

The **Agroforestry Virtual Space (AVS)** is currently “seeding” and aims at enabling a community of developers focused on agroforestry **to engage and share** their latest developments and knowledge. It also aims to provide a centralised resource enabling stakeholders to learn about digital tools, and compare them to choose those most adapted to their needs and their context.

The AVS aims to create a **legacy beyond the project**, designed from the start as a “place” where a lively agroforestry community can **keep up, interact, and work together** to **validate, extend, and design** existing and new agroforestry tools and data environments.

To guarantee legacy, this venture is being nurtured within long-lasting international agroforestry entities, e.g. European Agroforestry Federation (**EURAF**), and long-lasting sharing platforms (e.g. GitHub, Zenodo) ensuring that the agroforestry community continues with active engagement after the project's end.

The AVS is also being designed with an architecture that connects several initiatives, aiming to embrace and fit the **FAIR principles** (Findability, Accessibility, Interoperability, Reuse), introducing concepts of FAIRness scoring.

The AVS is **not centrally coordinated** but gathers and triggers a network of several decentralised initiatives where awareness of existence, collaboration, **and long-lasting legacy is key**, i.e. the AVS can sustain itself after the end of the DigitAF project.



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