

France and Australia Bushfire Science Workshop

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Background and needs

Current situation forces governments to **“rethink” how to manage wildfires to reduce the risk**. Natural and social conditions have acted together over the past decades to create the current problem of forest fires.

This situation is due to the fact that **fire detection and response measures receive greater attention and resources than fire prevention, preparedness and **post-fire restoration** and adaptation measures**

Therefore, **without an ambitious fire prevention and preparedness strategy coupled with post-fire restoration measures**, complementing the already operative fire detection and response mechanisms, the **EU will have to provide billions of euros per year in perpetuity to deal with the problem of forest fires.**

We must embrace the idea that forested ecosystems across the EU will burn during the following decades and we must ANTICIPATE and PREPARE for this situation. There is also a need to develop science-based guidelines for post-fire restoration measures that take into account local environmental and socio-economic contexts, and enhance the resilience of ecosystems to wildfires.

Main conclusion: Allocated budget for post-fire restoration **must be separated and ringfenced, whatever** the final conclusions of the debate on the financial support of fire risk management

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