



EU CLUSTERING ON ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES AND DIGITALISATION FOR CLIMATE ACTION IN AGRO-FORESTRY AND THE BLUE ECONOMY

FOCAL European Clustering Event
Zaragoza, Spain
6–8 May 2026

Organized by:



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Day 1 - (6th of May - 09:00–17:30)

Foundations for Clustering and Synergies

ITA: C. María de la Luna, 7, 50018 Zaragoza / [Google maps](#) / Room: 1

Objective: To set a shared strategic and technical context for the Clustering Event by presenting the state of the art in digital twins, climate services, and agri-forestry data, showcasing successful EU pilots and living labs, and aligning policy, industry, and research perspectives to prepare the ground for cross-project synergies.

09.00 - 9.30 a.m Opening Plenary / Room: 1

Welcome and opening remarks

Government of Aragón

AICFD - International Association for Disruptive and Frontier Science

ITA - Instituto Tecnológico de Aragón (ITA)

FOCAL - Efficient exploratiOn of Climate dAta Locally

09.30 - 9.40 a.m European Policy, Rural Resilience – EU Forest Roadmap / Room: 1

High-level panel on EU forest policy, digitalisation and rural resilience

AICFD International Association for Disruptive and Frontier Science, DFT

09.40 - 9.50 a.m FOCAL - EFFICIENT EXPLORATIOn OF CLIMATE dATA LOCALLY

FOCAL - Keynotes

Eva Klein, Fraunhofer

9.50 - 10.30 a.m Plenary Conference: Soil fertility also matters: a new way to measure the real efficiency of agriculture

Alicia Valero Delgado, Full Professor of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Zaragoza and Director of the Industrial Ecology Group at the Energaia Institute.

10.30 - 11.00 a.m Plenary Conference: “Reimagining Forests: How AI, Innovation and Digitalisation are Powering a Greener Future”

Ivan Lütolf, President AGROTECH ESPAÑA & CEO ViveroTECH - AgriCoolTECH

11.00 - 11.30 a.m Coffee Break

11.30 - 13.30 p.m Enterprises & Business Generation: “ Industry session: capabilities and roles in high-tech EU projects for forest digitisation & sustainable management.” / Room: 1

- Stylianos Spathariotis, Head of Business Development / General Manager, MNLT Innovations
- Elisa Bertesago, Grant Officer Position, 3Bee
- Radovan Hilbert, Business Development Director, YMS, a.s.
- Raúl Carrillo Beltrán, Chief Research Officer, EcoCastulum
- Fernanda Pereira, European Project Manager, AICFD-Foundation
- Maria Eleonora Ferrorelli, Project Officer, Lomartov
- Additional speakers from industry, SMEs and EU-funded projects (TBC)

13.30 - 15.30 p.m Lunch - Standing buffet; networking

15.30 - 17.15 p.m European Living Labs & Forest Pilots — Success Cases / Room: 1

- Tiago de Santana, Technology Manager, “LIFE TERRA: Scaling Impact Beyond EU Funding”
- Nerijus Kupstaitis, CEO of the Forest 4.0 CoE,- Vytautas Magnus University. “Forest 4.0 Creation of the centre of excellence in smart forestry.”
- Javier Sancho, European Project Manager, SARGA. “COOPTREE – Transnational cooperation for the conservation and resilience of forests in Southwest Europe”

17.30 - 19.30 p.m Cultural visit

21.00 p.m Networking Dinner

Hotel Silken Reino de Aragón

C. del Coso, 80, Casco Antiguo, 50001 Zaragoza

Day 2 - (7th of May - 09:00–16:30)

Clustering & Synergies among EU Projects

ITA: C. María de la Luna, 7, 50018 Zaragoza / [Google maps](#) / Room: 1 and 2

Objective: *To enable sister projects to exchange experiences, identify common needs and challenges, and define concrete mechanisms for collaboration, clustering, and knowledge sharing beyond the event.*

09.00 a.m Opening Plenary / Room: 1

Welcome and opening remarks

09.00 - 9.45 a.m European Funding Opportunities for SMEs: “Funding opportunities in Europe: BIOECONOMY GIANTS project”.

Maidor Gómez, Project Manager in the Sustainability and Circular Economy area at CIRCE Technology Center and Technical Coordinator of the BIOECONOMY GIANTS project

09.45 - 11.30 a.m Thematic Session I — Digital Twins & Climate Services / Room: 1

Project presentations

- Eleftheria Exarchou, Climate scientist, Mitiga Solutions. “CARMINE - Climate-Resilient Development Pathways in Metropolitan Regions of Europe”
- Sam Pickard, Researcher, BSC (Barcelona Supercomputing Center). “URBAN simulation for Air quality and heat Resilience strategies and IMPETUS4CHANGE (I4C): Improving near-term climate predictions for societal transformation”
- Paula Catasús Bertran, Research Technician, Institut de Ciències del Mar (ICM-CSIC); “TerraTwin – Digital Twin for Climate and Biodiversity”
- Francisco José Lacueva Pérez, ITA (Instituto Tecnológico de Aragón), “TITAN: Trusted environments for confidenTiAl computiNg and secure data sharing”
- Markus Donat, ICREA Research Professor & Group Leader – Barcelona Supercomputing Center (BSC). “EXPECT - Towards an Integrated Capability to Explain and Predict Regional Climate Changes”
- Piotr Zaborowski, Senior Director, Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC). “SEADOTs - Social-Ecological ocean management Applications with Digital Ocean Twins”

11.30 - 11.45 a.m Coffee Break

11.45 - 12.45 p.m Thematic Session II — Agri/Forestry Data & Operations / Room: 1

Project presentations

- Mayte Toscano, Geospatial expert and Project Manager, Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC). “BIOCLIMA - Improving Monitoring for Better Integrated Climate and Biodiversity Approaches, Using Environmental and Earth Observations”
- Francisco José Lacueva Pérez, ITA (Instituto Tecnológico de Aragón). “AgriDataValueSmart Farm and Agri-environmental Big Data Space”
- Javier Sancho, SARGA. “EFHERA - Enhancing after-Fire Hydrological and Environmental Recovery of Agroforestry zones”
- Stylianos Spathariotis, Head of Business Development / General Manager, MNLT. “IT4EST-Interregional Tech for forEst SusTainability”

12.45 - 13.45 p.m Parallel Session I — Digital Twins & Climate Services - working session / Room: 1

Guided discussion focused on: common needs and challenges; recurring technical, organisational and policy barriers; complementary expertise and lessons learned; and the identification of opportunities for collaboration and joint actions.

Moderator: Piotr Zaborowski; Senior Director – Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC)

Participants: Project coordinators and technical leads

12.45 - 13.45 p.m Parallel Session II — Agri/Forestry Data & Operations working session / Room: 2

Guided discussion focused on: common operational needs; data interoperability challenges; gaps in current tools; opportunities for joint development, testing or dissemination.

Moderator: Mayte Toscano, Geospatial expert and Project Manager, Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC)

Participants: Project coordinators and technical leads

13.45 - 14.15 p.m Roundtable I – Digital Twins & Climate Services / Room: 1

Plenary discussion consolidating key messages, challenges, and lessons learned from Thematic and Parallel Session I

- Eleftheria Exarchou, Climate scientist, Mitiga Solutions.
- Sam Pickard, Researcher, BSC (Barcelona Supercomputing Center).
- Paula Catasús Bertran, Research Technician, Institut de Ciències del Mar (ICM-CSIC);
- Francisco José Lacueva Pérez, ITA (Instituto Tecnológico de Aragón),
- Markus Donat, ICREA Research Professor & Group Leader – Barcelona Supercomputing Center (BSC).
- Piotr Zaborowski, Senior Director, Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC).

Moderator: Eva Klien, Fraunhofer

All project representatives

14.15 - 14.45 p.m Roundtable II – Agri / Forestry Data & Operations / Room: 1

Plenary discussion consolidating key messages, challenges, and lessons learned from Thematic and Parallel Session I

- Mayte Toscano, Geospatial expert and Project Manager, Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC).
- Francisco José Lacueva Pérez, ITA (Instituto Tecnológico de Aragón).
- Javier Sancho, SARGA.
- Stylianos Spathariotis, MNLT

Moderator: Santiago Cuesta-López, president, AICFD

All project representatives

14.45 - 16.00 p.m Lunch - Standing buffet; networking

14.45 - 16.00 p.m Innovation & Clustering Gallery

Poster and demo presentations: Showcase of posters and demo pods from participating projects and initiatives.

Participants: All projects and initiatives

16.00 - 16.30 p.m Wrap up and closing session / Room: 1

Participants: All projects and initiatives

Day 3 - (8th of May - 10:00–14:00)

ITA: C. María de la Luna, 7, 50018 Zaragoza / [Google maps](#)

Objective: *To visit and explore the activities and projects carried out by ITA within the thematic scope of the event, providing participants with a practical understanding of their implementation and real-world applications in the Aragón region. Note: This day is an optional programme day within the Clustering Event.*

10.00 a.m - 14.00 p.m ITA Visit

Visit to ITA headquarters

FOCAL Consortium

Delivering European Climate Digitalisation through collaboration



Project Coordinator



Organized by:



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