







BioSpace25 - Biodiversity insight from Space 10 - 14 February 2025 | ESA-ESRIN | Frascati - Italy

A framework for Monitoring, reporting and Verification of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (MRV-BES)

Rubén Valbuena Professor of Remote Sensing of Forests Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

+ SUPERB MRV-BES team: Alex Bush, Simon Creer, Alexandre Changenet, Anna Wood, Paul Scholefield, Cameron Pellett + SUPERB consortium



Systemic solutions for UPscaling of urgent Ecosystem Restoration for forest related Biodiversity and ecosystem

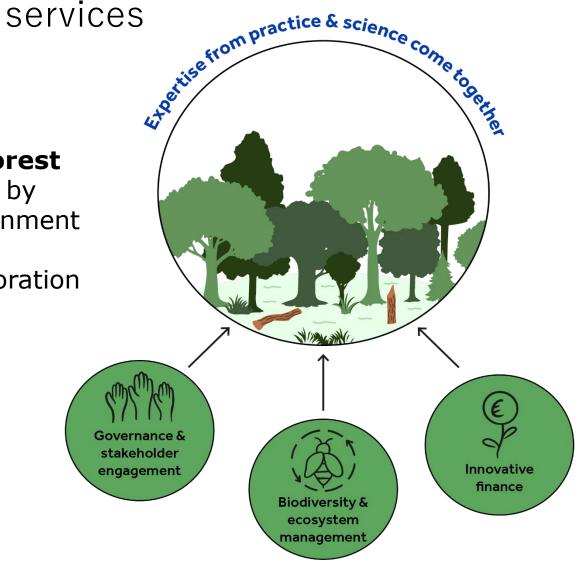


SUPERB

Upscaling Forest Restoration

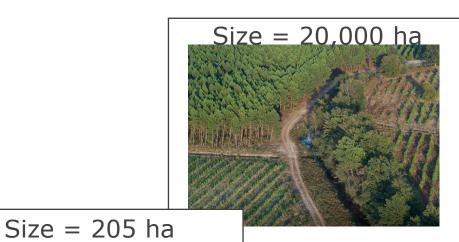
SUPERB aims to **restore forest landscapes** across Europe by
creating an enabling environment
for the implementation of
forward-looking forest restoration
at different scales.











Scotland Denmark < Netherlands Zech Republic France Italy Spain

Our restoration actions include:



Reforestation



Enhancing structural diversity



Enhancing forest connectivity



Promoting natural regeneration



Protection of veteran trees/ old-growth patches



Afforestation



Forest education



Landscape diversification



Underplanting



Forest diversity



Protecting regeneration



Advanced monitoring



Wildlife management



Adapting tree species composition to climate change



Soil vitalisation



Maintaining tree microhabitats



Stakeholder engagement



Hydrology restoration

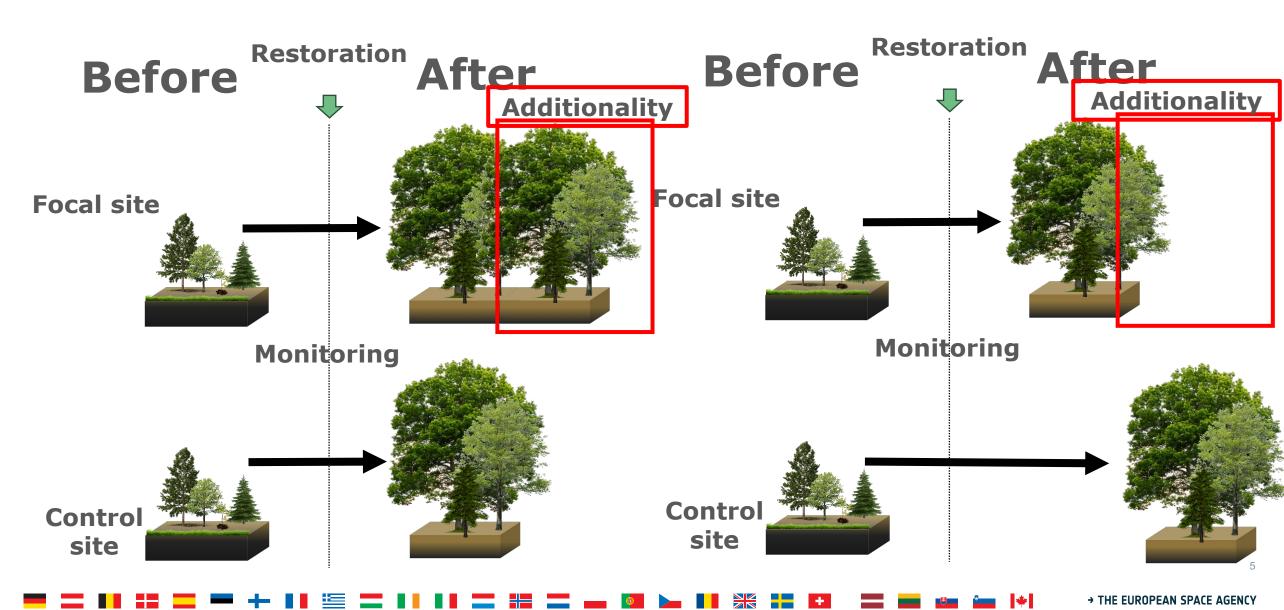


Increasing deadwood

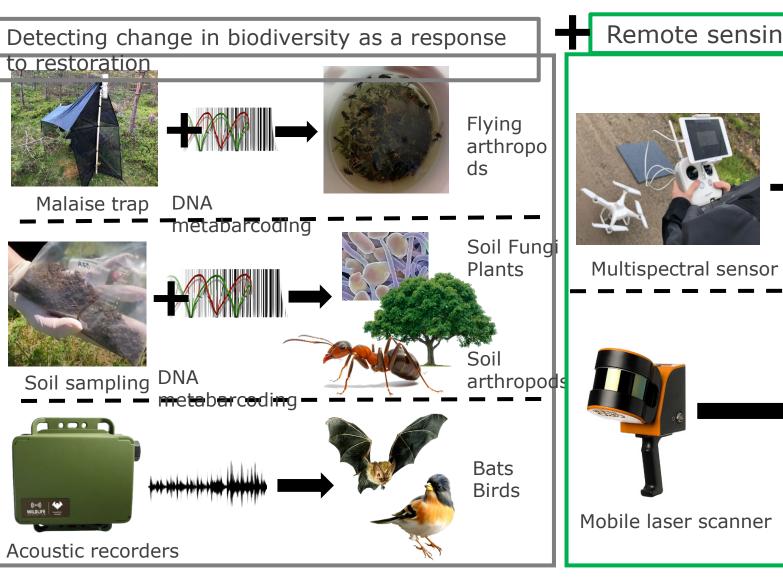


Habitat restoration for specific species

Principle of Additionality



Biodiversity Assessments



Remote sensing





forest types Connectivity

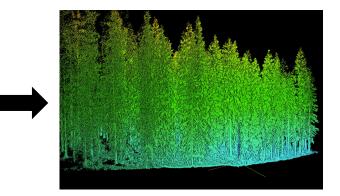
Coverage of

SUPERB

Upscaling Forest Restoration

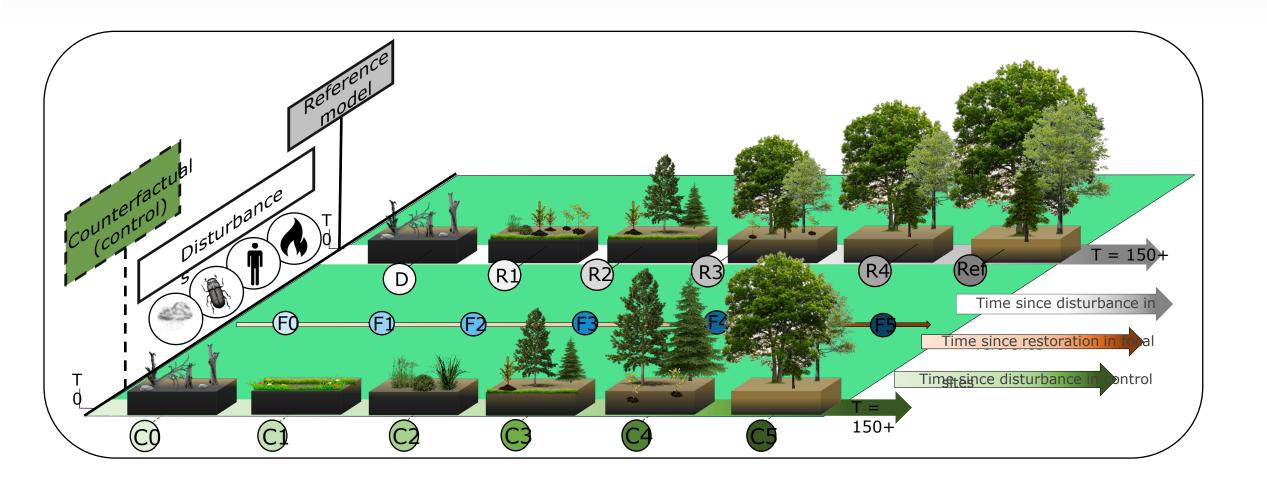
Airborne Laser

scanner



Characterization of forest stand structure

Chronosequence design



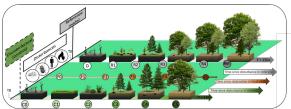
Reference and Counterfactual

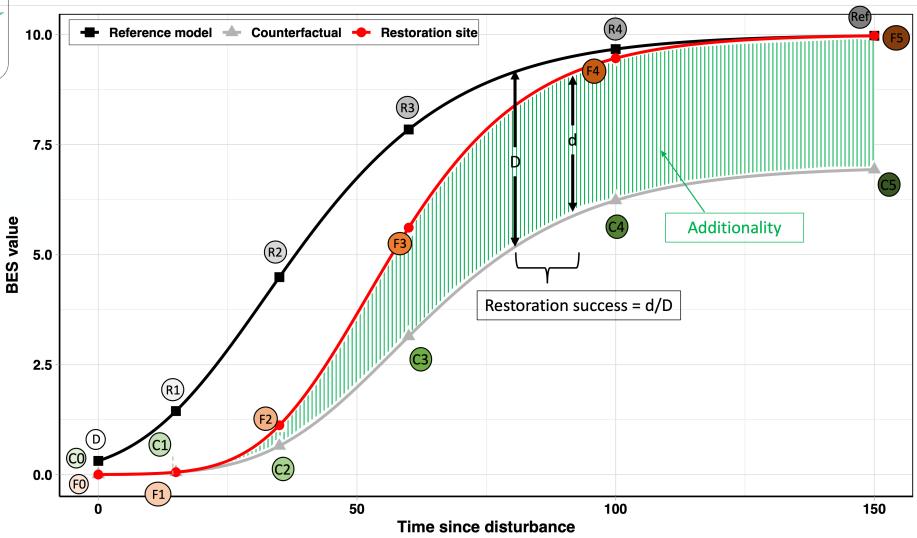


€DB**®**N





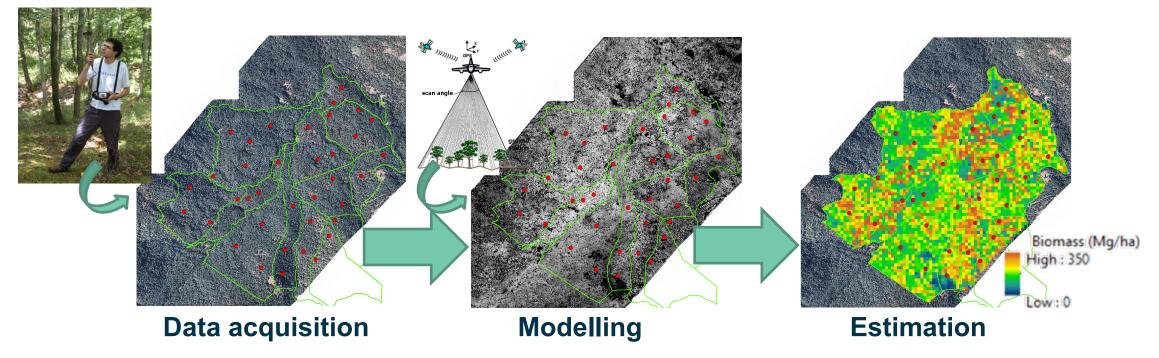




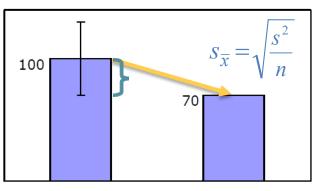








- The role of remote sensing: costefficiency in field data vs. field + RS data in reducing uncertainty of estimates.
- Principle of conservativeness in REDD: money is only granted for the lower confidence interval of biomass estimate.



Effect of Monitoring Intensity

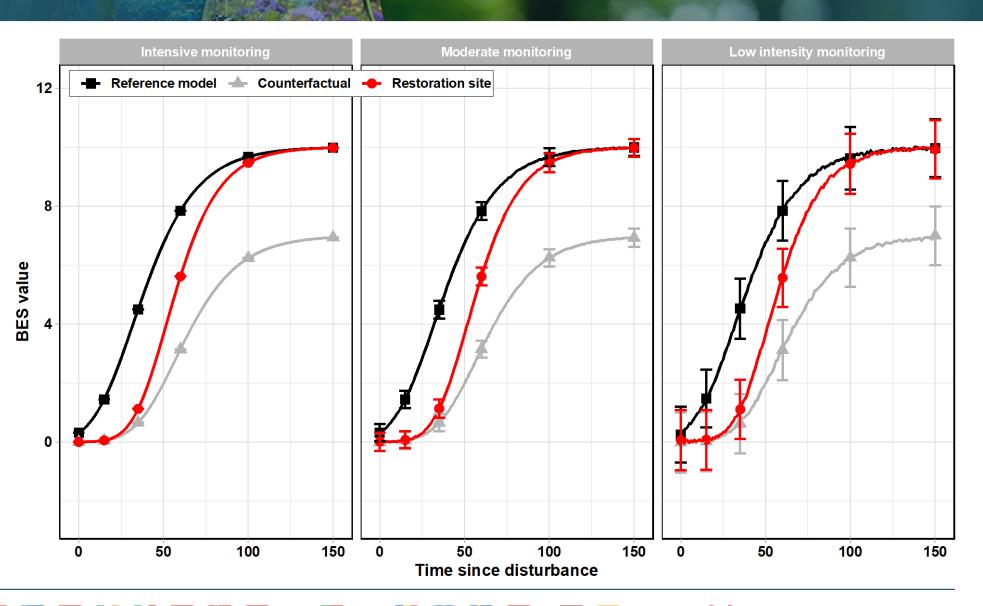








 The reduction of uncertainty due to increasing the monitoring efford (e.g. by involving the use of remote sensing data) should be measured so that it can be paid for.



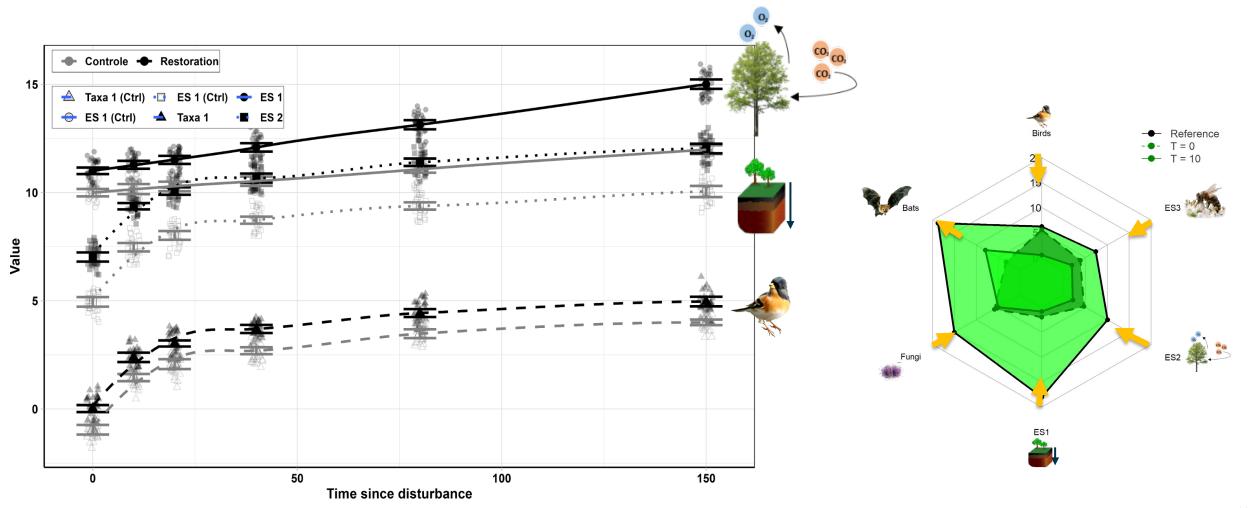
Synergies and Trade-offs among Ecosystem Services



€DB**®**N







Effect of Measuring more Ecosystem Services

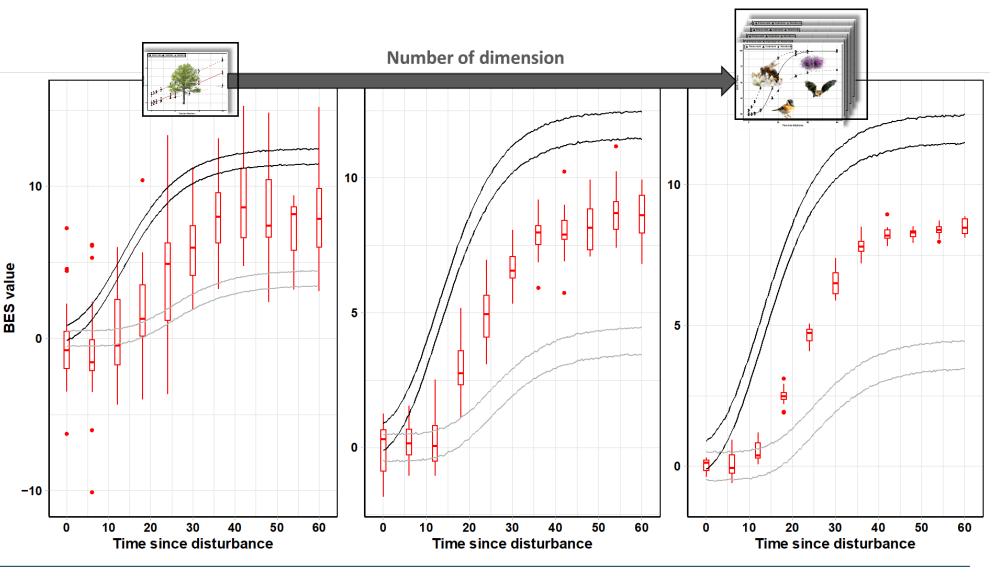


€DB**®**N





 Multidimensionality also increases our confidence in the restoration success, again enabling to pay for the effort of measuring more Ecosystem Services

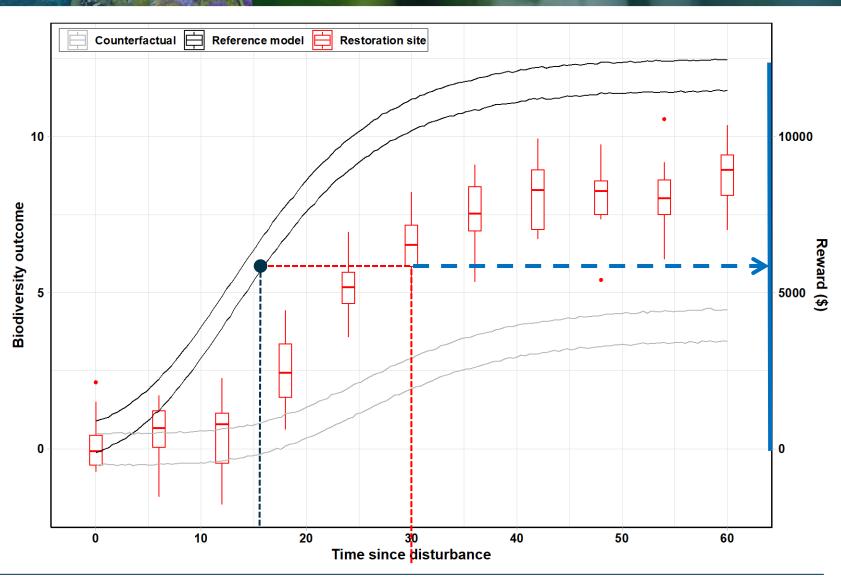








- The MRV-BES framework provides a common scale (between counterfactual and reference) that measures additionally in BES.
- Once that scale is been established, its value can be determined by a current market (e.g. carbon markets), which gives a monetary value to that scale, enabling the determination of the monetary value of all other BES under that same scale.



Three key recommendations









- The value of biodiversity is the relative value of measured additionality which, once established for other Ecosystem Services with a current market, can give a monetary value to all BES.
- We advocate for prioritising the development of a network of counterfactuals (models of business-as-usual) and reference sites (conservation and restoration goals), which would facilitate to establish the value of conservation / restoration actions.
- Determining the value of Remote Sensing indicators of biodiversity assets at these networks of reference and counterfactuals would enable the use of those same indicators to finance individual restoration actions