

**Integrated Space technology services as an aid to forestry management  
within a changing climatic environment**

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Foresters are increasingly aware of the need to have up-to-date information concerning the resources, richness and well-being of the forests they manage.

They appreciate that satellite remote sensing can help provide a precise, yet extensive, repeated and regular observation of ground conditions. Vast territories that cross administrative borders can be imaged nearly instantaneously. Forestry resource managers increasingly require overall views; satellite remote sensing by definition is trans-regional and trans-national covering all types of terrain from often homogeneous vantage points. Foresters through collaborating with remote sensing teams work together on understanding the advantages and limits of the geo-information extracted from satellite data. The up-to-date imagery's use is being incorporated into forester's work tasks such as the monitoring of effects of human activities and policies plus the impacts of natural events.

At SERTIT, an increasingly integrated and extensive service package is being offered covering: the evaluation and management of forestry resources through forest cover inventories; monitoring the evolution of forested areas following short and long term phenomena involving tracking landuse, highlighting impacts of landuse pressure and mapping resource dynamics; and, providing help on protecting and valorizing the forest within a changing climatic environment. This later point is performed by providing help on getting to know the forest better through forest structure and species mapping (chestnut, oak, beech, red and white wood coniferous trees) and providing help during or in the aftermath of natural disasters through fire and windfall damage mapping and highlighting the impact of parasite attacks.

Within developments preparing for catastrophic events foresters are requesting a more detailed inventory of forest stands including species composition and structure indicators. Furthermore to this knowledge they want the topographic nature of stands to be identified and taken into account.

SERTIT's operational forestry services are developed hand-in-hand with the forest sector and are validated in-field by their staff. This feedback insures a better understanding of forestry needs and remote sensing's advantages while equally enabling an improvement in SERTIT's methods and results. Finally, this also leads to a high level of confidence between partners and in the results plus their integration into operational day-to-day forestry practices.

This poster presents a complete view of the operational services SERTIT provides as decision aid to foresters and forest management.