Forest health and growth network contribution to the assessment of the impact of climate hazards

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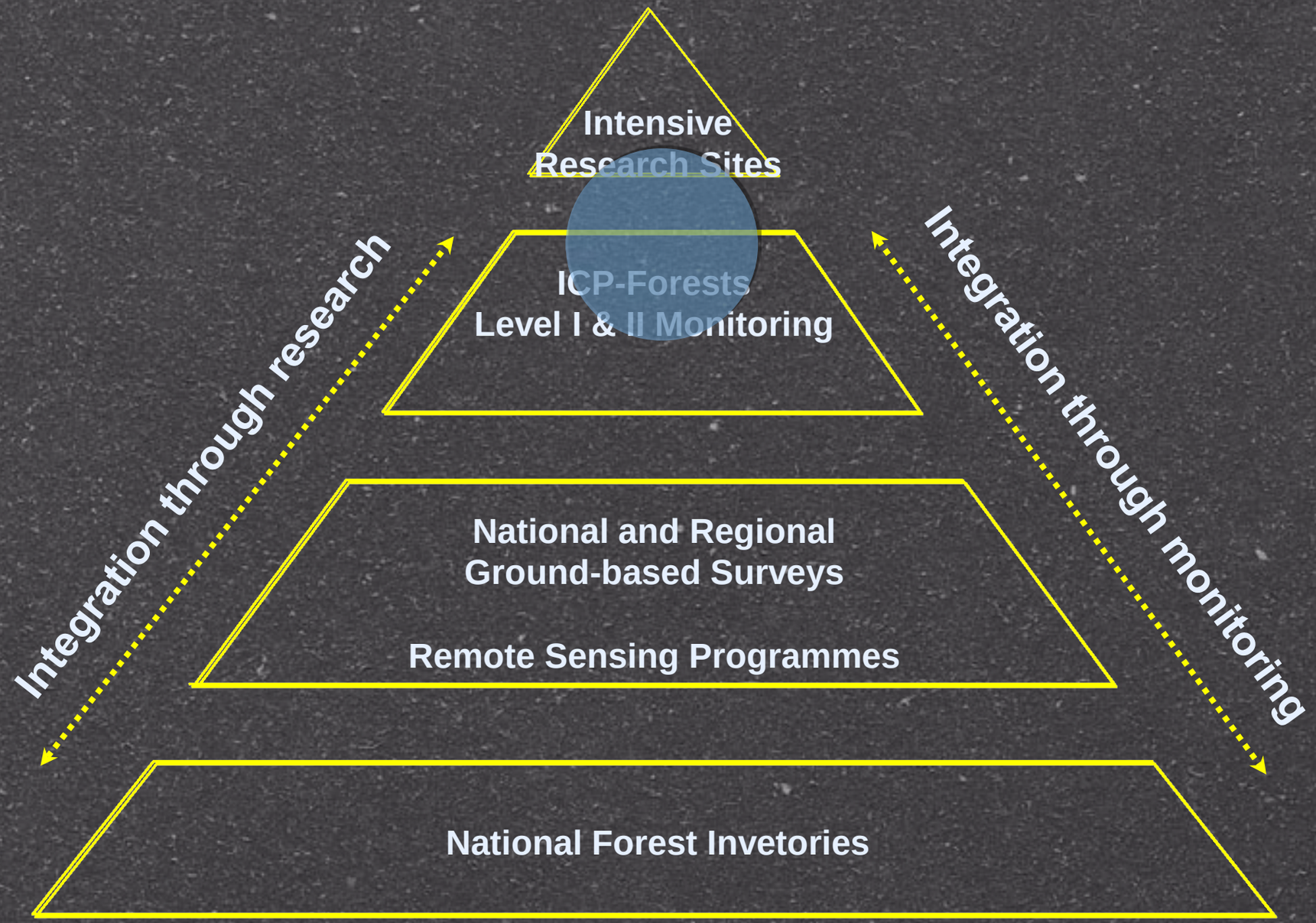
ICP-Forests “friendly” discussion group

questions to be answered

- what indicators are suitable to asses “forest health” and stress factors such as drought, respectively?
- is forest growth a suitable indicator? What are the limitations?
- what are the existing networks? What are the limitations with respect to data availability or data quality?


Intensive
Research Sites
ICP-Forests
Level I & II Monitoring
National and Regional
Ground-based Surveys
Remote Sensing Programmes
National Forest Invetories
Integration through research
Integration through monitoring

clarification of the aims of forest health monitoring system

- answer new questions (climate change, biodiversity)
- be as multifunctional as possible
- improve integrations of different monitoring systems
- be an early warning system (recording annual appearance of causes and effects)
- combine monitoring activities and research
- sell products to stakeholders (extension activities)
- cross-scale focus

Improve tools of forest health monitoring

- plots
- nested approach
- GIS-based information
- increase plot size

Zur Anzeige wird der QuickTime™ Dekompressor „Grafiken“ benötigt.

Improve tools of forest health monitoring

- parameters
  - growth indicators (height growth, length of terminal shoot, diameter growth)
  - puting emphasis on soil water indicators (Precipitation - Potential Evapotranspiration)
  - stand/site history

Intensify Cooperation

- research platform approach
- common scientific output
- sharing information, data and knowledge with other networks
- key partners: National Forest Inventories, JRC, Remote Sensing-Community

Improve cooperation with stakeholders

- identify stakeholders
- persuade stakeholders of value
- sell our products
- reduce costs

"I see by the current issue of 'Lab News,' Ridgeway, that you've been working for the last twenty years on the same problem I've been working on for the last twenty years."

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7th Framework programme

Pan-European Ecological Risk NETwork PEERNET

- risk assessment; communication and management
- on the basis of harmonized ground truth data (inventories, surveys, monitoring activities & field experiments
- coupled with remote sensing tools -->
- sustainable impact assessment tools for a European knowledge-based bio-economy

some facts

- A general concern over the state of the environment and the impacts of global change on ecosystem services and functions has highlighted the need for high-quality, long-term datasets for detecting and understanding environmental change (Parr et al., 2003).

- Long-term monitoring and long-term research are needed and called for by stakeholders to provide measures of baseline conditions and for informing decisions on ecosystem management and environmental policy formulation.

- Fact is: Monitoring is a fundamental requirement in order to test and refine impact predictions and to monitor the response forest ecosystems to adaptation activities.