

SUERTEES OR PRIVILEGIOS

A participation mechanism for the management of natural resources through the sharing of its profits within the community.

Urbión Model Forest,
Soria Spain

What is it ?

- Municipal management for long term economic health and prosperity of the forest for community residents and for

taxes and suertes. Some management units in Urbión MF, though owned by municipalities, devote its economic results to “suertes”

- “Suerte” is a forest management output, normally received in money, that a list of people in a number of towns in Region of Soria, Spain has the right to receive

Who deserves it

- That list is not coincident with the legal census in a given town, but is determined

following an “Ordenanza”, a formal set of rules that regulates the right.

- It has its origins in privileges given by the King in the XIII Century in order to incentive the population of the Region. At that time there was a leaving of people from rural areas and this was meant to encourage people to stay.

How it is managed today

- There exist associations, more or less embedded in the

municipalities, that manage the right on behalf of its members

- Its management is appointed between members of the communities on a voluntary basis

- Benefit delivered to members ranges between 2000 and 3000 Euros/year

Strengths and opportunities

- It maintains neighbours linked to forest management
Municipalities raise revenue and citizens receive revenue

- It seems to contribute to the absence of forest fires
- It is a traditional scheme that demonstrates its feasibility in a developed, 21st Century environment

Weaknesses and threats

- The individualist mood in legislation tends to regard the system as arcaic, some times unconstitutional, so it takes community interest to maintain
- There exists as many management models as

towns with the system.

Management reflects
community needs.

Communities determine forest
management plans through
an active Board of Councillors

- Management reflects the
needs of the region/area.

Forest cover needed for high
price mushrooms, wood
needs, recreation, home
building, watershed
protection.

**Thank you for your
interest**

Urbión Model Forest
(Spain)