

ABITIBI-OUEST

Investment: \$1.2 million FUQAT contribution: \$90,000 \$

THE PROJECT

UQAT's Lac Duparquet Teaching and Research Forest (FERLD) mission is to encourage the acquisition of knowledge in boreal forest sciences and other related scientific disciplines. As part of its work, the FERLD is involved in the very first International Research Laboratory on Cold Forests, inaugurated by UQAT in 2017.

This laboratory would make the development of an international research group possible, combining the expertise of 17 world-recognized professors from UQAT, UQAM, and the Université Laval, as well as from France, Sweden, Norway, China, and Russia.

For the purposes of this initiative, UQAT is undertaking the construction of a laboratory and offices at the FERLD station, expansion of its accommodation building, and the construction of facilities to make it easier to maintain the mobile equipment used for the lab's work.

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Start of construction: **2022**

Anticipated occupancy: **2023**



Expansion of the Lac Duparquet Teaching and Research Forest Laboratories

Field: Forestry

THE OPPORTUNITY

In the initial phases, the FERLD will be able to accommodate, on a permanent basis and for at least 5 years, researchers and students from different universities, including the Université de Montpellier in France. To this end, it is necessary to expand the research station, to enable these individuals to work and stay there.

IMPACT

This project will significantly increase the station's ability to accommodate individuals as well as research capabilities. It will also significantly increase the region's visibility and influence abroad, and, as a result, increase the Abitibi-Témiscamingue area's attractiveness, for international researchers.

Besides researchers, it also anticipates the arrival of more students, who will settle in the region and participate in the region's economic growth.