

# EFI Trust Fund for Policy Support: Annual Report 2023

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## Executive Summary

### What is this document?

This document is the Annual Report of the **European Forest Institute (EFI) Policy Support Facility Trust Fund** (hereafter **Trust Fund**) for 2023. It presents the activities, outputs, impacts and budget of the Trust Fund for 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023. The past year was the third year of the new five-year cycle of Trust Fund (2021-2025). The Annual Report aims to provide transparent information, which can also be used to assess and evaluate the performance and impact of the Trust Fund work.

### Facility management

Helga Pülzl, EFI Assistant Director coordinates the Trust Fund project activities, supported by Maria Schloßmacher, Head of Communications Rach Colling, Administrative Officer Jarkko Haltia and Brussels Liaison Officer Harald Mauser. The ThinkForest Forum has been chaired by its President Janez Potočnik since 2021. In addition, other EFI staff resources and outside subcontracting have been used to carry out the activities during 2023.

### Facility funding and costs in 2023

In 2023, the Trust Fund consisted of the following 11 Trust Fund countries: *Austria, Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Norway, Slovenia, Sweden and Spain*. The total financial contribution from the countries to the Trust Fund by the end of 2023 was **414 859** Euros. The total amount of expenses in 2023 is estimated to have been **484 871** Euros. It should be noted that when writing this on 5 February 2023, the EFI accounts for 2023 had not yet been finalized.

### Summary of activities

The highlights of activities and outputs from 2023 include high-level ThinkForest events, both online and an in person, as well as the dissemination of publications and their widely use.

**ThinkForest events** remain the flagship event series organized by the Trust Fund. A High-level ThinkForest event took place in Rome on April 20th on "[Forests and the cities of the future](#)". In addition, two more webinars "[Achieving the EU Forest Strategy goals- what science can tell us](#)" and "[Implementing Closer to Nature Forest Management](#)" on June 26th and on October 24th were organized in 2023. An in-person closed Panel Discussion on "[Monitoring Future Forests](#)" took place in Brussels on 12th of December.

In 2023, a series of publications and policy briefs were released, addressing a wide range of timely aspects and topics of European Forestry. Noteworthy publications include one edition of the From Science to Policy series "[Meeting the European Union's Forest Strategy goals: A comparative European assessment](#)" (FSTP 15) which represents a comparative European assessment in 16 Member States. Secondly, one publication of the Knowledge to Action series on "[Wood-based textiles & modern wood buildings](#)" (KTA6) reviewed the knowledge on related environmental impacts. Two study teams (FSTP 16 and FSTP 17) are currently working in parallel, and their results will be published in 2024.

Through the Policy Support, EFI has launched a new [Policy Brief series](#) in 2022, in which context already seven Policy Briefs have been published by end of 2023, five of which in the past year. One brief published in 2023 on "[Significant increase in forest disturbances since the 1950s](#)" stands particularly out.

Further highlights were engaging events, ranging from in-person workshops, online and in person Thinkforest events, providing platforms for discussions and exchanges at the Science-Policy-Interface.

Notable events included amongst others a workshop in Brussels on how to increase scientific impact in policymaking with scientists and policy-officers.

## Summary of impacts

**Publications** were widely promoted and distributed in digital forms in 2023, and the electronic copies of both newly published and back catalogue publications again proved popular. The webinars served among others as official launching or promoting dates for the publications, generating more visibility for them. The highest number of direct downloads from the EFI website was reached with the Knowledge to Action series on “[Wood-based textiles & modern wood buildings](#)” (KTA6). Since its publication it has been downloaded 461 times.

**ThinkForest event participation:** The ThinkForest webinars were generating high interest. Due to the online format of the webinar allowing for a high number of participants from many different countries. Diverse topics attracted various stakeholder groups. Feedback surveys conducted after the events have shown that many people have pointed out that they find the variety and choice of topics a driver to join the event. The webinars were promoted and, in the aftermath, made available on different social media channels after the events had happened: 166 people took part in the webinar on “[Achieving the EU Forest Strategy goals-what science can tell us](#)” in June 2023. In addition, the recording of the webinar has been watched 494 times until the end of 2023. The webinar in October “[Implementing Closer to Nature Forest Management](#)” was attended by 225 participants and has been watched 497 times before December 31st. The ThinkForest event in Rome “[Forests and the Cities of the future](#)” in April was attended by around 150 people and livestreamed. Since the event, the recording has been watched 750 times. In total around 540 people have participated in the public webinars and the Rome event, more than 1700 times the recordings were watched until 31.12.2023.

**Media impact:** The work of the Trust Fund was actively promoted- in particular to highlight new publications and advertise ThinkForest events, as well as to promote ongoing work such as the Forest Questions. In addition to direct communication with journalists, social media channels such as LinkedIn, X, Facebook, YouTube and the EFI blog were frequently used to promote the Trust Fund policy work. In 2023, considerable audience growth and engagement took place on LinkedIn, with growth of around 6,000 followers. ThinkForest videos have been streamed and watched on YouTube over 3,500 times. 12 press releases/news items were published on the EFI website and EFI blog, on timely, relevant topics, with those relating to the ThinkForest event in Rome receiving the most coverage.

**Expert presentations, hearings and statements:** The authors of the From Science to Policy series (not only of those that were published in 2023), including the Policy Briefs were invited to online and in-person meetings to present their study and to provide expert statements at various occasions including in the European Commission and the European Parliament.

**Feedback from the network:** Overall, the events and outputs have been considered to be timely and of high relevance as they were tackling topical issues high on the political agenda. In particular, participants have appreciated the variety and selection of speakers, representing different regions and institutions, and additional science-based information has been provided by the publications and ThinkForest webinars. In addition, the ThinkForest online events have been highly valued by meeting participants.

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# 1. Introduction and background

## 1.1 EFI Policy Support Facility Trust Fund

The objective of the EFI Policy Support Facility Trust Fund (Trust Fund) is to support the operationalization of the activities of the EFI Policy Support Facility. The Trust Fund has started a new 5-year-period at the beginning of 2021, so 2023 marks the third year of this 5-year period.

**The Steering Committee** is the highest decision-making body of Trust Fund. The Steering Committee approves the Trust Fund work programme and related budget. The main aims and responsibilities of the Steering Committee are to provide *strategic guidance* on the activities of the Facility funded by the Trust Fund. It receives information from the EFI secretariat and gives feedback regarding the outputs, outcomes and impacts resulting from the activities of the Facility. The Steering Committee does not take part in the operation and management of the Trust Fund policy support work, science-policy studies, or the selection of the scientists conducting the studies. This is in line with the principle of safeguarding the scientific integrity of the actual science-policy work. However, the Steering Committee members can *comment* the science-policy study manuscripts, but they *do not review* them. That is, the decision how to incorporate, or not to incorporate, the possible Steering Committee comments to the studies, rests on the scientists.

The Steering Committee consists of a representative of each Member state and the Director of EFI or his authorized representative. The Chairs of the EFI Board and EFI Scientific Advisory Board (SAB), or a designated Board/SAB member, take part in the meetings as an observer. The membership of a Trust Fund member ends 12 months following the last contribution of the donor. The Steering Committee meets at least once a year, and maintains an active interaction through correspondence, and can meet informally in connection with other international meetings.

**In 2023, the Trust Fund Steering Committee members were:**

1. Harald Aalde, Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Norway
2. Steven Dörr, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Germany
3. Katarina Dahlman, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Finland (until January 2023)
4. Viktor Harvio, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Finland (from March 2023)
5. Tomas Krejzar, Ministry of Agriculture, Czech Republic
6. Nerijus Kupstaitis, Ministry of Environment, Lithuania
7. Robert Mavsar (as of June 2023), EFI
8. Fergus Moore, Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Ireland
9. Marc Palahí (until May 2023), EFI
10. Enrico Pompei, Ministry of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forests, Italy
11. Magdalena Lackner-Unger, Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Regions and Tourism, Austria (until April 2023)
12. Simon Poljansek, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food, Slovenia (from February 2022)
13. Daniel Roures, Ministry of Ecological Transition and Demographic Challenge, Spain
14. Benjamin Stadler, Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Regions and Tourism, Austria (from May 2023)
15. Jan Svensson, Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation, Sweden

The Trust Fund policy support work is managed and administrated by the EFI Policy Support Facility.

The actual implementation of the science-policy studies is based on the work by EFI staff, its Associate Members, and the science community in general. The aim of the work is to:

- respond in a timely manner to policy makers' information needs with scientific-based analysis and information in an easily understandable and policy-relevant format and scale;
- support the formulation, monitoring and evaluation of sustainable policies and strategies relevant for the European forest-based sector;
- communicate effectively and consequently build a better understanding of forest-related issues, proactively involving policy makers, scientists and stakeholders.



*A few Trust Fund Members during a meeting in Brussels in June, 2023. Photo: EFI*

The above objectives are carried out in particular through EFI Trust Fund science-policy publications (*From Science to Policy* reports and *What Science Can Tell Us* reports) and ThinkForest forum high-level science-policy seminars and online events. The ThinkForest forum events are usually chaired by its President.



*ThinkForest President, Janez Potočnik (July 2019- December 31<sup>st</sup> 2023)*

From July 2019 to 2023 Janez Potočnik, the former EU Commissioner for both Science and Research, and Environment, has been the second ThinkForest President. The President's role has also been important in representing ThinkForest and EFI policy support work in different platforms (e.g., international conferences, webinars, videos), providing important networks and access to high-level policy makers, inviting speakers to the ThinkForest seminars and online events, and providing strategic advice for EFI management in science-policy support work.

The Trust Fund Steering Committee decided in June 2023 to not immediately appoint a new ThinkForest President for the next period, but rather experiment without for the time being. The effects of this approach will be evaluated and discussed in a Steering Committee meeting in early 2025.

## 1.2 Trust Fund funding and management

**Funding:** The members of the TF in 2023 were 11 countries: **Austria, Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Norway, Slovenia, Sweden<sup>1</sup> and Spain.** The total contribution of donors in 2023 was **414 859** euros. The expenses of Trust Fund activities during 1 January to 31 December 2023 is estimated to have been **484 871** (including 13% overheads; the exact amount will be known when the EFI accounts for 2023 are finalized in 2024).

According to the Trust Fund Guidelines, funding can be used to finance the following categories of expenditure:

- Policy Support Facility staff costs and travel expenses;
- EFI staff costs, consultant and expert fees and related expenses (including but not limited to travels) to coordinate and conduct studies and implement products and services;
- Costs for contracting EFI Associate and Affiliate Members and other relevant organizations for carrying out scientific assessments, policy studies, etc.;
- EFI staff costs and travel expenses related to the negotiations of the Trust Fund, its establishment and enlargement;
- Communication and media expenses, including publications (e.g. *From Science to Policy, What Science Can Tell Us* studies, policy briefs, EFI policy support newsletter, etc.), translations, and video and electronic media, media conferences, etc.;
- Workshop, conference, webinar and meeting expenses, including costs associated with presenters, publicity, translation and reporting; exchange of experts, training and demonstration events, etc.;
- Equipment;
- Office running costs;
- Costs for auditing of the Trust Fund and external evaluation of the Facility;
- Costs related to the Facility or the Trust Fund, not included above, that have the approval of the Trust Fund Steering Committee.

**Management:** The Trust Fund policy support work is managed and administrated by the *EFI Policy Support Facility*. It initiates, coordinates, carries out and disseminates science-based analysis and

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<sup>1</sup> Note that Sweden was not able to make a financial contribution in the year 2023.



synthesis assessments for policy makers, stakeholders, media and the public at large. It supports science-policy dialogue and functions as a go-between scientists and policy makers. One of the main activities is also the managing and operation of ThinkForest Forum, the high-level science-policy information, discussion and information-sharing forum.

Based on feedback from the Steering Committee members, EFI prepares an annual work plan and an associated budget which is approved by the Steering Committee. The team responsible for managing and administrating the Trust Fund policy support work in 2023 was:

Helga Pülzl, Assistant Director, EFI

Rach Colling, Head of Communications, EFI

Jarkko Haltia, Administrative Officer, EFI

Harald Mauser, Brussels Liaison Officer, EFI

Maria Schloßmacher, Communications Officer, EFI

## 2. Activities and outputs

The activities under the Trust Fund for Policy Support were of many different types during 2023. The flagship activities remain the ThinkForest webinars and science-policy publications. In addition, a number of related and supporting activities were carried out, such as videos, regular updates on the policy support webpage, social media activities, expert statements and presentations in policy forums/webinars, and efforts to get new countries to join the Trust Fund. This chapter gives more detailed information about these activities.

### 2.1 Publications

#### 2.1.1. Science-policy studies

PSF publications build on existing EFI series, with the aim of creating a cascade of products, targeted at different audiences and purposes. Their main objective is to synthesise existing science analysis and results, and draw policy implications based on these, to inform policy making and stakeholders' work. The text is accordingly written in a format that is easily accessible to these target groups. To help wider distribution and impact, the studies or their Executive Summaries are also translated to other languages, when needed. So far, the translations include Chinese, Czech, French, German, Italian, Russian and Spanish editions.

To ensure maximum impact and findability, from 2019 onwards all EFI publications have been given Digital Object Identifier or **DOI references**. This is a string of numbers, letters and symbols used to identify an article or document and link it to the web. A DOI helps a reader easily locate a document and makes the publications more citable.

EFI series	No of pages	Purpose
<i>What Science Can Tell Us</i> (WSCTU)	80-100	Synthesis of large scope studies. Main target groups: civil servants, policy makers' assistants, stakeholders, experts, researchers
<i>From Science to Policy</i> (FSTP)	28-50	Synthesis of a specific topic, carried out within a short timeframe (typically in 4-8 months). Main target groups: civil servants, policy makers' assistants, stakeholders, experts, researchers
<i>Knowledge to Action</i> (K2A)	12-60	Presents the results of research (or topic synthesis), an initiative or project in an attractive format. Main target groups: society, stakeholders, policy-makers, media.
<i>Policy Briefs</i> (PB)	2	Brings together a summary of scientific knowledge on a policy-relevant topic.

In 2023, one From Science to Policy publication and one Knowledge to Action publication was published, as well as five Policy Briefs. In addition, translations of Policy Brief 1 and 2 were made available in German, French, Italian and Spanish.



**From Science to Policy 15:** Meeting the European Union’s Forest Strategy goals: A comparative European assessment. <https://doi.org/10.36333/fs15>

The report was coordinated by Mireia Pecurul-Botines from Forest Sciences and Technological Centre of Catalonia (CTFC). It had 16 authors from 11 institutions, and 10 countries and was published in September 2023.

Author affiliations	Countries represented
Forest Sciences and Technological Centre of Catalonia (CTFC)* University di Padua* University of Suceava* European Forest Institute University of Helsinki* University of Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences* Wageningen University & Research* Technical University in Zvolen* Institute of Philosophy and Sociology. Polish Academy of Sciences* Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research (NIBIO)* University of Ljubljana*	Spain Italy Romania  Finland Sweden Netherlands Slovakia Poland Norway Slovenia

\*EFI Associate or Affiliate Member organization

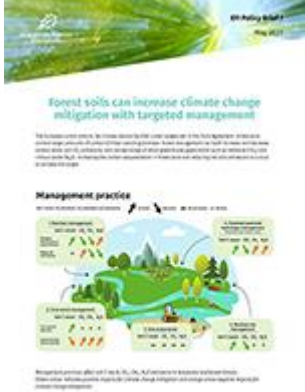
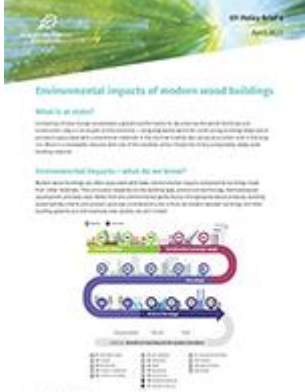
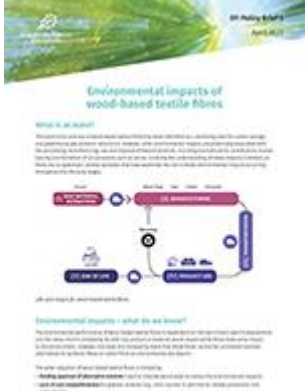


**Knowledge to Action 06:** Wood-based textiles & modern wood buildings. <https://doi.org/10.36333/k2a06>

The report was coordinated by Timokleia Orfanidou and Mariana Hassegawa from the European Forest Institute. It had 6 authors from 3 institutions and 2 countries and was published in January 2023.

Author affiliations	Countries represented
European Forest Institute Aalto University VITO	Finland Belgium

Five Policy briefs were published during 2023.

Policy briefs 2023	
	<p>Forest soils can increase climate change mitigation with targeted management. EFI Policy Brief 7, 2023</p> <p><i>Mäkipää, R., Abramoff, R., Adamczyk, B., Baldy, V., Biryol, C., Bosela, M., Casals, P., Jorge Curriel Yuste, Dondini, M., Filipek, S., Garcia-Pausas, J., Gros, R., Gömöryová, E., Hashimoto, S., Hassegawa, M., Immonen, P., Laiho, R., Li, H., Li, Q., Luysaert, S., Menival, C., Mori, T., Naudts, K., Santonja, M., Smolander, A., Toriyama, J., Tupek, B., Ubeda, X., Verkerk, P.J., Lehtonen, A.</i></p> <p><a href="https://doi.org/10.36333/pb7">https://doi.org/10.36333/pb7</a></p>
	<p>Environmental impacts of modern wood buildings EFI Policy Brief 6, 2023</p> <p><i>Orfanidou, T., Hassegawa, M.</i></p> <p><a href="https://doi.org/10.36333/pb6">https://doi.org/10.36333/pb6</a></p>
	<p>Environmental impacts of wood-based textile fibres EFI Policy Brief 5, 2023</p> <p><i>Hassegawa, M., Orfanidou, T.</i></p> <p><a href="https://doi.org/10.36333/pb5">https://doi.org/10.36333/pb5</a></p>

	<p>Significant increase in forest disturbances since 1950s EFI Policy Brief 4, 2023</p> <p><i>Patacca, M., Lindner, M., Nabuurs, G.-J. and Schelhaas, M.-J.</i> <a href="https://doi.org/10.36333/pb4">https://doi.org/10.36333/pb4</a></p>
	<p>How to govern Europe's forests for multiple Forest Ecosystem Services? EFI Policy Brief 3, 2023</p> <p><i>Winkel, G., Lovrić, M., Muys, B., Katila, P., Lundhede, T., Pecurul, M., Pettenella, D., Pipart, N., Plieninger, T., Prokofieva, I., Parra, C., Pülzl, H., Roitsch, D., Roux, J-L., Thorsen, B.J., Tyrväinen, L., Torralba, M., Vacik, H., Weiss, G., Wunder, S.</i> <a href="https://doi.org/10.36333/pb3">https://doi.org/10.36333/pb3</a></p>

### 2.1.2 Policy support mailings

The *Policy Support Highlights* mailing list sends information to subscribers about ThinkForest events and TF-funded studies, in addition to more general news items on current TF themes. Subscription was actively promoted during the year (e.g. during registration for events), and by the end of 2023, the list totalled some c.1125 subscribers. Information about events was also cross-posted to the general EFI Highlights mailing list. More detailed information is available in the Annex, under Online Statistics.

## 2.2. ThinkForest events

### EVENTS IN 2023

**Event 1: How to increase scientific impact in policymaking?** 24-25th January

Workshop Brussels, Forestry House (in person)

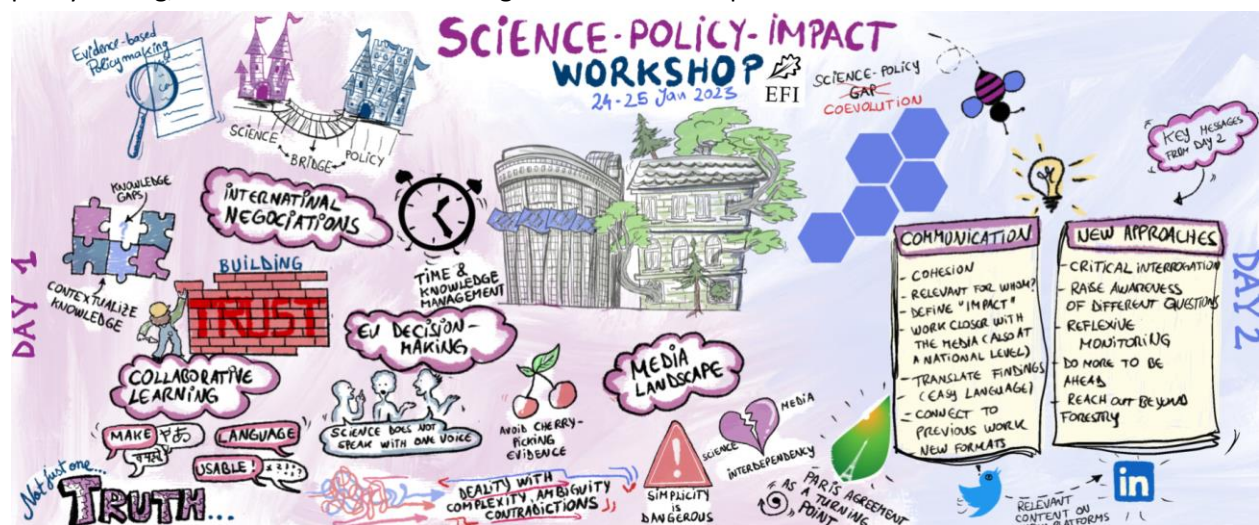
<https://efi.int/news/science-policy-impact-workshop-brussels-2023-01-30>

At the heart of the EU in Brussels, the Policy Support Facility gathered scientists from different fields and representatives of the Policy Support Trust Fund to discuss experiences, challenges and opportunities of science-policy impact. The Workshop took place on January 24-25 and was facilitated by EFI's Assistant Director Helga Püzl.

Science and expertise have become increasingly politicized, the need for evidence-based policymaking has maybe never been as vital as today. After a stimulating opening statement of ThinkForest president Janez Potočnik, the participants discussed how to bridge the gap between science and policy to create a more informed, effective, and efficient decision-making process.

In breakout groups, as well as jointly, the participants reported and discussed their experiences as well as shared their scientific knowledge in the field and further reviewed ways to enhance the communication at the science-policy interface. On Day 2, Doris Wydra, Coordinator of the Salzburg Centre of European Union Studies, took upon the discussion of the day before and provided an overview of potential approaches to address these challenges from research. The scientific approach was then again debated in relation to gaps, overlaps and personal experiences. The insights gained from this workshop are valuable for strengthening the work of the Policy Support Facility.

The EFI Policy Support Trust Fund has made it its mission to actively contribute to strengthening the evidence-based policy process. The workshop therefore gathered experts from both sides, of policymaking, and research. It builds bridges and fosters cooperation.



The Graphic Recording visualised the workshop's outcome and was done by EFI Principal Scientist Dr. Alex Giurca

[www.efi.int/policysupport](http://www.efi.int/policysupport)

**Event 2: Forests and the cities of the future, 20 April**  
Rome (in person and streamed)

Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0DIMWr19rJk>

<https://efi.int/news/building-cities-future-2023-04-26>

The ThinkForest seminar Forests and the cities of the future explored the transformational role forests and nature can play in creating ‘biocities’, and some of the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. The seminar took place in Rome on 20 April, as part of the official launch of EFI’s new Biocities Facility and celebrations of EFI’s 30th anniversary.

An interdisciplinary audience of 150 people from research, practice and policy heard how forests are the key structure to transforming cities into ‘biocities’. EFI Director Marc Palahí set the scene in his keynote speech, explaining how cities can lead the vision of a new economy where life and nature becomes its true engine and purpose. He called for biocities to catalyse a new Renaissance. “Cities need to lead the transformation, this is clear, because our economic activities and innovation are happening there”, he said. “Cities need to become the change that we want for our world. If we want to shape our economy, we need to shape our cities so that we mirror the future that we want.”



*Photo: Alessandro Natalizia*

An inspiring panel discussion explored not only the challenges that lie ahead, but also the opportunities, particularly in key sectors like fashion, construction, urban planning and architecture. Architect Stefano Boeri emphasised the importance of connecting the public and private sectors, and in particular public administration, banks, universities, the private sector and citizens. This was echoed by Marc Palahí, who called for a joint vision with public-private partnerships. Four ‘I’s would be essential – innovation and new business models, infrastructure, institutions and regulations, as well as investments.

Access to finance was a key challenge for implementation, according to Yvonne Lynch, an international green cities expert. She highlighted the transformational role trees can play in cities, and the fact that good long-term planning was crucial, to take account of climate change, species suitability and water efficiency. Overcoming short-term electoral cycles was vitally important, and here the community and their involvement in the decision-making process was key.

For this, the panel agreed that changing mindset was one of the biggest challenges. Societal demand and acceptance and adequate policies are key. Citizens have to demand to live in buildings built with mass timber as well as to consume wood-based materials/textiles that follow circularity ideas and where waste becomes the exception. Rossella Ravagli from Giorgio Armani SPA emphasised the importance of circularity in the fashion industry – it is not a nice-to-have, but a must-have. The fashion sector is very committed now and it can play an important role.

Marc Palahí highlighted that the circular bioeconomy will not succeed unless we reduce consumption and increase efficiency. We need to use wood for the right purposes and move away from use for low-efficient energy eg in the global south. For this, Sandra Frank from Arvet, which specialises in building in wood, said that transferring knowledge and exchanging experiences will be key. It is easy to do what we know, and examples are needed.



Summing up, EFI's Assistant Director Helga Pülzl emphasized the fact that a new nature-powered circular economy, new and alternative pathways provided by forests and trees for cities as well as societal demand and acceptance and governmental regulations will have to play together to build the cities of the future. It will be important to learn from each other and also to encourage cities to exchange lessons learned to encourage large-scale transformational change. Scientists also need to be pro-active and connect the dots – and this is the role of the new Biocities Facility.

Around 150 participants joined the event in Rome. The event was recorded and the video has been watched 750 times by the end of 2023. Around 125 participants watched the event livestream.

*Photo: EFI*



### Event 3: Achieving the EU Forest Strategy goals - what can science tell us?

26 June Online Webinar

**Commissioner's video intervention:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AWm7PbIAqDo>

**Recording:** [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W\\_JcX6t1rrk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W_JcX6t1rrk)

<https://efi.int/news/achieving-eu-forest-strategy-goals-2023-06-28>

Adopted in 2021, the Forest Strategy for 2030 for the European Union (EU) has led to a renewed drive for forest-related policies and measures in Europe. Our ThinkForest seminar on 26 June 'Achieving the EU Forest Strategy goals - what can science tell us?' explored some of the opportunities and challenges for implementation at national and sub-national level.

Virginijus Sinkevičius, European Commissioner for Environment, Oceans and Fisheries [introduced the EU Forest Strategy in a video intervention](#). "We designed the strategy using the best available scientific evidence and in full respect of the competencies of the member states. Many of its objectives rely in fact on the member states commitment but we also need buy-in from the forest sector to endorse its objectives and actively engage in its implementation", he said.

Mireia Pecurul-Botines, Senior Researcher, CTCF introduced highlights from a forthcoming EFI From Science to Policy study, which maps and assesses the alignment of forest-related policy measures in 15 European countries and 3 regions with the EU Forest Strategy goals. She explained how the study identifies broad patterns across the countries and makes recommendations for changes which could aid the Strategy's implementation. These include agreeing on shared EU key objectives on forests, strengthening the social license for forest policy by involving a diversity of voices including society at large, investing in knowledge generation and communication, and connecting policy objectives to economic incentives. These opportunities for enhancing implementation were further highlighted during a lively panel discussion, moderated by ThinkForest President Janez Potočnik.



Speaking about the situation in Ireland, Pippa Hackett, Minister of State at the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine emphasised the importance of having a shared national vision, and consulting widely

[www.efi.int/policysupport](http://www.efi.int/policysupport)

with citizens and key stakeholders. Supporting farmers with knowledge transfer and peer-to-peer learning is crucial for a mindset shift to enable forestry to be seen as part of agriculture.

Ionut Sorin Baciu, Secretary of State, Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests, Romania also emphasised the need to translate science to people, to align policies with societal needs and enhance the trust of society in foresters. Romania is finalising a new Forest Act – with the aim of creating a national agreement on what to do with forests for the future.

Eeva Primmer, Research Director, SYKE called for more diversity of actors and multidisciplinary, to avoid particular results being cherry-picked in policymaking. She highlighted the importance of EU projects which allow cross-learning and dialogue across different actors, as well as opportunities to compare policies. Case study analysis is very important at national level but a systematic aggregation of messages from these cases at the national to EU level is needed.

Janez also highlighted the need for coordination to find out which policies work best. With forests and forest-related policy, one-size does not fit all – but this creates a reason to do things together.

The webinar was followed live by 166 participants. The event was recorded and the video has been watched 494 times by the end of 2023.

**Event 4: Implementing Closer to Nature Forest Management 24 October 2023**

Online webinar

**Recording** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lf21hiJGKu0>

<https://efi.int/news/implementing-closer-nature-forest-management-2023-10-26>

Closer-to Nature Forest Management is a concept proposed in the EU Forest Strategy for 2030, with [Guidelines published by the European Commission in July 2023](#). The new Guidelines were introduced by Stefanie Schmidt, Policy Officer for Forests in DG ENV. She explained that these aim to promote biodiversity friendly and adaptive forest management to enhance their multifunctionality and climate change resilience, without neglecting socio economic benefits. The Guidelines provide a toolbox for Closer to Nature Forest Management, as well as examples of good practice, and explore some of the challenges and opportunities which occur in a regional context.

## IMPLEMENTING CLOSER- TO- NATURE FOREST MANAGEMENT

24 October 10-11:30 am (CET) online



In this webinar, we ask experts from science, the EU Commission and Practitioners:

- What kind of existing nature-based forest management approaches are there - and what is their ability to support biodiversity, stability and adaptability to uncertain future conditions?
- How can we implement guiding principles in wider Europe and what are the barriers and opportunities for their implementation?



#THINKFOREST



The new Guidelines build on the 2022 From Science to Policy publication on [Closer to Nature Forest Management](#), published by EFI. Its lead author, Jørgen Bo Larsen from the University of Copenhagen complimented the European Commission on the approaches taken (regional, scale and context-specific), as well as the Guidelines' flexibility in terms of implementation. However, his recommendations included also focusing more on the economic aspects of Closer to Nature Forest Management, as a foundation for acceptance by forest owners and managers. Further developing financing mechanisms (including mitigation / carbon storage) would also be needed, as well as more knowledge exchange and collaboration amongst practitioners.

The challenges and opportunities for implementation at a national level were highlighted during a rich panel discussion with Katja Matveinen (Natural Resources Department, Finland), Tomaž Hrovat, (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food, Slovenia), Steven Dörr (Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Germany) and Eckart Senitza (Pro Silva).

The discussions highlighted again the need for economic resilience by forest owners, and the importance of engagement to communicate the concept of Closer to Nature Forest management to them – ideally by showing best practices and exchange on the ground in the forest. The panel also reflected on the diverse approaches, names and definitions within the toolbox of sustainable forest management. Summing up, our ThinkForest President Janez Potočnik emphasised that while we have to take into account this complexity, we also have to simplify it, so it is implementable, and that people understand it. Time is always needed for changes.

The webinar was followed live by 225 participants. The event was recorded and the video has been watched 497 times by the end of 2023.

## Event 5: Monitoring Future Forests- 12 December 2023

Brussels (in person and by invitation only)

<https://efi.int/news/monitoring-future-forests-2023-12-21>

Improved ways of monitoring forests are proposed in the EU Forest Strategy for 2030. Harmonised, reliable data and information could contribute to better informed forest-related policies, as forests provide biodiversity reservoirs and climate sinks, protect landscapes and provide wood and non-wood goods and nature-based solutions for society. While the demand for forest ecosystem services is clearly increasing, at the same time forests are threatened by increased disturbances, biodiversity loss and climate change. Long-term data provision and analysis to monitor forests across countries is needed to support policy-makers to take long-term decisions. A proposal for a new monitoring forest regulation has been presented by the European Commission and published on 22nd November 2023.

Our ThinkForest event asked:

- What are the aims and objectives of the new EU forest monitoring regulation?
- How does the proposed monitoring regulation serve the needs of EU policies?
- How does the proposed monitoring regulation link to existing monitoring scheme?

Overall the proposed regulation was welcomed by the scientific panellists as beneficial for delivering harmonized and standardized data and they emphasized also the complementarity of earth observation data and forest inventory data. A constructive dialogue with the audience highlighted the importance of forest monitoring for enabling well-informed decision-making – and the importance of opportunities like ThinkForest for discussion and collaboration, informed by latest developments in research. The event was attended by 43 participants- by invitation only.



*The Panelists and Facilitators after the event on “Monitoring Future Forests”. Photo: EFI*

## 2.3. Other outputs

### 2.3.1. Online activities

The EFI website is an important tool in policy support communication activities, as it acts as a central, easily accessible and durable source of information about activities. Whether arriving via Google search or via social media channels, users can easily find more information, eg via the:

- Policy Support Facility page ([www.efi.int/policysupport](http://www.efi.int/policysupport))
- ThinkForest events page ([www.efi.int/policysupport/thinkforest](http://www.efi.int/policysupport/thinkforest))
- Dedicated subpage for each new ThinkForest event including mini-biographies of key speakers, programme, background information etc (this is updated after each event to include relevant news releases, photos, presentations and videos).
- All publications are deposited in the site-wide Publications Bank ([www.efi.int/publications-bank](http://www.efi.int/publications-bank)).

### Forest Questions

As reported previously, in 2021 a sub-site ([www.efi.int/forestquestions](http://www.efi.int/forestquestions)) was set up for materials from the Key questions on forests in the EU report (K2A04), providing an extended answer for each question, with detailed referencing. Visitor traffic to this section of the website continued to be extremely high in 2023, with particular interest in questions on [forests and the water cycle](#), [how forests can improve health and wellbeing](#), [forest ownership and management](#), and [forest resources](#).

In 2023, a new section on Forests and EU decision-making was added, with a new question on [How does EU decision-making work?](#) authored by Doris Wydra (Salzburg Centre of European Union Studies (SCEUS)).

Highlight - Web pages	Page views 2023	Page views 2022	Page views 2021
Forest questions (/forest questions) plus subpages	<b>23,075</b>	19,978	10,500

### Website

Access to the policy support and ThinkForest pages on the website remains high. Visitors arrive at the website from social media, with particularly high interest in ThinkForest events and activities.

Web pages	Page views 2023	Page views 2022
Policy support main landing page (policysupport/)	<b>1,022</b>	1,045
Our work (policysupport/ourwork)	<b>326</b>	226
ThinkForest: (policysupport/thinkforest/) plus subpages eg for events	<b>7,360</b>	7,265

## Videos

In 2023, three ThinkForest events (apart from the Brussels Workshop and the ThinkForest event in December) were streamed or accessed as webinars. The webinar recordings were made available afterwards via the EFI YouTube channel, giving a lasting record of ThinkForest discussions.

Videos	Published	Recording views 2023
ThinkForest seminar, <a href="#">Forests and the cities of the future</a>	20.04.2023	751
ThinkForest webinar, <a href="#">Achieving the EU Forest Strategy goals - what can science tell us?</a>	26.06.2023	494
ThinkForest webinar, <a href="#">Implementing Closer-to-Nature Forest Management</a>	24.10.2023	497

More details are available in the Annex, in the Online Statistics section (Table 2).

Previous videos published before 2023 are constantly watched and produce ongoing impact (see Annex for number of recorded views). In our media/social media communications we also promote these older videos and publications as well.

## Social media

During 2023, TF-funded policy support work was promoted via EFI's social media channels, to reach a geographically widespread and diverse set of audiences. Ongoing issues with X (formerly known as Twitter) has seen a widespread decline in follower growth and engagement on this channel, however as there is as yet no clear mainstream alternative the EFI account remains active.

Considerable audience growth and engagement again took place on LinkedIn in 2023, and there are indications that this is becoming the channel of choice for engagement on professional topics.

Social media channel	Number of followers (31 Dec 2023)	Number of followers (31 Dec 2022)	Number of followers (31 Dec 2021)
<a href="#">X (formerly Twitter), main EFI account</a>	14,773	13,759	11,950
<a href="#">Facebook</a>	10,620	10,000	9,560
<a href="#">LinkedIn</a>	26,637	20,691	14,830
<a href="#">YouTube</a>	2,230	1,870	1,553

## Enlarging the Trust Fund

The Trust Fund started in January 2015 with 8 countries: Austria, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Norway and Sweden. In 2016 Spain joined, in 2017 the Czech Republic and in 2018 Lithuania. However, at the end of 2018, France stepped down from the TF.

Currently Central-, Northern-, Southern and Eastern Europe are all represented in the TF. During 2020-21, active efforts to engage more European countries to TF were taken by the EFI Director and Assistant Director, and in 2021 Slovenia joined. Poland albeit being interested in joining the TF for a considerable time informed EFI that they were no longer able to become a member. Discussions are ongoing with other three European countries. More countries are to be approached during 2024.

## 3. Impacts

The EFI Trust Fund for Policy Support work has continued to receive a lot of very positive feedback during 2023 as it has reached a wide audience through its various activities, both online and on site. The impact indicators given in this Report show a robust continuation of Trust activities impact (see Appendix). More direct positive feedback on the activities in the ThinkForest networking events as well as in larger face-to-face meetings with the policy-makers, stakeholders, etc, was received during 2023, which is hoped to be continued in 2024.

The feedback given during and after webinars and as well as in person during ThinkForest meetings and other events was very positive. Especially the webinars provided a platform that allowed the participants to interact, raise questions and proceed in high-level discussions. The online format permitted bigger audiences, hence more visibility for the publications including the reach-out to new persons that have never participated before. However, in person events also showed to be particularly important as meeting places to exchange between policy-makers, stakeholders and scientists are not manifold enough in Europe.

An increased number of downloads of the publications is a very positive sign and underlines the continuous interest for the selected topics both from policy-makers and the scientific community. Given that policy-makers and policy advisors have less time available, the new EFI Policy Brief series, successfully launched in 2022, aims at meeting those target groups also with shorter texts and graphics. Again, download rates of the 5 policy briefs published in 2023 indicate the need to have those shorter reading formats. With the updated forest questions and translating them to different languages a new audience can be reached out to, and this was highlighted via a dedicated social media campaign in 2023.

During multiple personal meetings and discussions that EFI's Director, Assistant Director and Brussel's Liaison Officer had during 2023 with European Parliament MEPs, European Commission staff, national ministries and stakeholders, very positive feedback was given for the Trust Fund policy support work. Overall, these impacts show that this form of policy support provides not only a unique, but needed platform for pan-European forest-based sector science-policy work.

### 3.1 Downloads

The electronic copies of these studies again proved very popular. A detailed overview of the downloads of all major Trust Fund publications produced to date (2015 onwards) can be found in the Annex, p. 48ff.

In 2023, *one From Science to Policy report, one Knowledge to Action report and five policy briefs* were published.

Title	Publication date	No of electronic copies downloaded 2023*	DOI resolutions 2023**	Lifetime copies downloaded
FSTP15 (EU forest strategy goals)	Sept 2023	438	957	438
PB7 (Soils)	May 2023	315	923	315
PB6 (Wood buildings)	Apr 2023	140	235	140
PB5 (Wood-based textiles)	Apr 2023	82	263	82
PB4 (Forest disturbances)	Mar 2023	200	784	200
K2A06 (Wood-based textiles & modern wood buildings)	Jan 2023	461	1,233	461
PB3 (Forest ecosystem services)	Jan 2023	336	638	336

\* This is of course a snapshot of one segment of usage, as the publications are also available in e.g., ResearchGate, authors' institutional repositories, organisations' own libraries etc.

\*\* DOI resolutions: shows the number of people who have clicked on the DOI address for a publication

### 3.2. Impact and feedback from stakeholders and network

Amidst the ongoing reliance on virtual platforms, the Trust Fund maintained a continuous online presence, engaging with representatives from member states, European Commission services, international forest stakeholders, members of parliament, non-governmental organizations, and research. The dissemination and discussion of Trust Fund publications during these virtual exchanges were well-received. A number of face-to-face meetings with key stakeholders involved in Trust Fund activities were held also. These meetings were also organised back-to-back to other meetings in order to save time and money. We can also report proudly that publications that were supported by the TrustFund (e.g. FS2P 13 and FS2P14) were uptaken and well cited in EU Commission documents and used as reference manuscripts including in international meetings .

The former EFI Director had several meetings with His Royal Highness Prince of Wales (HRH) now His Majesty the King Charles III, and in those meetings discussed also the work based on Trust Fund publications. Under the patronage of HRH, the Circular Bioeconomy Alliance was established in 2020, which the former EFIs Director coordinates. From May, the then interim EFI Director continued the exchange with high-ranking decision-makers in the European Union. At the occasion of EFIs 30<sup>th</sup> birthday meetings with ambassadors as well permanent representatives to the European Union were organised to introduce them to the Trust Fund work and engage them in dialogue at the science-policy interface.



In summary, both the direct and indirect impacts of the Trust Fund work carried out in past years and in 2023 have had an impact at a high level of policy.

### **ThinkForest webinars**

Overall, the events have been considered to be timely and of high relevance as they were tackling topical issues high on the political agenda. In particular, participants have appreciated the variety of speakers, representing different regions and institutions, and additional science-based information has been provided by the publications and ThinkForest webinars.

#### ***a. ThinkForest webinar Implementing Closer to Nature Forest Management***

By end of December 2023, a recording of the webinar had been watched 497 times.

#### ***Feedback (examples) from participants***

- “The pace was very good, the variety of guest backgrounds and perspectives was appropriate, everyone was very respectful of one another.”
- “Diversity of the speakers with great insights and explanations, timely topic”
- “Information from the Commission about next steps”

The results of the feedback survey indicated a significant satisfaction level, with 80 percent of participants giving the webinar their highest three ratings.

The feedback from participants highlighted the overall positive impact of the panel discussion. Attendees appreciated the appropriate pace, diversity of speakers, and the respectful exchange of perspectives. Participants commended also the high-quality presentations.

#### ***b. ThinkForest webinar Achieving the EU Forest Strategy goals - what can science tell us?***

By end of December 2023, a recording of the webinar had been watched 494 times

#### ***Feedback (examples) from participants***

- “Congratulation to all speakers. It is the first time when someone from Romania join this kind of talks!”
- “Very interesting and looking forward to the next one!”

The feedback survey revealed that 74% of the participants would recommend the webinar. It further highlighted people's positive sentiments, particularly commending the Panel Discussion, the selection of esteemed panelists, including the Irish minister (Pippa Hackett, who held the position of Minister of State at the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine with responsibility for Land Use and Biodiversity) as well as the high relevance of the topic and the excellent choice of speakers.

### 3.3. Expert presentations, statements and hearings in 2023

In 2023, authors of the From Science Two Policy Series and the EFI Policy Briefs presented the publications in various occasions and in different formats. The following table provides an overview of this presentations. They include both scientific and technical presentations and were targeted at different audiences, including policy-makers, stakeholders and scientists.

Publication 2023	Presenter / event
<p>“Meeting the European Union’s Forest Strategy goals: A comparative European assessment” From Science to Policy 15 <i>(Published, September 2023)</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Pecurul-Botines, M. Internal seminars CTFC. “The New EU Forest strategy2023”. 12 July 2023.</li> <li>2. Pecurul-Botines, M. Young Leadership program (EFI). Scientific session 7 Navigate the forest policy environment. “How do EU policies affect forest management?” 6 October 2023.</li> <li>3. Pecurul-Botines, M. Group of Experts on Forest-based Industries and Sectorally Related Issues (E01356) “Meeting the European Union’s Forest Strategy goals. A comparative European assessment”, 8 December 2023, online.</li> </ol>
<p>Forest soils can increase climate change mitigation with targeted management Policy Brief 7, 2023 <i>(Published in May 2023)</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mäkipää, R., Ppresentation of HoliSoils and related results at DG Environment, Brussels, 27.9.2023</li> <li>2. Mäkipää, R., Presentation of HoliSoils and related results at DG Agriculture, Brussels, 27.9</li> <li>3. Mäkipää, R., 4x presentations of HoliSoils and timely soil related results for MEPs at European Parliament, Brussels 27-28.9 2023.</li> </ol>
<p>“Significant increase in forest disturbances since 1950s” Policy Brief 4 <i>(Published, March 2023)</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lindner, M., Patacca, M. and Schelhaas M.-J.. Forest Europe Expert Group meeting on the Forest Risk Knowledge Mechanism. “Significant increase in natural disturbance impacts on European forests since 1950”. 25th January 2023.</li> <li>2. Lindner, M. Ev. Akademie Villigst Waldtagung 2023. Ökosystem Wald — Der Beitrag der Jagd, “Zustand und Herausforderungen des Waldes in Deutschland”. 11. March 2023.</li> <li>3. Lindner, M. Managing Biotic Threats in Forests – Lessons Learned from Bark Beetle Calamities, Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic and FOREST EUROPE - Joint Workshop Breznice, Czech Republic, “Interrelation between bark beetle calamities and other forest disturbances”. 30 May-1 June 2023.</li> <li>4. Lindner, M. Detect Lecture Series, Bonn, “Forests, Forest Management and Climate Change”. 11. July 2023.</li> <li>5. Lindner, M. Waldforschung in Nordrhein-Westfalen – 3. Veranstaltung und Gründung des Forschungsnetzwerkes Wald NRW, Arnsberg, “Wälder und ihre Nutzung im Klimawandel – bundesweite und internationale Forschungsperspektive”. 30. – 31. Oktober 2023.</li> </ol>

	<p>6. Lindner, M. FORUM WISSENSCHAFTSSTADT BONN Semesterthema: Kreisläufe. Bonn, “Wälder im Kohlenstoffkreislauf – Klimaschutz und zirkuläre Bioökonomie”. 11. Dezember 2023.</p>
<p>How to govern Europe’s forests for multiple Forest Ecosystem Services? Policy Brief 3 (<i>Published, February 2023</i>)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Winkel, G. Understanding Forest Policy. Global forest environmental frontiers and EU forest policy. Workshop: Anthropology of Political Forests in Europe. Organized jointly by Wageningen University and the University of Lethbridge. Wageningen (invited keynote) 29.08.2023.</li> </ol> <p><i>The policy brief content was presented already during 2022:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Winkel, G. European forest policy between old interests, changing values and new urgencies – an assessment. Biennial Scandinavian Society of Forest Economics meeting 2022. Organized at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences at Umea (virtual invited keynote speech). 02-12-2022.</li> <li>3. Winkel, G. EU forest policy – social science research perspectives. IUFRO and IFSA Joint Webinar on EU Forest Policy (with a special focus on Ukrainian experts) (07-12-2022, virtual).</li> <li>4. Winkel, G. Governing Europe’s forests for multiple ecosystem services: challenges and policy response options. European Parliament Intergroup on ‘Climate Change, Biodiversity &amp; Sustainable Development (04-27-2022, virtual)</li> <li>5. Winkel, G. and Wunder, S. Governing Europe’s forests for multiple ecosystem services: towards a European PES system? Invited presentation at the European Commission Workshop on Public and Private Payments for Forest Ecosystem Services (PES) (03-31-2022, virtual).</li> </ol>

<p>“Forest Biodiversity in Europe” From Science to Policy 13 (Published, May 2022)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Muys, B. Challenges and opportunities for European forestry, Bioeconomy Innovation Day 4 October 2023   Yimby aretoa, Bilbao, Spain.</li> <li>2. Pülzl, H. What science can tell us about Forest Biodiversity in Europe, 20 November 2023, UNECE + FAO, San Marino</li> <li>3. Muys, B. Compatibilities of forest management with nature restoration, 23 May 2023, breakfast meeting, European Parliament</li> <li>4. Muys, B. La biodiversité en forêt privée : d’un héritage à conserver vers un atout à promouvoir. NTF Walloon Association of Rural Landowners, 25 May 2023</li> <li>5. Muys, B. Les résineux: leur compatibilité avec la biodiversité, 27 April 2023. Rencontre Filière Bois, Libramont</li> <li>6. Muys, B. Climate smart forest management: how to improve compatibility with biodiversity? In: The role of forests in countering climate change. Perspectives from North and South; Residence of the Finnish Embassy to Spain, Madrid, 15 March 2023</li> </ol>
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Presentations based on several TF studies were also provided. This include the following ones:

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mauser, H. Development of forest resources and the forest carbon sink and stock in the European Union - update on “Key Questions on Forests in the EU”, Meeting of the Standing Forestry Committee, 13 February 2023 (invited presentation, online)</li> <li>2. Mauser, H. Circular bioeconomy: the pathway towards a more innovative, resource efficient and competitive Europe, Interparliamentary conference on “Circular bioeconomy: the pathway towards a more innovative, resource efficient and competitive Europe” organised under the auspices of the Committee on Environment and Agriculture of the Swedish Parliament, 20 February (invited presentation, online)</li> <li>3. Mauser, H. Der Wald und die Vielfalt an EU-Politiken (Forests and the diversity of EU policies), Österreichische Forsttagung (Austrian Forest Conference), 22 June 2023 (invited key note)</li> <li>4. Mauser, H. Die Entwicklung der EU-Waldpolitik in jüngster Zeit (Recent developments in EU forest policy), Deutscher Forstwirtschaftsrat - Fachausschuss für Europapolitik (German Forestry Council, European Policy Expert Committee), 8 November, 2023 (invited presentation)</li> <li>5. Pülzl, H. European Union- forest governance, 13th Session of the Winter Forest School, <i>The forestry of Poland in the face of EU policy challenges</i>, 14 - 16 March 2023 (invited keynote, online)</li> <li>6. Pülzl, H. European Union- forest governance, NIBIO, 8 May 2023</li> <li>7. Pülzl, H. European Union- forest governance, INRAE, 15 May 2023 (invited keynote)</li> <li>8. Pülzl, H. Policy targets, instrument choice, and coordination formats. How forests are governed? PEFC - EU AFFAIRS WORKING GROUP WG MEETING #4, 28 June, 2023</li> <li>9. Pülzl, H. EU forest governance, International post-graduate course on “Forest Management and biodiversity across Europe, 10-17 September, 2023 Bialowieza, Poland.</li> <li>10. Pülzl, H. Forest policy-making in the EU, Young Leadership Programme, Mediterranean 2023: Land abandonment and cultural landscapes, September 2023</li> <li>11. Pülzl, H. Current perspectives on forests. From science to policy. EFI breakfast event with ambassadors, 27 October 2023 Helsinki</li> <li>12. Wydra, D. Bridging the science-policy gap. What Literature tells us. Science-Policy Impact Workshop, 24-25 January 2023, European Forestry House, Brussels</li> </ol>
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Please note that many of the other studies supported by the Policy Support TrustFund are continuously presented and used including in policy discussions. These presentations were not included here to keep this list size readable.

### 3.4. Media impacts

There was active contact with the media during 2023, with news items/press releases and invitations to ThinkForest events.

12 press releases/news items were published in 2023 on the EFI website and EFI blog, on timely, relevant topics.

24.01.2023 [Which route should policymaking take? New pathways for Forest Ecosystem Services](#)

30.01.2023 [Science-Policy Impact Workshop in Brussels](#)

31.01.2023 [New EFI report on wood-based textiles & modern wood buildings](#)

16.02.2023 [How does the European Union make forest policy decisions?](#)

07.03.2023 [Increased forest disturbances require better reporting and data collection](#)

14.04.2023 [New EFI policy briefs on wood-based textiles & modern wood buildings](#)

26.04.2023 [Building the cities of the future](#)

02.05.2023 [Forest soils can increase climate change mitigation with targeted management](#)

28.06.2023 [Achieving the EU Forest Strategy goals](#)

26.09.2023 [New study sets out 9 recommendations to help implement the EU Forest Strategy](#)

26.10.2023 [Implementing Closer-to-Nature Forest Management](#)

21.12.2023 [Monitoring future forests](#)

#### Media invitations and notifications

Press invitations were distributed by email, using an off-the-shelf system, Meltwater. This allows you to create distribution lists based on country and the journalist's 'beat' (area of specialism), and to monitor whether each invitation has been opened.

Meltwater covers all journalists in the following countries: Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, UK, USA. In addition, a separate in-house list of Brussels-based correspondents is used; this was updated in 2023.

Journalists were sent invitations to ThinkForest events, and eg press releases about relevant publications, depending on their area of work.

Event/Publication	Mailing list size	% read	Media registration for event	Media articles
Media invitation: Cities in the Age of Forests, 20.04.2023	255	33.3%	3	7

Building the cities of the future	243	33.7%	n/a	See above
Media invitation: Achieving the EU Forest Strategy goals - what can science tell us?	311	29.6%	1	0
New study sets out 9 recommendations to help implement the EU Forest Strategy	206	35.9%	n/a	1
Media invitation: ThinkForest webinar on Implementing Closer-to-Nature Forest Management, 24.10.23	327	30.9%	3	0

Media attendance and immediate coverage of live events is often limited, with journalists mostly using events as an opportunity to gain background information on a subject. Journalists also watch the recording afterwards, although this is only possible to validate anecdotally.

## 4. Reporting of expenses

### 4.1 Background

The general background principle for reporting of the funding and budgeting of the Trust Fund for 2023 is given here. Due to the time lag between the closing of the accounts, as of 24 January 2024 (time of writing this) the financial accounts for EFI 2023 have not yet been fully closed.

According to the Trust Fund rules however money can only be spent upon receipt. So, if contributions are received in November or December, they can in most cases only be spent the following year.

### 4.2 Expenditures by cost category

In 2023 the Trust Fund funded partial salaries of the Assistant Director for Policy Support managing the TF, Communication Officer responsible for the administration and event organisation, Administrative Officer responsible for administrative procedures (e.g. contracting) of Trust Fund SC, Head of Communications responsible for the Trust Fund communication, and Brussels Liaison Officer supporting the dissemination and increasing the impact of the Trust Fund work and networking in Brussels (all positions partly funded by Trust Fund). These salary costs were linked to the general management, planning, administration, communication, networking, and coordination of the Trust Fund work. All the other salaries paid from Trust Fund to EFI staff were related directly to specific policy support activities and Work Packages.

Besides the salaries, expenses related to the expenditure categories listed under the Trust Fund Guidelines (shown also in Chapter 1.2) were covered by the Trust Fund funding.

According to Trust Fund Guidelines, 13% is allocated to overheads (indirect costs). Compared to common practices, this is a low share. For example, in European Commission Horizon 2020 overheads is 25% for research and innovation projects. Indeed, in the Trust Fund case, the 13% overheads can be viewed to

cover the usage of EFI brand, some of the EFI staff costs (e.g., Director's work input, ad hoc and small administration work input), maintenance of administration software (e.g. budgeting software), office rent and office maintenance costs, etc. The staff costs related to the Trust Fund activities (e.g., coordination, management, administration, EFI lawyer costs related to subcontracting and country agreements, working for the publications and ThinkForest webinars) are reported under Trust Fund salaries, not overheads.

The activities under Trust Fund have been organized for administrative and cost following purposes under Work Packages (WP). In 2023, costs were related to following WPs:

1. FPS Multi-Donor Trust Fund General
2. FPS TF WP11: European forest facts
3. FPS TF WP13: Environmental impacts of using wood for construction and textiles
4. FPS TF WP14: European forest-based sector climate change mitigation
5. FPS TF WP15: Enhancing and financing forest biodiversity in Europe
6. FPS TF WP16: Study on Meeting EU Forestry Goals
7. FPS TF WP17: Workshops
8. FPS TF WP18: Literature Review on SFM
9. FPS TF WP19: Taxonomy and biodiversity Criteria
10. FPS TF WP20: Policy Briefs
11. FPS TF WP21: Rome Event
12. FPS TF WP22: Carbon Farming

## 5. Current and emerging forest-related policy issues and trends in Europe

According to the TF Guidelines “EFI will provide on a yearly basis a broad overview (summary) of the current and emerging European forest-related policy issues and trends”. This chapter seeks to fulfil this objective.

This chapter describes important developments in the EU framework relevant for forest and wood related policies that took place in 2023 as the current term of the European Parliament and the European Commission comes to an end.

### 5.1 Changes in forest policy related governance in the European Commission

In the recent past, the lead in handling forest-related topics in the European Commission (EC) shifted from the Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGRI) to the Directorate General for Environment (DG ENV).

Contrary to its previous positioning, in 2023 the Directorate General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW) started again to look closer into forest policy topics. Biobased products have a crucial role to play in the shift to a more resilient economy in the EU. To accelerate their uptake, DG GROW is also interested in the availability, supply, and price of biobased feedstocks. This is to support the implementation of forest-related policies within the responsibility of DG GROW such as the *Green Deal Industrial Plan*, the *Net-Zero-Industry Act*, the *Critical Raw Materials Act*, the *Transition Pathway for the Chemicals Industry*, and enhance the role of industries in the EU circular bioeconomy. Consequently, DG GROW is interested to follow more closely the development and implementation of a policy framework affecting forests and their management.

To simplify forest governance and create a coherent dialogue with Member States, in the *EU Forest Strategy for 2030* the EC proposed merging the Standing Forestry Committee (SFC) and the Working Group on Forest and Nature into one single expert group with the mandate to reflect all the environmental, social, and economic objectives in relation to forests. This should bring Member State representatives (from different ministries) into one single expert group. However, according to EU rules, the reorganization of the SFC needs a co-decision by the European Parliament and the Council of Ministers. In November the EC presented a proposal to amend *Council Decision 89/367/EEC of 29 May 1989* setting up a SFC. The two co-legislators are currently discussing this proposal.

In 2023, the SFC has continued to work under its current rules of procedure. Already in 2022, the EC established a sub-group of the SFC to develop a proposal for a new EU framework for forest monitoring and strategic plans. The mandate of this sub-group was limited to consultation and advice related to the development of the EC proposal. It should be dissolved once the legal proposal is adopted by the EC. However, at the end of 2023, the register of Commission expert groups still shows an active status for this sub-group.

Following the *EU Forest Strategy for 2030*, a new expert group “Forest and Forestry Stakeholder Platform” for civil society representatives was established, co-chaired by DG AGRI and DG ENV. It results from a merger of the former Civil Dialogue Group on Forestry and Cork with the Working Group on Forest and Nature, based on a revised mission statement. The new platform includes only civil society stakeholders with an interest in forest and nature, and it had its first meeting in September 2023, followed by a second meeting in December. On a site note, the Working Group on Forest and Nature should be terminated after the establishment of this new platform, but the register of Commission expert groups still shows an active status for this group at the end of 2023.



In the past, the European Union regularly updated its treaties to reflect current EU governance. More recently, a change of founding treaties was discussed in the European Parliament (EP). As a result in November the EP adopted a resolution with proposals for 245 amendments of the Treaties. These include an exclusive Union competence for the *environment and biodiversity* and *negotiations on climate change*. The proposal of the EP Committee on Environment to establish *forestry as shared Union competence* under Art. 4 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) was not adopted in the Plenary. In her State of the Union Address, President Von der Leyen commented on treaty change and discussed if and where it would be needed to deepen the Union. It has to be seen, however, how the Council of Ministers will react to the EP initiative. In general, changing the EU Treaties is a long-term process that also needs separate approval by each Member State. In this regard, referendums in Member States may also have to be used.

## 5.2 An expanding number of policy proposals relevant for the forest-based sector

Since the beginning of 2019, 28 new EU legislative acts and 20 non-legislative strategies and resolutions with direct relevance for forestry and/or the wood-processing industries have entered into force. Eight of these new initiatives were completed in 2023. Another 20 legal proposals relevant to the forest-based sector have been debated by the co-legislators, the European Parliament and the Council of Ministers. One of them is the proposal on forest monitoring that was presented in November. The negotiations in the Council and EP on responsibilities for this file (Agriculture or Environment) were still ongoing by the end of 2023.

For six of these legal proposals discussed by the co-legislators, agreements were reached in the autumn during the trilogue negotiations, but have not been finally approved by formal procedures before the end of 2023. These are the six legal proposals: *Revision of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive*; *Directive on Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence*; *Directive on Improving Environmental Protection through Criminal Law*; *Eco-design for Sustainable Products Regulation*; *New Regulation on Construction Products*; and the *Regulation on Nature Restoration*. The *Regulation on Nature Restoration* proposal created a lot of attention in political decision-making nationally, the media and academia, and it was finally adopted in the EP plenary after a fierce political debate. However, many of the amendments adopted substantially altered the Commission's original proposal and will make it difficult to implement later on. In the trilogue negotiations, many elements of the Council's position were adopted also. The formal approval of the trilogue agreement is still pending and planned for early spring 2024.

The EC has already announced five proposals for legislative acts of relevance for the sector which it will present in 2024: GreenData4All Directive<sup>2</sup> (about green and digital transformation); Taxonomy Delegated Acts on 4 Environmental Objectives<sup>3</sup>; Revision of the EU Ecolabel Commission Decisions (on wood-based products); Implementing regulation for the LULUCF; and the Delegated Regulation amending the Registry Union Regulation on LULUCF. The Annex to chapter 5 compiles all new and upcoming legislation and strategies.

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<sup>2</sup> Legislative train overview for the GGreenData4All directive: <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/legislative-train/theme-a-european-green-deal/file-revision-of-the-inspire-directive>

<sup>3</sup> Status of delegated act on taxonomy: [https://finance.ec.europa.eu/regulation-and-supervision/financial-services-legislation/implementing-and-delegated-acts/taxonomy-regulation\\_en](https://finance.ec.europa.eu/regulation-and-supervision/financial-services-legislation/implementing-and-delegated-acts/taxonomy-regulation_en)

In the DG ENV-led Working Group on Forest and Nature, three guidelines were finalised and published: (1) *Defining, Mapping, Monitoring and Strictly Protecting EU Primary and Old-Growth Forests*<sup>4</sup>; (2) *Biodiversity-Friendly Afforestation, Reforestation and Tree Planting*<sup>5</sup>; (3) *Closer-to-Nature Forest Management*<sup>6</sup>. The latter refers consistently to an EFI study (Larsen et al. 2022)<sup>7</sup>. The planned update of the 'Natura 2000 Guidance on Forests' is still pending. The EC also published a guidance document with regards to Forest Ecosystem Service Payments: *Guidance on the Development of Public and Private Payment Schemes for Forest Ecosystem Services*<sup>8</sup>.

To implement the EU Taxonomy Regulation, the EC must define the technical screening criteria for each of the six environmental objectives through delegated acts. The Platform on Sustainable Finance supports the EC in preparing such delegated acts. A new mandate of this Platform began from February onwards, with 35 new members and 14 observers. Seven of the members are directly appointed through Article 20 of the Taxonomy Regulation and come from EU agencies and bodies: the European Environment Agency, European Investment Bank, European Investment Fund, European Banking Authority, European Securities and Markets Authority, European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority, European Agency for Fundamental Rights. One pending task for this Platform is the *elaboration of recommendations for technical screening criteria for forestry regarding environmental objective 6* on "the protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems". However, no timetable for this task is available yet and it is at this moment questionable if the incumbent Commission will come forward with a draft delegated act before the end of its term. Nevertheless, in October the Platform launched a Stakeholder Request Mechanism allowing stakeholders to submit suggestions based on scientific and/or technical evidence, including on forestry.

### 5.3 Challenging implementation of forest-related EU legislation and policy instruments

The past five years were characterised by a rapidly growing amount of new EU legislation and policy instruments relevant for the forest-based sector. Many have already entered into force or will do so during 2024. Even if the speed of elaborating new forest-relevant EU policy instruments might slow down, the volume of work to implement the legislation and strategies already valid will continue to grow consistently in the coming years. This is because not all the legislation is directly effective (e.g. directives) and needs integration into national legal and policy systems and/or sometimes also demands revisions of national approaches and legislation. Even if legislation is directly effective (e.g. regulations), it may need more clearly defined implementation rules or precise definitions. Sometimes harmonised monitoring devices including criteria and indicators need to be developed to be able to understand what consistent

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<sup>4</sup> Link to the document: [https://environment.ec.europa.eu/publications/guidelines-defining-mapping-monitoring-and-strictly-protecting-eu-primary-and-old-growth-forests\\_en](https://environment.ec.europa.eu/publications/guidelines-defining-mapping-monitoring-and-strictly-protecting-eu-primary-and-old-growth-forests_en)

<sup>5</sup> Link to the document: [https://environment.ec.europa.eu/publications/guidelines-biodiversity-friendly-afforestation-reforestation-and-tree-planting\\_en](https://environment.ec.europa.eu/publications/guidelines-biodiversity-friendly-afforestation-reforestation-and-tree-planting_en)

<sup>6</sup> Link to the document: [https://environment.ec.europa.eu/publications/guidelines-closer-nature-forest-management\\_en](https://environment.ec.europa.eu/publications/guidelines-closer-nature-forest-management_en)

<sup>7</sup> Larsen, J.B., Angelstam, P., Bauhus, J., Carvalho, J.F., Diaci, J., Dobrowolska, D., Gazda, A., Gustafsson, L., Krumm, F., Knoke, T., Konczal, A., Kuuluvainen, T., Mason, B., Motta, R., Pötzelsberger, E., Rigling, A., Schuck, A., 2022. Closer-to Nature Forest Management. From Science to Policy 12. European Forest Institute. <https://doi.org/10.36333/fs12>

<sup>8</sup> Link to the document: [https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2023-07/guidance-dev-public-private-payment-schemes-forest\\_en.pdf](https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2023-07/guidance-dev-public-private-payment-schemes-forest_en.pdf)

implementation looks like across Member States to meet European aims and targets. Contradictory practices will have to be eliminated and a national or even regional implementation process needs to be accompanied by sometimes rather costly monitoring efforts. Forest managers and forest owners also need to be consistently and effectively informed about new requirements to bring them on board. This is particularly important as land ownership differs across the Union and reaching out to many small forest owners can become a difficult task.

Effective implementation needs science-based support, in particular for managing practical challenges when legal obligations have to be fulfilled in a cost-effective manner amid the highly diverse setting of circumstances in the EU that characterises the forest-based sector. The ongoing work of the “Multi-Stakeholder Platform on Protecting and Restoring the World’s Forests” reveals many practical problems in meeting different obligations for actors inside and outside the EU when implementing regulation (EU) 2023/1115 on deforestation-free products, for example.

It remains still unclear how the many trade-offs nourished by the different interests and objectives of all these new EU initiatives are to be handled consistently during national and regional implementation. These trade-offs reach also beyond the forest-based sector. Their handling will most likely play out differently across Member States. Comprehensive large-scale assessments of how this can be done consistently are still lacking but will become more in demand in the future. It will be important to follow up, as non-implementation may trigger the development of more fierce legal rules to meet European objectives. This in turn may put implementation agents as well as forest owners and managers under more pressure.

The many new legal and non-legal policy targets agreed to in the past five years which affect forest and wood-related value chains have established more requests and obligations for all the actors concerned. A comprehensive cumulative assessment of the impacts of all the new legislation and strategies is missing. An assessment in 2016, commissioned by DG GROW, was limited to cost impacts on forest-based industries by the legal and policy framework of the period 2005-2014<sup>9</sup>. To address the impacts of the many policy processes since 2019, a new assessment will be required that includes a broader range of actors affected:

1. The forest-based sector itself (different types of forest owners and managers, public forest administrations at different levels, forest contractors, advisory services, forest training and educational services, wood-processing and trading industries, environmental NGOs etc.);
2. Other economic sectors interested to change to renewable biobased feedstock (also from forests) in their transition to a more sustainable and climate-friendly business model (e.g., energy, plastics, chemicals, textiles), but also from the financing sector (e.g., banks, insurance companies);
3. Regions interested in establishing or expanding a forest-based bioeconomy;
4. Member States and the EU regarding increasing resilience of the economy as well as fostering strategic autonomy by reducing dependency on raw material imports from third countries.

The assessment should look into all the tasks and activities requested from those different actors, linked to the new legal/ non-legal targets. It also needs to analyse the resources needed (staff, infrastructure, skills), estimate costs and identify funding opportunities as well as requirements for effective and efficient governance in managing all tasks.

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<sup>9</sup> European Commission, Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, Van Brusselen, J., Ettwein, F., Aggestam, F. et al., An assessment of the cumulative cost impacts of specified EU legislation and policies on the EU forest-based industries – Final report, Publications Office, 2016, <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2873/842839>

## 5.4 Indications for a changing attitude of the European Commission regarding cooperation with the forest-based sector

The involvement of Member States' forest administrations as well as stakeholders from the forestry and wood-processing sectors, and the uptake of their expert contributions in EU policy discussions has been perceived as becoming weaker over the past few years. This has led to many new coordination formats, e.g. the minister-led ForForest Group or the high-level European wood policy platform WoodPop. However, some recent developments indicate a change in the attitude of the EC regarding cooperation with the forest-based sector.

The responsibility for the European Green Deal was handed over to Executive Vice-President Maroš Šefčovič at the end of August 2023 following the departure of former Executive Vice-President Frans Timmermans from the EC. In September, President Von der Leyen required in her new mission letter<sup>10</sup> to Mr. Šefčovič the following: "You will intensify the dialogue with industry and key stakeholders like forest owners and farmers on the European Green Deal." Until the end of 2023, there were no concrete activities by the Commissioner or his cabinet to meet this request.

Again, in September President Von der Leyen specifically talked about forestry and agriculture in her annual *State of the Union Address*. She recalled that Europe is a continent of forests that are an irreplaceable source of goods and services. Focusing on agriculture, she reminded that food security, in harmony with nature and self-sufficiency in food is important for the EU. Working together with men and women in farming, more dialogue and less polarisation is needed. She announced a strategic dialogue on the future of agriculture in the EU. In this context she said that she remains convinced that agriculture and protection of the natural world can go hand in hand. These statements by President Von der Leyen addressing agriculture also fit for the forest-based sector and for raw material supply for a bioeconomy, supporting a more holistic view on forest-related issues in EU policy debates. This could be addressed in the dialogue that Mr. Šefčovič should start with industry and forest owners. This dialogue and the implementation of possible results could benefit from targeted research and policy support activities.

A new attitude regarding the forest-based sector is also indicated by the stronger interest of DG GROW in forest-related debates to foster the re-design of industry policies. The aim is to support the transition of EU industries towards more sustainable and climate-friendly production and competitiveness, in view of a new global policy environment and the need to strengthen the EU's strategic autonomy, and to achieve the European Green Deal. DG GROW intends to position the circular bioeconomy as an important element of the work programme of the next EC.

## 5.5 Future outlook on elections - European Parliament and Commission

In 2024, the terms of the current EP and EC will end in June and October, respectively. The last regular Plenary sitting of the incumbent EP will take place 22-24 April. Following the elections on 6-9 June, the EP will start the new term with its first Plenary sitting on 16-19 July. The chairs and members of the different Parliamentary committees will be finally approved in September. After that, the regular work of the new Parliament on legislative and non-legislative files will start. The first main task will be the hearings of the committees with the Commissioner candidates, and the approval of the entire EC by the EP in its Plenary,

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<sup>10</sup> [https://commissioners.ec.europa.eu/document/download/97408d18-2d5d-477a-bbbf-38ce083b9ef2\\_en?filename=mission-letter-Mar%C5%A1-%C5%A0ef%C4%8Dovi%C4%8D-2023\\_en\\_0.pdf](https://commissioners.ec.europa.eu/document/download/97408d18-2d5d-477a-bbbf-38ce083b9ef2_en?filename=mission-letter-Mar%C5%A1-%C5%A0ef%C4%8Dovi%C4%8D-2023_en_0.pdf)

both to be finalised before the end of 2024. The incumbent Commissioners will continue to work until the new EC is approved by the Plenary of the EP.

At this moment it is unclear how the new EP will be composed. While there exists no European polling per se, several organisations aim to calculate and predict the EP's composition. Based on these it is expected that in the upcoming EP election the current largest political groups, *the European People's Party (EPP)*, the *Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats (S&D)* and the liberal *RENEW Europe*, will lose seats. One can only speculate if RENEW will continue as the third largest political group. The right-wing forces (to the right of EPP), represented by the political groups of the *European Conservatives and Reformists (ECR)* and *Identity and Democracy group (ID)*, are expected to become stronger, and new groups might emerge, as this has also happened in Member States across the EU. However, what unites all these political groups is that they might become more heterogeneous internally, due to a growing diversity of political parties succeeding at national levels.

It is unclear how big the share of completely new Members of Parliament (MEPs) will be. Compared to the previous elections in 2019, political parties in the Member States keep incumbent MEPs that aim to be re-elected high up their candidate lists, increasing their likelihood to be re-elected. A decreasing duration of national governments may also increase the attractiveness of holding a rather stable 5-year MEP position in Brussels. As the composition of the EP is expected to be more fragmented and diverse, decision-making may become more complicated. If this is the case, building a majority will be more case-by-case based as very likely there will be not many shared policies between, and possibly also within the political groups.

The President of the EC will be proposed by the European Council (includes the 27 Member States Heads of States) for a 5-year term and together with the Commissioners will be appointed by the EP following its election. Current Commissioners represent dominantly the centre of the political spectrum with the President and 13 Commissioners aligned to the EPP, 8 to S&D and 5 to RENEW. Only one is aligned to ECR, two others are GREEN or independent. For the EC, a high turnover among Commissioners is expected. Due to changes in domestic politics in Member States, the political majorities that appointed most of the incumbent Commissioners are no longer in power at this point, therefore reducing re-appointment chances. Thus, the new College of Commissioners is expected to be more fragmented regarding party affiliation than the current one. The current strong representation of the political centre is likely to weaken due to a higher number of Commissioners who could be aligned with political groups outside the centre.

Political groups closer to the fringes of the spectrum might be underrepresented in both the EC and the Council from next year, as to this point, they are often not the leading governmental parties in their countries. These groups may try to leverage their potentially higher share of seats in the EP during the negotiations for the election of the new President of the EC and its Commissioners to get their priorities better represented in the policy agenda.

While the policy agenda for the next EU term is not yet known, the pendulum may swing again to the other side, developing more pro-competitive and pro-industry policies putting an emphasis on the EU's competitiveness on the global stage and fostering strategic autonomy. Greening the EU and social issues are expected to remain important topically. This will also depend on the next US president as the EU becomes more sensitive to changes in other parts of the world. The *EU Stability and Growth Pact* may also become more contentious as some Member States might want more leeway in using their budget.

Depending on the EP election results, a new balance of power at EU level may slow down the transition to the objectives of the European Green Deal. The direction of greening will most likely stay, but it is unclear whether it will take place at a reduced speed compared to now. Withdrawing the legal proposal

on pesticide use and the softening of the wording on agriculture in the legal proposal on the 2040 climate targets in early February 2024 may give some indication in this direction. The likelihood of a more fragmented composition of the new EP may lead to changing majorities on new legislation supporting European Green Deal objectives. This may make it more demanding for co-legislators to support related legal proposals. For example, more recent legislative initiatives like the Nature Restoration Law would face more difficulties to get accepted if the upcoming EP becomes more fragmented from a political agenda point of view. If revisions are initiated at the beginning of the upcoming new policy term, some recently established legislation might need to be changed as well.

In conclusion, it can be expected that there will be many new office holders in the EU policy making institutions who might pursue strategic priorities different from those that guided decisions in the last 5 years. It cannot be said what their understanding of forests and the forest-based sector is, but it might vary remarkably. To support them in their sound decision making, provide access to solid information and evidence on the complexity, diversity, and long timeframes of forest ecosystem issues and of the forest-based circular bioeconomy, an in-depth assessment of the implications of new legislation and strategies will be needed. Informing, raising awareness, disseminating and communicating evidence-based information to the new members of EP, EC and the Member States on the multiple roles that forests play for the EU society will continue to be important, in particular in the starting phase of the new term. This offers various opportunities for EFI, in particular its Policy Support Facility, to help empower EU policy makers to establish a framework that enables the forest-based sectors to contribute to new policy objectives in the strongest way possible.

## Annex to Chapter 5 – Recent and upcoming EU legislation and strategies

(selection of policy initiatives relevant for the forest-based sector)

Year	Recent Legislation and Policy in Force	
	Legislative	Non-Legislative
2019	Plant Health Delegated and Implementing Regulations Taxonomy Regulation	EU Action Plan on Protecting and Restoring the World's Forests
2020	Plant Health Delegated and Implementing Regulations	A New Industrial Strategy for Europe
	2030 Climate Target Plan	New Circular Economy Action Plan
	Delegated Regulation on Forest Reference Levels	A Farm to Fork Strategy
	CAP Transitional Provisions	Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 A Renovation Wave for Europe
2021	Horizon Europe	New EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change
	European Climate Law	Updating the 2020 New Industrial Strategy
	Amending the Aarhus Regulation (better access to justice)	A long-term Vision for the EU's Rural Areas
	Civil Protection Mechanism	New EU Forest Strategy for 2030
	CAP Horizontal Regulation	New European Bauhaus
	CAP Strategic Plan Regulation	Soil Strategy for 2030
	Taxonomy Delegated Act on Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation	Restoring Sustainable Carbon Cycles (incl. Carbon Farming Initiative)
	Taxonomy Delegated Act on Disclosure	
	LIFE Regulation LIFE Multiannual Work Programme 2021-2024	
2022	Vertical Block Exemption Regulation ('VBER') accompanied by the new Vertical Guidelines	Sustainable Products Policy Initiative
	General Union Environment Action Programme to 2030	Strategy on Sustainable Textiles
	Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive	Bioeconomy Strategy Progress Report and Re-framing within the new Context
	Horizon Europe Work Programmes 2023-2024	European Parliament Resolution on Illegal Logging in the EU
	Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive	Policy Framework on Biobased, Biodegradable and Compostable Plastics
	State aid – exemptions for small amounts of aid (de minimis aid) (update)	
2023	Revision of the LULUCF Regulation	A Green Deal Industrial Plan for the Net-Zero Age
	Revision of the Effort Sharing Regulation	Ensuring resilient and sustainable use of EU's natural resources
	Regulation on Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism	
	Regulation on Social Climate Fund	
	Regulation on Deforestation and Forest Degradation Revision of the Renewable Energy Directive linked to REPowerEU	
<b>Co-Legislators currently working on Legislative Proposals from the European Commission</b>		
	Revision of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive	
	Regulation on European Green Bonds	
	Directive on Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence	
	Directive on Improving Environmental Protection through Criminal Law	
	Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation	
	New Regulation on Construction Products	
	Revision of the Ambient Air Quality Directive	
	Regulation on Nature Restoration (Restoration Law)	
	Update of EU Rules on Sustainable Use of Pesticides	
	Review of the Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive	
	Regulation on Carbon Removal Certification	
2023	Green Claims Directive	
2023	Taxonomy Delegated Acts on 4 Environmental Objectives and amending Climate Change	
2023	Directive on Soil Monitoring and Resilience	
2023	Regulation on the production and marketing of forest reproductive material	
2023	Regulation on plants obtained by certain new genomic techniques	
2023	Directive on Textile Waste	
2023	Delegated Regulation on Sustainability Reporting Standards	
2023	Regulation on a monitoring framework for resilient European Forests	
2023	Decision amending Council Decision on setting up a Standing Forestry Committee	
<b>Proposals for EU Legislation and Strategies announced by the European Commission</b>		
<b>Announced for</b>	<b>Legislative</b>	<b>Non-Legislative</b>
Q4 2022	GreenData4All - Revision of INSPIRE	
2023		Assessment of the Biodiversity Governance Framework (need for Biodiversity Law)
2022	Taxonomy Delegated Acts on 4 Environmental Objectives	
2022-2023	Revision of Ecolabel Commission Decisions (on wood-based products)	
Q1 2024		2040 Climate Target Communication
Q1 2024		Communication on carbon storage technologies
Q1 2024		EU biotech and biomanufacturing initiative
Q1 2024		Advanced materials for industrial leadership
Q1 2024		Water Resilience Initiative
Q4 2024	Land use, land use change and forestry - flexibility mechanism related to impacts from natural disturbances (Implementing Regulation)	
Q3 2024	Regulation amending the Registry Union Regulation on land use, land use change and forestry matters (Delegated Regulation)	
2025	Post-2030 individual Member State LULUCF carbon removal targets	

## 6. Conclusions

2023 was the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of operation of the new cycle of Trust Fund (2021-2025). Two ThinkForest webinars with a high number of participants, two in-person ThinkForest events with exciting and lively panel discussions involving high-level policymakers, scientists and policy advisors and a Science-Policy Workshop were organised with financial support of the Policy Support Trust Fund in the past year.

A new edition of "From Science to Policy" on meeting EU forest strategy's goals was released and made accessible online. It was actively promoted through a webinar, which was not only recorded but also garnered a progressively growing number of views throughout the year. In addition a Knowledge to Action publication on the environmental impacts of multi-story wooden building and upcoming wooden textiles was published and its content was discussed in the in-person ThinkForest event in Rome. In addition, 5 Policy Briefs were published, so the EFI Policy brief series contain of 7 editions by end of 2023. These briefs addressed diverse topics within the scope of EFI's scientific work. Two more study group successfully started their work last year with promising results for spring 2024 and autumn 2024 when the new European Parliament is again in session.

All of this coupled with the continual rise in streams and downloads, underscores the sustained significance and demand for interdisciplinary forest-related studies that speak to policy-makers' demands as well as the well maintained high-level science-policy platform at the European level to engage in dialogue and exchange between decision-makers and scientists.

Ambitions and work to enlarge the number of countries have continued throughout 2023 and will be pursued further during 2024. The dialogue, both during bilateral and joint meetings, with Trust Fund member countries to learn about country priorities was further intensified during 2023 and new ways to communicate at the science-policy interface will be further identified to not only reach out to again larger audiences, but also to support policy-makers and scientists.



## Annexes

Table 1: Online statistics

Table 2: Number of ThinkForest participants according to background

Table 3: Stakeholder follow-up articles related to events and publications

Table 4: Media coverage

Table 5: Publication citations

## Table 1: Online statistics

### Publication statistics

The electronic copies of these studies again proved very popular. Included in the table below are details of downloads of all major Trust Fund publications produced to date (2015 onwards) from the EFI website. This is of course a snapshot of one segment of usage, as the publications are also available in e.g., ResearchGate, authors' institutional repositories, organisations' own libraries etc.

Only one-off copies of publications were printed in 2023.

\*Electronic copies downloaded: Google analytics tracks the numbers of visitors who go to a page on the EFI website, and then download the publication.

These numbers do not include direct downloads from the EFI website server, downloads from ResearchGate, authors' institutional repositories, organisations' own libraries etc.

DOI resolutions: shows the number of people who have clicked on the DOI address for a publication, such as <https://doi.org/10.36333/fs11>

Title	Publication date	No of electronic copies downloaded 2023*	DOI resolutions 2023	Lifetime copies downloaded
FSTP15 (EU forest strategy goals)	Sept 2023	438	957	438
PB7 (Soils)	May 2023	315	923	315
PB6 (Wood buildings)	Apr 2023	140	235	140
PB5 (Wood-based textiles)	Apr 2023	82	263	82
PB4 (Forest disturbances)	Mar 2023	200	784	200
K2A06 (Wood-based textiles & modern wood buildings)	Jan 2023	461	1,233	461
PB3 (Forest ecosystem services)	Jan 2023	336	638	336
PB2 (Forests and wood use to reach climate goals), (EN, ES, DE, FR, IT)	Sept 2022	361	1,456	803
FSTP14 (Climate change mitigation potential)	Sept 2022	510	1,136	1,580
PB1 (Forest biodiversity in Europe) (EN, ES, DE, FR, IT)	Aug 2022	225	745	751

FSTP13 (Forest biodiversity in Europe)	May 2022	467	2,713	2,136
K2A04 (Forest questions)	Mar 2021	227	323	2,752
FSTP11 (China-Europe bioeconomy)	Dec 2020	27	131	415
K2A03 (Public perception)	Oct 2020	87	346	787
FSTP10 (Forest governance)	April 2020	60	476	945
FSTP9 (Plantation forests)	Dec 2019	68	389	863
FSTP8 (Bark beetles) (EN, CZ)	Apr 2019	162	683	5,593
FSTP 7 (Substitution effects of wood-based products)	Nov 2018	148	869	5,460
FSTP 6 (Climate-Smart Forestry)	Mar 2018	212	185	4,067
WSCTU 8 (Forest-based bioeconomy), plus Summary	Dec 2017	85	n/a	8,749
FSTP 5 (Circular bioeconomy) (EN, CN, RU)	Oct 2017	77	261	7,549
FSTP 5 Summaries (EN, FR, DE, IT, ES, CN, RU)	Nov 2017- Apr 18	8	n/a	4,067
WSCTU 7 (Natura 2000) plus Summary	Sept 2017	73	n/a	4,361
FSTP 4 (Forest bioeconomy indicators)	Nov 2016	23	201	8,443
FSTP 3 (Forest biomass, carbon neutrality)	Oct 2016	104	239	17,546
FSTP 2 (A new role for forests)	Dec 2015	66	225	11,863
FSTP 1 (EUTR-FLEGT)	Apr 2015	18	42	8,876

## Policy support mailings and event invitations

Several policy support-related mailings were sent in 2023, relating to publications and events.

Mailings	Number of subscribers	% open	Click on links in message
24.01.2023 EFI Highlights: Which route should policymaking take? New EFI Policy Brief published.	518	46.4%	10.6%
02.02.2023 EFI Highlights: New EFI report on wood-based textiles & modern wood buildings	524	46.8%	8.9%
13.04.2023 EFI Policy Support Highlights: ThinkForest seminar on forests and cities of the future, 20.4.2023	1,115	35.7%	4.2%
13.03.2023 EFI Highlights: Grand Opening of EFI Biocities Facility & Cities in the age of forests, 20.4.2023	550	40.0%	4.8%
19.03.2023 EFI Policy Support Highlights: New EFI policy briefs on wood-based textiles & modern wood buildings	1,095	34.3%	6.4%
19.03.2023 EFI Highlights: New EFI policy briefs on wood-based textiles & modern wood buildings	553	40.4%	8.4%
13.06.2023 EFI Policy Support Highlights: ThinkForest webinar, Achieving EU Forest Strategy goals, 26.6.2023	1,098	39.0%	9.9%
22.09.2023 EFI Policy Support Highlights: New EFI Director appointed	1,110	39.6%	1.0%
28.09.2023 EFI Policy Support Highlights: New study with 9 recommendations to help implement EU Forest Strategy	1,107	38.3%	8.2%

## Social media channels

By the end of 2023, the EFI X (formerly Twitter) account had 14,773 followers. This represents an increase of 1014 new followers during 2023. EFI's subchannels (@efiresilience, @efigovernance, @efimedfacility, @efibioregions, @EFIpartnerships, @EFIForestPolicy) were also used where appropriate to multiply the messages.

Due to the decline of engagement on X, during 2023, increasing use was made of the EFI Linked In channel (26,637 followers) to share policy support information.

## Videos

Three policy support videos were published on the EFI YouTube channel in 2023:

Video	Published	Recording views 2023
ThinkForest seminar, <a href="#">Forests and the cities of the future</a>	20.04.2023	751
ThinkForest webinar, <a href="#">Achieving the EU Forest Strategy goals - what can science tell us?</a>	26.06.2023	494
ThinkForest webinar, <a href="#">Implementing Closer-to-Nature Forest Management</a>	24.10.2023	497

Previous video material:	Published	No of views 2023	Lifetime views (to 02.01.2024)
<a href="#">ThinkForest webinar: Closer to Nature Forest Management</a>	6.04.2022	257	838
<a href="#">What Science can tell us about Forest Biodiversity in Europe</a>	30.05.2022	174	6,105
<a href="#">ThinkForest webinar: How can we strengthen the contribution of forests in reaching EU climate goals?</a>	20.09.2022	68	316
Forests in a nutshell: part 1	16.06.2021	119	464
EU forests in a nutshell: all the facts and figures	09.08.2021	671	2,678
EU forests in a nutshell: part 2 -5	09.08.2021	7	175
<a href="#">ThinkForest webinar: Role of Science in Supporting Policymaking: A post-COVID world</a>	25.05.2021	16	370
<a href="#">ThinkForest webinar: China-Europe Forest Bioeconomy</a>	15.12.2020	28	221
<a href="#">ThinkForest webinar: Public perception of forests and bioeconomy</a>	30.10.2020	23	396
<a href="#">ThinkForest: European Forest Policy Post-2020</a>	25.09.2020	41	399
<a href="#">Reimagining our world: Göran Persson on the Green Deal and the future of rural areas</a>	25.09.2020	73	1,540
<a href="#">Reimagining our world: Transforming the economy</a>	22.09.2020	27	966
<a href="#">Reimagining our world: the future role of rural areas</a>	22.09.2020	35	186

<a href="#">ThinkForest: Science insights to the European Green Deal and forests</a>	22.05.2020	35	1,322
<a href="#">ThinkForest: The Future of Plantation Forests in Europe</a>	17.12.2019	54	1,105
<a href="#">ThinkForest: How to Respond to Forest Disturbances in Europe</a>	04.04.2019	38	2,160
<a href="#">Climate policy and forest bioeconomy</a>	04.12.2018	20	973
<a href="#">Role of bioeconomy in controlling forest fires</a>	29.05.2018	50	1,227
<a href="#">Looking ahead to a circular European bioeconomy</a>	07.11.2017	12	921
<a href="#">Implementing Natura 2000 in forests: lessons learned and looking ahead</a>	27.09.2017	27	782
<a href="#">Leading the way to a new European bioeconomy strategy</a>	10.05.2017	76	2,934

## Website

Web pages	Page views 2023	Page views 2022	Unique visitors 2023	Unique visitors 2022
Policy support main landing page (policysupport/)	<b>1,022</b>	1,045	<b>679</b>	817
Our work (policysupport/ourwork)	<b>326</b>	226	<b>209</b>	181
ThinkForest (policysupport/thinkforest/) plus subpages	<b>7,360</b>	7,265	<b>4,481</b>	5,953

Both page views and unique visitor numbers for the general policy support and ThinkForest pages tend to depend on activities during the year (ie showing peaks when publications are published, or in the run-up to events). The general trend is still for people to first engage on social media rather than on the EFI website.

In 2021, a dedicated sub-site was made available on the EFI website for materials from the *Key questions on forests in the EU* report. This was further expanded with additional questions in 2022, and shows continued success in 2023.

Web pages	Page views 2023	Page views 2022	Page views 2021
Forest questions (/forest questions) plus subpages	<b>23,075</b>	19,978	10,500

**Table 2 Number of ThinkForest and other participants according to background**  
**Table 2.1**

Participant background (registered participants*)	ThinkForest webinar: Implementing Closer to Nature Forest Management
European Parliament	-
European Commission	5
Council of the EU	-
Ministries	11
Forest industry	11
Forest owner	9
NGO	10
University	91
Research	63
Other (e.g. international org. incl. EFI)	EFI 16 Other 224
Media	3
TOTAL	443*

\*443 participants registered to the webinar.

**Table 3: Follow-up articles by stakeholders related to events and publications**

ThinkForest event Achieving the EU Forest Strategy goals - what can science tell us? 26 June 2023		
Publisher / Stakeholder	Specified, article name	Link
Romanian Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests	Webinarul <a href="#">#ThinkForest</a> despre Strategia Europeană pentru Păduri	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/Mediu.Romania/posts/pfbid02PuPeCCoLi7yRtmdmxBsZHavVqxLZSnjFPAfBQPtWMRe9GFh7XqThNWtQcNWaHtNaI">https://www.facebook.com/Mediu.Romania/posts/pfbid02PuPeCCoLi7yRtmdmxBsZHavVqxLZSnjFPAfBQPtWMRe9GFh7XqThNWtQcNWaHtNaI</a>

FSTP15 Meeting the European Union's Forest Strategy goals: A comparative European assessment		
Publisher / Stakeholder	Specified, article name	Link

IUFRO	NEW STUDY SETS OUT 9 RECOMMENDATIONS TO HELP IMPLEMENT THE EU FOREST STRATEGY	<a href="https://www.iufro.org/discover/noticeboard/article/2023/10/04/new-study-sets-out-9-recommendations-to-help-implement-the-eu-forest-strategy/">https://www.iufro.org/discover/noticeboard/article/2023/10/04/new-study-sets-out-9-recommendations-to-help-implement-the-eu-forest-strategy/</a>
Hostaleria del Solsones	UN NOU ESTUDI PRESENTA NOU RECOMANACIONS PER AJUDAR A APLICAR L'ESTRATÈGIA FORESTAL DE LA UE	<a href="https://www.hostaleriadelsolsones.com/4970-un-nou-estudi-presenta-nou-recomanacions-per-ajudar-a-aplicar-l-39-estrategia-forestal-de-la-ue/">https://www.hostaleriadelsolsones.com/4970-un-nou-estudi-presenta-nou-recomanacions-per-ajudar-a-aplicar-l-39-estrategia-forestal-de-la-ue/</a>

K2A06: Wood-based textiles & modern wood buildings		
Publisher / Stakeholder	Specified, article name	Link
FERN	STEMMING THE TIDE: The potential of forests to supply the European bioeconomy. James Hewitt, Oct 2023	<a href="https://www.fern.org/fileadmin/uploads/fern/Documents/2023/The-potential-of-EU-forests-to-supply-the-future-EU-market-for-wood-based-products_FINAL.pdf">https://www.fern.org/fileadmin/uploads/fern/Documents/2023/The-potential-of-EU-forests-to-supply-the-future-EU-market-for-wood-based-products_FINAL.pdf</a>
LIGNA	Wood-based textiles	<a href="https://www.ligna.de/product/wood-based-textiles/373229/N1523946">https://www.ligna.de/product/wood-based-textiles/373229/N1523946</a>



**Table 4: Media coverage related to events and publications**

<b>ThinkForest Forests and the cities of the future, 20 April</b>		
<b>Article</b>	<b>Publication</b>	<b>Link</b>
EFI inaugurated the Biocities Facility in Rome to catalyse a new Renaissance led by circular bioeconomy	Il Bioeconomista	<a href="https://ilbioeconomista.com/2023/04/27/efi-inaugurated-the-biocities-facility-in-rome-to-catalyse-a-new-renaissance-led-by-circular-bioeconomy/">https://ilbioeconomista.com/2023/04/27/efi-inaugurated-the-biocities-facility-in-rome-to-catalyse-a-new-renaissance-led-by-circular-bioeconomy/</a>
Building the cities of the future	Renewable Carbon News	<a href="https://renewable-carbon.eu/news/building-the-cities-of-the-future/">https://renewable-carbon.eu/news/building-the-cities-of-the-future/</a>
I boschi e le città, il convegno dell’Istituto Forestale Europeo	ioArch	<a href="https://ioarch.it/i-boschi-e-le-citta-il-convegno-dellistituto-forestale-europeo/">https://ioarch.it/i-boschi-e-le-citta-il-convegno-dellistituto-forestale-europeo/</a>
Inaugurata a Roma la nuova sede dell’Istituto Forestale Europeo (EFI) focalizzata sulle Biocittà	Protectaweb	<a href="https://protectaweb.it/ambiente/inaugurata-a-roma-la-nuova-sede-dellistituto-forestale-europeo-efi-focalizzata-sulle-biocitta/">https://protectaweb.it/ambiente/inaugurata-a-roma-la-nuova-sede-dellistituto-forestale-europeo-efi-focalizzata-sulle-biocitta/</a>
Biocittà, quando la forestazione parte dai centri urbani	Teleambiente	<a href="https://www.teleambiente.it/biocitta-forestazione-centri-urbani-roma-video/">https://www.teleambiente.it/biocitta-forestazione-centri-urbani-roma-video/</a>
Inaugurata la nuova sede dell’Istituto Forestale Europeo (EFI) a Roma, focalizzata sulle Biocittà	FIDAF	<a href="https://www.fidaf.it/index.php/inaugurata-la-nuova-sede-dellistituto-forestale-europeo-efi-a-roma-focalizzata-sulle-biocitta/">https://www.fidaf.it/index.php/inaugurata-la-nuova-sede-dellistituto-forestale-europeo-efi-a-roma-focalizzata-sulle-biocitta/</a>
Presentata a Roma la struttura dell’EFI sulle biocittà presso il CREA	FLORAVIVA	<a href="https://www.floraviva.it/news/il-vivaista/presentata-a-roma-la-struttura-dell-efi-sulle-biocitta-presso-il-crea.html">https://www.floraviva.it/news/il-vivaista/presentata-a-roma-la-struttura-dell-efi-sulle-biocitta-presso-il-crea.html</a>
<b>FSTP15 Meeting the European Union’s Forest Strategy goals: A comparative European assessment</b>		
<b>Article</b>	<b>Publication</b>	<b>Link</b>
New study sets out 9 recommendations to help implement the EU Forest Strategy	Renewable Carbon	<a href="https://renewable-carbon.eu/news/new-study-sets-out-9-recommendations-to-help-implement-the-eu-forest-strategy/">https://renewable-carbon.eu/news/new-study-sets-out-9-recommendations-to-help-implement-the-eu-forest-strategy/</a>
<b>K2A06: Wood-based textiles &amp; modern wood buildings</b>		
<b>Article</b>	<b>Publication</b>	<b>Link</b>
Wood-based Textiles: Standard LCA Studies Require Rethinking on Methods, Indicators and Metrics	TexFash	<a href="https://texfash.com/update/wood-based-textiles-standard-lca-studies-require-rethinking-on-methods-indicators-and">https://texfash.com/update/wood-based-textiles-standard-lca-studies-require-rethinking-on-methods-indicators-and</a>
How Sustainable Are Wood-Based Fabrics? A Life-Cycle Analysis	Impactful Ninja	<a href="https://impactful.ninja/how-sustainable-are-wood-based-fabrics/">https://impactful.ninja/how-sustainable-are-wood-based-fabrics/</a>

**Table 5 Publication citations**

<p>From Science to Policy 1: Assessment of the EU Timber Regulation and FLEGT Action Plan          Published 21 April 2015  <a href="https://doi.org/10.36333/fs01">https://doi.org/10.36333/fs01</a></p>		
<p><b>Citations 2023</b>  <b>1 citation in academic journals in 2023, in Ecological Economics.</b></p>		
<p>Full citation list:  <a href="https://scholar.google.com/scholar?hl=en&amp;as_sdt=2005&amp;scioldt=0,5&amp;cites=9273104922775484429&amp;scipsc=">https://scholar.google.com/scholar?hl=en&amp;as_sdt=2005&amp;scioldt=0,5&amp;cites=9273104922775484429&amp;scipsc=</a></p>		
<p><b>Policymakers since publication</b></p>		
<p>European Parliament. Policy Department for Citizens' Rights and Constitutional Affairs          Directorate-General for Internal Policies.          November 2021</p>	<p>Internal and external dimension of illegal logging: legal issues and solutions</p>	<p><a href="https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2021/700009/IPOL_STU(2021)700009_EN.pdf">https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2021/700009/IPOL_STU(2021)700009_EN.pdf</a></p>
<p>European Environment Agency          Report No 5/2016          (Published 29.04.2016)</p>	<p>European forest ecosystems - State and trends</p>	<p><a href="http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/european-forest-ecosystems">http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/european-forest-ecosystems</a></p>
<p>UNECE          (Published 10.11.2015)</p>	<p>Forest Products Annual Market Review 2014-2015</p>	<p><a href="https://issuu.com/unpublications/docs/9789210575607/41">https://issuu.com/unpublications/docs/9789210575607/41</a></p>

From Science to Policy 2: A new role for forests and the forest sector in the EU post-2020 climate targets  
 Published 1 December 2015  
<https://doi.org/10.36333/fs02>

**Citations 2023**

**8 citations in academic journals in 2023, including Sustainability, Land, and Forest Ecology and Management.**

Full citation list:  
[https://scholar.google.com/scholar?hl=en&as\\_sdt=2005&scioldt=0,5&cites=6450676439301988647&scipsc=](https://scholar.google.com/scholar?hl=en&as_sdt=2005&scioldt=0,5&cites=6450676439301988647&scipsc=)

**Policymakers since publication**

Grafton, R., et al. (2021). OECD Environment Working Papers, No. 185, OECD Publishing, Paris	A global analysis of the cost-efficiency of forest carbon sequestration	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1787/e4d45973-en">https://doi.org/10.1787/e4d45973-en</a>
European Academies Science Advisory Council (EASAC) policy report 32, April 2017	Multi-functionality and sustainability in the European Union's forests	<a href="http://www.easac.eu/fileadmin/PDF_s/reports_statements/Forests/EASAC_Forests_web_complete.pdf">http://www.easac.eu/fileadmin/PDF_s/reports_statements/Forests/EASAC_Forests_web_complete.pdf</a>
Gert-Jan Nabuurs, Alterra "Contribution of Forests to Climate Change Mitigation", EUSTAFOR/EP Intergroup seminar, European Parliament 24.01.2017	"Forests & Climate: The impact of forests and forestry on the EU Climate and Energy policy"	<a href="http://ebcd.org/event/forests-climate-impact-forests-forestry-eu-climate-energy-policy">http://ebcd.org/event/forests-climate-impact-forests-forestry-eu-climate-energy-policy</a>
Staatsbosbeheer, Netherlands  (Published 10.2016)	Actieplan bos en hout	<a href="https://www.staatsbosbeheer.nl/~media/09-nieuws/actieplan_bos_en_hout.pdf?la=nl-nl">https://www.staatsbosbeheer.nl/~media/09-nieuws/actieplan_bos_en_hout.pdf?la=nl-nl</a>
Marcus Lindner, EFI "Landwirtschaft und Umwelt": Wege für mehr Klimaschutz, BMEL, Berlin. 13.12.2016		<a href="http://www.bmel.de/DE/Landwirtschaft/Nachhaltige-Landnutzung/Klimawandel/Texte/FachtagungKlimaschutzgutachten.html">http://www.bmel.de/DE/Landwirtschaft/Nachhaltige-Landnutzung/Klimawandel/Texte/FachtagungKlimaschutzgutachten.html</a>
Paul Brannen, MEP UK Parliament  (17.10.2016)	Submission to the 2016 House of Commons Inquiry "Forestry in England"	<a href="http://www.northeastlabour.eu/sites/default/files/attachments/Forestry%20in%20England%20-%20inquiry%20submission%20Paul%20Brannen%20MEP.docx">http://www.northeastlabour.eu/sites/default/files/attachments/Forestry%20in%20England%20-%20inquiry%20submission%20Paul%20Brannen%20MEP.docx</a>
Rupert Oliver, Forest Industries Intelligence 74th session of the UNECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry, Geneva	Cited in: Overview of European wood market	<a href="https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/timber/meetings/20161018/coffi74-item3a1-01-oliver.pdf">https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/timber/meetings/20161018/coffi74-item3a1-01-oliver.pdf</a>

18-10.2016		
Gert-Jan Nabuurs, Alterra UNECE, Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management, Geneva 24.03.2016	Post Paris: the role of Research	<a href="http://www.unece.org/in&lt;br/&gt;dex.php?id=41852#/">http://www.unece.org/in dex.php?id=41852#/</a>
<b>Stakeholders 2023</b>		
NEGEM Horizon 2020 project	Case study on impacts of large-scale re- /afforestation on ecosystem services in Nordic regions	<a href="https://www.duo.uio.no/&lt;br/&gt;bitstream/handle/10852/&lt;br/&gt;99155/2/Vogt%2Bet%2Ba&lt;br/&gt;l%2B2022%2BNEGEM%2&lt;br/&gt;Breport.pdf">https://www.duo.uio.no/ bitstream/handle/10852/ 99155/2/Vogt%2Bet%2Ba l%2B2022%2BNEGEM%2 Breport.pdf</a>

<p>From Science to Policy 3: Forest biomass, carbon neutrality and climate change mitigation          Published 12 October 2016  <a href="https://doi.org/10.36333/fs03">https://doi.org/10.36333/fs03</a></p>		
<p><b>Citations 2023</b>  <b>21 citations in a wide range of academic journals and books in 2023, including International Journal of Life Cycle Assessment, Sustainability, International Journal of Hydrogen Energy and Energies.</b></p>		
<p>Full citation list:  <a href="https://scholar.google.com/scholar?cites=10136301711164749897&amp;as_sdt=2005&amp;scioldt=0,5&amp;hl=en">https://scholar.google.com/scholar?cites=10136301711164749897&amp;as_sdt=2005&amp;scioldt=0,5&amp;hl=en</a></p>		
<p><b>Policymakers since publication</b></p>		
<p>UNECE (draft, Sept 2021)</p>	<p>"Life cycle assessment of electricity: 2 generation options"</p>	<p><a href="https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-09/202109_UNECE_LCA_1.2_clean.pdf">https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-09/202109_UNECE_LCA_1.2_clean.pdf</a></p>
<p>International Energy Agency Bioenergy</p>	<p>Technology Roadmap: Delivering Sustainable Bioenergy</p>	<p><a href="http://www.iea.org/publications/freepublications/publication/Technology_Roadmap_Delivering_Sustainable_Bioenergy.pdf">http://www.iea.org/publications/freepublications/publication/Technology_Roadmap_Delivering_Sustainable_Bioenergy.pdf</a></p>
<p>John M Bryden, Nicholas Clarke, Anders C Hansen, et al.          NORDREGIO Policy brief 2017:3, published May 2017</p>	<p>Bioenergy and rural development in Europe: Policy recommendations from the TRIBORN research and stakeholder consultations, 2014-17</p>	<p><a href="http://www.diva-portal.org/smash/get/diva2:1095928/FULLTEXT01.pdf">http://www.diva-portal.org/smash/get/diva2:1095928/FULLTEXT01.pdf</a></p>
<p>European Academies Science Advisory Council (EASAC) policy report 32, April 2017</p>	<p>Multi-functionality and sustainability in the European Union's forests</p>	<p><a href="http://www.easac.eu/fileadmin/PDF_s/reports_statements/Forests/EASAC_Forests_web_complete.pdf">http://www.easac.eu/fileadmin/PDF_s/reports_statements/Forests/EASAC_Forests_web_complete.pdf</a></p>
<p>European Environment Agency Report No 30/2016 (Published 09.12.2016)</p>	<p>Environmental indicator report 2016 – In support to the monitoring of the 7th Environment Action Programme</p>	<p><a href="http://www.eea.europa.eu/airs/2016/natural-capital/forest-utilisation">http://www.eea.europa.eu/airs/2016/natural-capital/forest-utilisation</a></p>
<p>Marcus Lindner, EFI          "Landwirtschaft und Umwelt": Wege für mehr Klimaschutz, BMEL, Berlin.          13.12.2016</p>		<p><a href="http://www.bmel.de/DE/Landwirtschaft/Nachhaltige-Landnutzung/Klimawandel/_Texte/FachtagungKlimaschutzgutachten.html">http://www.bmel.de/DE/Landwirtschaft/Nachhaltige-Landnutzung/Klimawandel/_Texte/FachtagungKlimaschutzgutachten.html</a></p>
<p>Gustaf Egnell, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences          Sustainable use of bioenergy seminar (hosted by Christofer Fjellner MEP), European Parliament          07.12.2016</p>	<p>"Forest Biomass, Carbon Neutrality and Climate Change Mitigation," outcomes of the latest From Science to Policy report</p>	<p><a href="http://www.forestindustries.se/news/news/2016/12/crowded-seminar-on-sustainable-bioenergy/">http://www.forestindustries.se/news/news/2016/12/crowded-seminar-on-sustainable-bioenergy/</a>   <a href="https://www.svensktnaringsliv.se/english/sustainable-use-of-bioenergy_663595.html">https://www.svensktnaringsliv.se/english/sustainable-use-of-bioenergy_663595.html</a></p>

Marcus Lindner, EFI Sustainable Forest Biomass in light of Paris COP21, EBCD seminar, European Parliament 1.12.2016	“Forest Biomass, Carbon Neutrality and Climate Change Mitigation,” outcomes of the latest From Science to Policy report	<a href="http://ebcd.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/DraftAgenda-4.pdf">http://ebcd.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/DraftAgenda-4.pdf</a>
Göran Berndes EU Bioenergy Sustainability Policy –seminar, Finnish Permanent Representation in Brussels 07.10.2016	Bioenergy and its impact on greenhouse gas mitigation – science and policy implications	<a href="http://tem.fi/en/eu-bioenergy-sustainability-policy">http://tem.fi/en/eu-bioenergy-sustainability-policy</a>
<b>Stakeholders 2023</b>		
Christopher S. Galik, Justin S. Baker, Ann Bartuska, Robert Abt. EFI Foundation, USA	Accounting Considerations for Capturing the GHG Consequences of BECCS	<a href="https://efifoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2023/06/EFI_BECCS-Taking-Root_Accounting-White-Paper.pdf">https://efifoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2023/06/EFI_BECCS-Taking-Root_Accounting-White-Paper.pdf</a>

From Science to Policy 4: Forest bioeconomy – a new scope for sustainability indicators

Published 15 November 2016

<https://doi.org/10.36333/fs04>

### Citations 2023

**11 citations in academic journals and reports in 2023, including Forests, Sustainability, and Forest Policy and Economics.**

Full citation list:

[https://scholar.google.com/scholar?hl=en&as\\_sdt=2005&sciocr=0,5&cites=1275407427355107783&scipsc=](https://scholar.google.com/scholar?hl=en&as_sdt=2005&sciocr=0,5&cites=1275407427355107783&scipsc=)

### Policymakers since publication

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## From Science to Policy 5: Leading the way to a European circular bioeconomy strategy

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From Science to Policy 9: Plantation forests in Europe: opportunities and challenges

Published 10 December 2019

<https://doi.org/10.36333/fs09>

**Citations 2023**

**15 citations in academic journals and reports in 2023, including Global Environmental Change, Forestry, and Remote Sensing of the Environment.**

Full citation list:  
[https://scholar.google.com/scholar?hl=en&as\\_sdt=2005&sciodt=0,5&cites=4628740354990524723&scipsc=](https://scholar.google.com/scholar?hl=en&as_sdt=2005&sciodt=0,5&cites=4628740354990524723&scipsc=)

**Policymakers since publication**

Fintan Kelly, Coillte, Ireland	Environmental Pillar (2022) Coillte's Strategic Vision For Its Future Forest Estate	<a href="https://environmentalpillar.ie/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Environmental-Pillar-2022-Coilltes-Strategic-Vision-For-Its-Future-Forest-Estate-Consultation.pdf">https://environmentalpillar.ie/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Environmental-Pillar-2022-Coilltes-Strategic-Vision-For-Its-Future-Forest-Estate-Consultation.pdf</a>
PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency. Stefan van der Esch, Annelies Sewell, Michel Bakkenes et al.	THE GLOBAL POTENTIAL FOR LAND RESTORATION: SCENARIOS FOR THE GLOBAL LAND OUTLOOK 2 Policy Report	<a href="https://www.pbl.nl/sites/default/files/downloads/pbl-2022-the-global-potential-for-land-restoration-glo2-4816.pdf">https://www.pbl.nl/sites/default/files/downloads/pbl-2022-the-global-potential-for-land-restoration-glo2-4816.pdf</a>
European Commission, 2021	Science for Environment Policy Future Brief 25: European Forests for biodiversity, climate change mitigation and adaptation	<a href="https://ec.europa.eu/environment/integration/research/newsalert/pdf/issue-25-2021-11-european-forests-for-biodiversity-climate-change-mitigation-and-adaptation.pdf">https://ec.europa.eu/environment/integration/research/newsalert/pdf/issue-25-2021-11-european-forests-for-biodiversity-climate-change-mitigation-and-adaptation.pdf</a>
UNECE/FAO	Geneva Timber and Forest Study Paper 51: FOREST SECTOR OUTLOOK STUDY 2020-2040	<a href="https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-11/SP-51-2021-11_0.pdf">https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-11/SP-51-2021-11_0.pdf</a>
Lauri Hetemäki Centrum Balticum, BSR Policy Briefing series, 1/2020: The forest industry around the Baltic Sea region: Future challenges and opportunities.	The outlook for Nordic-Baltic forest bioeconomy to 2030,	<a href="https://www.centrumbalticum.org/files/4638/BSR_Policy_Briefing_2020.pdf#page=14">https://www.centrumbalticum.org/files/4638/BSR_Policy_Briefing_2020.pdf#page=14</a>

**Stakeholders 2023**

Maria Luhtaniemi, FLUXES volume 2 "Nature-based solutions for net zero", ICOS	Forest carbon sinks under pressure	<a href="https://www.icos-cp.eu/fluxes/2/forest-carbon-sinks-under-pressure">https://www.icos-cp.eu/fluxes/2/forest-carbon-sinks-under-pressure</a>
Anna Lawrence, Willie McGhee and Morag Paterson Forest Policy Group	Opportunities to increase the delivery of local community benefits and community wealth building from woodland creation in the South of Scotland – a scoping study	<a href="https://www.southofscotlandenterprise.com/media/syohwc1f/woodland-creation-cb-cwb-final-report-260623.pdf">https://www.southofscotlandenterprise.com/media/syohwc1f/woodland-creation-cb-cwb-final-report-260623.pdf</a>

From Science to Policy 10: European forest governance post-2020		
Published 29 April 2020		
<a href="https://doi.org/10.36333/fs10">https://doi.org/10.36333/fs10</a>		
<b>Citations 2023</b>		
<b>12 citations in academic journals in 2023, including Land Use Policy, Forest Policy and Economics, and Forest Science.</b>		
Full	citation	list:
<a href="https://scholar.google.com/scholar?hl=en&amp;as_sdt=2005&amp;sciodt=0,5&amp;cites=10880911266287005965&amp;scipsc=">https://scholar.google.com/scholar?hl=en&amp;as_sdt=2005&amp;sciodt=0,5&amp;cites=10880911266287005965&amp;scipsc=</a>		
<b>Policymakers since publication</b>		
Jonsson, Ragnar; Robert, Nicolas; Grassi, Giacomo et al. Joint Research Centre (European Commission).	The use of woody biomass for energy production in the EU	<a href="https://doi.org/10.2760/831621">https://doi.org/10.2760/831621</a>

From Science to Policy 11: China-Europe forest bioeconomy: Assessment and outlook		
Published 9 December 2020		
<a href="https://doi.org/10.36333/fs11">https://doi.org/10.36333/fs11</a>		
<b>Citations 2023</b>		
<b>1 citation in academic journals in 2023 in Sustainability.</b>		
Full	citation	list:
<a href="https://scholar.google.com/scholar?hl=en&amp;as_sdt=2005&amp;sciodt=0,5&amp;cites=14379295593957262874&amp;scipsc=">https://scholar.google.com/scholar?hl=en&amp;as_sdt=2005&amp;sciodt=0,5&amp;cites=14379295593957262874&amp;scipsc=</a>		
<b>Policymakers since publication</b>		
Verkerk, P.J., Hasegawa, M., Van Brusselen, J., et al. FAO, 2021	Forest Products in the Global Bioeconomy	<a href="https://doi.org/10.4060/cb7274en">https://doi.org/10.4060/cb7274en</a>



From Science to Policy 12: Closer-to-Nature Forest Management

Published 8 April 2022

<https://doi.org/10.36333/fs12>

**Citations 2023**

**30 citations in academic journals and reports in 2023, including Ambio, Forestry, and Forest Ecology and Management.**

Full citation list:  
[https://scholar.google.com/scholar?hl=en&as\\_sdt=2005&scioldt=0,5&cites=9963082216276042660&scipsc=](https://scholar.google.com/scholar?hl=en&as_sdt=2005&scioldt=0,5&cites=9963082216276042660&scipsc=)

**Policymakers since publication**

COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT Guidelines on Closer-to-Nature Forest Management	Brussels, 27.7.2023 SWD(2023) 284 final	<a href="https://environment.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2023-07/SWD_2023_284_F1_STA_FF_WORKING_PAPER_EN_V2_P1_2864149.PDF">https://environment.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2023-07/SWD_2023_284_F1_STA_FF_WORKING_PAPER_EN_V2_P1_2864149.PDF</a>
European Environment Agency	The European biomass puzzle, EEA Report No 8/2023	<a href="https://doi.org/10.2800/834565">https://doi.org/10.2800/834565</a>

**Stakeholders 2023**

Andra-Cosmina Albulescu, Michael Manton, Daniela Larion et al. In Ecological Concerns in Transition, CBEES State of the Region report 2022/23, Centre for Baltic and East European Studies, CBEES, Södertörn University	Challenges Faced by Forest Governance and Management in Romania	<a href="https://www.diva-portal.org/smash/get/diva2:1746330/FULLTEXT01.pdf#page=180">https://www.diva-portal.org/smash/get/diva2:1746330/FULLTEXT01.pdf#page=180</a>
Schweiz Z Forstwes 174 (2023) 3: 158–161 Frank Krumm; Jürgen Bauhus; Jørgen Bo Larsen et al.	«Closer-to-Nature Forest Management»: Was ist neu an diesem Konzept?	<a href="https://doi.org/10.3188/szf.2023.0158">https://doi.org/10.3188/szf.2023.0158</a>
AFZ der Wald Frank Krumm; Jürgen Bauhus; Jørgen Bo Larsen et al.	Closer-to-Nature Forest Management – was ist neu an diesem Konzept?	<a href="https://www.digitalmagazin.de/marken/afz-derwald/hauptheft/2023-19/forstbetrieb/035_closer-to-nature-forest-management-was-ist-neu-an-diesem-konzept">https://www.digitalmagazin.de/marken/afz-derwald/hauptheft/2023-19/forstbetrieb/035_closer-to-nature-forest-management-was-ist-neu-an-diesem-konzept</a>

From Science to Policy 13: Forest Biodiversity in Europe

Published 30 May 2022

<https://doi.org/10.36333/fs13>

### Citations 2023

**18 citations in academic journals and reports in 2023, including Conservation Biology, Ecological Indicators, and Ecosystem Services.**

Full list:

[https://scholar.google.com/scholar?cites=2985225936480163733&as\\_sdt=2005&scioldt=0,5&hl=en](https://scholar.google.com/scholar?cites=2985225936480163733&as_sdt=2005&scioldt=0,5&hl=en)

### Policymakers since publication

COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT Guidelines on Closer-to-Nature Forest Management	Brussels, 27.7.2023 SWD(2023) 284 final	<a href="https://environment.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2023-07/SWD_2023_284_F1_STAFF_WORKING_PAPER_EN_V2_P1_2864149.PDF">https://environment.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2023-07/SWD_2023_284_F1_STAFF_WORKING_PAPER_EN_V2_P1_2864149.PDF</a>
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### Stakeholders 2023

In Ecological Concerns in Transition, CBEES State of the Region report 2022/23, Centre for Baltic and East European Studies, CBEES, Södertörn University	Challenges Faced by Forest Governance and Management in Romania	<a href="https://www.diva-portal.org/smash/get/diva2:1746330/FULLTEXT01.pdf#page=180">https://www.diva-portal.org/smash/get/diva2:1746330/FULLTEXT01.pdf#page=180</a>
University of Copenhagen Department of Food and Resource Economics, Policy brief, July 2023	The cost of putting the environment on the backburner	<a href="https://ifro.ku.dk/english/publications/policy-briefs/The_Cost_of_Putting_the_Environment_on_the_Backburner_Policy_Brief_SUPERB_indd.pdf">https://ifro.ku.dk/english/publications/policy-briefs/The_Cost_of_Putting_the_Environment_on_the_Backburner_Policy_Brief_SUPERB_indd.pdf</a>

From Science to Policy 14: Forest-based climate change mitigation and adaptation in Europe

Published 20 September 2022

<https://doi.org/10.36333/fs14>

**Citations 2023**

**12 citations in academic journals and reports in 2023, including Sustainability, and Climate Policy.**

Full list:

[https://scholar.google.com/scholar?cites=6681286588585431114&as\\_sdt=2005&scioldt=0,5&hl=en](https://scholar.google.com/scholar?cites=6681286588585431114&as_sdt=2005&scioldt=0,5&hl=en)

**Stakeholders 2023**

Johann Bröthaler, Michael Getzner, Hannah Lucia et al. Working Paper Reihe der AK Wien - Materialien zu Wirtschaft und Gesellschaft 243, Kammer für Arbeiter und Angestellte für Wien, Abteilung Wirtschaftswissenschaft und Statistik

"Öffentliche Investitionen für den Klimaschutz in Österreich: Potenziale des öffentlichen Vermögens"

<https://emedien.arbeiterkammer.at/viewer/pdf/AC16870199/AC16870199.pdf>

From Science to Policy 15: Meeting the European Union's Forest Strategy goals: A comparative European assessment

Published 26 September 2023

<https://doi.org/10.36333/fs15>

**Citations 2023**

**No citations in academic publications in 2023**

What Science Can Tell Us 7: Natura 2000 and forests: Assessing the state of implementation and effectiveness

Published 27 September 2017

**Citations 2023**

**2 citations in academic journals and reports in 2023, including Forestry.**

Full citation list:  
[https://scholar.google.com/scholar?hl=en&as\\_sdt=2005&scioldt=0,5&cites=12747159662510476992&scipsc=](https://scholar.google.com/scholar?hl=en&as_sdt=2005&scioldt=0,5&cites=12747159662510476992&scipsc=)

**Policymakers since publication**

European Commission, 2021	Science for Environment Policy Future Brief 25: European Forests for biodiversity, climate change mitigation and adaptation	<a href="https://ec.europa.eu/environment/integration/research/newsalert/pdf/issue-25-2021-11-european-forests-for-biodiversity-climate-change-mitigation-and-adaptation.pdf">https://ec.europa.eu/environment/integration/research/newsalert/pdf/issue-25-2021-11-european-forests-for-biodiversity-climate-change-mitigation-and-adaptation.pdf</a>
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What Science Can Tell Us 8: Towards a sustainable European forest-based bioeconomy – assessment and the way forward

Published 20 December 2017

**Citations 2023**

**17 citations in academic journals and reports in 2023, including Forests, and Forest Policy and Economics.**

Full citation list:  
[https://scholar.google.com/scholar?oi=bibs&hl=en&cites=9816515102311536785&as\\_sdt=5](https://scholar.google.com/scholar?oi=bibs&hl=en&cites=9816515102311536785&as_sdt=5)

**Policymakers since publication**

FAO and UNECE. ECE/TIM/SP/49 Forestry and Timber Section, Geneva, Switzerland	Circularity concepts in forest-based industries. GENEVA TIMBER AND FOREST STUDY PAPER 49	<a href="https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2022-05/Circularity%20concepts%20in%20forest-based%20industries%20ECE_TIM_SP_49.pdf">https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2022-05/Circularity%20concepts%20in%20forest-based%20industries%20ECE_TIM_SP_49.pdf</a>
European Commission, 2021	Science for Environment Policy Future Brief 25: European Forests for biodiversity, climate change mitigation and adaptation	<a href="https://ec.europa.eu/environment/integration/research/newsalert/pdf/issue-25-2021-11-european-forests-for-biodiversity-climate-change-mitigation-and-adaptation.pdf">https://ec.europa.eu/environment/integration/research/newsalert/pdf/issue-25-2021-11-european-forests-for-biodiversity-climate-change-mitigation-and-adaptation.pdf</a>
International Labour Organization	Promoting decent work and safety and health in forestry. Report for discussion at the Sectoral Meeting on Promoting Decent Work and Safety and Health in Forestry (Geneva, 6–10 May 2019)	<a href="https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_dialogue/---sector/documents/meeting_document/wcms_679806.pdf">https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_dialogue/---sector/documents/meeting_document/wcms_679806.pdf</a>
European Commission, October 2018	A sustainable bioeconomy for Europe: strengthening the connection between economy, society and the environment. Updated Bioeconomy Strategy.	<a href="https://ec.europa.eu/research/bioeconomy/pdf/ec_bio_economy_strategy_2018.pdf#view=fit&amp;pagemode=none">https://ec.europa.eu/research/bioeconomy/pdf/ec_bio_economy_strategy_2018.pdf#view=fit&amp;pagemode=none</a>

Knowledge to Action 03: Public perceptions of forestry and the forest-based bioeconomy in the European Union

Published 27 October 2020

**Citations 2023**

**7 citations in academic journals and reports in 2023, including Forest Policy and Economics.**

Full citation list:

[https://scholar.google.com/scholar?hl=en&as\\_sdt=2005&scioldt=0,5&cites=13814773726907538881&scipsc=](https://scholar.google.com/scholar?hl=en&as_sdt=2005&scioldt=0,5&cites=13814773726907538881&scipsc=)

**Policymakers since publication**

Giuseppe Cardellini (VITO), Joren Mijndonckx (VITO). ETC CM Report 2022/01, EEA	Synergies, energy efficiency and circularity in the renovation wave Bio-based products for the renovation wave	<a href="https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.6530825">https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.6530825</a>
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Knowledge to Action 04: Key questions on forests in the EU Published March 2021		
<b>Citations 2023</b> <b>6 citations in academic journals and reports in 2023, including Forest Policy and Economics.</b>		
Full citation list: <a href="https://scholar.google.com/scholar?cites=7736902567898264786&amp;as_sdt=2005&amp;scioldt=0,5&amp;hl=en">https://scholar.google.com/scholar?cites=7736902567898264786&amp;as_sdt=2005&amp;scioldt=0,5&amp;hl=en</a>		
<b>Policymakers since publication</b>		
IPCC (Bednar-Friedl, B., R. Biesbroek, D.N. Schmidt et al.)	Europe. In: Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. Contribution of Working Group II to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change	<a href="https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg2/downloads/report/IPCC_AR6_WGII_Chapter13.pdf">https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg2/downloads/report/IPCC_AR6_WGII_Chapter13.pdf</a>
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Ireland	Working Towards Ireland's Shared Vision for Forestry and a New Forest Strategy, Supporting Document	<a href="https://assets.gov.ie/219112/f734d9b3-9521-4608-9b34-f69846f14244.pdf">https://assets.gov.ie/219112/f734d9b3-9521-4608-9b34-f69846f14244.pdf</a>
Swiss Federal Council / Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft	Adaptation de la forêt aux changements climatiques Rapport du Conseil fédéral donnant suite à la motion 19.4177 Engler (Hêche) du 25 septembre 2019 et au postulat 20.3750 Vara du 18 juin 2020	<a href="https://www.news.admin.ch/news/message/attachments/74213.pdf">https://www.news.admin.ch/news/message/attachments/74213.pdf</a>
Swiss Federal Council / Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft	Anpassung des Waldes an den Klimawandel. Bericht des Bundesrats in Erfüllung der Motion 19.4177 Engler (Hêche) vom 25.09.2019 und des Postulates 20.3750 Vara vom 18.06.2020	<a href="https://www.news.admin.ch/news/message/attachments/74194.pdf">https://www.news.admin.ch/news/message/attachments/74194.pdf</a>
Estonian Ministry of the Environment, 2021	Metsanduse arengukava 2030 Metsakasutuse kujunemine	<a href="https://envir.ee/media/4901/download">https://envir.ee/media/4901/download</a>
OSKA Coordination Council, Tallinn, 2021	OSKA TRENDIKAARDID: TÖÖJÕU- JA OSKUSTE VAJADUST MÕJUTAVAD TULEVIKUTRENDID 2030 LÜHIÜLEVAADE (Trend Maps: Future trends affecting labor and skill needs 2030)	<a href="https://oska.kutsekoda.ee/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/OSKA-trendikaardid_Lyhiulevaade.pdf">https://oska.kutsekoda.ee/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/OSKA-trendikaardid_Lyhiulevaade.pdf</a>
Grassi, G., Fiorese, G., Pilli, R., et al. European Commission, 2021, JRC124374. Sanchez Lopez, J., Jasinevičius, G. and Avraamides, M. editor(s)	Brief on the role of the forest-based bioeconomy in mitigating climate change through carbon storage and material substitution	<a href="https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/bitstream/JRC124374/brief_on_role_of_forest-based_bioeconomy_in_mitigating_cc_online.pdf">https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/bitstream/JRC124374/brief_on_role_of_forest-based_bioeconomy_in_mitigating_cc_online.pdf</a>
Anke Herold, Hannes Böttcher, Sabine Gores, et al.	2030 Climate Target: Review of LULUCF Regulation Background	<a href="https://www.europarl.europa.eu/cmsdata/233827/Bac">https://www.europarl.europa.eu/cmsdata/233827/Bac</a>

Öko-Institut	paper for the workshop of the ENVI Committee on 25/05/2021	<a href="#">kground paper LULUCF Regulation 2030 Climate target.pdf</a>
Petajoule podcast, 21.05.2021 Austrian Energy Agency	S03E05   Energie aus dem Wald: Auslaufmodell oder wichtiger Baustein der Klimaneutralität?	<a href="https://petajoule.podigee.io/32-energie-aus-dem-wald">https://petajoule.podigee.io/32-energie-aus-dem-wald</a>
EIP Agri Newsletter	Edition 96   November 2021	<a href="https://mailchi.mp/eip-agri/newsletter-on-agriculture-innovation-edition-96-nov2021?e=bfec7bb85a">https://mailchi.mp/eip-agri/newsletter-on-agriculture-innovation-edition-96-nov2021?e=bfec7bb85a</a>
Departament d'Agricultura, Ramaderia, Pesca i Alimentació, Generalitat de Catalunya	Newsletter, ND0259/2021 Abril 2021	<a href="http://agricultura.gencat.cat/ca/departament/estadistiques/publicacions/butlletins/novetats-documentals/nd-0259-2021/">http://agricultura.gencat.cat/ca/departament/estadistiques/publicacions/butlletins/novetats-documentals/nd-0259-2021/</a>
<b>Stakeholders 2023</b>		
Tropical Forest Alliance, Proforest and CDP,	Beyond Supply Chains: Pulp, Paper and Packaging Companies Take Landscape Action for Sustainability at Scale, May 2023	<a href="https://jaresourcehub.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/PP_GlobalStudy_Final.pdf">https://jaresourcehub.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/PP_GlobalStudy_Final.pdf</a>
CEPI	CIRCULAR CHOICES FOR A COMPETITIVE EU BIOECONOMY Growing a circular future	<a href="https://www.cepi.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/CircularChoices_EU_Bioeconomy_LONG.pdf">https://www.cepi.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/CircularChoices_EU_Bioeconomy_LONG.pdf</a>
Climate Leadership Coalition, Position Paper 2023	The EU Needs a Holistic Land Use Plan to Enable Enhanced Carbon Removal	<a href="https://clc.fi/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/CLC-Position-Paper-Holistic-land-use-plan20.pdf">https://clc.fi/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/CLC-Position-Paper-Holistic-land-use-plan20.pdf</a>
SINCERE project	D4.4 Policy brief	<a href="https://sincereforests.eu/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/D4.4.pdf">https://sincereforests.eu/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/D4.4.pdf</a>
Captain Forest	What is the Relationship Between Forests and Water?	<a href="https://www.captainforest.com/what-is-the-relationship-between-forests-and-water/">https://www.captainforest.com/what-is-the-relationship-between-forests-and-water/</a>
CALLEJA URRACA, A., BÉRTIZ MARTÍN, J.A., MARTÍNEZ PARDO, E. et al. Sociedad Española de Ciencias Forestales	Programa de Movilización de los Recursos Forestales de Cantabria	<a href="https://8cfe.congresoforestal.es/sites/default/files/actas/8CFE-228.pdf">https://8cfe.congresoforestal.es/sites/default/files/actas/8CFE-228.pdf</a>
ShareAction	The Biomass Budget	<a href="https://cdn2.assets.servd.host/shareaction-api/production/resources/reports/ShareAction_Biomass_2023.pdf">https://cdn2.assets.servd.host/shareaction-api/production/resources/reports/ShareAction_Biomass_2023.pdf</a>



Knowledge to Action 06: Wood-based textiles & modern wood buildings  
Published 31 January 2023

### Citations 2023

**No citations in 2023 in academic publications.**

Full citation list: [https://scholar.google.com/scholar?q=%22Wood-based+textiles+%26+modern+wood+buildings%22&hl=en&as\\_sdt=0,5](https://scholar.google.com/scholar?q=%22Wood-based+textiles+%26+modern+wood+buildings%22&hl=en&as_sdt=0,5)

### Stakeholders 2023

FERN	STEMMING THE TIDE: The potential of forests to supply the European bioeconomy. James Hewitt, Oct 2023	<a href="https://www.fern.org/fileadmin/uploads/fern/Documents/2023/The-potential-of-EU-forests-to-supply-the-future-EU-market-for-wood-based-products_FINAL.pdf">https://www.fern.org/fileadmin/uploads/fern/Documents/2023/The-potential-of-EU-forests-to-supply-the-future-EU-market-for-wood-based-products_FINAL.pdf</a>
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***This Report has been compiled by Helga Pülzl (Assistant Director), Rach Colling (Head of Communications), Harald Mauser (Brussels Liaison Officer) and Maria Schloßmacher (Communications Officer), EFI***