

Forest Protection

Impacts and threats on forests

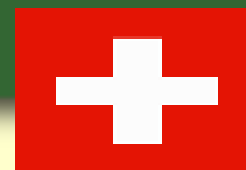
Morten Thoroë

Secretary General

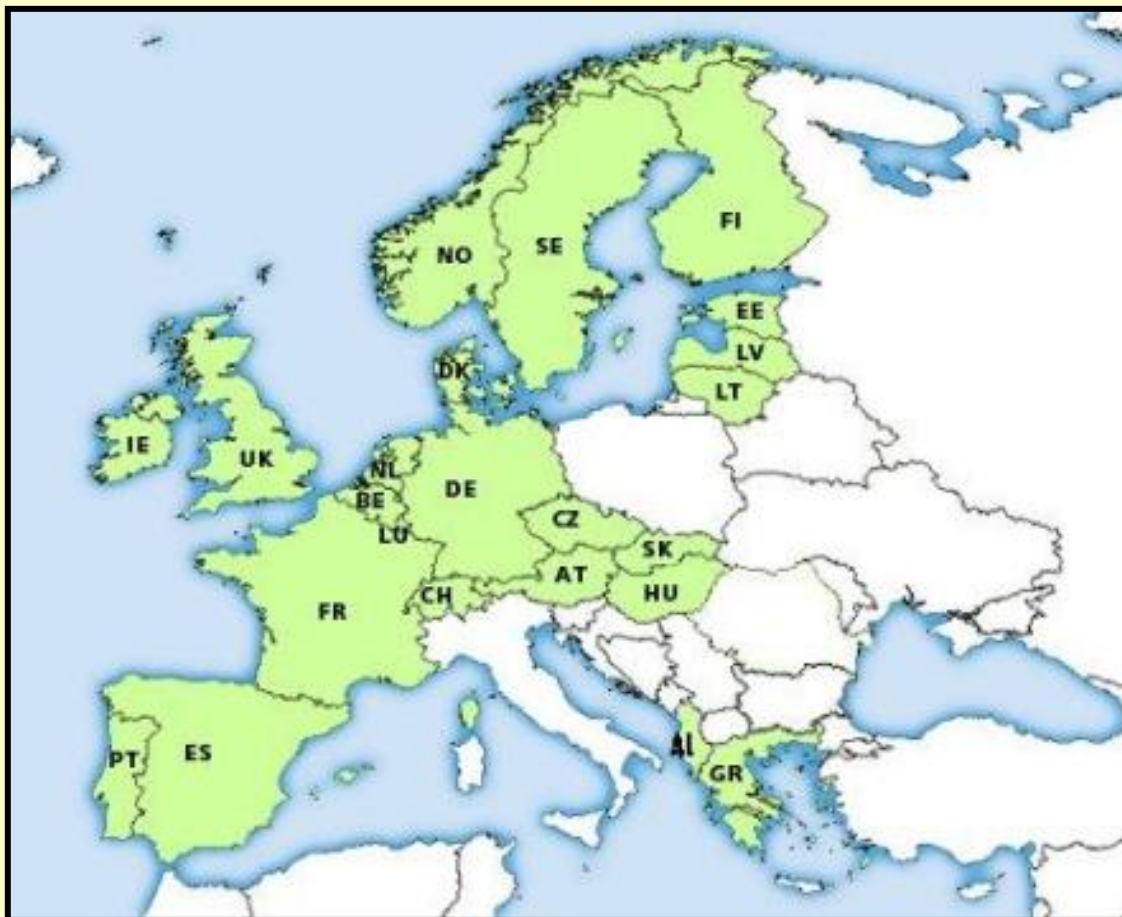
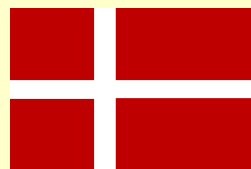




The European Country



CEPF – in 23 countries



European forestry

- Over 60% of forests owned by families
 - generation bridging management and experience
- 16 million family forest owners
- Small scale forest holdings
 - average size 2-50 ha
- Sustainable forest management
 - Balancing economic, social and ecological requirements
 - Respecting the diversity across Europe
- The forest owners are the putting into practice the concept of sustainability
- “Managing for the future” is not new to foresters and forest owners



Issues....

- Social and economic impacts
- Forest ownership and management
- Forest disasters

Questions:

1. Is the sector ready to cope?
2. Where are the most pressing problems?
3. What can the EU do?



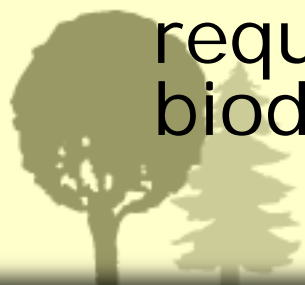
Is the sector ready to cope?

- Yes, but appropriate framework conditions must be provided.
- Involvement of the owners in the decision making processes.
- Consultation and participation is crucial.
- Appreciation of the sectors' role in the new green economy.



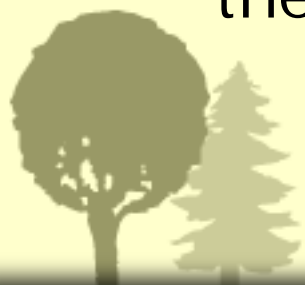
Where are the most pressing problems?

- Climate change
 - Biodiversity
 - Fires
 - Water
 - Invasive species
 - Storms
 - ...
- Adaptation to climate change
 - Management towards a moving target...
- Growing gap between societal expectations and compensation provided for services required from the forests - in particular biodiversity



What can EU do?

- Holistic and long term approach towards the forest.
- A policy framework should be established.
- Only a common approach where it adds value...
- Details to be defined at national or regional level due to the differences across the continent.
- **Sustainable forest management** should be the corner stone of a new EU approach.



A photograph of a dense evergreen forest. Sunlight filters through the canopy, creating bright patches on the forest floor and highlighting the green needles of the trees. The forest floor is covered in a thick layer of green moss and fallen branches. The trees are tall and slender, with dark trunks and dense green foliage.

SFM

Actions:

- Confirm SFM as a viable and common acceptable concept among citizens and decision makers
- Develop markets for the provision of ecosystem services from the forests
- Secure strong public funding for some of the non marketable services through a change in the EU CAP/RDP.
- Strong cooperation within the sector to communicate to the general public
- Coordinated approach towards monitoring and information
- Enable favorable conditions for the use of wood for material and energy
- **The discussion on a potential EU forest policy should focus on all the aspects of SFM.**



Thank you for your attention!

More information on:

www.cep-f-eu.org

