Views from EU Forest Owners

EUSPA – User Consultation Platform, forestry session

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Sevilla, 7 November 2023

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Outline

- EU forests and EU forest owners
- EU forest-related policy context
- EU forest owners' views
  - Monitoring Framework for Resilient European Forests
  - Deforestation-free products Regulation
  - Carbon Removal Certification Framework
- Conclusion

EU forests
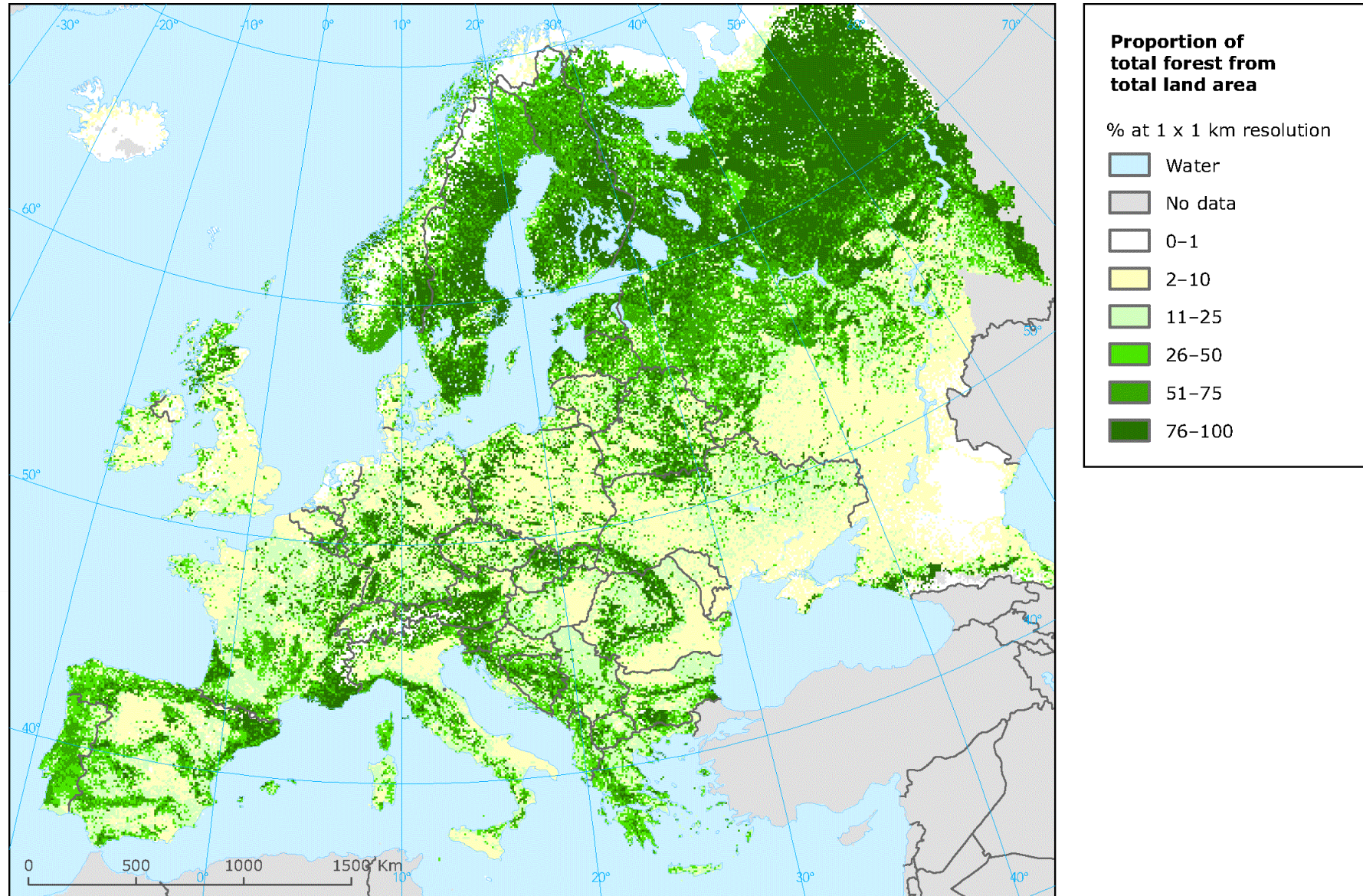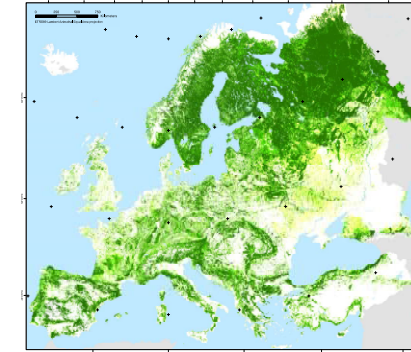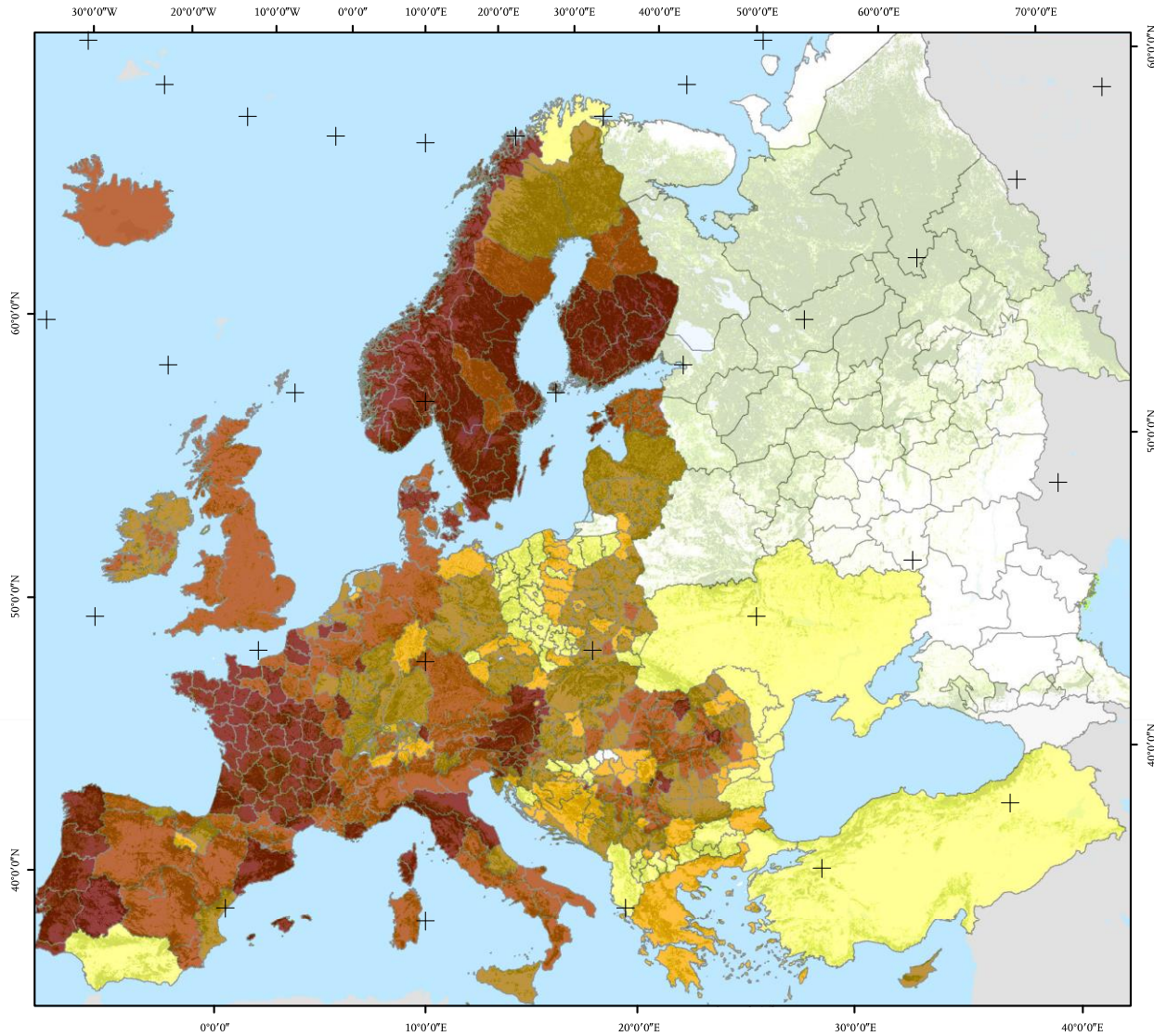
and

EU forest owners

Diversity of EU forests ?

Proportion of total forest from total land area

% at 1 x 1 km resolution

- Water
- No data
- 0–1
- 2–10
- 11–25
- 26–50
- 51–75
- 76–100

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Diversity of EU forest owners ?

FOREST MAP OF EUROPE

Recommended citation for the forest ownership map of Europe:
Pulla, P., Schuck, A., Verkerk, P. J., Lasserre, B., Marchetti, M. and Green, T. 2013. Mapping the distribution of forest ownership in Europe. EFI Technical Report 88. 92 p.

Forest ownership data
Compiled from official national and international information sources on private, public and other forest ownerships (publications, websites and information portals)
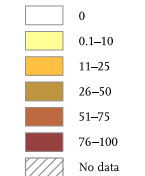
Private ownership
Forest owned by individuals, families, communities, private co-operatives, corporations and other business entities, private religious and educational institutions, pension or investment funds, NGOs, nature conservation associations and other private institutions. (FAO 2010)

References
FAO 2010. Global Forest Resources Assessment 2010. Terms and Definitions. Working Paper 144/E. 27 p. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Rome.
Gunia, K., Päivinen, R., Zudin, S. and Zudina, E. 2012. Forest map of Europe. European Forest Institute. http://www.efi.int/portal/virtual_library/information_services/mapping_services/forest_map_of_europe/

Proportion of forest land
in private ownership (%)

- 0
- 0.1–10
- 11–25
- 26–50
- 51–75
- 76–100
- No data

EUROPEAN FOREST INSTITUTE
CENTRAL EUROPEAN REGIONAL OFFICE AND THE
OBSERVATORY FOR EUROPEAN FORESTS – EFICENT-OEF

ETRS89 Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area projection

Distribution of private ownership
across Europe (Pulla et al., 2013)

Diversity of EU forest owners

~15 millions EU forest owners

60% EU forest area

Diversity of EU forests ⟷ Diversity of EU forest owners

Locally-suited diversity of forest management practices

Diversity of EU forests ⟷ Diversity of EU forest owners

Diversity of potential users and uses

EU forest-related policy context

EU forest-related policy context
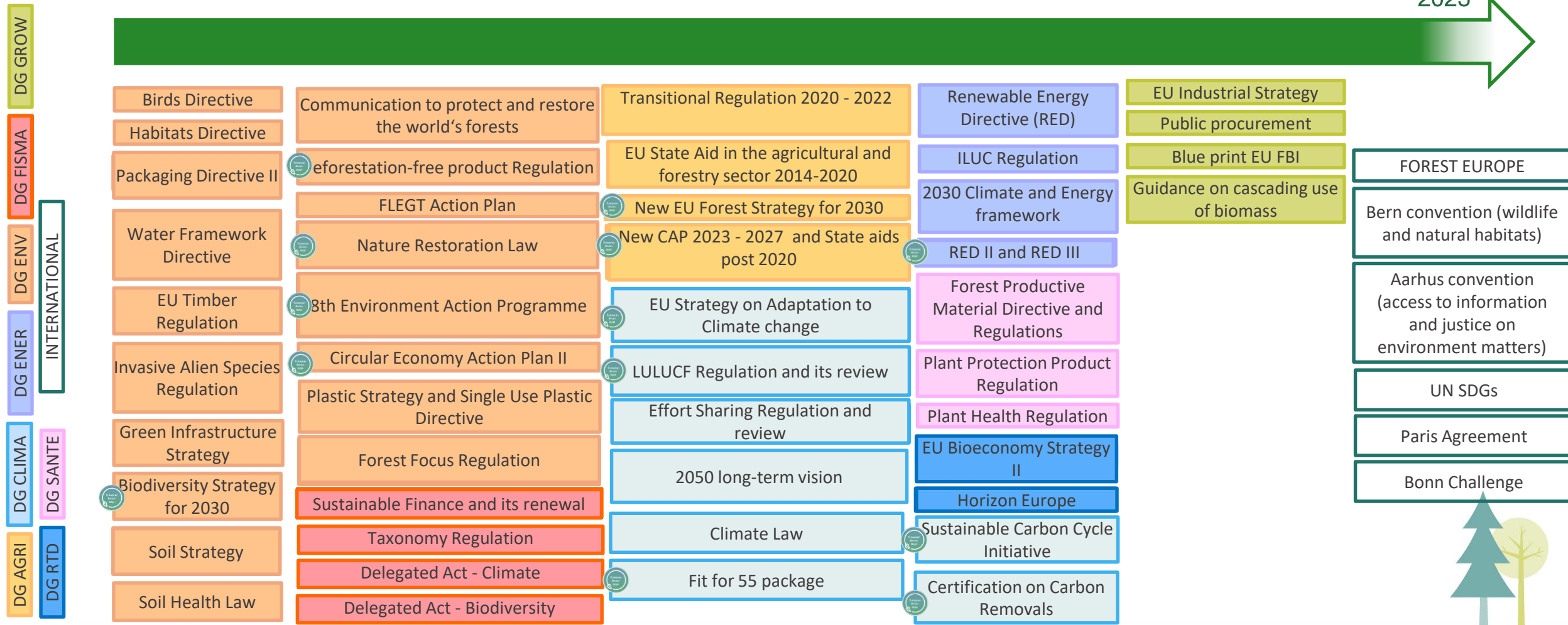
2023

Deforestation-free product Regulation

(tbc) Monitoring Framework for Resilient European Forests

Certification on Carbon Removals

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EU forest-related policy context

2023

DG GROW | **DG FISMA** | **DG ENV** | **INTERNATIONAL** | **DG ENER** | **DG CLIMA** | **DG SANTE** | **DG AGRI** | **DG RTD**

Birds Directive

Habitats Directive

Packaging Directive II

Water Framework Directive

EU Timber Regulation

Invasive Alien Species Regulation

Green Infrastructure Strategy

Biodiversity Strategy for 2030

Soil Strategy

Soil Health Law

Communication to protect and restore the world's forests

Deforestation-free product Regulation

FLEGT Action Plan

Nature Restoration Law

8th Environment Action Programme

Circular Economy Action Plan II

Plastic Strategy and Single Use Plastic Directive

Forest Focus Regulation

Sustainable Finance and its renewal

Taxonomy Regulation

Delegated Act - Climate

Delegated Act - Biodiversity

Transitional Regulation 2020 - 2022

EU State Aid in the agricultural and forestry sector 2014-2020

New EU Forest Strategy for 2030

New CAP 2023 - 2027 and State aids post 2020

EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate change

LULUCF Regulation and its review

Effort Sharing Regulation and review

2050 long-term vision

Climate Law

Fit for 55 package

Renewable Energy Directive (RED)

ILUC Regulation

2030 Climate and Energy framework

RED II and RED III

Forest Productive Material Directive and Regulations

Plant Protection Product Regulation

Plant Health Regulation

EU Bioeconomy Strategy II

Horizon Europe

Sustainable Carbon Cycle Initiative

Certification on Carbon Removals

EU Industrial Strategy

Public procurement

Blue print EU FBI

Guidance on cascading use of biomass

FOREST EUROPE

Bern convention (wildlife and natural habitats)

Aarhus convention (access to information and justice on environment matters)

UN SDGs

Paris Agreement

Bonn Challenge

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EU forest-related policy context

Insights from EU forest owners

Horizontal aspects

1. Diversities of EU forests, forest owners, and their forest management : locally-suitable approaches

2. Long-term nature of forests and forestry vs. near-real time tools

3. Respect to privacy rights and property rights

4. Costs, user-fitness, and user-friendliness

Proposal for a Forest Monitoring Framework (1)

CEPF key concerns

- Clear objective : "What, what for, whose for ?"

- Balanced used of field and remote sensing data

- Adequate verification and validation of any results

- Data aggregation level and data accessibility

Proposal for a Forest Monitoring Framework (2)

"Space perspective"

- Time aspects for detection of meaningful trends
- Opportunities (e.g. disater prevention and reaction) or limitation (e.g. biodiveristy monitoring) for certain indicators types
- Field inventories crucial for data verification, validation, and interpretation

Regulation on Deforestation-free products (1)

CEPF key concerns

- Timespan for entry into force

- Geolocation obligation

- Forest degradation assessement and traceability

- Security and acessibility of Information system

Regulation on Deforestation-free products (2)

"Space perspective"

- Adequate tools to fulfil geolocation obligation
  - costs, user-friendliness, administrative burden
- Early warning system of the Observatory
  - tracing of deforestation might be possible, unlikely for forest degradation (given definitions of EUDR)
  - timespan for regeneration (detection and legal requirements)

Carbon Removal Certification Framework (1)

CEPF key concerns

- Clarity on additionality: compared to what?
- Scope: include all forest types
- Sustainability: do not make confusion with other EU regulations (e.g. Sustainable Finance)

Carbon Removal Certification Framework (2)

"Space perspective"

- Cost-efficient MRV :
  - Permanency and risk assessment
  - Ex post carbon pools modelling cross checking
  - Limited field verification – administrative burden
  - Dynamic baseline / Actualisation with latest scientific data
  - Double counting and registry

Conclusions

Conclusions

- Diversity of EU forest owners, forests, and forest management (incl. socio-economic background, forest types, size and location, access to technologies …)

- For EU policy making
  – Focus on factual gaps for existing legislation
  – Aggregation for cost-efficiency and privacy protection

- Acknowledge limitations

Conclusions

- Users needs and requirements
  - Clear identification of the main target group

- Diversity of EU forest owners, forests, and forest management (incl. socio-economic background, forest types and size, …)
  - Tools designed with close cooperation with end-users
  - Review and adaptation according to in-field realities
  - Uptake throughs users-friendly approaches

- Acknowlege limitations

Conclusions

Among EU forest owners : Diversity of potential users and uses

- Locally-suited and tailored-made solutions
- Tools designed with close cooperation with end-users
- Review and adaptation according to in-field realities
- Uptake throughs users-friendly approaches

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Thank you for your attention.

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