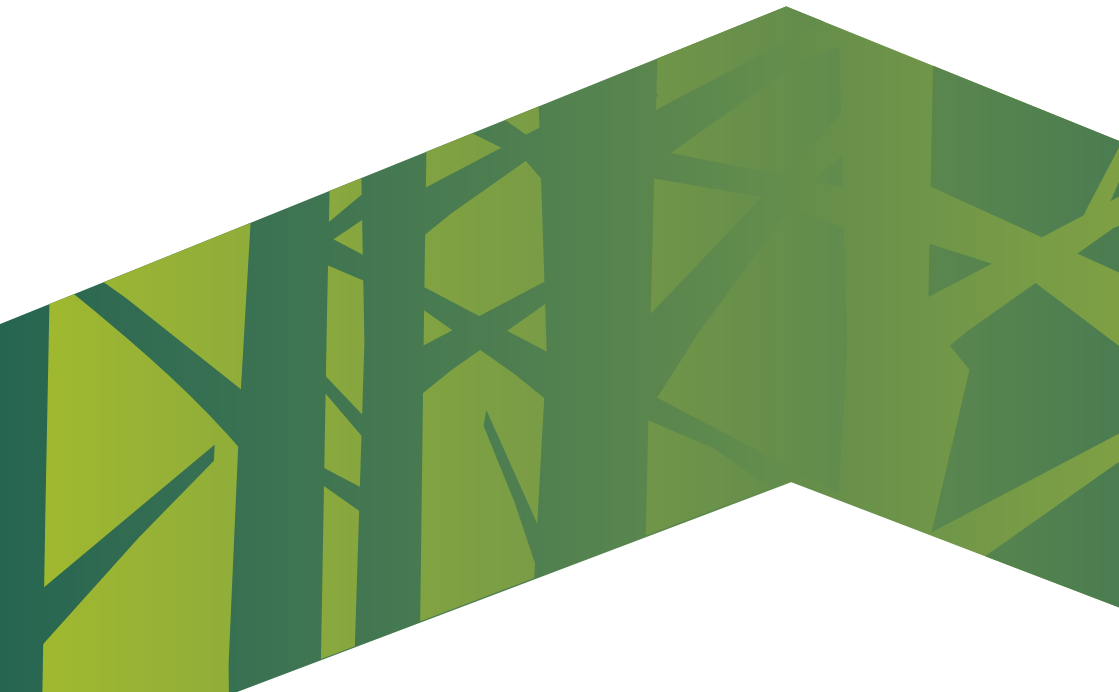


EUROPEAN FORESTRY HOUSE

Centre of Competence
for Forestry Issues





EUROPEAN FORESTRY HOUSE

The European Forestry House (EFH) was founded in Brussels, Belgium, in March 2007, by the European State Forest Association (EUSTAFOR) and the Confederation of European Forest Owners (CEPF). It is situated on the Place du Luxembourg, opposite the European Parliament, in the heart of the EU quarter.

EFH is recognised as the centre of European forest competence and expertise in forest-related issues in Brussels, providing a venue for forest-related events and a hub for European forest and wood experts. It serves as a platform to promote sustainable forest management as well as the economic viability of the forest sector, forest and wood research and innovation, and the

use of wood for multiple purposes. The organisations which have their offices at EFH are all related to forestry and the forest-based sector. Together they create synergies and promote the exchange of relevant ideas and information.

Not only do the residents of the house represent European forests and the forest-based sector – the house itself also plays its part! The interior of the 200-year-old neoclassical building has been entirely restored, conserving its original wooden floors, staircases and doors. The offices are equipped with furniture made of solid European wood, with each room showcasing a different wood species, ranging from French walnut to Scandinavian birch.

The European Forestry House Organisations



European State Forest Association represents State Forest Management Organisations (SFMOs) throughout 22 European countries. The hands-on experience and wide-ranging expertise of EUSTAFOR's members enable extensive collaboration at a European level, creating the best possible framework conditions for sustainable forest management, promoting the sustainable production of wood, while offering socially beneficial and ecologically valuable services. www.eustafor.eu



Confederation of European Forest Owners is the umbrella organisation of Europe's private forest owners, representing private and family forestry throughout Europe by promoting the values of sustainable forest management, private property ownership and the economic viability of the forest holding. CEPF serves the interests of approximately 16 million forest owners. Private individuals, families and cooperatives take care of approximately 60% of the EU's forests. www.cepf-eu.org



Forest-based Sector Technology Platform represents each of the forest value chains: woodworking, forestry and pulp & paper. It facilitates targeted investments in research, development and innovation and stimulates coordination of European and national research and innovation agendas. www.forestplatform.org



European Forest Institute is an international organisation, established by European States. It conducts research and provides policy support on issues related to forests. EFI facilitates forest-related networking and promotes the dissemination of unbiased and policy-relevant information on forests and forestry. EFI also advocates for forest research and for the use of scientifically sound information as a basis for forest policies. www.efi.int



InnovaWood is Europe's major network for research, innovation, education and training in the wood and furniture industries. It represents a common voice on behalf of its members for promoting wider impacts from innovation in the uses of wood, the most important renewable, environmentally friendly raw material. The InnovaWood network joins together more than 50 member institutions from 27 countries. www.innovawood.com



Bio-based Industries Consortium is the private partner in the Bio-based Industries Joint Undertaking (BBI JU), a Public-Private Partnership with the European Commission. BIC represents a unique mix of sectors, including agriculture/aquaculture, agri-food, biotechnology/technology providers, forestry/pulp and paper, chemicals, energy and end-users. www.biconsortium.eu

Supporting organisations



The European Forest Sector

Europe's forests

Forests and woodland cover 33% (215 million hectares) of Europe's land surface and are increasing each year. Of this, around 70% is used primarily to harvest wood and non-wood products. Only about 70% of the annual wood growth is harvested, which means that Europe's forests are growing.

Forest ownership

Diversified forest ownership ensures variety in forest management, enriching Europe's forests. Over 50% of the forests in Europe (60% in the EU) are owned by families or individual land-owners and are mostly small-scale. The rest are publicly owned, mainly by the state. Ownership patterns vary greatly between EU Member States. Private ownership is highest in Portugal (98%) whereas public ownership is highest in Bulgaria (87%).

Sustainable forest management

Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) is a dynamic concept whose parameters include not only the technical aspects of forest management but also economic, environmental and social components. SFM aims to ensure that forests provide society – now and in the future – with multifold goods and services. This includes the sustained production of wood as an important renewable raw material in addition to all the other various non-wood goods and ecosystem services. SFM requires deliberate human intervention in order to safeguard the durability of vital and healthy forest ecosystems. Europe's forest owners and managers invest considerable resources in SFM. Such investments are only possible if the forest sector remains economically viable.

Benefits of forests

Forests provide multiple products and services:

- Forests are home to many species, helping to preserve biodiversity and micro-climates favourable to rare species
- Forests produce renewable raw material for the construction of buildings and furniture and for use in the pulp and paper industries and biorefineries
- Forests represent a significant reserve of biomass for renewable energy
- Forests act as a natural filter, helping to ensure the supply of clean drinking water
- Forests protect us against natural hazards such as floods, erosion, landslides, avalanches and noise
- Forests provide a variety of non-wood products such as game, berries, mushrooms, herbs, resin, natural medicines, and the raw material for cosmetics and textiles
- Forests provide ideal settings for outdoor recreation

The forest and forest-based sector form an important part of Europe's bioeconomy

As a renewable biological resource, biomass from forests is an essential part of the bioeconomy, making forests and their primary products key enablers in the transition to a bio-based and decarbonized economy. Forest-based research and innovation are creating new products and technologies aimed at making us less dependent on fossil raw materials and fuels, safeguarding the resilience of our ecosystems and combatting climate change while promoting economic development.

Businesses working with forests and wood – most of which are small and medium-sized enterprises – are often located in more remote rural areas where they contribute greatly to the local economy, employment and infrastructure.

In all, the EU's forest-based sector:

- Employs 3-4 million people in over 450 000 businesses
- Accounts for around 1% of Europe's total GDP
- Delivers goods with a total production value of more than 460 billion EUR
- Is a major provider of renewable energy

Forests preserve biodiversity

European forests are essential for the conservation of Europe's biodiversity. In the EU, forests represent around half of the area designated as Natura 2000 sites which cover approximately 21% of the EU's total forestland. Forests protected under Natura 2000 include various types of semi-natural habitats. Most of them are characterised by a long history of forest management.

Forests and wood products protect our climate

Forests are effective carbon sinks and vital for combatting climate change and, along with wood, can reduce atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO₂):

- Growing forests absorb CO₂
- Wood-based products store carbon
- Wood and wood-based products can replace other materials which have unfavourable climate impacts

One cubic metre of wood absorbs 1 tonne of CO₂. Europe's forests absorb 719 million tonnes of CO₂ every year. Within the EU, forests offset around 9% of the EU's total annual CO₂ emissions, absorbing 414 million tonnes of CO₂ annually.



We rent our meeting room to forest-related organisations!

Meeting room facilities

- A modern, elegant meeting room which comfortably seats up to 20 people.
- Wi-fi connection, beamer, flip-chart, air-conditioning.
- Coffee, tea and water. Possibility of catering for cold lunches.
- Situated close to the European Parliament building, easily accessible by train, metro and airport bus.

How to reach us

- Train: Luxembourg Station
- Airport Bus: 12 or 21
- Metro: Trône or Maalbeek

How to contact us

European Forestry House

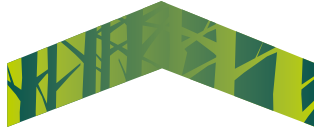
Rue du Luxembourg 66
1000 Brussels, Belgium

Telephone: +32 2 239 23 00

Fax: +32 2 219 21 91

E-mail: office@europeanforestryhouse.eu

Web: www.eustafor.eu
or www.cepf-eu.org



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