

“Forest certification in the ECE region – are there any limits?”

Roundtable Discussion



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Marianske Lazne +70: Celebrating 70 years of ECE/FAO cooperation on forests
Marianske Lazne, Czech Republic
6 September 2017



Setup of the discussion

Chatham House Rule

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Participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed.

Q. What are the benefits of using the Rule?

A. It allows people to speak as individuals, and to express views that may not be those of their organizations, and therefore it encourages free discussion. People usually feel more relaxed if they don't have to worry about their reputation or the implications if they are publicly quoted.

www.chathamhouse.org

... and how about social media and the press?

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- Talk about your own view and opinion – ONLY!
- Do not mention what was said by others!
 - Nothing should be done to identify, either explicitly or implicitly, who said what
 - report only what was said at an event and do not identify - directly or indirectly - the speaker or another participant

Ground rules for the discussion

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- **No cellphones** – ringing and recording;
- **Statements** - short and concise;
- **Listen** to each other – do not interrupt;
- **Respect** each other's opinion; Don't get personal! Don't shout!
- **Questions.** There are no stupid questions. Questions are triggers for others to share what they know. If there is something you are curious about, pondering, don't understand or what to hear from a peer – ask!
- **Ideas.** Ideas are great things. Sometimes they spark intense conversations and actions. Sometime they fall flat. You never know until you share them. Go for it!
- **Challenges.** We grow and learn and do our best when people challenge us to do so – in supportive ways. That may mean sharing a difference of opinion or experience. That may mean encouraging someone to do better because they can. That may be disagreeing – respectfully – with their ideas. You can do this in a supportive, comfortable way by prefacing an opinion with 'In my experience...' or '... has worked well for me' or 'I feel like...' which leaves room for others to have different points of view.
- **Others ...???**

Additions to the ground rules?

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It
should not be
black & white

Expected outcome

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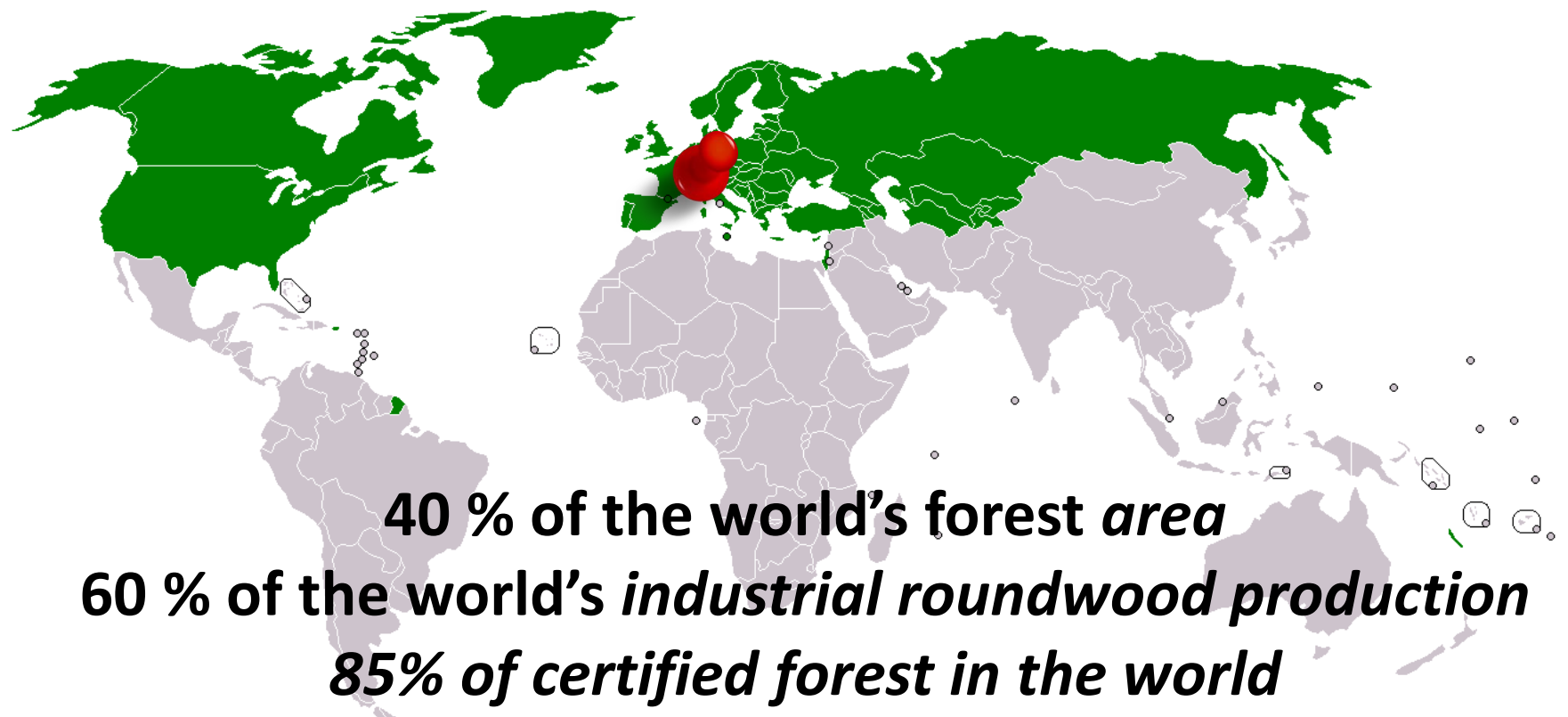
- ... a very short summary of main items raised and discussed
- ... depends on the outcome of the discussion



The UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section

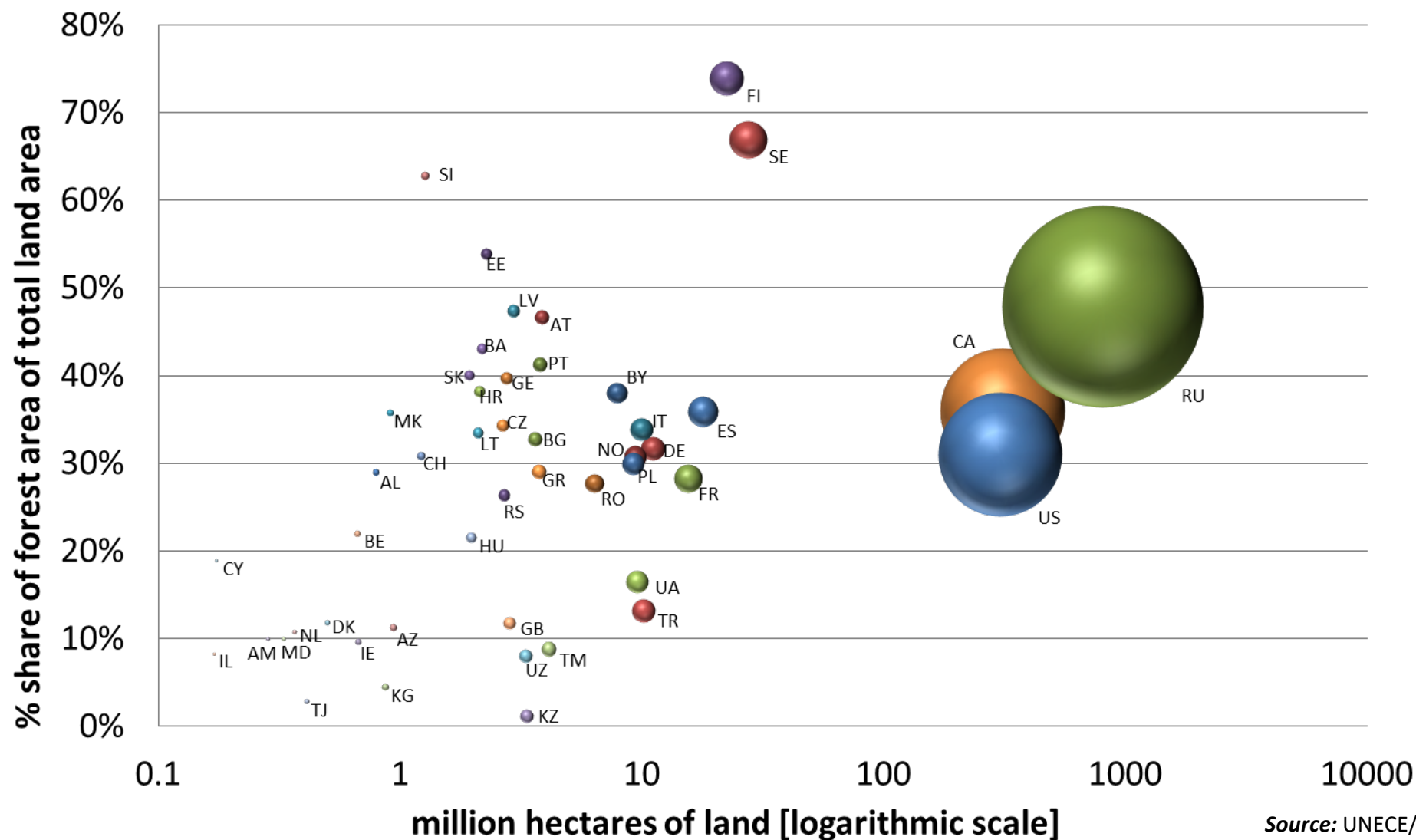
The UNECE Region

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Extent of forests - UNECE

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Forestry and Timber Section

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WA1

- data, monitoring and assessment

WA2

- policy dialogue and advice

WA3

- communication and outreach

WA4

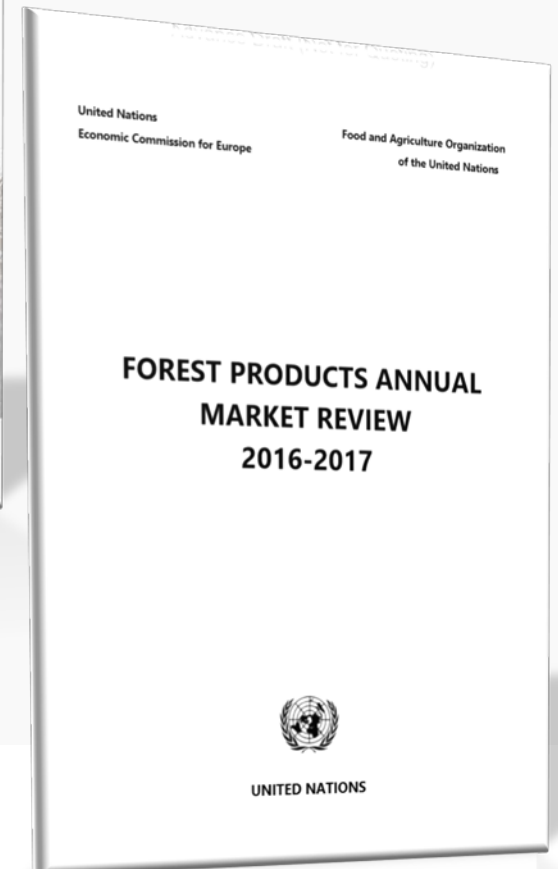
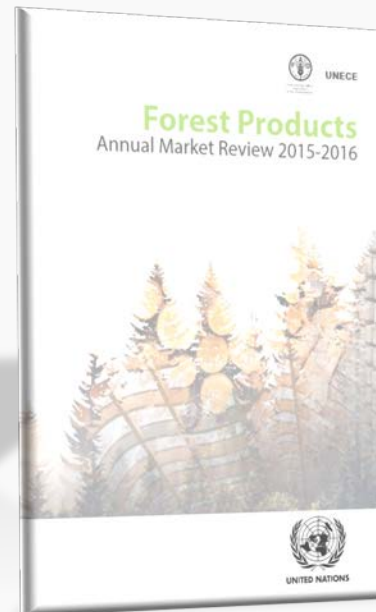
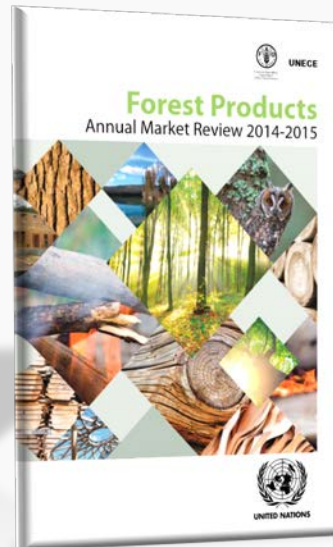
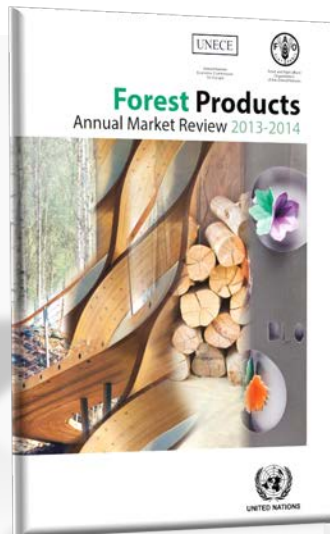
- capacity building



Forest Products Annual Market Review

Forest Products Annual Market Review

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FPAMR 2017 - chapters

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- 1 Overview of forest products markets and policies
- 2 Policies shaping forest products markets
- 3 Forest product trade restrictions affecting the UNECE region
- 4 Wood raw materials
- 5 Sawn softwood
- 6 Sawn hardwood
- 7 Wood-based panels
- 8 Paper, paperboard and woodpulp
- 9 Wood energy markets
- 10 Value-added wood products
- 11 Housing and construction

FPAMR – forest certification

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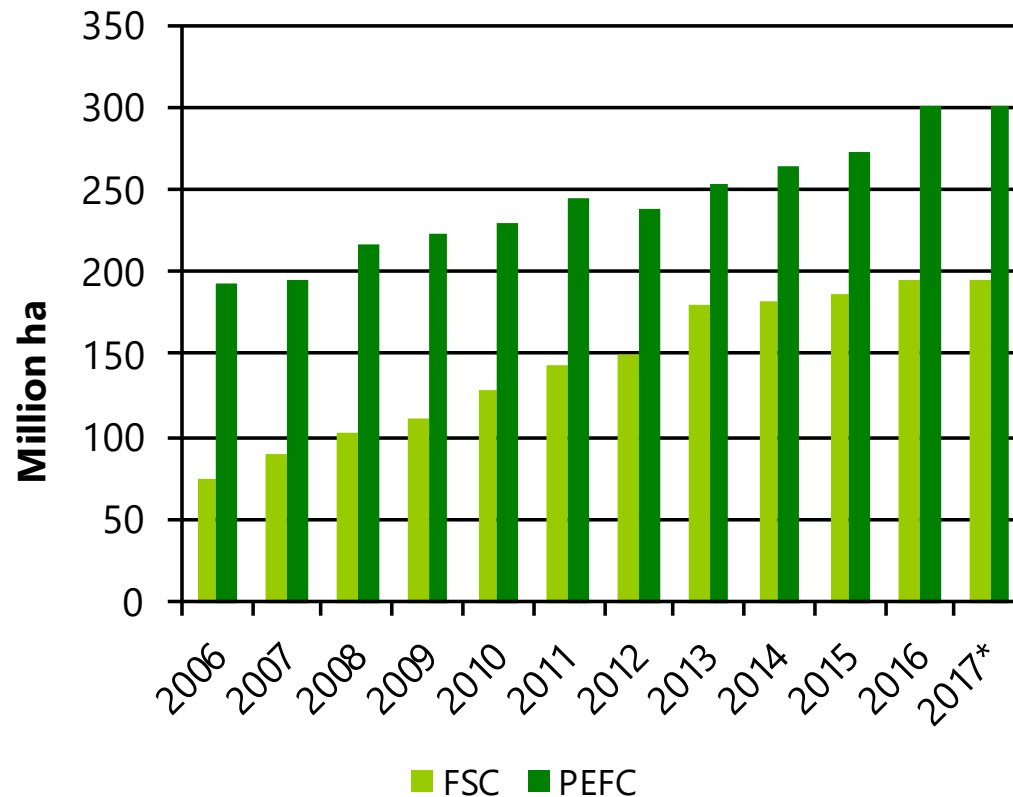
- The two major certification schemes – the Forest Stewardship Council and the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification – reported a combined global total of 497 million hectares of certified forest in May 2017, a year-on-year increase of 35 million hectares (7.5%).
- Nearly 69 million hectares are certified under more than one scheme. The total global certified area is estimated at 429 million hectares, a decline of 3 million hectares from the previous reporting period.
- The majority (85%) of the world's certified forest area is in the UNECE region, with the combined total for Africa, Latin America, Asia and Oceania amounting to only 15%.

FPAMR 2017 – forest certification

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Forest area certified by major certification schemes,
2006-2017

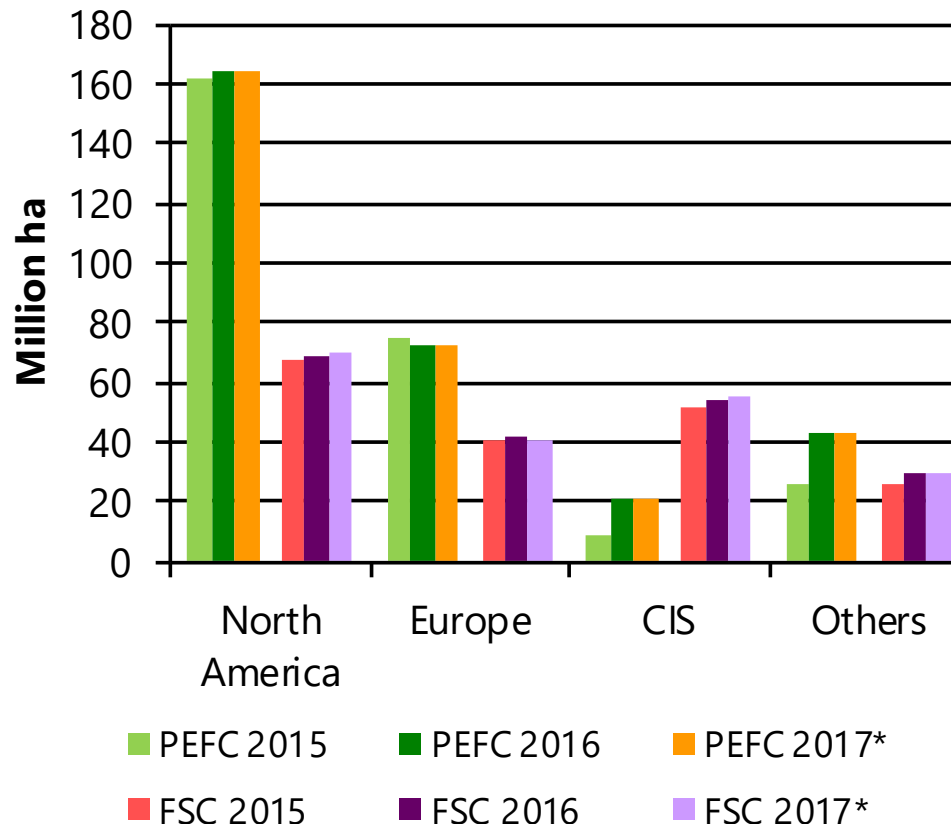


FPAMR 2017 - forest certification

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Certified forest area by region and certification scheme,
2015-2017

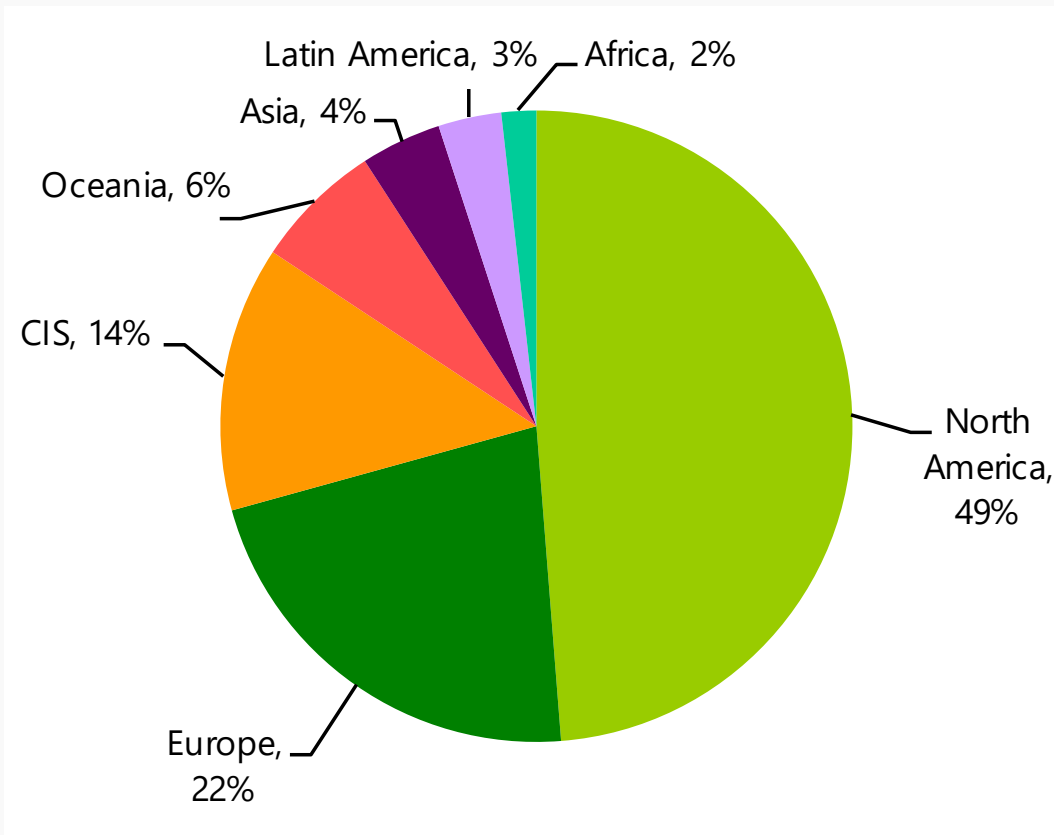


FPAMR 2017 - forest certification

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Share of certified forest area, by region, 2017



Forest certification – what we don't report on ...

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- Share of certified products in the market [globally, regionally, nationally].
- Market value of certified products in the market [globally, regionally, nationally].
- Main forest products certified [by volume and value].
- Prices for equivalent certified roundwood.
- Premium received for equivalent certified forest products.
- Employment created by certification.



ECE questionnaire on *perceptions*

ECE/FAO questionnaire on *perceptions*

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- 275 replies (200 from ECE region);
- Highly educated respondents
[>90% with university degree]
- 73% urban population;
- 1/3 female, 2/3 male respondents;
- 90% work on forest related issues;
- 27% of replies from NGOs; government,
research and industry 16% of replies each;

ECE/FAO questionnaire on *perceptions*

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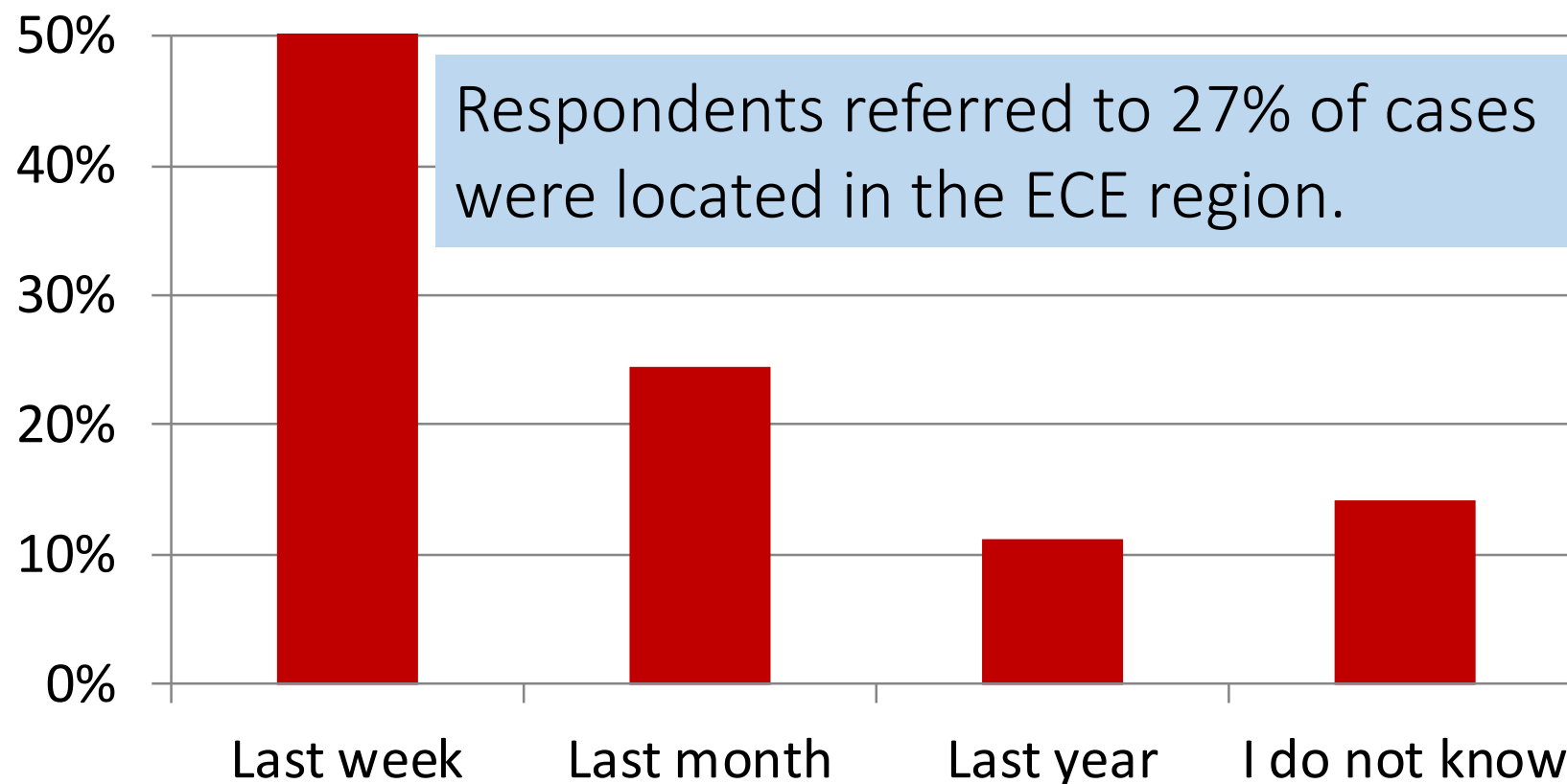
- >90% are interested about the origin of wood products & how these have been produced;
- >85% would like to receive more information about origin and production method;
- 95% know of at least one certification scheme;
- 68% seek to buy certified forest products (75% of these respondents would like to have a wider choice, primarily for indoor furniture, food and clothes);
- >85% would like to see an increase of certified forest area (namely Africa, Asia and Latin America – in descending order)

ECE/FAO questionnaire on *perceptions*

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When did you last hear or read a story about illegal logging?



ECE/FAO questionnaire on *perceptions*

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In the country of respondents ...

➤ ... the forest area is ...

➤ Increasing 45%

➤ Stable 20%

➤ Decreasing 30%

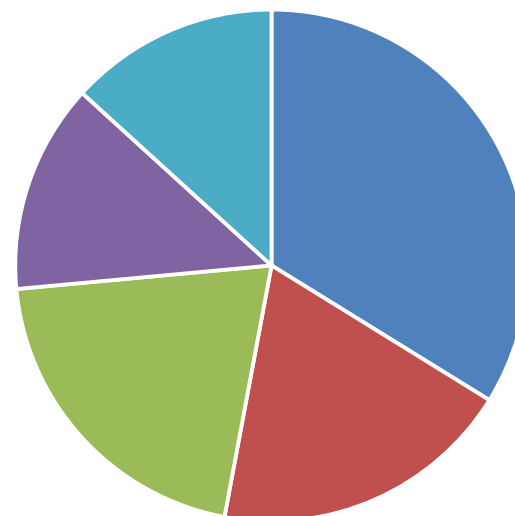
➤ Don't know 5%

= SFM

Share of forest area certified (as average of responses)

➤ globally: 17%

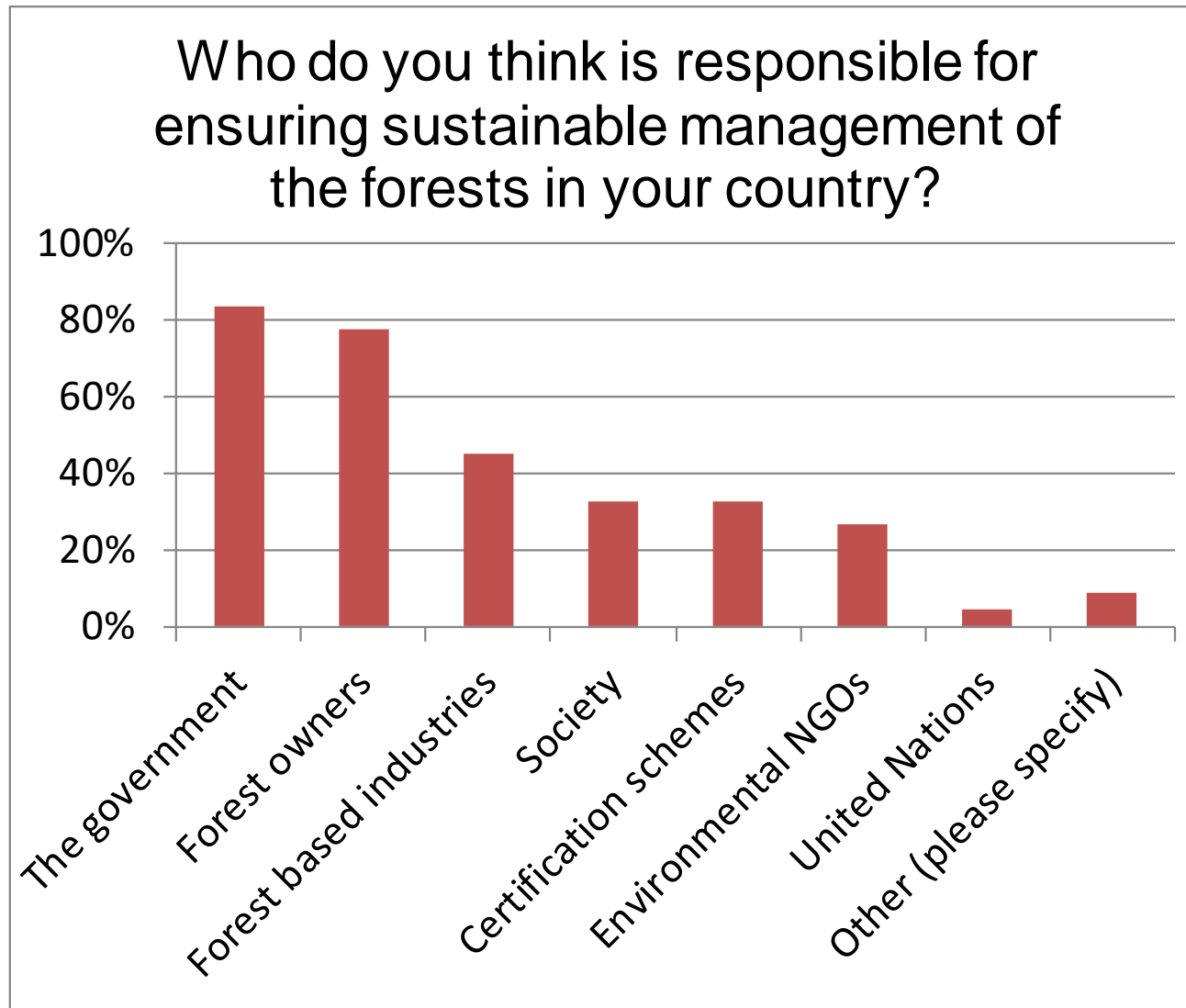
What do you think is causing deforestation?



- timber production/forest management
- urbanization & economic development
- agriculture
- forest fires
- other

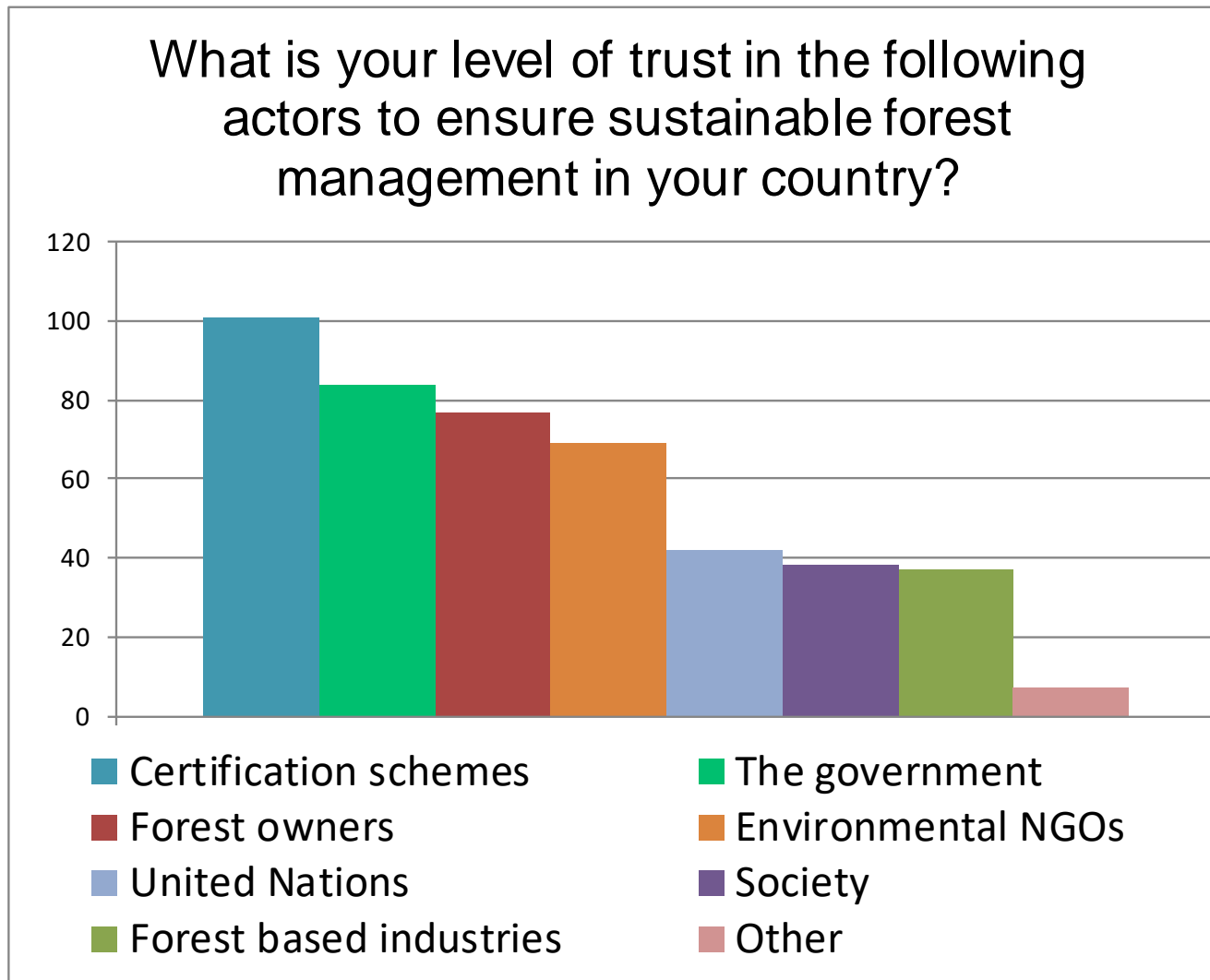
ECE/FAO questionnaire on *perceptions*

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ECE/FAO questionnaire on *perceptions*

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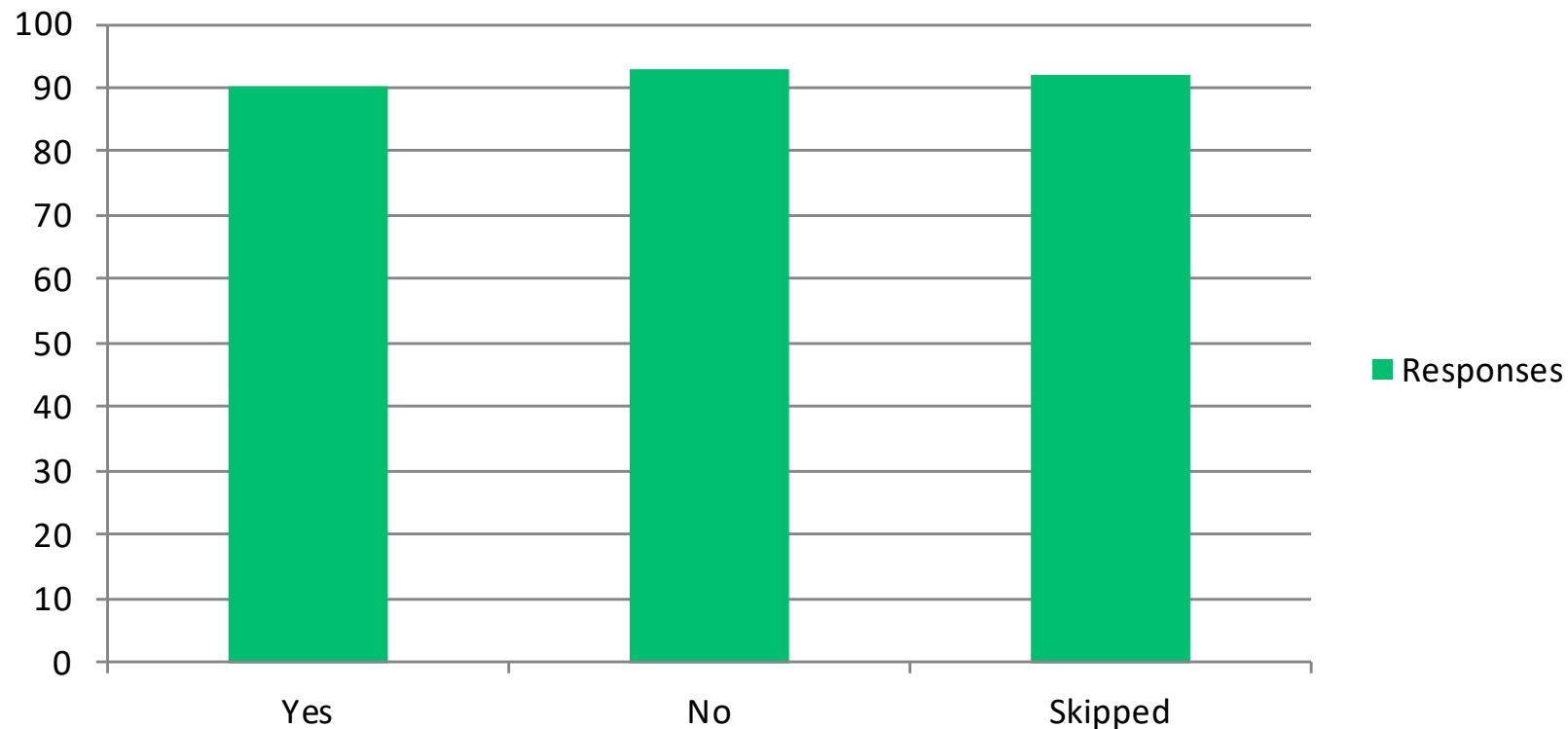


ECE/FAO questionnaire on *perceptions*

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Is certification the best tool for ensuring sustainable forest management?

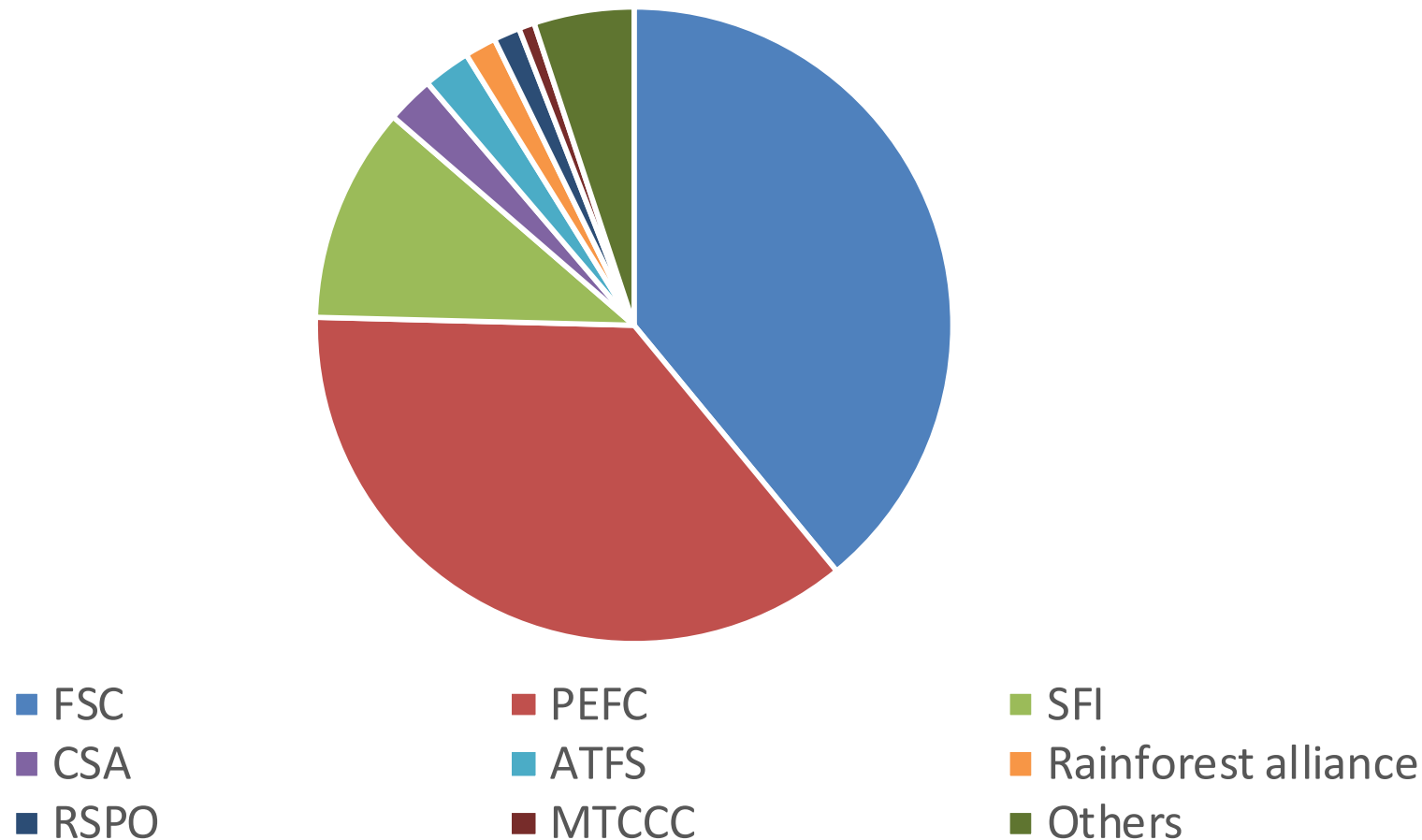


ECE/FAO questionnaire on *perceptions*

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Which certification schemes do you know?

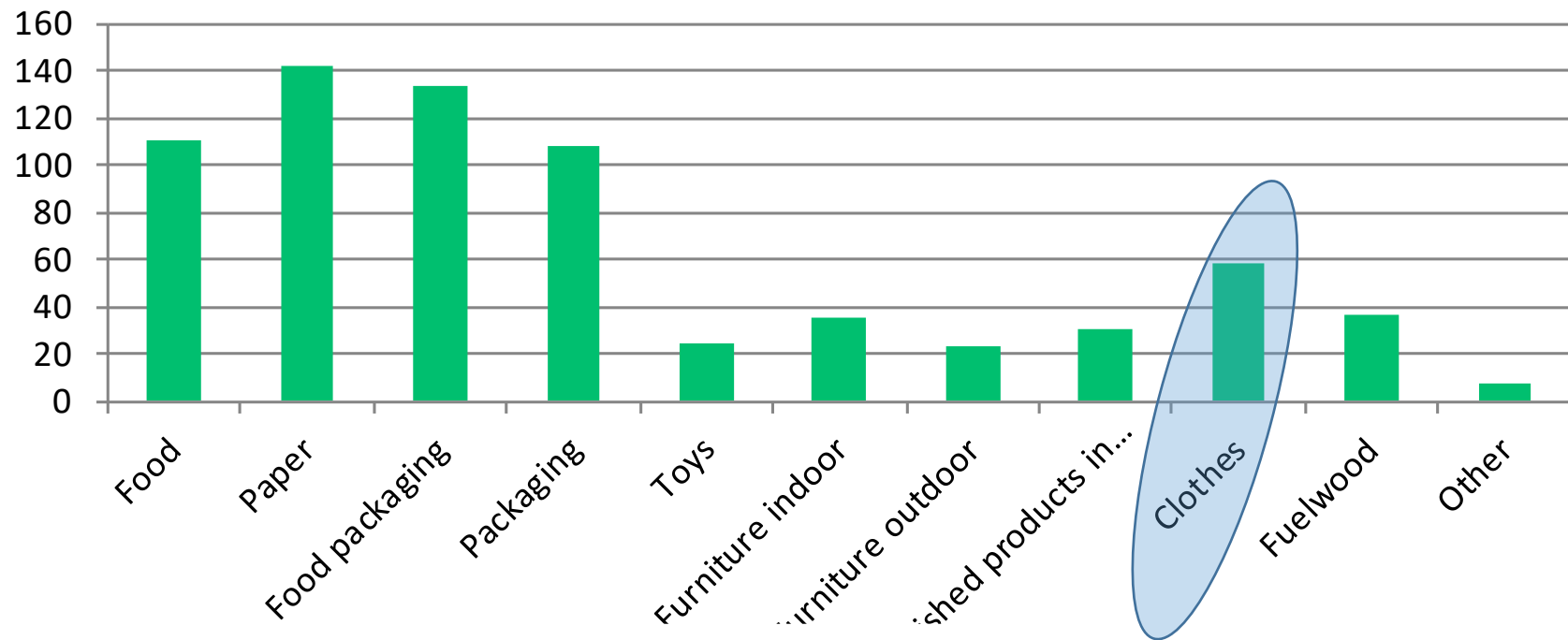


ECE/FAO questionnaire on *perceptions*

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Respondents very often/frequently buy the following wood products

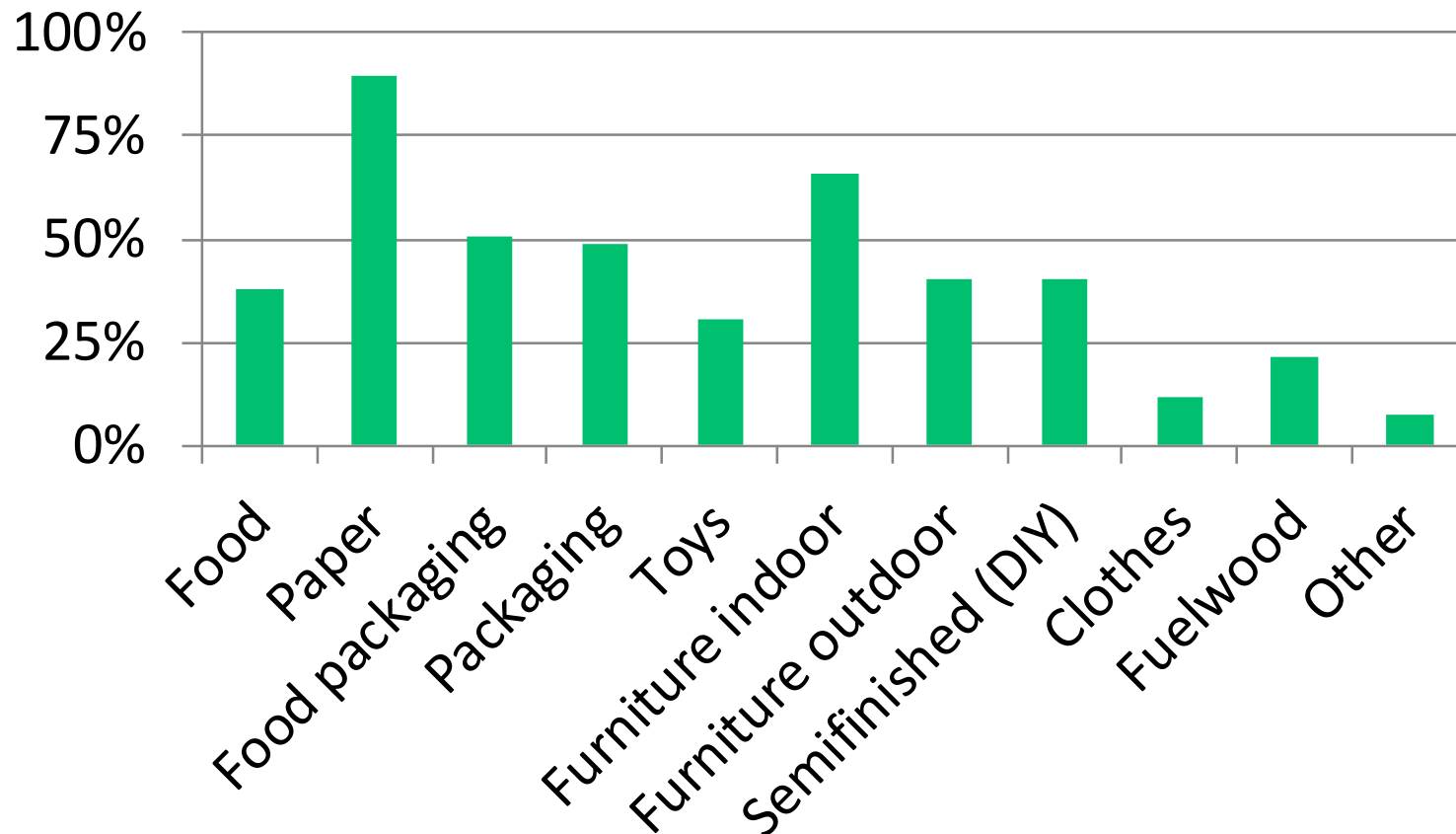


ECE/FAO questionnaire on *perceptions*

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Which certified forest products do you buy?



ECE/FAO questionnaire on *perceptions*

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What are the impacts of forest certification globally?

- Positive (n=176):
Better management of forest

- Negative (n=146):
 - costly (39.0%)
 - unfavorable for smallholders (14.4%)
 - greenwashing (13.7%)
 - bureaucratic/complex (11.0%)
 - no negative impacts (8.2%)
 - multiple certification (4,8%)

ECE/FAO questionnaire on *perceptions*

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Complementary measures for sustainable forest management other than forest certification

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------|
| ➤ Legislation | [22] |
| ➤ Enforcement | [13] |
| ➤ Awareness raising/education | [12] |
| ➤ Procurement/CSR | [6] |
| ➤ Financial support | [6] |

[Number of respondents]

Discussion

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What are the biggest issues related to forest certification from your perspective today and in the future?

Thank you!

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Florian STEIERER
UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section
Marianske Lazne, Czech Republic
6 September 2017

