

Main results of the pan-European reporting on forests and sustainable forest management 2020

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The evolution of the pan-European set of criteria and indicators for SFM

Helsinki Resolution H1 – General Guidelines for SFM in Europe (1993) – SFM definition, maintaining the potential of forests to fulfil relevant ecological, economic and social functions

Lisbon Resolution L2 – Pan-European Criteria, Indicators for SFM (1994, 1995, 1998)
– 6 Criteria and 20 concept areas, characterized by structured descriptive indicators and 20 quantitative indicators,

Vienna Declaration – Improved pan-European indicators for SFM (2002, 2003)
– 6 Criteria, 35 quantitative indicators,

Madrid Ministerial Declaration – Updated pan-European indicators for SFM (2015)
– 6 Criteria, 34 quantitative indicators, 11 qualitative indicators

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In the Madrid Ministerial Declaration,
FOREST EUROPE signatories committed themselves
to use updated pan-European indicators in forest policy, forest monitoring, as appropriate, and for collaboration with other sectors.

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Since the initial stages of evolution, the set of the pan-European indicators for sustainable forest management is formed by

- **6 criteria**
- **quantitative indicators**
- **descriptive/qualitative indicators**

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6 criteria cover the maintenance and appropriate enhancement of:

- 1. Forest Resources & Carbon**
- 2. Forest Health and Vitality**
- 3. Productive Functions**
- 4. Biological Diversity**
- 5. Protective Functions**
- 6. Socio-economic Functions**

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Forest policy and governance

1. National Forest Programmes or equivalent
2. Institutional frameworks
3. Legal/regulatory framework: National and International commitments
4. Financial and economic instruments
5. Information and communication

1. Forest Resources & Carbon

C.1 Policies, institutions & instruments

- 1.1 Forest area
- 1.2 Growing stock
- 1.3 Age structure &/or diameter distribution
- 1.4 Forest carbon

2. Forest Health

C.2 Policies, institutions & instruments

- 2.1 Deposition & concentration of air pollutants
- 2.2 Soil condition
- 2.3 Defoliation
- 2.4 Forest damage
- 2.5 Forest land degradation

34 QUANTITATIVE INDICATORS

- OF WHICH 3 are NEW

&

11 DESCRIPTIVE INDICATORS

3. Productive Functions

C.3 Policies, institutions & instruments

- 3.1 Increment and fellings
- 3.2 Roundwood
- 3.3 Non-wood goods
- 3.4 Services

4. Biological Diversity

C.4 Policies, institutions & instruments

- 4.1 Diversity of tree species
- 4.2 Regeneration
- 4.3 Naturalness
- 4.4 Introduced tree species
- 4.5 Deadwood
- 4.6 Genetic resources
- 4.7 Forest fragmentation
- 4.8 Threatened forest species
- 4.9 Protected forests
- 4.10 Common forest bird species

5. Protective Functions

C.5 Policies, institutions and instruments

- 5.1 Protective forests – soil, water and other ecosystem functions - infrastructure and managed natural resources

6. Socio-economic Functions

C.6 Policies, institutions & instruments

- 6.1 Forest holdings
- 6.2 Contribution of forest sector to GDP
- 6.3 Net revenue
- 6.4 Investment in forests and forestry
- 6.5 Forest sector workforce
- 6.6 Occupational safety and health
- 6.7 Wood consumption
- 6.8 Trade in wood
- 6.9 Wood energy
- 6.10 Recreation in forests

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3 new indicators since 2015:

2.5 Forest land degradation

4.7 Forest fragmentation

4.10 Common forest bird species



The pilot studies were elaborated to facilitate reporting on these indicators, reports are available at the FOREST EUROPE website:

<https://foresteurope.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/Pilot-study-Degradation.pdf>

<https://foresteurope.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Pilot-study-Fragmentation.pdf>

<https://foresteurope.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Pilot-study-birds.pdf>

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Information on the indicators for SFM:

- based on **national monitoring and inventory** schemes and **international programmes**,
- **officially reported** directly **by the national correspondents** or through international organisations,
- **collected jointly** in cooperation of **FOREST EUROPE, UNECE and FAO**

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1. Forest Resources & Carbon

- **forest area increased** by about 10% since 1990, rate of **expansion has been slowing**,
- **growing stock increased** by 50% since 1990, rate of **increase has been slowing**,
- about **3/4** of forests **are available for wood supply**,
- **coniferous dominate** in European forests,
- **carbon in harvested wood products has increasing trend**

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2. Forest Health and Vitality

- **wind, insects, wildlife and fires** are the main damaging agents to forests,
- **foliage loss** is slightly **increasing**,
- **depositions** of air pollutants have **decreased**,
- **soil properties** show **limited changes**

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3. Productive Functions

- annual **harvest** represents **less than 3/4** of the net annual **increment**,
- **roundwood production** is increasing,
(more than **0.5 billion m3** of **roundwood** are produced **yearly**)
- **roundwood market value** is above **20 billion euro**,
- market **value of non-wood goods** is about **4 billion euro**

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4. Biological Diversity

- **protected forests** account for almost **1/4 of the total forest area**,
- **stands composed of two or more tree species** dominate (about 2/3 of forest area),
- the **majority of forests is naturally regenerated** (about 2/3 of forest area),
- the **number of genetic conservation units increased** about 10 times since 1990,
- populations of **common forest bird species are stable**

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5. Protective Functions

- area of protective forests is increasing,
- **protective forests** designated for prevention of soil erosion, preservation of water resources and maintenance of other ecosystem services **represent about 1/3 of the total forest area**,
- **protective forest** designated to **protect infrastructure** and managed natural resources is reported on about **2% of forest area**,

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6. Socio-economic Functions

- **70%** of forests and other wooded land **are accessible to the public**,
- forest area in **public and private ownership** is roughly **balanced**,
- about **1.1 m³ of wood** is **consumed yearly per capita**,
- **employment** in the forest sector **declined**,
- **wood** represents a source of **renewable energy** (above 6% of total energy consumption)

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The State of Europe's Forests reports use criteria and indicators for SFM to describe the status and trends in European forests and their management, providing evidence-based information for policymakers



SoEF
2020
in preparation

Note: The report on the Implementation of the FOREST EUROPE Commitments (National and Pan-European Actions 2016-2020) has been published recently at <https://foresteurope.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Implementation-of-the-FOREST-EUROPE-Commitments.pdf>

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Thanks for your attention!