

Indicator theme (old)	<b>D Biodiversity</b>
Component (FDES)	<b>1: Environmental Conditions and Quality</b>
Sub-component (FDES)	<b>1.2: Land Cover, Ecosystems and Biodiversity</b>
Indicator topic (FDES)	<b>1.2.3: Forests</b>
Indicator	<b>D-3.1 Forest area as a proportion of total land area (SDG 15.1.1)</b>

ID and name in indicator guidelines    D3    Forests and other wooded land

First publication    9/22/2021    Latest update

Indicator definition    The indicator measures the percentage of the forests in the total country area.

Unit of measure    %

Coverage    Forests

Spatial aggregation    National territory

Reference period    End of each calendar year or nearest date within that calendar year

Update frequency    Annual

Purpose    The indicator provides a measure of the state of forests and other wooded lands in a country and shows trends in its uses and its protection.

Policy context    Forests are among the most diverse and widespread ecosystems on earth. They have strong intrinsic values, provide multiple ecosystem services (provision of timber and other products, recreation, regulatory ecosystem services related to soil and water) to human societies, and thereby support sustainable development and human wellbeing on Earth. They also enable nature-based solutions to a wide range of challenges to Society (e. g. carbon sequestration, flood protection). Overexploitation, fragmentation, environmental degradation and conversion into other types of land use threaten many forest resources.  
This indicator is relevant to SDG target 15.1 ("By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements")

Link with SDG indicators

SDG indicators	Comments
15.1.1 Forest area as a proportion of total land area	Identical

Policy references

Title and weblink	Comments
United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) <a href="https://www.cbd.int/">https://www.cbd.int/</a>	
United Nations Convention on Biological Biodiversity: First Draft of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework <a href="https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/914a/eca3/24ad42235033f031badf61b1/wg2020-03-03-en.pdf">https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/914a/eca3/24ad42235033f031badf61b1/wg2020-03-03-en.pdf</a>	
Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions: Our life insurance, our natural capital: an EU biodiversity strategy to 2020 <a href="https://www.eea.europa.eu/policy-documents/eu-2020-biodiversity-strategy">https://www.eea.europa.eu/policy-documents/eu-2020-biodiversity-strategy</a>	

Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions New EU Forest Strategy for 2030  
<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52021DC0572>

Methodology for indicator calculation

Share of forests in country area (%) = (total forest area in thousands of hectares or km2 / the total area of the country in thousands of hectares or km2) x 100%.  
Data on forest area are sourced from national reporting, e. g. as summarized in the FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment.

Methodology references

Title of the reference document	Link
Metadata of SDG indicator 15.1.1: Forest area as a proportion of total land area	<a href="https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/files/Metadata-15-01-01.pdf">https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/files/Metadata-15-01-01.pdf</a>

Data and statistics needed to compile the indicator

ID	Data item	FDES topic
230 Forest area		1.2.3: Forests
66 Country area		1.1.3: Geological and geographical information

Comments