



UNECE/FAO Joint Forestry
and Timber Section

FOREST INFORMATION BILLBOARD

Issue 2, 2022

The purpose of the Forest Information Billboard is to gather news from the forest sector in one place: from forest reporting, new publications, and upcoming events. The contribution to the Billboard is voluntary. Please send your text (max. 250 words) including links to the full source of information as well as related photos or figures to billboard.ece-faoforests@un.org. Please note that the editing of texts and permission to use images is the full responsibility of contributors. Texts are published as received*.

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* The Secretariat reserves the right to decide which contribution to be published

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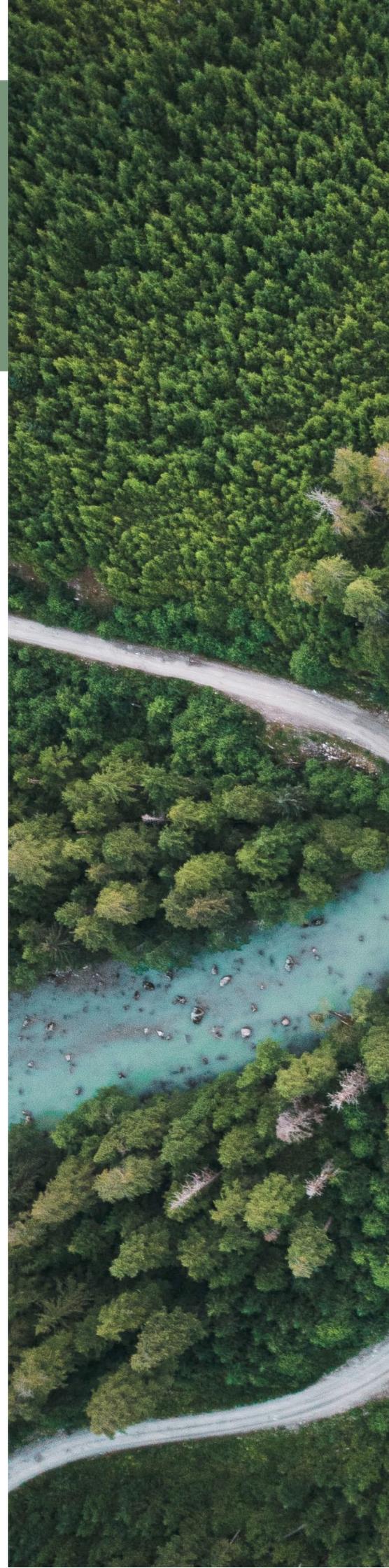


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I. TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT:

JOINT UNECE/FAO WORKING PARTY ON FOREST STATISTICS, ECONOMICS AND MANAGEMENT

"Good data are the backbone of good, evidence-based policymaking and decision-taking". With these words, Paola Deda, Director of the Forest, Land and Housing Division at UNECE, opened the 43rd session of the Joint UNECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management. The event took place in a hybrid format from 1 to 3 June 2022 and was held in accordance with the Joint Section's mandate to share knowledge and provide guidance to policymakers through research and awareness-raising activities.

The session focused on forests in a circular economy and provided an opportunity for ECE's member States to present and discuss case studies. It also reviewed forest and forest-industry related topics including data, monitoring, reporting and assessment, policy, and communication. Discussions during the event further highlighted the application of circular economy models in forest-based industries and the circular nature of wood as a resource that can be used, reused, recycled and biodegraded while reiterating the key role of sustainable forest management.

The Joint UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section used this opportunity to launch its publication on "[Circularity concepts in forest-based industries](#)".

Should you be interested in learning more about forest products' markets trends, please feel free to join the [80th session of the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry \(COFFI\)](#) that will be held from 2 to 4 November 2022.

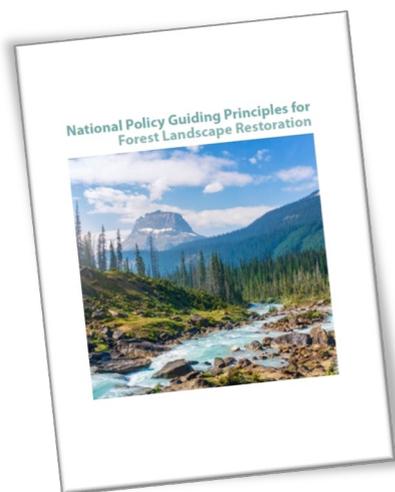


The 43rd session's report is available for download [here](#).

II. WHAT'S NEW IN THE UNECE/FAO FORESTRY AND TIMBER SECTION?

Turning commitments into reality: forest landscape restoration 2.0 in the Caucasus and Central Asia

Four years ago, countries in the Caucasus and Central Asia [pledged to restore more than 3 million hectares of degraded forests](#) until 2030 under the global Bonn Challenge. To support countries to turn their pledges into reality, UNECE is committed to strengthening the development of adequate policy frameworks in the region.



Despite ongoing conservation, afforestation, and reforestation efforts, there is scope for addressing widespread forest degradation, and accelerating forest landscape restoration work in the Caucasus and Central Asia. One of the key areas for improvement is the application of an integrated approach to forest landscape restoration, with policy frameworks that take into account the capacity and needs of all main stakeholders involved in such restoration activities.

Under the project “Strengthening policy frameworks on forest landscape restoration in selected UNECE countries to achieve SDG 15”, which is funded by the government of Germany, UNECE developed a set of [“National Policy Guiding Principles”](#). They provide a holistic

framework for policy development at the national level, tailored to the Caucasus and Central Asia regions. This framework is applied in two pilot countries – Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. On 23-24 June 2022, UNECE, in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan and with the support of FAO, hosted a [National Forest Policy Dialogue](#) on “Validating a National Strategy Proposal for Forest Landscape Restoration in Kyrgyzstan” in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. The workshop allowed stakeholders to review plans to make them more effective and sustainable.

UNECE / FAO event highlights the importance of urban forest for future future-proof cities to the High-level Political Forum

Cities, already responsible for around 75% of global CO2 emissions, are at the forefront of fighting climate change and are simultaneously vulnerable to its impacts.

Sometimes called a nature-based solution, sustainable urban forestry was identified by experts as a cost-effective option to future-proof cities during a round table on this topic jointly organized by UNECE and FAO during the [UNECE 2022 Regional Forum on Sustainable Development](#) (6-7 April, 2022).

Urban trees and forests can help to achieve the SDGs and make cities resilient to higher temperatures, future pandemics, population growth and extreme weather. Their multiple benefits included improved public health and well-being, reduced ambient temperatures, more vibrant neighbourhoods, greater biodiversity, increased energy efficiency, green job creation, opportunities for urban food production and reduced risks of floods and landslides, among others.



Trees in Cities Challenge

Join our community today

[Click here to pledge!](#)

To unlock these benefits, managing urban trees and forests as part of an integrated ecosystem and over the long-term is crucial. Tree planting must be based on careful planning, accompanied by sufficient resources for long-term management.

National governments can support urban forestry through policies and measures including, among others, standardized data collection, financial support, and coordination across boundaries and sectors. Engagement and empowerment of communities, including vulnerable populations and youth, is critical during planning, planting and maintenance of urban forests.

Key messages were included in the Report of the Regional Forum for Sustainable Development, available at:

https://regionalforum.unece.org/sites/default/files/2022-04/Report_RFSD_2022%20final_draft_250422.pdf

Learn more at <https://treesincities.unece.org>.



Circularity concepts in forest-based industries

The Joint UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section issued a new publication “Circularity concepts in forest-based industries”

The Joint UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section launched a new publication [Circularity concepts in forest-based industries](#) at the forty-third session of the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management which took place in Geneva on 1–3 June 2022. The publication analyses how forest-based industries are transitioning to a circular economy. It also highlights the close links between circular approaches and becoming sustainable and environmentally neutral in the long term.

Assessing forest damage and disturbance in the UNECE region - scientific-technical symposium, Vienna, Austria, 29-30 September 2022



Source: FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization)

Changes in forest damage regimes and an increased severeness of disturbances are posing serious challenges to the world’s forests. Damages and disturbances are threatening the supply of ecosystem services and the maintenance of forest health and vitality.

The latest scientific findings are implying a global surge of forest damage and disturbance owing to climate change-associated impacts and further global megatrends.

Sound data and thorough knowledge are an essential prerequisite for evidence-based sustainable forest management to understand the expanse, frequency and severeness of multi-

factorial hazard events. Fragmented data and untimely monitoring of forest damage are hampering further scenario analysis and resilience building in the forest sector.

The Joint UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section and the Austrian Ministry of Agriculture, Regions and Tourism are jointly organizing a scientific-technical symposium to discuss problems and solutions on assessing forest damage and disturbance in the UNECE region in Vienna, Austria, from 29-30 September 2022.

The symposium aims to encourage the exchange of ideas, experiences and opinions as well as raise awareness about the importance of assessing forest damage and disturbance. It will also feature presentations of the preliminary results of a project “Assessment of forest damage reporting in the UNECE region to enhance future harmonized international reporting”, initiated by the UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management.

More information about the scientific-technical symposium, including the link to registration, is available [here](#).

Registration deadline for virtual participation is 23 September 2022.

INForest language extension to French and German

Since its launch in 2021, the INForest data and knowledge platform by the Joint UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section has become a widely used tool and source of comprehensive forest-related information.

INForest is now also available in **French and German** - in addition to English, Russian, Polish, and Czech languages.



The website combines the visual presentation of various indicators in a user-friendly way while enabling the download of shared data and graphs.

The recently released version of INForest includes a new indicator, the “Export unit price of coniferous sawnwood” and it provides recent data for several wood products’ related indicators.

The Government of Switzerland supported the development of the collaborative project.

The platform can be accessed here: [INForest \(unece.org\)](https://inece.org).

III. FOREST COMMUNITY PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

FSC-certified wood recognized as an essential part of beautiful and sustainable living spaces

FSC has joined 200+ organizations as partner in the [New European Bauhaus](#) (NEB), an initiative under the EU Green Deal to meet the EU climate ambitions. NEB's mission is to inspire the actors of the construction sector and beyond, with its three values 'beautiful, sustainable, together'.

Read more:

<https://fsc.org/en/newsfeed/fsc-certified-wood-recognized-as-an-essential-part-of-beautiful-and-sustainable-living>



70th Anniversary Celebration of the European Confederation of the Woodworking Industries, CEI-Bois.



Extract from the Statement:

The Summer General Assembly meeting and 70th Anniversary celebration was a two-days event under the slogan "The Future is Bright - the Future is Wooden" which included guided tour visiting several of the unique wood projects in Skellefteå, a visit to the HOLMEN sawmill in Bygdsiljum and a panel discussion bringing together key people involved in the prize-winning Culture House construction who emphasized how the rise of a building can help a whole region rise. The city of Skellefteå is the living example of the European Bauhaus concept where the growth strategy of the city is based on sustainability, innovation, inclusiveness, and culture. And in the middle of this city, its outstanding symbol is a wooden building made using locally sourced timber and built up for the local community to enjoy the theatre, great food, reading a book in the building's library, having a chat, or going to the spa. Skellefteå proves what a sustainable climate-conscious town looks like – from wooden schools, bridges, to one of the world's tallest wooden buildings using glued laminated timber and cross-laminated timber! The building materials are expected to be sustainable, beautiful, and affordable. Wood can tick all three boxes.

Full text of the press release can be found [here](#).

Catholic Church and EU Commission President back using more wood in the built environment.

Extract from the Statement:

The significant role for sustainable wood was discussed within both the New European Bauhaus and the wider strategy to tackle climate



change at a high-level meeting held 9 June 2022 in the Vatican. Hosted by the Pontifical Academy of Science and Bauhaus Earth, the event also featured the Wood4Bauhaus Alliance. President of the European Commission quotes the Pope in reminding that building with wood is good for the planet and good for its people "Sustainably harvested timber can reduce a building's carbon emissions by up to 60%. Pope Francis is so right when he says that "humans

are not meant to be inundated by cement and steel'. Building more with natural elements, like wood, is both good for the planet, and good for the wellbeing of people." - Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission

For more information about the Wood4bauhaus Alliance visit: <https://wood4bauhaus.eu/>

Partnership between Ibá and São Paulo Metro encourages free book exchange



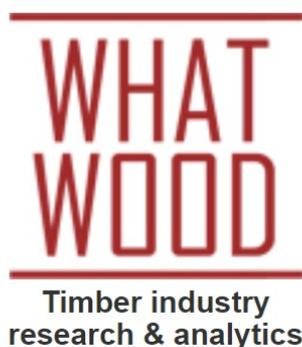
Paulo Hartung, Ibá's president (left); and in the right Milton Gioia, operations director of of SP Metrô (right)

The Brazilian Tree Industry (Ibá) and the São Paulo Metro launched an action to encourage reading with the free exchange of books. The #CirculeUmLivro (circulate a book) campaign aims to stimulate the habit of reading and also the culture of circular economy, encouraging the donation of books that have already been read and are sitting on a shelf in your home.

To facilitate this exchange, displays were distributed at six stations so that passengers can feel free to pick up a ticket they like and/or leave another at the place.

Russian timber harvesting industry: how probable is a decline in timber harvesting over the next few months?

The Russian harvesting industry closed the year 2021 with good performance. The harvesting volume grew by 4%, up to 225 million m³. This is +8 million m³ compared to 2020. Such a growth is explained by the fact that after the pandemic year 2020, when plants suspended operations because of coronavirus-related restrictions and the output reduced, the demand for construction products recovered completely in 2021. Harvesting volumes grew accordingly.



In 2021, harvesting activity also manifested in a greater number of signed or re-issued forest areas lease contracts. In 2021, the AAC volume under signed or re-issued forest areas lease contracts was almost 2 million m³ higher than in 2020, reaching 11.6 million m³.

Contracts for the greatest volume of AAC – about 105 million m³ – were signed in 2007. Over the past 10 years, contracts for approximately 10-12 million m³ were signed or re-issued annually.

The full article is available here: <https://whatwood.ru/english/>

PLT's Forest Literacy Framework is Growing a Greater Understanding of Our Forests at All Ages

The role of forests in supporting our health and providing solutions to some of our greatest global climate challenges is something that is not well understood by the majority of society. This lack of basic forest literacy is a global challenge as was made evident by research done by the FAO in the [Global Forest Education Project](#) and was highlighted in the [Call to Action on Forest Education](#).



In response to the need to increase forest literacy in education and highlight the value our forests provide, Project Learning Tree (PLT), an initiative of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative, created the PLT [Forest Literacy Framework](#). This framework is a guiding tool to support educators and resource professionals in translating the language of forests and sustainable forest management into concepts for students from kindergarten to high school. It challenges those working with young people to bring the right level of forest literacy into the classroom based on age and knowledge, and tackle questions like What is a forest?, Why do forests matter?, How do we sustain our forests?, and What is our responsibility to forests?

For classroom teachers, the PLT *Forest Literacy Framework* offers connections to existing curriculum, no matter the subject area and with a strong focus on science, that offer a high level of engagement with environmental studies, language arts, mathematics, social studies, technology, and other subjects.

The framework represents a vision of forest literacy that was developed by educators, forest sector professionals, conservationists, and academics in the United States and Canada.

PEFC Endorses Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) Chain of Custody Standard

SFI 2022 CHAIN OF CUSTODY STANDARD

SECTION 4



forests.org

The Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) recently announced that its [2022 Chain of Custody Standard](#) has met the rigorous third-party assessment of the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC). PEFC is an international organization that endorses national forest certification systems developed collaboratively by diverse stakeholders, tailored to local priorities and conditions. In announcing the results of its assessment, PEFC noted that organizations certified to SFI's 2022 Chain of Custody standard can now apply the PEFC on-product label and make PEFC claims, giving them more options to meet customer demand around the world.

"SFI makes important contributions that address the needs of North America's forests and communities and is a valuable national member working with PEFC to elevate the role of sustainable forestry," said Dr. Michael Berger, acting secretary general of PEFC. "Only chain of custody certification standards that meet our rigorous criteria and that are developed in an open, transparent manner through a

multi-stakeholder process are endorsed by PEFC.”

PEFC conducted a 60-day international public consultation period and a detailed examination of the SFI 2022 Chain of Custody Standard that included an assessment by an independent assessor.

“Thanks to this endorsement, customers across North America and around the world will be even more confident that products bearing the SFI Chain of Custody label come from well-managed, sustainable forests,” said Kathy Abusow, president and CEO of SFI.

More than 600 organizations are certified to SFI’s Chain of Custody standard, and SFI-certified products are sold in more than 120 countries around the world.

Ukrainian women entrepreneurs in wood industry call for more trade partners from the EU market



Women who lead FSC-certified woodworking companies in areas still safe from armed conflict are showing the way to mitigate the economic crisis in the country and promote sustainable forest management

<https://fsc.org/en/newsfeed/ukrainian-women-entrepreneurs-in-wood-industry-call-for-more-trade-partners-from-the-eu>

Call for a Researcher in business administration, Department of Forest Economics, SLU, Sweden

The Department of Forest Economics is engaged in research and education about the forest-based circular bioeconomy with a focus on business administration, resource economics, policy, and sustainable development. A position is open in Business Administration with a focus on the bio-based sector, e.g., the forest sector. The purpose of the position is to develop knowledge in the subject of business administration with a focus on one or more priority specializations, such as circularity in business systems, sustainable business models, organizational theory, production economy, strategy, and innovation.

The researcher is expected to develop an individual research profile in the subject area of business administration with a focus on sustainable business development in the bio-based sector. The holder of the employment will conduct teaching (courses, supervision, and examination) at undergraduate and advanced levels. The research and teaching are expected to take place in close collaboration within the department and other departments at SLU as well as through national and international collaboration.

More information:

https://web103.reachmee.com/ext/I017/1114/job?site=7&lang=UK&validator=87e4b706891e51f731ed44be28da8352&job_id=6531

New campaign targets illegal rosewood logging in the Lower Mekong Region



Rosewood, known for its dark red colour and dense bark, has traditionally been used to make furniture and is worth tens of thousands of dollars per cubic metre. Nearly all rosewood logs are sent to China, where rosewood furniture is hugely popular, generating unsustainable demand.

[UN-REDD](#) and a [UN Decade for Ecosystem Restoration](#) launched a campaign targeting

urban consumers in China. The campaign aims to shift consumer behaviour away from rosewood to sustainably sourced wood products.

“Improved forest governance, trade and investments are important to address illegal logging, trafficking and other forms of forest crimes in the region,” said Mario Bocucci, Head of UN-REDD Secretariat. “An innovative UN-REDD initiative on sustainable forest trade in the Lower Mekong region ([UN-REDD Lower Mekong Initiative](#)) was developed to support progress on this issue.”



Technical experts from the UN-REDD Lower Mekong Initiative and Thailand’s Royal Forest Department meet with local community leaders in Ubon Ratchatani, Thailand to talk about how to engage communities in monitoring illegal logging of rosewood in the area

As part of the Lower Mekong initiative, national behavioural change campaigns against forest crimes in Lower Mekong countries and China are being developed and implemented.

“Rosewood is the world’s most trafficked endangered species by value, but it is also an integral part of Chinese culture,” said Emelyne Cheney, a Forests and Climate expert at UNEP. “Our campaign in China will highlight the danger of current purchasing habits for the longevity of this important symbol and embrace Chinese cultural heritage by promoting traditional-style furniture that uses sustainable, forest-friendly materials.”

It is hard to get exact figures on the amount of rosewood being smuggled into China. “Each country has its own legislation [tackling this],” said Akiko Inoguchi, a Forestry Officer at FAO and the lead of the UN-REDD Lower Mekong Initiative.

Full text of the article is available [here](#).

IV. PUBLICATIONS, ARTICLES, REPORTS, REGULATORY UPDATES

The PEFC Spain Forum for Dialogue presents its tax proposal and objectives in forest certification



[PEFC Spain](#) hosted the Forum for Dialogue “Tax Proposals and Objectives in the area of forest certification”.

The Spanish Confederation of Foresters ([COSE](#)) explained the proposal of “improvement taxation of forestry activity” because it is considered essential when it comes to facilitating active management of the mountains on the part of owners.

Faced with the current situation, with private forest property distributed in very small units under exploitation, with no possibility of obtaining economic profitability, and a tax regime that is not adapted to forestry activities with long production periods and long periods for return on investment, it is urgent to establish ways to recognise and compensate the value of goods and services forests can offer.

The measures considered a tax proposals that could reverse this situation of gradual abandonment of forestry activity witnessed in many areas were presented, highlighting the need for compatibility between the Regime of Direct Estimates and the Regimes of Objective Estimates, the partial exemption of income from the sale of wood species with logging periods of over 30 years, and the reduction in Personal Income Tax (IRPF) for costs and investments made in forestry assets under conservation, maintenance, improvement, protection and access to the mountains.

The Forum for Dialogue led the public and private sector agree about the same proposal, covering these aspects from a regional administration perspective sensitive to the different affects and singularities of the territories of each autonomous region. It also assessed the consideration of applying a reduced rate of VAT to many forestry activities, as is about to be approved in the autonomous region of Navarre.

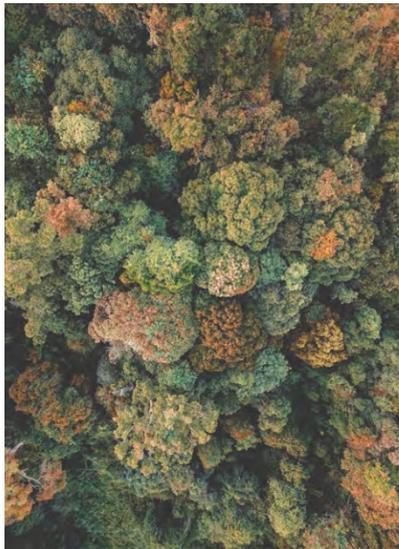
This concluded the need to develop activities that position forestry as a strategic sector for the transition to a green economy.

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10 recommendations for the new EU deforestation regulation

As a member of the [EU Platform](#) on Protecting and Restoring the World's Forests and key stakeholder on the proposed a [Regulation](#) aiming to minimise EU-driven deforestation and forest degradation, FSC has suggested 10 things to improve it:

1. Support the fight against deforestation and degradation
2. Specify the proposed definitions
3. Expand the list of commodities to all wood products and rubber
4. Broaden the scope of the Regulation to other ecosystems
5. Reinforce due diligence
6. Employ voluntary sustainability standards meeting strict credibility criteria as part of the risk assessment and risk mitigation
7. Enhance protection of Indigenous Peoples
8. Support traceability requirements and empowering smallholders
9. Boost cooperation and partnerships with producer countries
10. Include deforestation-free criteria in EU mandatory Green Public Procurement
11. Read more



<https://fsc.org/en/newsfeed/fscs-position-and-10-recommendations-to-improve-the-new-eu-rules-for-deforestation-free>

Closer-to-Nature Forest Management – inspiring publications

Closer-to-Nature Forest Management is a concept proposed in the [EU Forest Strategy for 2030](#), which aims to improve the conservation values and climate resilience of multifunctional, managed forests in Europe. Building on the latest scientific evidence, the report [„Closer-to-Nature Forest Management“](#) – recently published by [European Forest Institute](#) – proposes a definition of the concept, a set of seven guiding principles and a framework/checklist for flexible

European-wide implementation.

The report analyses the current pressures on forest biodiversity as well as on health and resilience in managed forests. It examines existing nature-oriented forest management approaches and analyses their ability to support biodiversity, stability in and adaptability to uncertain future conditions. Finally, it evaluates the barriers and enablers for the implementation of Closer-to-Nature Forest Management.



Photo: Integrated Forest Management in Kralovsky forest, Czech Republic

If you would like to learn more about the challenges that forest managers are faced with to fulfil societal demands with regard to forests, and especially to integrate the promotion of biodiversity into forest management, we highly recommend you to read [„How to balance forestry and biodiversity conservation – A view across Europe“](#) published by European Forest Institute and the Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research ([WSL](#)). In this

anthology, a Tour d'Europe brings us through different biogeographic regions, countries, cultures, and forest management traditions. As a consequence, the collection of good practice examples presents an interesting list of individual and regional-specific approaches to the question: How can biodiversity conservation be improved in managed forests across Europe?

Embrapa Florestas updates carbon stock data in forest plantations



Planted forests only lose 5% of soil carbon and not 33% as previously believed, according to studies by Embrapa Florestas. The update of this data is the result of the evolution of Brazilian science, which started to use the soil carbon change index (BAI) based on information from national research. In this way, the index more faithfully represents the specificities of the country and shows greater potential for mitigating greenhouse gases (GHGs) through forest plantations.

Link to the study:

<https://ainfo.cnptia.embrapa.br/digital/bitstream/item/217027/1/Livro-Doc-342-1804-final-2.pdf>

Ibá's Report on Biodiversity in the Planted Tree Industry highlighting records of over 8,000 flora and fauna species

<https://iba.org/eng/datafiles/publicacoes/outros/caderno-biodiversidade-en.pdf>

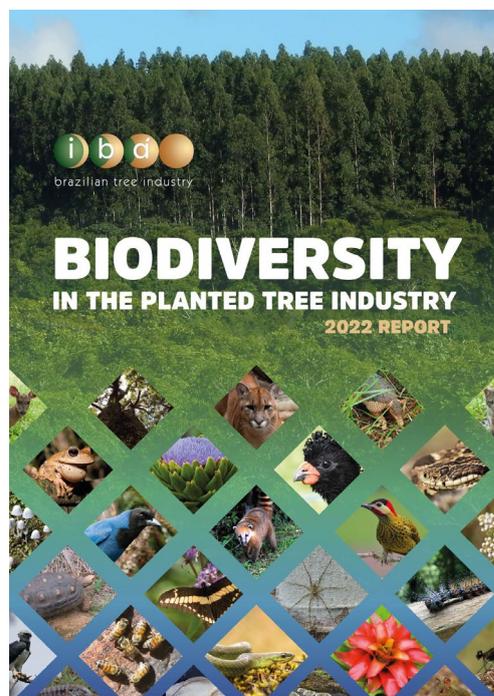
The Brazilian Tree Industry (Ibá) has released its 2022 Report on Biodiversity in Tree Industry, highlighting records of 8,310 flora and fauna species. The main groups monitored across Brazil's biomes include plants, birds, mammals, amphibians, and reptiles. Over 5,450 species of plants were registered. The sector also recorded over 335 species that are classified as endangered by ICMBio.

Since 2019, Ibá has been collaborating with 23 member companies to collect a broad range of data on the biodiversity that is present in their areas. This survey covers 12 states, over 220 municipalities, and five biomes that include the Atlantic Forest, Cerrado, Pampa, Amazon Forest, and Caatinga. Some findings are part of long-term monitoring efforts that stretch back as far as 1970, which makes this Biodiversity Report even more valuable.

Besides findings about flora and fauna species data, this report also provides details about species that represent this industry, biodiversity monitoring, restoration work, ecosystem services, partnerships with local stakeholders such as beekeepers, and success stories from forest-based companies.

The survey includes species that are found in different biomes where the planted tree industry works, such as spider monkeys (muriquis), the maned wolf, giant anteater, the stingless mandaçaia bee, yellow-browed woodpecker, and blacksmith tree frog, species that are often considered vulnerable or endangered.

The activities of the companies that participated in the survey reinforce their care and respect for the environment, with techniques that the industry has applied for years and which have been refined to address current concerns.



From the roots to the canopy, the webinar series from FOREST EUROPE

Our third installment of the series talking about the FAO IUFRO regional assessment report on forest education in Africa and Europe, reflections on the status and needs of formal forest education took place on 25 May. Read more and watch the videos below:

- First webinar (co-organized with IFSA): [Your first job doesn't mean it's your last one](#)
- Second webinar (co-organized with ICP Forests): [Monitoring and assessing forest health – connecting the dots](#)
- Third webinar (co-organized with IFSA and IUFRO): [What's forest education up to in Africa and Europe?](#)



You can also watch the recording of our WFC side event: [Forest skills to pay the bills!](#)

The upcoming webinar of our series will be announced soon and it will be in cooperation with EUFORGEN.

SFI's Publication Marks a Decade of Conservation Impact Success

The Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) recently released [SFI's Conservation Impact: A Decade of Success](#), which describes the results of SFI's Conservation Impact work over the past 10 years and how the science behind well-managed forests and sustainable supply chains supports conservation goals.



Although the Brown-headed Nuthatch, which is native to the Southeastern U.S., is in decline throughout its range, a study by the American Bird Conservancy and the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) found that the bird is more abundant within SFI-certified

The report looks at 17 conservation research projects that SFI has supported and participated in with numerous partners across its three main focus areas: climate change, biodiversity, and water quality and quantity. For example, SFI collaborated with American Forests to develop an approach to include soils in forest carbon calculations, because soils can account for a sizeable, at times unconsidered, amount of carbon storage. This allows for better understanding of whole-ecosystem carbon dynamics. One Conservation Impact study area showed that, when the cumulative

harvest, including long-lived wood products, was added to the greenhouse gas balance, SFI-certified forests acted as carbon sinks.

"Identifying positive conservation outcomes, key learnings, and opportunities for improvement on SFI-certified lands is a critical component of the SFI standards. *SFI's Conservation Impact: A Decade of Success* is a testament to the dedication and collaboration we see across the SFI network when it comes to advancing forest science and sustainable solutions," says Kathy Abusow, CEO and President of SFI.

SFI is the only forestry standard that requires certified organizations to support forest and conservation research. In total, SFI-certified organizations invest over US\$60 million per year in forest and conservation research and have cumulatively invested more than US\$1.8 billion since 1995.

Thirty-first edition of the State of Canada's Forests is available for review

The State of Canada's Forests is a trusted, annual source of national forest-related statistics and science-based information about the environmental, social, economic and cultural importance of Canada's forests. Released in March this year, the 31st edition explores how Canadian forests provide solutions to a changing world by providing natural climate solutions, being a source of environmentally friendly bio-products and renewable energy, offering opportunities to support physical and mental health, and helping to conserve biodiversity and species at risk.



Facts about Canada's forests:

- Canada has 9% of the world's forest resources at 362 million hectares (ha), making it the third most forested country in the world. (2020)
- Canada has one of the world's lowest deforestation rates, at less than 0.02 percent.
- Forests cover nearly 40% of Canada's land area.
- There are about 140 native tree species in Canada; the most common being the black spruce.
- In 2020, Canada's forest sector employed 184,510 people.

Visit [The State of Canada's Forests Annual Report 2021](#) website to sign up for notification when the next report is ready!

Contact us

Email us at cfs-stateoftheforests-etatdesforets-scf@nrcan-rncan.gc.ca

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FAO publication **Forest Products in the global bioeconomy: Enabling substitution by wood-based products and contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals**



If you want to know, have a look at the new FAO publication [Forest Products in the global bioeconomy: Enabling substitution by wood-based products and contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals](#), launched on 21 March on the occasion of the International Day of Forests.

Wood-based products can assist with climate change mitigation by storing carbon, while also helping to avoid or reduce the greenhouse gas emissions associated with the materials they substitute for such as concrete, steel, plastics and synthetic fibres.

Are you interested in more sustainable consumer choices?

Do you want to know more about exciting new uses for wood?

The new report, developed in collaboration with the [European Forest Institute](#), brings together the most up-to-date knowledge on the role of forest products in the global bioeconomy.

It outlines the emerging technologies that open up the range of uses for forest products while decreasing material, carbon and water footprints and reducing pollution and waste generation – including cross-laminated timber for construction, wood foam for packaging, lyocell or other wood-based textile fibres, and bioplastics.

Finally, this comprehensive report offers policy makers, the private sector governments, international cooperation bodies and researchers a set of recommendations to both enable and boost forest product substitution for sustainable development.

Related links

[Advisory Committee on Sustainable Forest-based Industries \(ACSFI\)](#)

[Forest Products in the global bioeconomy: Enabling substitution by wood-based products and contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals](#)

[International Day of Forests](#)

[European Forest Institute](#)

[5 ways FAO is helping the transition to a sustainable circular bioeconomy](#)



Valuing, restoring and managing “presumed drylands”

Cerrado, Miombo–Mopane woodlands and the Qinghai–Tibetan Plateau



FAO’s new working paper: Valuing, restoring and managing “presumed drylands”: Cerrado, Miombo–Mopane woodlands and the Qinghai–Tibetan Plateau

FAO’s latest working paper discusses the key drivers of land degradation in three areas of “presumed drylands”, which cover almost 600 000 hectares of land. The working paper highlights the environmental and ecological value of their precious land resources, including the high levels of biodiversity and the huge number of people reliant on them to sustain their livelihoods. It examines the importance of working towards land degradation neutrality and includes examples from dryland experts of ongoing projects aimed at doing just that.

"Presumed drylands" are at great risk of further degradation in the near future, but unfortunately remain poorly researched and undervalued. The working paper’s key message is clear: investing in

more sustainable land management approaches is crucial – now rather than later – before more land is degraded. Read the paper to find out more.

Link to publication: <https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cc0110en>

V. UPCOMING EVENTS

Open House (5 July 5PM CEST)



FOREST EUROPE is conducting a series of seminars for students studying a forest-related field within the workstream 3: Green Jobs and Forest Education. We are introducing our structure, work programme and explaining the importance of this pan-European political process. All students and teachers are welcome to join virtually. We will show videos and talk about FOREST EUROPE, and there will be time for questions as well (and a quiz!).

More information and registration in the following link:

<https://www.eventbrite.fi/e/forest-europe-open-house-seminar-tickets-300580974787>

FOREST EUROPE High-Level Talks (30 August 1PM CEST)



FOREST EUROPE High-Level Talks

30 August 2022

At the High-Level Policy Dialogue on 30 August 2022, FOREST EUROPE offers an inclusive dialogue among interested actors to exchange on the latest scientific findings, best practices, region-specific approaches, and specific national policies to strengthen the development and implementation of future policies and practices. This year we will discuss to what extent Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) can maintain and eventually enhance forest biological diversity, and ensure the balance with other forest ecosystem services.

More information at: <https://talks.foresteurope.org/>

Forests in a Volatile World – Global Collaboration to Sustain Forests and Their Societal Benefits. All-IUFRO Conference

The International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) is pleased to announce an in-person scientific conference with hybrid participation options in Vienna, Austria, on 21-23 September 2022.

The conference will explore the critical roles of research for the conservation and sustainable management of forests and trees under rapidly changing environmental, economic and social conditions. It will include a special focus on the importance of forests for meeting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



Photo: mimikama/Pixabay

The global conference will include six scientific plenaries in different formats, a poster session, a professional field trip as well as a conference dinner. Please mark your calendars for this important event!

Topics of the six plenary sessions:

1. Forests and Human Health – A One Health Perspective
2. Bioeconomy
3. Forest Degradation and Restoration
4. Gender (un-)Equal Networking of IUFRO
5. Forest Genetic Resources for Future Resilient Forests
6. Forest and Water

Each plenary will consist of invited talks or panels on the topic, as well as opportunities for presentations as lightning talks (3-5 minutes) and/or in poster sessions. The Conference Scientific Committee (CSC) welcomes submission of abstracts for these lightning talks and posters.

Find out more at: [IUFRO: All-IUFRO Conference 2022 / Events](https://iufro.org/All-IUFRO-Conference-2022/Events)

For more information please visit: <https://unece.org/forests/events/international-day-forests-2022>



Scientific seminar: “Biocities: placing nature and people at the centre of the urban environment”



The seminar ‘Biocities: placing nature and people at the centre of the urban environment’ will facilitate an international science-policy-practice dialogue on the transformative potential of trees, forests, wood and other biomaterials. It aims to rethink the built environment by creating healthy, sustainable and resilient cities as well as rural-urban sustainable interfaces.

The seminar will be organised in connection with the European Forest Institute’s Annual Conference in Barcelona, Spain, on 6 October 2022.

Check out the latest updates on the Seminar and register here:

<https://efi.int/membership/ac/2022>



UNECE/FAO Joint Forestry
and Timber Section

FOREST INFORMATION BILLBOARD

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