

# Webinar: EU Forest Strategy post-2020 in the context of post-EU Green Deal future-fit Europe:

*How to maximize the contribution from sustainably managed and multifunctional forests for climate neutrality, biodiversity and a growing circular bio-economy?*

**December 3rd 2020 13:00 CET**

More than 1/3 of Europe is covered by forests, providing a wealth of economic, environmental and social benefits for all Europeans. Up to 1/3 of Europe's forests are owned by states, which means that they belong to the citizens of Europe. At the same time there are 16 million private forest owners in the EU. Those together form a core for forests with multiple objectives which regions are relying on.

European forestry and the forest-based sector has long history in defining and implementing sustainable forest management and strengthening forests' purpose as ecosystem service providers. Forests have a key role in tackling the climate change in two fundamental ways, namely through climate mitigation and climate adaptation. Only healthy and resilient forests can deliver expected inputs. Forests offer livelihood and green jobs, especially in rural areas.

Forests and forest products function as a cornerstone of circular bio-economy, providing a carefully monitored source of raw materials while at the same time boosting competitiveness, green growth and enabling circular low-carbon economy.

Forest-based value chain is digitally and technically advanced. Forests and forest-based sector offer substitution potential for fossils that can be further developed and improved with research and innovation to reduce our dependency on non-sustainable materials.

The new European Forest Strategy post-2020 will have to coordinate the different European policies that are affecting forests at European, national and subnational levels. How these different objectives will be balanced in the new European Forest Strategy? How priorities will be set and which practical improvements will be implemented?

**Webinar** will have high-level discussions with representatives of the European Commission, European Parliament, and regional level, European State Forest Association (EUSTAFOR). Speakers include MEP Petri Sarvamaa, European Commission representative Nicola Di Virgilio (DG AGRI), Aljoscha Requardt from the German Presidency of the Council of the European Union, Aigar Kallas from EUSTAFOR and regional mayor Risto Poutiainen, who will offer their insights about the future of the EU forest strategy.

**[Register here!](#)**

Organised by ERIAFF Working Group of Forested Regions, European State Forest Association (EUSTAFOR), East & North Finland EU office, and region of Castilla y León.

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