



FOREST EUROPE: PAN-EUROPEAN C&I RELATION WITH CFRQ

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FOREST EUROPE

Who we are

FOREST EUROPE is the **pan-European policy process for sustainable management of the continent's forests.**

FOREST EUROPE, founded in 1990, develops common strategies on how to protect and sustainably manage forests.



FOREST EUROPE **Leading role in Europe**

FOREST EUROPE provides the **policy-making framework** for ministers responsible for the continent forests to help **foster forest growth and biodiversity**.

Thanks to SFM **total forest area in Europe has increased** over the past two decades and **loss of biodiversity has slowed down**.



FOREST EUROPE **Signatory and observers**

FOREST EUROPE **46 participating countries plus the European Union**, observer countries and international organizations cooperate for the common good of the continent's forests.



To shape a future where all European forests are vital, productive and multifunctional.

Where forests contribute effectively to sustainable development, through ensuring human well-being a healthy environment and economic development in Europe and across the globe.

Where the forests' unique potential to support a green economy, livelihoods, climate change mitigation, biodiversity conservation, enhancing water quality and combating desertification is realized to the benefit of society.

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Our Mission

To advance this vision and comply with the goals and European 2020 targets, ministers decided that “FOREST EUROPE mission is to enhance the cooperation on forest policies in Europe under the leadership of ministers, and to secure and promote Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) with the aim of maintaining the multiple functions of forests crucial to society”.



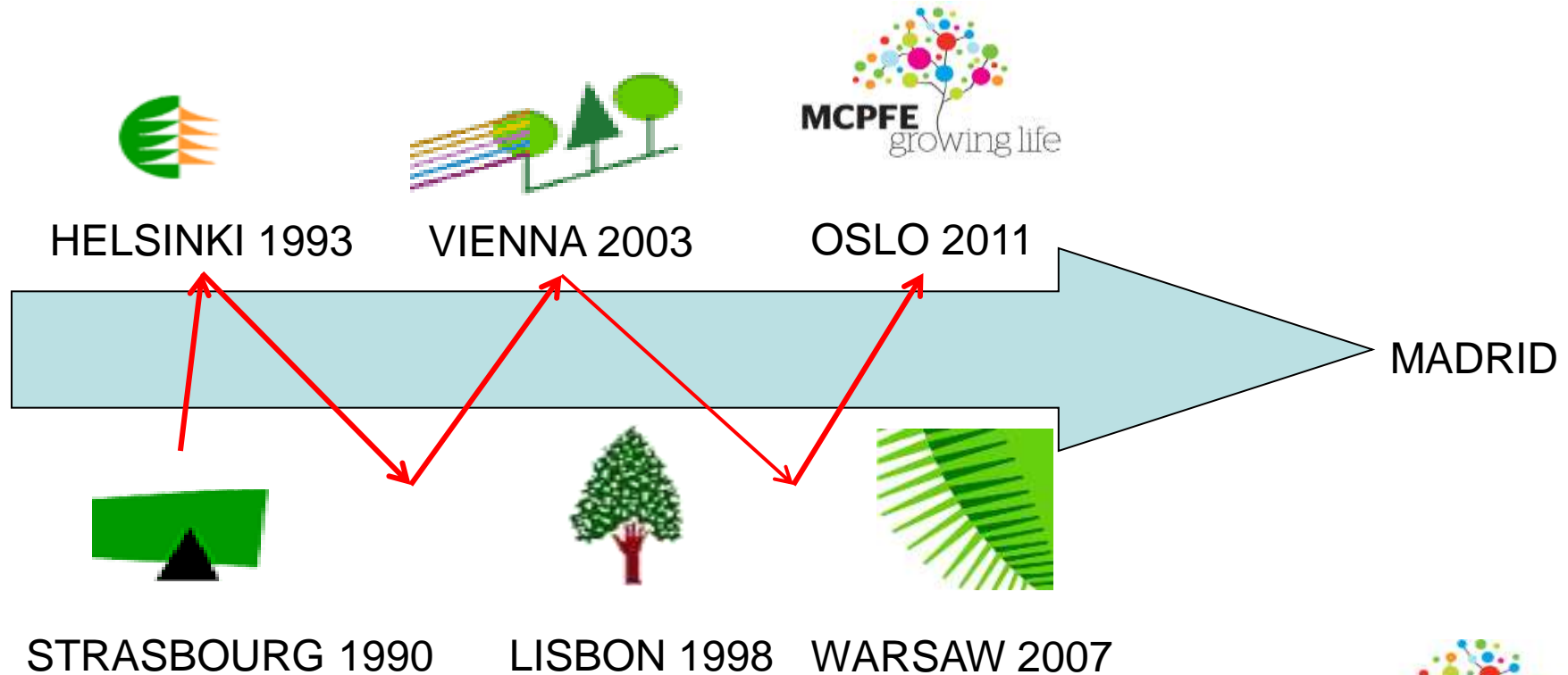
Definition of SFM (Helsinki 1992):

Sustainable forest management aims to ensure that the goods and services derived from the forest meet present day needs at the same time secure their continued availability and contribution to long-term development.

- **Guidelines for implementing SFM**
- **Criteria and indicators for assessment SFM**
- **Pan-European approach to National Forest Programmes**
- **Pan-European Guidelines for Afforestation and Reforestation (UNFCCC).**
- **Periodic assessment and reporting at regional level:**
State of Europe's Forests (2003, 2007, 2011)

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Milestones



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Objectives and key issues

Following Oslo Conference:

- *Oslo Decision European Forests 2020*
- *Oslo Ministerial Mandate for Negotiating a Legally Binding Agreement on Forests in Europe*



2- Monitoring and reporting

Improve forest **monitoring and harmonized reporting** systems to serve emerging needs in order to make dynamic forests policies.

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Work Programme

Oslo Ministerial Decision: European Forests 2020

b. Further improvements in forest monitoring and reporting

Stressing the importance of adequate, accessible and evidence-based forest information at all levels of policy making, and for informing the broader public, FOREST EUROPE will further improve the basis for forest monitoring and harmonized reporting systems to serve emerging needs, including for verification of legality and sustainability;



A common data collection with FAO's global Forest Resource Assessment (FRA) 2015 was prepared to enhance improvement of quality and harmonisation in data collection and reporting. Regularity and quality in data collection will ensure consistent time series for the pan-European quantitative indicators, while avoiding separate pan-European reporting on very similar issues as the global FRA. For streamlining of reporting and avoiding duplication of work, data on quantitative indicators collected jointly with FAO's global forest resource assessments every five years will be used for the preparation of future State of Europe's forests reports, while data on the qualitative indicators will be collected when a report is being prepared.

The expected outcomes of this action are:

- Reduce reporting burdens for countries through common reporting on the pan-European quantitative indicators and FAO's global resource assessment
- Future improvements of consistency and comprehensiveness in reporting on Europe's forests and on the goals and 2020 targets for European forests.
- Further development of sustainable forest management and its tools.

- **Six criteria** to safeguard the ecological, economic and socio-cultural functions of forest:
 - 1. To maintain and enhance forest resources and their **contribution to global carbon cycles**;
 - 2. To maintain forest ecosystems' **health and vitality**;
 - 3. To maintain and encourage the **productive functions** of forests (wood and non-wood);
 - 4. To maintain, protect and enhance the **biological diversity** in forest ecosystems;
 - 5. To maintain, conserve and enhance the **protective functions** of forest (notably soil and water);
 - 6. To maintain the other **socio-economic functions** and conditions.

- The fulfilment of the criteria can be evaluated through a set of **35 quantitative indicators and 17 qualitative indicators**.
- The status and changes in policies, institutions and instruments related to sustainable forest management is assessed through a set of **17 qualitative indicators**.

The **quantitative indicators** provide information on the status and changes of major aspects underlying SFM.

This information is meant to facilitate the evaluation of the achievements towards each criterion's goals, and the subsequent progress in SFM advancement.

The State of Europe's Forest 2011 attempts to cover trends from the last two decades.

Qualitative indicators enable monitoring of the status and changes in policies, institutions and instruments, enhance accountability and transparency of policy-making, and allow a better understanding of the interplay between the state of forests and policy-making.

They also support the strategic orientation of policies and, over time, help create more efficient and effective policies and institutional arrangements to govern SFM.

Changes reported indicate the responses of policy makers to challenges and opportunities related to forests and the implementation of SFM.

The current set of **qualitative indicators** is in two parts.

Part A describes the overall policies, institutions and instruments for SFM, covered through five indicators. These provide general information about the way forests are governed in a country.

Part B is to inform about policies, institutions and instruments used to address specific topics, which correspond with the quantitative indicators for SFM. These are covered by 12 indicators.

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Work Programme

Furthermore the **Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Legally Binding Agreement on Forest Europe** are proposing to use the FOREST EUROPE C&I set as structure of the text.



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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