

FOREST INFORMATION BILLBOARD

ISSUE 2024/3



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COFFI-2024



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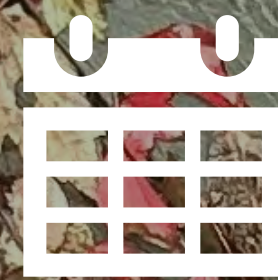
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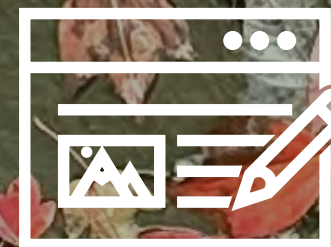


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I. TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

SAVE THE DATE

COFFI-2024

SAVE THE DATE: 82ND SESSION OF THE ECE COMMITTEE ON FORESTS AND THE FOREST INDUSTRY

The 82nd session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (COFFI) will be held from 13th to 15th November 2024 in Geneva, Switzerland (in-person participation only).

You can register for the event [here](#)

Meeting agenda is available [here](#)

For more information: [here](#)

DEFORESTATION-FREE TRADE DIALOGUE

On 13 November 2024, UNECE organizes the Deforestation-free trade dialogue. We invite everyone from the wood, cattle, cocoa, coffee, palm oil, rubber and soy sectors as well as those involved in the leather, chocolate, tires, and pulp and paper trade and industry to this discussion.

The focus of this dialogue will be European Union's Regulation (EU) 2023/1115 on deforestation-free products (EUDR, under development) and its implications. The UNECE prepared a [short survey](#) for collecting more information about the EUDR. All relevant market actors are invited to provide their input. The information will allow the UNECE to further refine the preparation of the event.

The event is part of the [82nd session of the UNECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry](#) and will be held in Geneva, Switzerland with simultaneous interpretation in English, Russian and French.

Please note that successfully registered participants to the [82nd session of COFFI](#) are automatically registered for this event.

Take survey [here](#)

For more information: [here](#)

II. WHAT'S NEW IN THE FORESTRY SECTION? (1/2)

UN PETITE FOREST NETWORK DEBUTS AT FUTURE GREEN CITIES

The UN Petite Forest Network was officially launched on September 25th at the Future Green Cities, co-organized by UNECE and Earthwatch Europe.

Key speakers from organizations like AIPH, World Urban Parks, and cities such as Utrecht and Liverpool shared insights into urban greening. Petite forests, small clusters of native trees, were highlighted for their role in enhancing biodiversity, combating climate change, and fostering community engagement.

The first Petite Forest in San Marino, during Foresta 2023, laid the groundwork for the initiative's vision, symbolizing how small actions can unite people and make a lasting impact on urban spaces.

An online event will be held on November 28 to continue the discussion.

For more details about the event and how to join the Network visit the [webpage](#).

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FOREST RESILIENCE WEEK: A JOINT SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN WITH FOREST EUROPE

In September, the Section hosted a social media campaign for #ForestResilience week in collaboration with Forest Europe to underscore the critical importance of forest resilience.

Resilient forests are essential for enhancing biodiversity and combating climate change—key components of a sustainable future!

To protect ecosystems from threats like bark beetle infestations, forest fires, and storm damage, a holistic approach to crisis management is vital. Addressing these interconnected issues helps prevent unwanted consequences.

Let's continue advocating for responsible forest management to ensure a brighter, sustainable future for our forests and communities.

Follow us on social media for more insights:

[X](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Instagram](#)

YASHIL MAKON – GREEN NATION: MASTER PLANNING TO SUPPORT THE FOREST RESTORATION OF UZBEKISTAN.

UNECE, UNDP, and UNHCR launched their joint project in support of the implementation of the Yashil Makon Initiative of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The Yashil Makon (Green Nation) Initiative is a nationwide program launched by the Government of Uzbekistan to expand and enhance green spaces, promote environmental stewardship, and improve the overall quality of life for citizens.

This project, which was launched at the meeting held on 11 September 2024 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan focuses on integrating comprehensive master planning with innovative financial solutions, create income-generating opportunities for communities to ensure the initiative is not only sustainable but also scalable across Uzbekistan's diverse landscapes.

More information : [here](#)

Photo credit: UNDP Uzbekistan

II. WHAT'S NEW IN THE FORESTRY SECTION? (2/2)

CAPACITY BUILDING EVENT: NATURE BASED SOLUTIONS, FOOD LOSS, WASTE PREVENTION AND REDUCTION IN CITIES

On October 8, 2024, the València City Council's World Sustainable Urban Food Center (CEMAS) and the European Food Information Council (EUFIC) hosted a workshop to help cities reduce food loss and waste. UNECE was a partner, providing expertise in nature-based solutions and digital tools.

This event brought together city officials, policymakers, and organizations working on urban food and nature systems.

Participants shared experiences and initiatives for reducing food waste and discussed strategies for sustainable food management.

For more information: [here](#)

CITIES EAT: URBAN TREES AND RESILIENT FOOD SYSTEM (16 OCTOBER 2024)

The UNECE team hosted a capacity-building workshop in Tirana on 16 October to address pressing challenges in urban food systems and explore nature-based (tree) solutions. The event focused on:

- Urban food availability and security: Examining food production in cities and opportunities to enhance urban resilience through nature-based solutions.
- Food-bearing trees: Promoting the planting and management of food-bearing trees for climate action, biodiversity, air quality, and access to fresh, nutritious food.
- Urban planning and development: Integrating urban food trees into broader urban planning initiatives.

The workshop aimed to promote urban food trees and local food production while sharing practical guidance on integrated measures, stronger urban-rural connections, and more sustainable, food-secure, and resilient cities.

For more information: [here](#)

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NEW EFI POLICY BRIEF EXPLORES HOW TREES AND URBAN FORESTS COMBAT HEALTH PROBLEMS

By 2050, over 70% of the world's population will live in cities, posing urgent challenges related to climate change, biodiversity loss and environmental degradation. Urban lifestyles, characterised by chronic stress, social isolation, and lack of physical activity, have changed the global disease burden, which is now dominated by non-communicable diseases, such as obesity, heart diseases, diabetes and depression. **Urban trees** are a multifaceted solution to several challenges, and more and more new research shows the **impressive positive impacts trees, forests and green spaces have on human wellbeing**.

The paper explains why we need to transform our cities into **Biocities** that promote life, biodiversity and health, and how by prioritizing the integration of trees into urban planning and policy, cities can create healthier, more resilient, and sustainable urban environments for current and future generations. **The policy brief sets out 4 recommendations** for policymakers, including multi-sectorial collaborations, incorporating trees in urban planning, conducting health assessments to quantify benefits and healthcare savings from green infrastructures, and educating and engaging communities on the benefits of urban trees. **Read the Policy Brief [here](#)**.

For more information: [Livia Podestà](#), www.efi.int

Image: (c) EFI 2024

FSC UNVEILS LANDMARK PUBLICATION: FOREST FUTURES

The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) released "**Forest Futures**", assessing global forests' current state and exploring their transformative potential.

The publication highlights the importance of forest stewardship in addressing climate change, biodiversity loss, and social inequity.

It outlines three potential trajectories for forests by 2050, based on key drivers like governance and market forces, developed with input from over 200 stakeholders.

FSC calls for a joint effort from governments, businesses, and NGOs to create a future where forests flourish and to achieve global environmental targets.

For more information: [here](#)

Image: (c) FSC Jonathan Perugia

WOOD RESOURCE BALANCES - CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND CASCADING

The publication "**Wood Resource Balances - Circular Economy and Cascading**" summarises Professor Mantau's work in the field of wood resource balances. In addition to long-term overviews, the work contains numerous methodological innovations. The wood resource balances have been further improved.

With the three-part division "**semi-finished products - raw materials - resources**", the raw material balances have become even more consistent. Partial raw material balances provide an insight into the wood flow from the perspective of a single raw material.

Sectoral wood raw material balances complement these with a link to market sector analysis. The improved method provides a link between wood resource balances, circular economy modelling and market models (production, export, import). With the wood resource balance for the furniture market it was also possible to trace a consistent balance from a final goods sector via the use of semi-finished goods back to the wood resource.

The study is available via

[FNR-Mediathek](#) | [Charta für Holz 2.0](#) | [INFRO-Homepage](#)

III. PUBLICATIONS, ARTICLES, REPORTS, REGULATORY UPDATES

1/3

INTEGRATED FIRE MANAGEMENT VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES: PRINCIPLES AND STRATEGIC ACTIONS

FAO has released **updated guidelines** for countries on managing the risk of damaging wildfires.

The guidelines incorporate new content to address challenges stemming from the climate crisis and emphasize the integrated fire management approach, which involves acting long before, during, and long after a fire.

The guidelines also recommend strategic actions to support the inclusion of Indigenous Peoples and other local knowledge holders, who can contribute valuable site-specific practices and insights that enhance fire management decisions.

For more information: [here](#)

Image: (c) FAO

FORESTRY'S ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION TO SCOTLAND'S ECONOMY, A NEW REPORT

Scottish forestry sectors contribute £1.1 billion GVA to Scotland's economy. This was the principal finding from Scottish Forestry's new report, [Economic Impacts of Forest Based Activities in Scotland](#) (2024). This study brings together the different parts of the sector to provide a comprehensive estimate of its economic contribution, detailed as:

- £878 million from forestry, timber processing, and supply chain activities
- £252 million from forest recreation and tourism
- Increased employment levels, more than 34,100 full time workers across these productive and recreational sectors.
- 1,970 local businesses maximising the economic, environmental, ecological, and social benefits of local forest-based activities.

For more information: [here](#)

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SECTORAL CAPACITIES NEED STRENGTHENING TO DELIVER SUFFICIENT TREE SEED FOR FOREST AND LANDSCAPE RESTORATION

The quality and origin of tree seeds and seedlings affect the survival, growth, productivity, ecosystem services and adaptive capacity of restored forests and landscapes.

The availability of seeds and seedlings directly influences the delivery of benefits to land users from restoration efforts. Yet, despite more than a decade of global restoration commitments and programmes since 2011, substantial gaps remain worldwide in individual, organizational and sectoral capacities to source and deliver quality tree seeds and seedlings for restoration, especially of native species.

Data from global surveys indicate that these gaps affect many, if not most, ongoing projects and result in delays in implementation, cost increases and suboptimal restoration outcomes.

For more information: [here](#)

FORESIGHTING NATIONAL AGROFORESTRY POLICY FOR FOSTERING GREEN DEVELOPMENT

India took a pioneering step by adopting the National Agroforestry Policy (NAP) in 2014.

This policy, a culmination of concerted efforts by various stakeholders at national and international levels, marked a significant milestone in mainstreaming agroforestry development.

As we delve into the nuances of agroforestry in India, this document critically examines the progress made since the inception of the NAP after ten years.

The document is brought out by ICAR-Central Agroforestry Research Institute, Jhansi (Uttar Pradesh), India – a dedicated R&D organization for agroforestry.

For more information: [here](#)

Image: (c) ICAR-CAFRI

III. PUBLICATIONS, ARTICLES, REPORTS, REGULATORY UPDATES 2/3

STANDARDS OF PRACTICE TO GUIDE ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION

The **Standards of practice to guide ecosystem restoration** provides key recommendations for all phases of restoration projects.

These recommendations are applicable to the broad array of restorative activities included as ecosystem restoration under the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030, across all types of ecosystems (urban, production, cultural, semi-natural and natural) and restoration projects, from voluntary community member-led efforts to highly resourced, nationally funded projects.

For more information: [here](#)

RESTORING THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION: STATUS AND CHALLENGES

A new edition of FAO's forestry journal, *Unasylva* (no. 255), "**Restoring the Mediterranean region: status and challenges**", includes 13 expert articles that explore the extent of ecosystem restoration in the Mediterranean, the advances and challenges, and the tools and approaches that can help increase the quality and quantity of restoration work.

The articles present country perspectives on the role of restoration, highlight issues such as fire management and post-fire restoration, and explore topics such as the role of youth and women in the forest sector and the need to better monitor and communicate about restoration activities.

For more information: [here](#)

FOREST EUROPE'S MILESTONE REPORT: SHAPING THE FUTURE OF EUROPE'S FORESTS

Following the successful Ministerial Conference in Bonn (October 1-2), the comprehensive report on the implementation of the 2021 Bratislava Ministerial Documents has now been published.

As FOREST EUROPE operates on a voluntary basis, this report justifies the collective efforts made over the last four years, particularly in sustainable forest management at both national and regional levels.

The publication reflects the active contributions of member states, showcasing the success of the entire process during Germany's chairmanship.

Explore the full report online and discover the remarkable achievements made possible through our collective action.

Read the report [here](#)

EUROPEAN FOREST ACCOUNTS HANDBOOK PUBLISHED BY EUROSTAT

The **handbook** is primarily aimed at national experts engaged in the production of European forest accounts.

This edition reflects the latest European legal requirements.

The handbook provides a framework and practical recommendations for establishing European forest accounts. It offers harmonised terminology and concepts, and also help to compilers on data sources and methods.

For more information: [here](#)

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EXPLORE "A SHORT STORY ABOUT EUROPEAN FORESTS"

This insightful publication, crafted by independent authors, delves into key narratives surrounding Europe's forests.

Released in conjunction with the 9th FOREST EUROPE Ministerial Conference, held on October 1-2 in Bonn, it provides a valuable backdrop to the discussions.

Guided by the six Criteria for Sustainable Forest Management - the foundation of FOREST EUROPE - the publication explores the benefits and challenges as well as synergies and trade-offs of this inclusive and dynamic management approach.

While it informed policymakers during the conference, it also offers a digestible overview for a broader audience interested in the future of Europe's forests.

For more information: [here](#)

YOUTH POSITION ON THE FUTURE OF EUROPE'S FORESTS

At the 9th FOREST EUROPE Ministerial Conference, in Bonn, Germany, the International Forestry Students' Association, in collaboration with Arbeitsgemeinschaft Naturgemäße Waldwirtschaft and European Young Rewilders presented the **Youth Position Paper on the Future of Europe's Forests** - developed through two youth consultation workshops involving 9 European and international youth organizations in forestry and related sciences, facilitated by FOREST EUROPE.

The paper reflects youth perspectives on the Bonn Ministerial Declaration and Decision and offers concrete suggestions for increasing youth engagement in high-level policy and intergenerational dialogue. This initiative highlights youth's readiness to contribute and sets a model for effective youth involvement in policymaking!

For more information: [here](#)

Image: (c) The second youth consultation workshop, 3rd May 2024

DELIVERING TREE GENETIC RESOURCES IN FOREST AND LANDSCAPE RESTORATION

In the last 25 years, almost 50 million hectares of primary forest have been lost due to deforestation.

Numerous international initiatives such as the Bonn Challenge and the New York Declaration on Forests have set ambitious goals to restore degraded and deforested lands by 2030.

Realizing global commitments on forest and landscape restoration (FLR) will require the establishment of billions of trees on millions of hectares of degraded land to address the triple crisis of biodiversity loss, climate change and failing food systems.

A significant amount of FLR will require tree planting or increasing tree cover in production landscapes.

For more information: [here](#)

Image: (c) FAO

III. PUBLICATIONS, ARTICLES, REPORTS, REGULATORY UPDATES 3/3

THE STATE OF THE WORLD'S FORESTS 2024

The 2024 edition of the **State of the World's Forests (SOFO)** highlights the transformative power of evidence-based innovation in the forest sector, featuring 18 case studies from around the world on technological, social, policy and financial innovations.

SOFO 2024 identifies barriers to and enablers of innovation and outlines the following five actions to help scale up such innovation: raising awareness; boosting innovation skills, capabilities and knowledge; encouraging transformational partnerships; ensuring more and universally accessible finance for innovation; and providing an incentivizing policy and regulatory environment.

For more information: [here](#)

Image: (c) FAO

TOWARDS A DIGITAL PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE FOR DEFORESTATION-RELATED TRADE REGULATIONS

Regulations for reducing deforestation linked to commodity production are on the rise (e.g. the European Union Deforestation Regulation, the United Kingdom's FRC regime, and the United States of America's FOREST Act). These regulations all have in common the need for geospatial data. Simple solutions are needed for smallholder farmers to ensure sustainable practices and compliance with regulated markets.

Under the umbrella of the Team Europe Zero-Deforestation Initiative, the Forest Data Partnership and Aim4Forests, FAO and partners are developing digital tools to facilitate traceability and the assessment of risk of deforestation for agricultural supply chains.

These tools are for use by everyone along commodity supply chains, from smallholders to governments.

For more information: [here](#)

Image: (c) FAO

EFFECTIVE FOREST AND LANDSCAPE RESTORATION ACTIONS IN LEBANON: A CROSS-SECTORAL COLLABORATION BETWEEN FAO, LEBANON AND KOREA

As the initial funder of the **Forest and Landscape Restoration Mechanism (FLRM)**, the Korea Forest Service has consistently supported the implementation of forest and landscape restoration (FLR) activities in Lebanon since 2014 and has agreed to extend its financial support to 2025.

The FLRM projects in Lebanon mainly aim to step up restoration efforts by establishing and strengthening an enabling environment focused on pilot activities that apply suitable FLR approaches.

These are designed to contribute to the achievement of national and global restoration targets as set out by the nationally determined contributions (NDCs), the Bonn Challenge, Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

For more information: [here](#)

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REVITALIZATION OF THE CHESTNUT FORESTS IN TROPOJA (ALBANIA) THROUGH SILVICULTURAL AND SANITARY INTERVENTIONS

Chestnut (*C. sativa*) almost grows naturally in several places in Albania.

In addition to the lack of maintenance, the presence of Chestnut canker (*C.parasitica*) and the Asian Chestnut Gall Wasp (*D. kuriphilus*) have made the survival of the Chestnut very tough.

With the support of FAO project TCP/ALB/3904 Sustainable Chestnut Value Chain Development (OCOP), two demonstration plots with the goal of establishing a model of silvicultural and sanitary interventions and biological treatment of canker and the Asian chestnut wasp were established.

The aim was to demonstrate the effectiveness of such interventions for the regeneration of chestnut forests, increase of production and improve the chestnut value chain.

For more information: [here](#)

Image: (c) Abdulla Diku

IV. FOREST COMMUNITY: PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES 1/2

TREES PLANTED IN THE CITY OF BRAGA IN 2024, UNTIL MARCH

For decades, the urban trees in the Municipality of Braga suffered poorly executed and technically inadequate pruning.

Since 2013, the Municipality of Braga has imposed rigor and rules to the pruning and felling of trees, making it essential to carry out a diagnosis of the phytosanitary state and biomechanical soundness and has only felled trees that pose a danger to people and property.

Plantations far exceed the slaughters.

Between January and March 2024, 68 trees were felled and 614 planted, with the main concern being that the planted specimens were adequate and when mature, did not conflict with the buildings, roads and buried infrastructures.

For more information: [here](#) and [here](#)

Image: (c) Planting of trees by gardeners from the Municipality of Braga

EFI IS NOW ON INSTAGRAM

You can now find the European Forest Institute (EFI) on Instagram.

Through visually engaging content, we want to use this platform to expand our network and strengthen the overall relationship between people and forests.

To increase awareness of the vital role forests play, the importance of forest science and sustainable commodities, EFI will use Instagram to share forest stories, scientific findings and the impact of projects, as well as highlight researchers who contribute to building a sustainable society.

For more information: [here](#)

ARMENIA ESTABLISHES ECOPATROL SERVICE

The management and protection of Armenia's forests and specially protected areas (SPAs) rich in biodiversity are priorities for the government.

Previously, "Hayantar" SNCO and similar organizations managed SPAs with limited resources and restricted hours, which hindered effective protection.

To improve efficiency and provide 24/7 coverage, Armenia established the **Ecopatrol Service**, responsible for safeguarding state forests and SPAs while actively addressing illegal activities.

Learning new strategies from international experiences of similar organizations is very important for the Ecopatrol Service.

For more information: [here](#)

CELLULOSE EXPORTS BOOST THE SECTOR'S TRADE BALANCE

The Brazilian forestry sector's trade balance ended the first half of 2024 with a positive balance of US\$7 billion, representing an increase of 14.7% compared to the same period of the previous year.

The performance, detailed in the **Mosaico Ibá bulletin**, produced by the Brazilian Tree Industry (Ibá), reflects the significant growth in exports of forestry products, which increased by 13.8%, while imports increased by 3%.

For more information: [here](#)

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INCASTREE, THE PROJECT THAT TRANSFORMS BARK BEETLE-DAMAGED WOOD IN TRENTINO (ITALY) INTO ECO-SUSTAINABLE DESIGN

IncasTree (in English: fits) is a project led by architect Giorgio Caporaso at ENAIP Tesero (Trento district - Italy), the world's first PEFC-certified school.

It transforms wood from bark beetle-damaged forests into eco-friendly furniture, with designs created by students and local companies.

Collaborating with PEFC Italy and "Confartigianato Trentino," the project has produced five prototypes promoting circular design and sustainable forestry.

It highlights wood reuse and strengthens PEFC Italy's "solidarity supply chain", supporting local forestry businesses and reducing reliance on imported wood, as part of PEFC International's "Forests Are Home" campaign.

For more information: [here](#) and [here](#)

Image: (c) Eleonora Mariano – PEFC Italy

IV. FOREST COMMUNITY: PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES 2/2

INTERCEDE PROJECT LAUNCHES WEBSITE TO BOOST FOREST ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

The INTERCEDE Horizon Europe project has launched a new website to promote forest ecosystem services and support sustainable forest management across Europe.

The site features tools, resources, and research to incentivise forest owners through innovative market-based instruments tailored to various bioregions.

It also highlights stakeholder engagement activities and provides access to research findings and policy frameworks.

Stay updated with the project's progress via the biannual newsletter and social media.

For more information: [here](#)

Image: (c) Neli Doncheva

"BEST FOREST FIREFIGHTER 2024" COMPETITION

"The Best Forest Firefighter" competition was held this September by the Federal Forestry Agency of Russia.

For ten years already, this competition is bringing together firefighting teams who compete in their skills and knowledge. Previously All-Russian, now the event is open for international participation.

Competitors are to do cross-country running, forest orienteering and clear forest obstacle courses. These include dense forest, swampy terrain and rough country. Safety training is an obligatory part of the programme.

Three-days activities give opportunities to exchange professional experience. It also helps to communicate on the value of forest firefighters' work and raise wildfire awareness.

For more information: [here](#)

RACINES DE FRANCE: A COMPANY COMMITTED TO CREATING A DEMONSTRATOR OF SUSTAINABLE SILVICULTURAL TRANSITIONS

Racines de France is pioneering a sustainable forestry model, located in the heart of the Cantal region, in Aubrac national parc.

Our project focuses on reforestation to combat the impacts of climate change and restore biodiversity.

We are replanting areas devastated by bark beetles and integrating mixed-species plantings to enhance ecosystem resilience.

Additionally, we are establishing a permanent herbaceous cover to prevent soil erosion and support pollinators, and we are planting hedges to create wildlife corridors.

Alongside these efforts, we are renovating our farm to host public seminars, raising awareness of the critical role of trees in combating climate change.

For more information: [here](#)

PULP SECTOR ANNOUNCES INVESTMENTS OF R\$105 BILLION IN BRAZIL BY 2028

Ibá participated in a meeting with the President of the Brazil, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, to present the investments planned by the sector until 2028, which total R\$105 billion.

The delegation included around 20 executives, including CEOs, directors and directors from the sector, led by Antonio Joaquim, president of the Ibá Deliberative Council, and Paulo Hartung, president of the entity.

The meeting highlighted that the industry plants, harvests and replants on 10 million hectares and conserves another 7 million hectares of native trees.

This conservation area is larger than the state of Rio de Janeiro.

For more information: [here](#)

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V. PAST EVENTS

THE RESILIENTWOOD PROJECT PARTNERS PUT FORWARD A SERIES OF RECOMMENDATIONS TO BUILD A STRONG EUROPEAN WOODWORKING INDUSTRY

On 4 September 2024, the project partners held their final conference. Employment in the wood industry is vital not only for economic prosperity and social stability but also for advancing environmental sustainability and innovation. The sector's ability to provide jobs across various skill levels and its role in sustainable resource management make it a cornerstone of the bioeconomy.

Over fifty participants travelled to Brussels to attend the final conference and learn more about innovation, inclusion, mobility for apprentices and attracting young people to the wood industry. The attendants also had the opportunity to discover the results of the project's final study, as well as the partners' policy recommendations.

For more information: [here](#)

ASK A SCIENTIST – SUSTAINABLE FINANCE AND FOREST BIODIVERSITY

How can we encourage sustainable investments in forests that ensure biodiversity? What can science tell us about indicators and measurements, targets, and thresholds? How does all this relate to the EU Taxonomy, and other green finance initiatives?

Our ThinkForest Ask a Scientist webinar on 11 September unpacked some of these key issues, allowing the audience to tap into the expert knowledge of the authors of EFI's From Science to Policy study on Sustainable finance and forest biodiversity criteria.

Watch the recording: [here](#)

Read the report: [Nabuurs, G.J., Begemann, A., Linser, S., Paillet, Y., Pettenella, D., zu Ermgassen, S. 2024. Sustainable finance and forest biodiversity criteria. From Science to Policy 16. European Forest Institute](#)

For more information: [here](#)

Image: (c) adobestock - lovelyday12

SHAPING OUR FUTURE WITH RESILIENT FORESTS: HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 9TH FOREST EUROPE MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

At the 9th FOREST EUROPE Ministerial Conference on 1-2 October 2024, 35 countries and over 20 observer organizations [signed the Bonn Ministerial documents](#).

The Bonn Ministerial Declaration reaffirms FOREST EUROPE's leadership in sustainable forest management, emphasizing its relevance and adaptability to future challenges.

The Bonn Ministerial Decision sets the foundation for a pan-European Forest Risk Facility in Bonn.

Youth representatives presented a [position paper](#), prompting a stronger commitment to involving young people in future work. FOREST EUROPE also launched support for the recovery and sustainable management of Ukrainian forests and its forest sector.

After four years as chair, Germany will hand over the role to Sweden by year's end.

For more insights visit [our website](#)

WEBINAR: "THE EUDR CLOCK IS TICKING! COUNTDOWN TO COMPLIANCE"

The December deadline for implementing the European Union Deforestation Regulation is approaching fast, and companies need to get ready.

Our expert panel, featuring representatives from FSC, NGOs, Competent Authorities, and industry leaders, will dive into the **latest updates from the EU Commission**, the added value of FSC solutions, and **actionable steps toward EUDR compliance**.

Let's work together towards compliance and drive sustainable change!

For more information: [here](#) and [here](#)

Image: (c) FSC Denmark

COLLABORATIVE WORKSHOP: FASHIONS CHANGE, FORESTS STAY

[PEFC Italia](#), the [Camera Nazionale della Moda Italiana](#), and [UNECE](#) organized an insightful workshop on 'Fashions Change, Forests Stay' on 10 October near Florence, Italy.

The event raised awareness about sustainably managed forests and their vital role in supporting the [#fashion](#) industry's sustainability goals. A key focus was on the traceability of Man-Made Cellulosic Fibres ([#MMCFs](#)), engaging fashion brands in meaningful discussions on how responsible sourcing can make a difference.

More information about the campaign on "Fashions Change, Forests Stay" can be found [here](#).

Image: (c) PEFC

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27TH SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON POPLARS AND OTHER FAST-GROWING TREES SUSTAINING PEOPLE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The 27th Session of the International Commission on Poplars and Other Fast-Growing Trees Sustaining People and the Environment (IPC27), "Poplars and other fast-growing trees for climate change mitigation and adaptation – pathways to climate resilience and carbon neutral societies", will be held on 21–25 October 2024 at the Palais des congrès in Bordeaux, France.

The IPC27 provisional programme includes a pre-session study tour in France on 17–20 October 2024 and a post-session study tour in Italy on 27–29 October 2024.

For more information: [here](#)

Image: (c) FAO

EXTREME WILDFIRE EVENTS WEBINAR SERIES

In recent years, Europe has experienced a record number of **Extreme Wildfire Events (EWE)**, leading to the burning of over half a million hectares in the EU alone in 2023 and 20 megatons of CO₂ emissions into the atmosphere.

To respond to global rising temperatures and intensified droughts, we need preventive actions and sustainable forest management.

Join the EFI Bioregions Facility and FIRE-RES for a series of webinars where pitchers present solutions that efficiently and effectively address wildfire risk and integrated fire management in Europe and beyond.

For more information: [here](#)

VI. UPCOMING EVENTS

UPCOMING MEDITERRANEAN FOREST WEEK: REGIONAL AND NATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF TÜRKIYE IN COOPERATION WITH FAO

During the 8th Mediterranean Forest Week (4-8 November 2024, Barcelona), FAO and the Government of Türkiye will host a side event to highlight joint regional and national forest restoration efforts under the FAO–Türkiye Forestry Partnership Programme.

The event will showcase four ongoing projects in Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan, focusing on forest restoration and natural resource conservation.

Speakers will share lessons learned and strategies to enhance project implementation, addressing challenges like climate change, forest degradation, and overgrazing, while emphasizing the potential of forests to combat climate change and improve resilience.

For more information: [here](#)

Image: (c) Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Türkiye / Hakan Burak Altunöz

INTERNATIONAL HARDWOOD CONFERENCE – 2024

The Association of the Austrian Wood Industries, together with the European Organisation of the Sawmill Industry (EOS) and the European Timber Federation (ETTF), are inviting you to Vienna for the International Hardwood Conference 2024 (7th-8th of November).

Find the Conference agenda: [here](#)

For more information: [here](#)

EFUF2025 – "URBAN FORESTS FOR RESILIENT AND HEALTHY CITIES"

The City of Zürich, ETH Zürich, the Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape (WSL), the Waldlabor Zurich, ArboCityNet and the Bern University of Applied Sciences (BFH) invite you to attend the 27th European Forum on Urban Forestry from Tuesday evening 3 June until Saturday afternoon 7 June 2025.

For more information: [here](#)

Image: (c) View from Zurich, Jerylee Wilkes-Allemann

