The role of forests and forest owner organisations in mitigating climate change

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Secretary General
European forestry

• Over 60% of forests owned by families
  – generation bridging management and experience
• 16 million family forest owners
• Small scale forest holdings
  – average size 2-50 ha
• Sustainable forest management
  – Balancing economic, social and ecological requirements
  – Respecting the diversity across Europe
• 60% of the annual increment in European forests is harvested
CEPF – The voice of European Family Forestry

• Founded in 1994, but have roots back to app. 1960
• The umbrella federation of family forestry in Europe
• Represents the interests of family forest owners in the political process within the European Union
• Participates in international and global forest policy fora - MCPFE, UNECE, UNFF, WB and FAO
• Assembles national forest owner associations of 23 European countries
CEPF – in 24 countries
CEPF’s main objective

...is to support a reliable political framework that enable long-term responsible investment in sustainable forest management by family forest owners
Forest and Climate Change

• European forests will be hugely affected by climate change
• An average increase in temperature of 2 degrees will required a dramatic change in species composition and in the management of the forest
• This transition can be very costly for the forest owners. Can happen gradually or during disasters
• But what to do as a forest owner?
Adaptation to Climate Change

• More research is urgently needed:
  - Information is required to allow the forest owners to take qualified decisions which will have very long term impacts

• Support of adaptation measures:
  - Change of species before optimal harvest time
  - Research in new provenances better suited for new conditions (drought, wind, pests etc.)

• Support of prevention measures:
  - Forest fire prevention
  - Support of precommercial thinning would improve resistance against wind damage
  - Support of replanting after windblows and other disasters
Mitigating Climate Change

• The forest owners are by far the biggest producer of renewable energy in Europe.
• We will also be that in the future!
• But the smaller forest owners needs to become better organised.
• CEPF believe forest owner organisations is the most powerful tool to mobilise the forest owners and their resources.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Number of producer organisations</th>
<th>Private forest owners (ha)</th>
<th>Members</th>
<th>Share (%)</th>
<th>Total private surface (ha)</th>
<th>Member surface (ha)</th>
<th>Share (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>150,000</td>
<td>54,800</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>2,525,645</td>
<td>837,500</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td>5441</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>335,000</td>
<td>78,000</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>55,000</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>925,675</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>11%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>920,000</td>
<td>131,032</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>11,800,000</td>
<td>5,300,000</td>
<td>45%</td>
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<td>France</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>3,500,000</td>
<td>100200</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>10,500,000</td>
<td>1,800,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>4,550</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td>379,000</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>4,823,723</td>
<td>3,500,000</td>
<td>50%*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Latvia</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>150,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,390,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lithuania</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>232,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>800,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>120,000</td>
<td>40,000</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>6,000,000</td>
<td>3,500,000</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>3,280,000</td>
<td>1,200,000</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>335,805</td>
<td>107,369</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>11,813,000</td>
<td>6,375,000</td>
<td>54%</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>4,702</td>
<td>7,887,805</td>
<td>831,842</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>54,193,043</td>
<td>22,690,500</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How to introduce the model of FOA to other countries or to improve exiting cooperation?
Action needed

• Authorities must support the creation of FOA
• Industry must also play their role
• Forest owners must understand the importance of the management of their forest
• We all need to work on changing the negative perception of forest and wood

Not only to supply more wood to the markets but also providing other services demanded by society
More information:

www.cepf-eu.org