



The EU Forest Strategy and Bioeconomy

*BIOEAST conference
Brussels, 21 February 2020*

EU FOREST Strategy



2020 OBJECTIVE

To ensure and demonstrate that:

- All forests in the EU are managed according to sustainable forest management (SFM) principles
- The EU contribution to promoting SFM and reducing deforestation globally is strengthened .

COORDINATION AND COMMUNICATION	Working together
	Forests from a global perspective
CONTRIBUTING TO MAJOR SOCIETAL OBJECTIVES	Supporting our rural and urban communities
	Fostering the competitiveness and sustainability of forest-based industries, bioenergy and the wider green economy
	Forests and climate change
	Protecting forests and enhancing ecosystem services
IMPROVING THE KNOWLEDGE BASE	Forest information and monitoring
	Research and innovation



Aims

- Review implementation status, **covering the priority areas and strategic orientations**, *considering actions in the Forest MAP*
- Assess progress towards objectives, in the light of the review
- Build on evolved policy context identifying, to the extent feasible, any remaining gaps and shortfalls.
- Take into account Council conclusions, European Parliament's own-initiative report, and the Opinions of the EESC and the CoR.



The Report

- Report from the Commission – collegial work
- Review/stocktaking vs. Evaluation/revision
- Concise
- Avoid forward-looking content
- Structure
 - Introduction
 - Summary of progress, in reference to Forest MAP
 - 8 priority areas, 8 sections
 - EU funding for forests and the forest-based sector
 - Conclusion – Progress towards 2020 objectives



SOME KEY MESSAGES

- Majority of MAP actions implemented as planned (i.e. about 90% completed or ongoing); 10% pending, some delays.
- **CAP, the main source of EU funding for the forest sector.** CAP forestry measures support many Strategy objectives in 24 MS (90% RDPs).
- EU funds aligned in coherence and synergy to support objectives and priorities of the Strategy (CP, ESIF, LIFE, Research, Development cooperation)
- **The report shows the Strategy is fit for addressing new policy developments, referring to many of them: CAP reform, 2030 Climate and Energy Framework (LULUCF, adaptation, RED), EU Civil protection mechanism, EU Bioeconomy Strategy, Circular Economy Action Plan, Action Plan Deforestation...**



Some needs

- Interaction of forests and trees with urban and peri-urban areas and communities.
- Additional experience and exchanges of good practices in mitigation and adaptation actions and their synergies.
- **Deploy innovation and scale-up the role of forest-based biomass, whilst protecting the environment and ensuring circularity – role of revised EU Bioeconomy Strategy.**
- Enhance the role of FMPs in achieving biodiversity targets and support the provision of ecosystem services.
- A strengthened framework to disseminate R&I project results and reinforce capitalisation of innovation along value chains to support competitiveness.
- Forest harmonized information (FISE, ENFIN...)



Conclusions

- Significant progress towards 2020 objectives
- Substantial progress implementing the activities addressing priority areas and strategic orientations.
- A valid tool to serve multiple purposes that sometimes can be perceived as contradictory.
- Growing demands and pressures might require more efforts and commitment for coordination, cooperation, expert involvement,
 - Including across sectors and between the Commission, Member States and other stakeholders.
- Better communicating needed, for ensuring strong societal support for sustainable forest management.

Importance of the Bioeconomy for the CAP post-2020 recognised by policy makers:

- Commission Communication "The Future of Food and Farming"
- CAP post-2020 proposal - the BIOECONOMY is in one of the 9 specific objectives, namely "*Promote employment, growth, social inclusion and local development in rural areas, including bio-economy and sustainable forestry*"



Opportunities for supporting the Bioeconomy in the CAP Strategic Plans

- **Interventions in rural development remaining relevant for the Bioeconomy:**
 - ✓ **Investments;**
 - ✓ **Cooperation;**
 - ✓ **Exchange of knowledge and information;**
 - ✓ **New businesses and young farmers.**
- **ENRD WG “Mainstreaming the Bioeconomy” - Recommendations on the use of RDPs**



Opportunities for supporting the Bioeconomy in the CAP Strategic Plans

Based on the SWOT analysis:

- ❑ Assess the biomass potential using all available data/ information;**
- ❑ Identify strengths, needs and respective opportunities for supporting Bioeconomy types of interventions.**



Opportunities for supporting the Bioeconomy in the CAP Strategic Plans

Intervention logic in the CAP Strategic plans:

- ❑ Identify priorities, taking into account global National Bioeconomy support framework (NBES);**
- ❑ Cover important cross-cutting aspects (i.e. raising awareness and mobilising stakeholders at all levels, promoting BE governance structures).**



Opportunities for supporting the Bioeconomy in the CAP Strategic Plans

Intervention logic in the CAP Strategic plans:

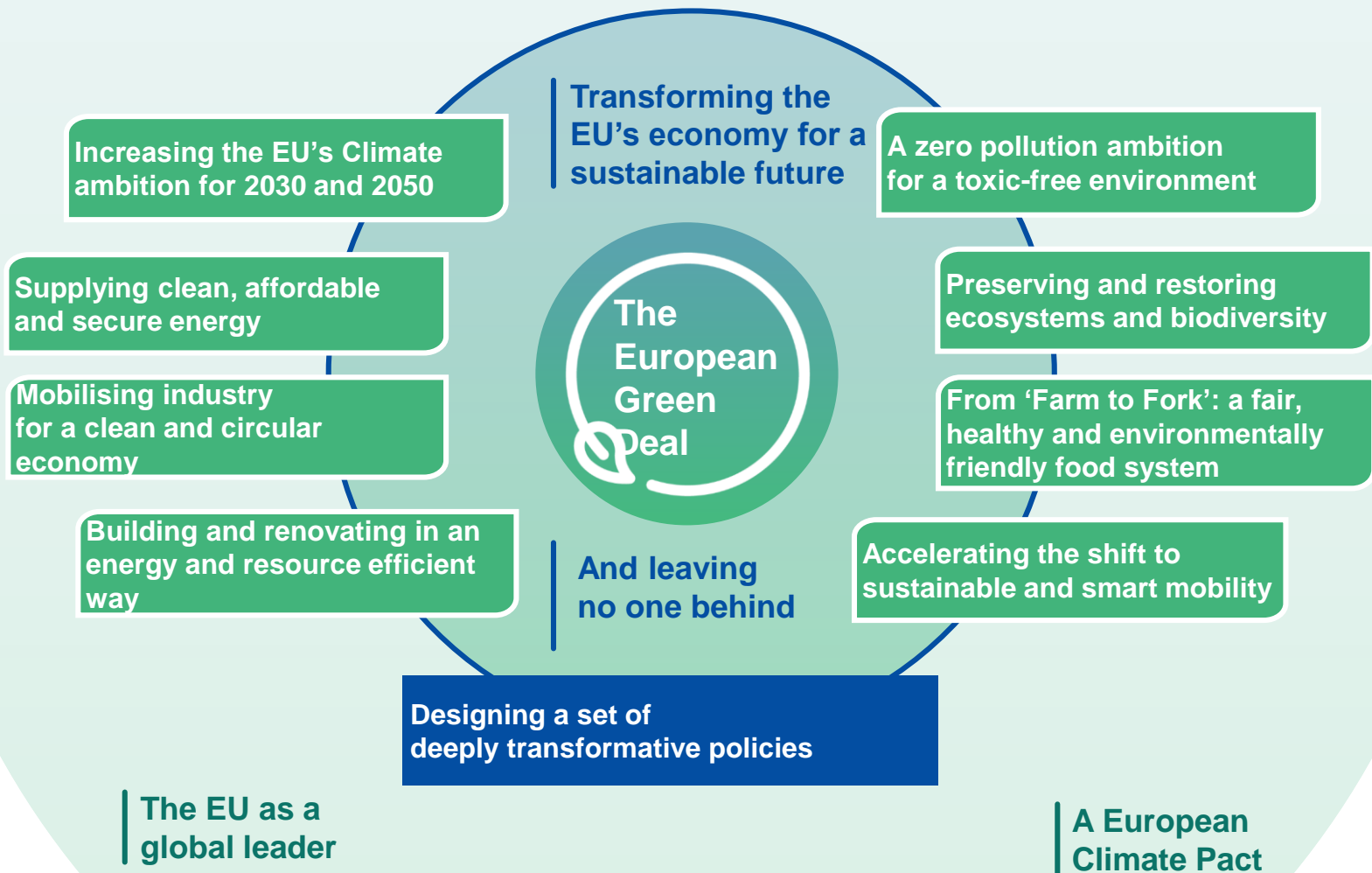
- ❑ Role of cooperatives/ cooperation structures of primary producer in mainstreaming the BE and integrating them into the BE value chains.**
- ❑ Promote circular and sustainable BE solutions;**
- ❑ Identify an adequate mix of funding options under CAP, other ESIFs, including FIs;**



Opportunities for supporting R&I in the Bioeconomy in the CAP post-2020 context

Next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) 2021-2027 proposal - the budgetary amounts foreseen for research and innovation in food, agriculture, rural development and bio-economy within the new R&I Framework Programme "Horizon Europe" - roughly doubles (10 billion EUR).

The European Green Deal



The European Green Deal

- **EU Biodiversity Strategy** for 2030 in March 2020
- Follow up with concrete measures in 2021 to **address the main drivers of biodiversity loss**
- A new **EU Forest Strategy** in 2020
- Measures to support **deforestation-free value chains** from 2020

Preserving and restoring
ecosystems and biodiversity

Designing a set of
deeply transformative policies

The EU as a
global leader

A European
Climate Pact

European Green Deal Roadmap

(some) Key actions



- *Proposal on a European 'Climate Law' enshrining the 2050 climate neutrality objective March 2020*
- *New EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change 2020/2021*
- *EU Industrial strategy March 2020*
- *Greening the Common Agricultural Policy / 'Farm to Fork' Strategy, 2020-2021*
- *EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 March 2020*
- *New EU Forest Strategy 2020*
- *Renewed sustainable finance strategy Autumn 2020*
- *Review of the relevant State aid guidelines, including the environment and energy State aid guidelines 2021*
- *Launch of the European Climate Pact March 2020*

Thank you for your attention!



<https://ec.europa.eu/info/food-farming-fisheries/forestry/>