

Sustainable Forestry for Food Security and Nutrition

*A report by the
High Level Panel of Experts on
Food Security and Nutrition
of the CFS*

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Sustainable forestry

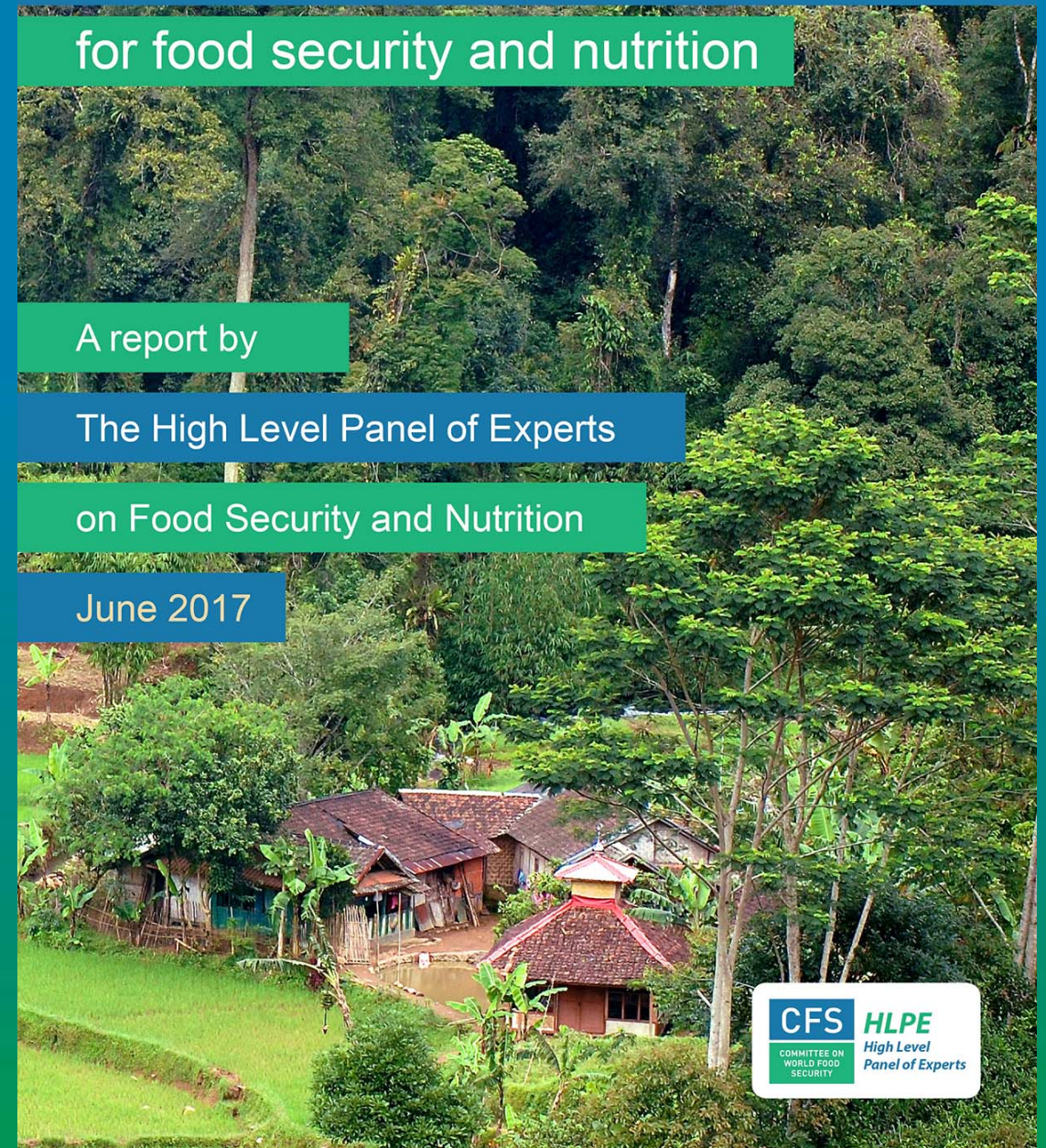
for food security and nutrition

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More than **1,660 definitions** of forests and wooded areas are used worldwide, reflecting the diversity:

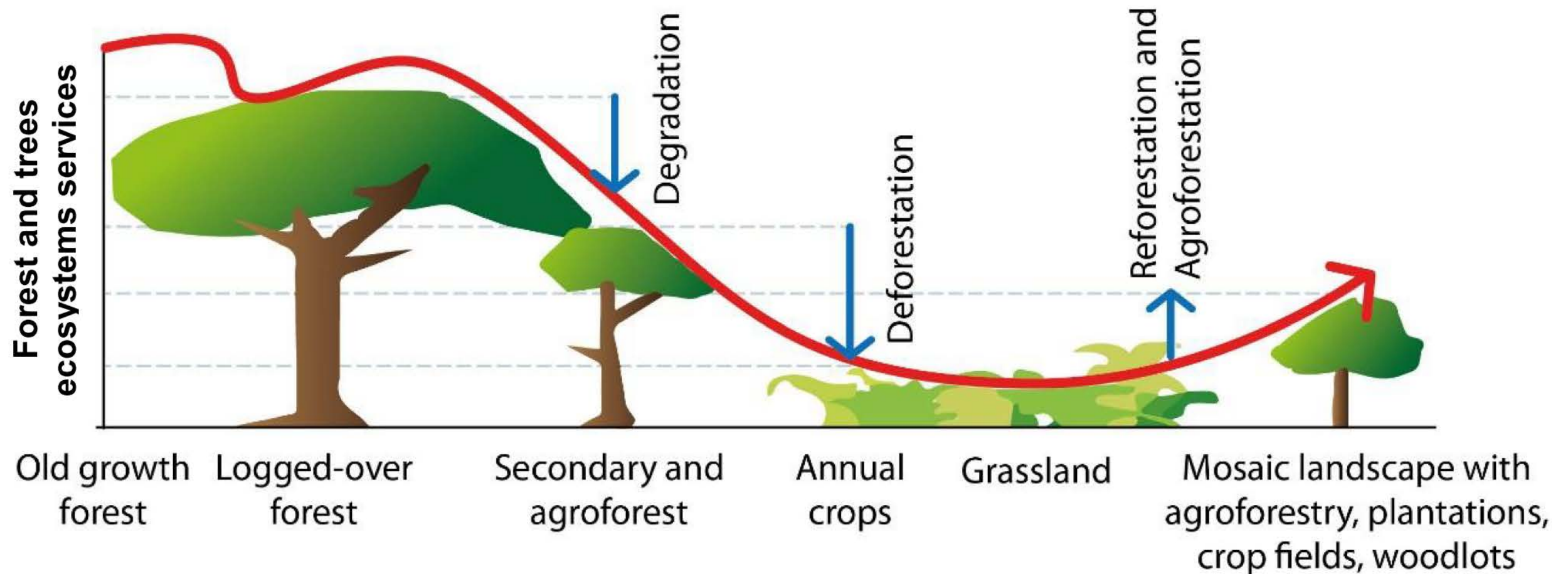
- of forest ecosystems,
- of human perceptions and uses of forests and trees,
- and the level of human modification of forests along the forest transition curve.

In the **FRA**, FAO defines forest as:

- *Land spanning more than **0.5 hectares**,*
- *with trees higher than **5 metres**, and*
- *a canopy cover of more than **10 percent**.*

This does not include land that is predominantly under agricultural or urban land use.

Forest transition curve



Source: Adapted from CIFOR (2011).

A typology of forests and trees

The **typology** proposed in this report builds on those definitions and on this forest transition curve.

Five broad categories are distinguished:

- Primary or old growth forests,
- Secondary forests,
- Plantation forests.

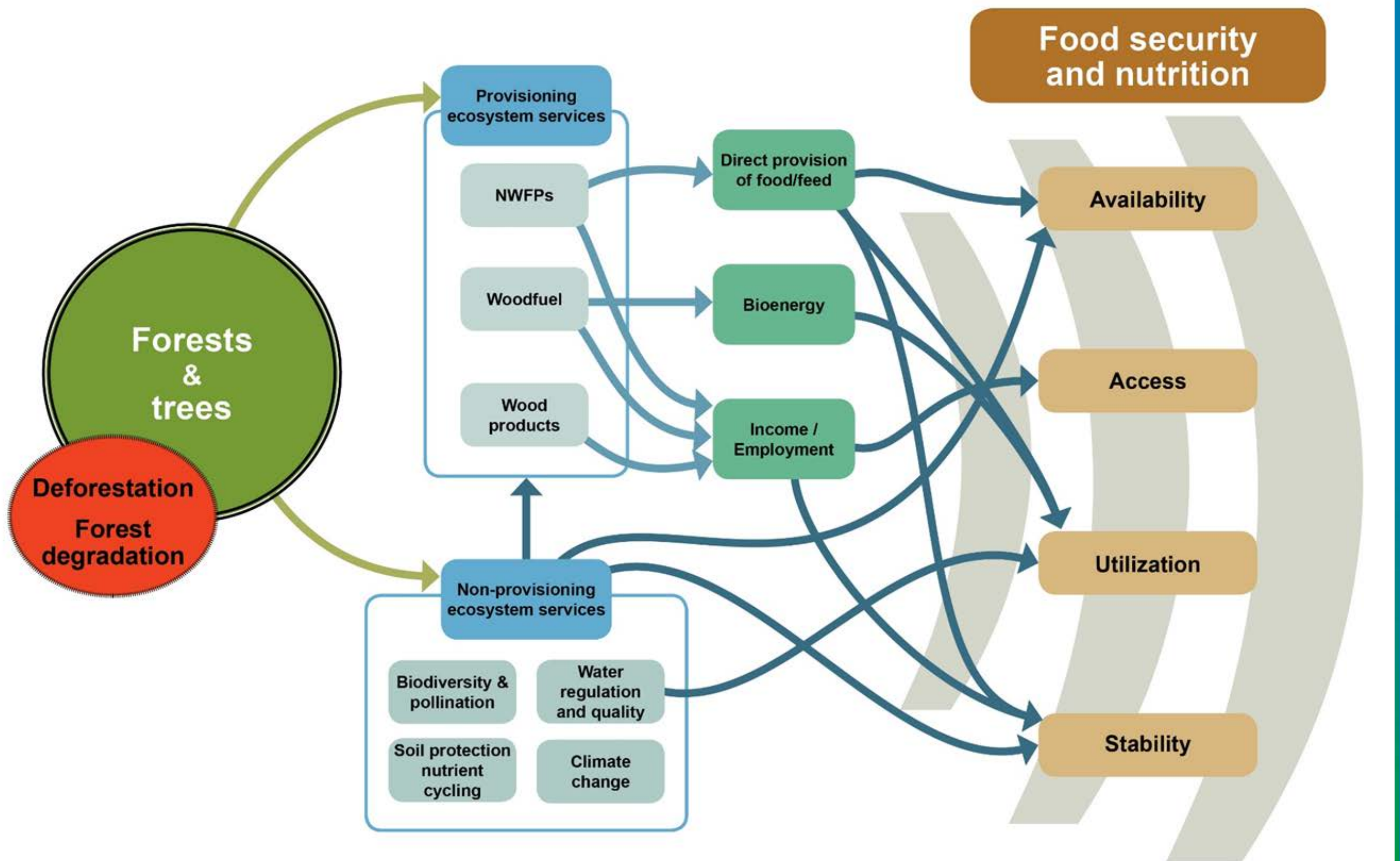
- Other wooded lands,
- Trees outside forests.

Three categories of forest-dependent people can be distinguished:

- Forest dwellers, including indigenous peoples, who depend primarily on forest for their FSN and livelihoods,
- Rural people living in or at the margin of forests
- People engaged in forest related economic activities, whether formal or informal.

Worldwide, **1 to 1.7 billion** people are estimated to be forest-dependent.

Forest functions and their links to FSN

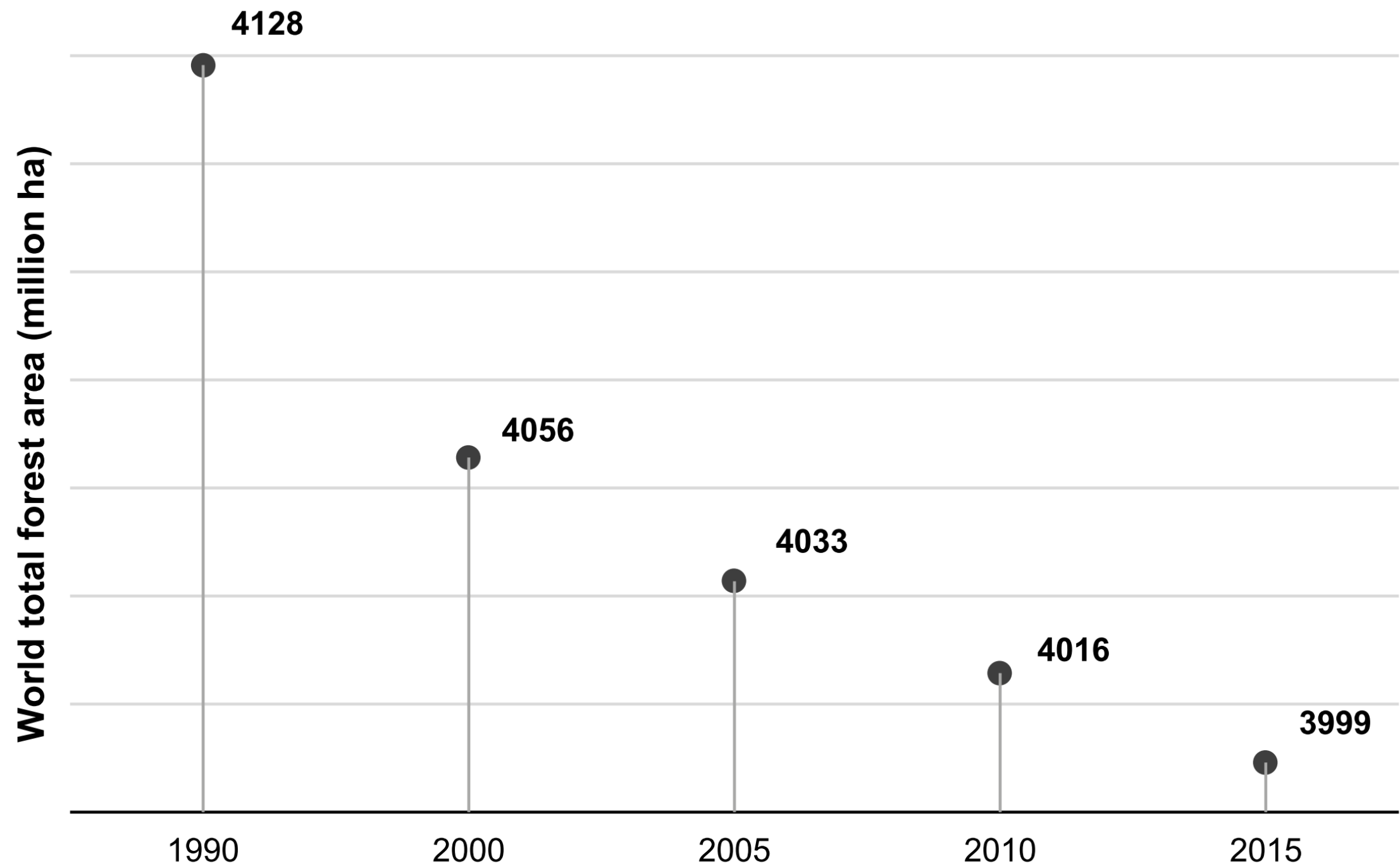


Forests and trees play a crucial role to **strengthen resilience** of food systems, and ecosystems to climate change, natural disasters or economic shocks.

They act as a **safety net** in period of scarcity or conflicts, contributing to a diversification of sources of food and income.

These additional sources of food and income can be particularly important for the more **vulnerable groups**.

Global net forest loss is slowing down



Contrasted evolutions (1990-2015)

- **Decrease in primary forests** in the tropics (62 million ha) and subtropics (6 million ha).
- **Growing importance of planted forests** in terms of surface (from 4 to 7 percent of total forest area) and production (46.3 percent of industrial roundwood)
- **Important potential for forest and landscape restoration:** more than 2 billion ha worldwide

Increasing and competing demands

- Increasing demand for food due to population growth (9.7 billion in 2050) and changing diets.
- Demand for wood and fibre is expected to double by 2030. (planted forests could represent 69 percent of wood production by 2050).
- Increased recognition of the protection roles of forests (for biodiversity, soil and water) and of their recreational, spiritual and cultural value.

This creates new challenges and opportunities.

Forests and trees provide many different benefits, at different geographical and temporal scales.

As a **shared resource**, forests and trees are used by many different stakeholders, whether local or distant, with contrasting power, for many different purposes.

They are subject to a complex web of different **property and use rights**.

This diversity of perspectives, interests and objectives might generate tensions or pave the way for conflict.

The report identifies a set of **enabling conditions** to SFM for FSN :

- Preserve **permanent forest land** and develop appropriate **forest management plans**.
- Promote an **integrated landscape approach** moving beyond the debate on land sparing vs. land sharing.
- Ensure **full and effective participation** of relevant stakeholders in forest policies and forest management.
- Adopt a **rights-based approach**.

Recommendations (1)

1. Develop and use policy-relevant **knowledge** on the direct and indirect contributions of forests and trees to FSN
2. Enhance the role of forests in **environmental processes** at all scales without compromising the right to adequate food of forest-dependent people
3. Support the contributions of forests to improve **livelihoods** and **economies** for FSN
4. Promote **multifunctional landscapes** for FSN that integrate forests and trees as key components

5. Acknowledge the importance and strengthen the role of forests and trees in enhancing **resilience** at landscape, community and household levels for FSN
6. Recognize and respect land and natural resource **tenure and use rights** over forests and trees for FSN
7. Strengthen inclusive forest **governance** systems across sectors and scales for FSN

Thank you for your attention

