

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

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# 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

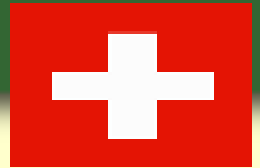


# CEPF – The voice of European Family Forestry

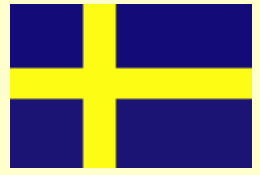
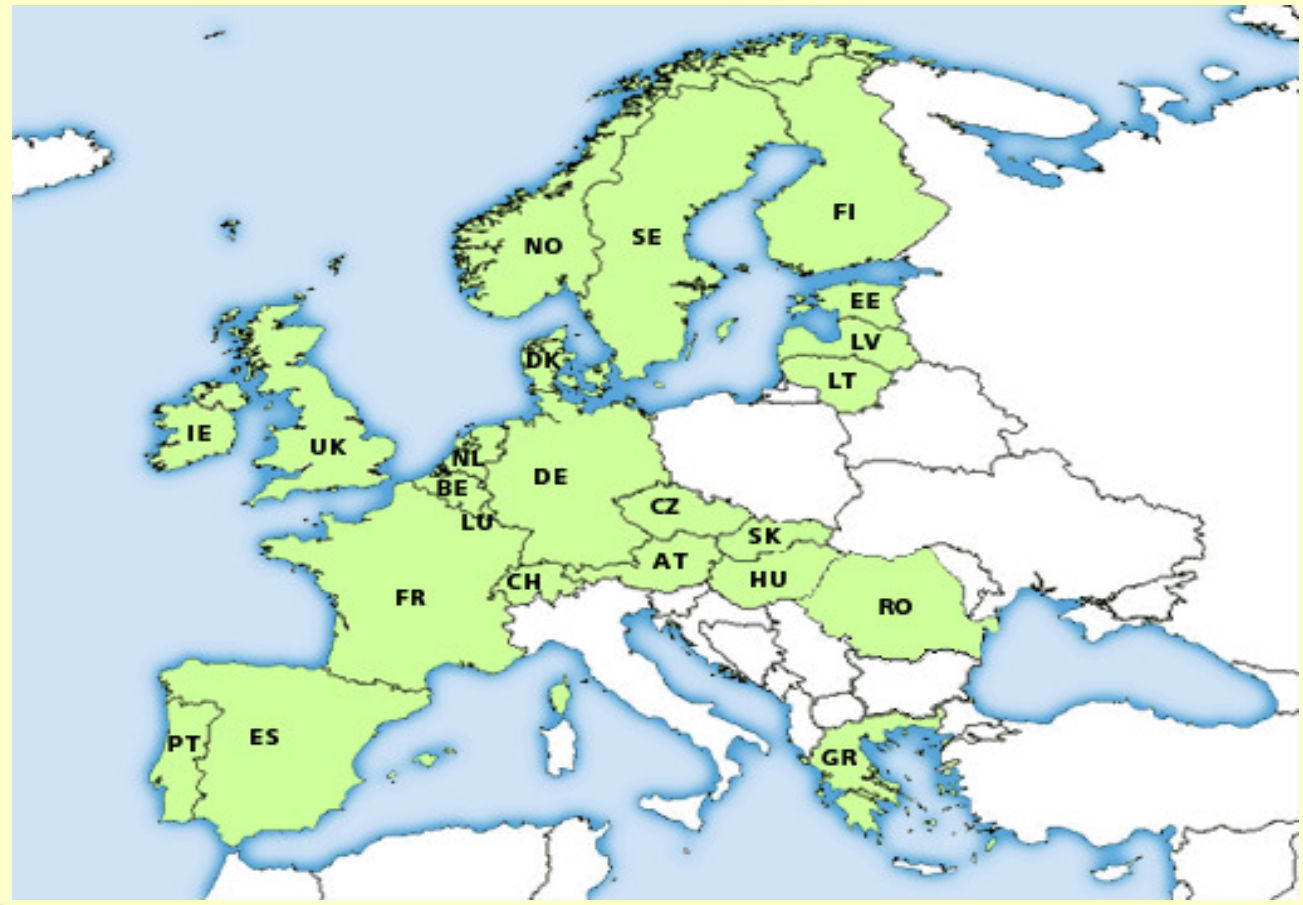
- Founded in 1994, but have roots back to app. 1960
- The umbrella federation of family forestry in Europe
- Represents the interests of family forest owners in the political process within the **European Union**
- Participates in international and global forest policy fora - MCPFE, UNECE, UNFF, WB and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



The European Industry



# 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 need:
  - 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



Country	Number of producer organisations	Private forest owners	Members	Share (%)	Total private surface (ha)	Member surface (ha)	Share (%)
<b>Austria</b>	8	150,000	54,800	37%	2,525,645	837,500	33%
<b>Denmark</b>	8	25,000	5441	22%	335,000	78,000	23%
<b>Estonia</b>	47	55,000	2000	4%	925,675	100,000	11%
<b>Finland</b>	1	920,000	131,032	14%	11,800,000	5,300,000	45%
<b>France</b>	30	3,500,000	100200	3%	10,500,000	1,800,000	17%
<b>Germany</b>	4,550	2,000,000	379,000	19%	4,823,723	3,500,000	50%*
<b>Latvia</b>	0	150,000	-	-	1,390,000	-	-
<b>Lithuania</b>	15	232,000	-	-	800,000	-	-
<b>Norway</b>	7	120,000	40,000	33%	6,000,000	3,500,000	58%
<b>Portugal</b>	30	400,000	12,000	3%	3,280,000	1,200,000	37%
<b>Sweden</b>	6	335,805	107,369	32%	11,813,000	6,375,000	54%
<b>Total</b>	4,702	7,887,805	831,842	11%	54,193,043	22,690,500	42%

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](http://www.cepf-eu.org)**

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