

Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation alongside Biodiversity and Forest Policy

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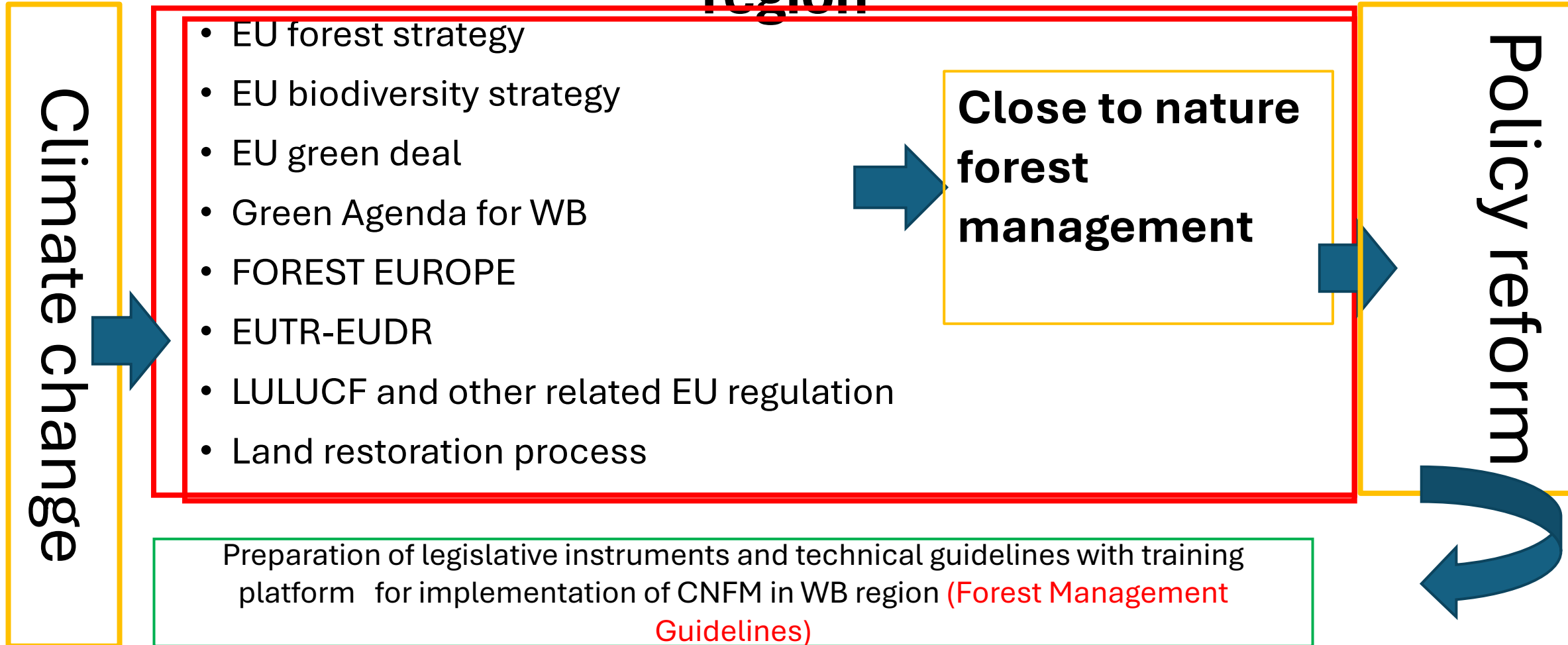


Federal Ministry
of Agriculture, Food
and Regional Identity

by decision of the
German Bundestag



Main international process in WB region



Climate change mitigation and adaptation

- **Harmonization of policy reform with EU accession process that support ensuring future economic, ecological and social demands taking in consideration climate change**
- **Implementation of LULUCF and other GHG legislation (including land restoration) into national forest related policies**
- **Creating policy instruments that create adaptation flexibility and mitigation support in forestry and related sectors**
- **Creating technical guidelines that forestry praxis could easy understand and implement in their operational activities**
- **Introduction of CNFM and creating Forest Management Guidelines (MG) dedicated to the forest praxis as climate change adaptation instrument at national level taking in consideration biodiversity protection and monitoring**
- **Securing monitoring system (National Forest Inventories) at national level for follow up effects of forest management intervention in previous period taking in consideration climate change**
- **Long-life learning concept should be created and implemented taking in consideration climate change impacts on forestry**
- **Establishment of demo and research plots using their results as corrective instrument in future forest management objectives**

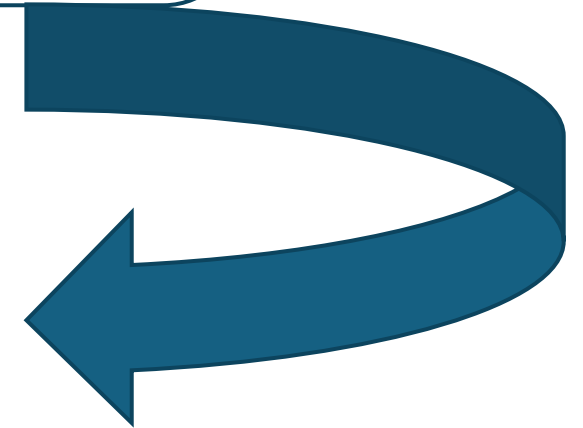
Further strengthening the network by introduction of Close to Nature Forest Management (CNFM) concept in WB region

- National Working Groups (NWG) continue work on creating Forest Management Guidelines (FMG) for other tree species
- Further selection and creating demonstration plots at national level



- NWG initiate creating vocational training (continuous education) concept
 - NWG organize pilot testing of future operational implementation of the vocational training concept using FMG and demonstration plots

- NWG-s initiate creating regional (WB) vocational training network
- NWG-s initiate creating regional (WB) vocational training agenda
- NWG-s initiate creating regional (WB) trainers of trainer pool
 - NWG-s initiate pilot training test



Forests and climate change in WESTERN BALKAN (WB) region

❖ WB - one of the most threatened regions in Europe by CC

- Increase in Temperature ↑
- Total summer precipitation expected to decrease or will be concentrated in unequal sequences ↓

❖ Climate change and forestry in WB

- Stress for tree species - especially beech and oak forests (as most dominant)
- Increased risk of forest fires - drier periods and higher temperatures
- Spread of pests and diseases - e.g. bark beetles
- Decrease of biological diversity - certain species losing habitat
- Economic and social impacts - loss of income for forest owners/users

Policy recommendation for implementation or improvement of climate change issues in forest sector 1/2

- Comprehensive GAP analysis of forest-climate change policies in WB region with EU legislation and other international policies
- Training of skilled personnel - development of specialized academic and life long learning programs
- Complete legal frame and financial mechanisms for securing forest contribution towards CC
- Improve climate financing:
 - ✓ introduction of climate budgeting (climate tagging in public budgets)
 - ✓ establishment of national climate funds
- Development of a systematic approach to stakeholder participation - timely communication, education of actors, facilitation of dialogue

Policy recommendation for implementation or improvement of climate change issues in forest sector 2/2

- Enhancement of education related to forestry and climate change issues:
 - ✓ reform of curricula at forestry faculties,
 - ✓ support for interdisciplinary education and research
- Improvement of stakeholders participation - from information to full participation
- Establish effective data exchange and inter-institutional communication/coordination - IT system development, protocols of cooperation, ammendment of laws/bylaws
- Create science based forest policy including monitoring towards sustainable management and mobilization from small scale forest owners (long-life small scale forest owners monitoring)

Forests and biodiversity in WESTERN BALKAN (WB) region

- ❖ WB - one of the richest biodiversity areas in Europe
- ❖ WB is the endemic hotspot: *Picea omorika*, *Pinus heldreichii*, etc.
- ❖ Biodiversity and forestry in WB
 - Preserved forest complexes and mountains enable survival of large carnivore and birds
 - Climate change ➡ decrease of biological diversity - certain species losing habitat
 - Significant number of protected areas is proclaimed in the region - mainly in forest areas
 - Cooperation on regional level through different initiatives (IUCN, WWF, etc.)

Policy recommendation for implementation of forest biodiversity in forest praxis 1/2

- Comprehensive GAP analysis of forest-biodiversity policies in WB region with EU legislation
- Preservation of biodiversity should be systematically integrated into all levels of planning in forestry
 - Introduction of data collection by forest inventory
 - Data grading system
 - Data processing
 - Data evaluation
 - Biodiversity guidelines for status improvement
- Develop and implement standardized protocols for mapping species, habitats and genetic diversity in forest ecosystems - Monitoring!
- Establish effective data exchange and inter-institutional communication - IT system development, protocols of cooperation, ammendment of laws/bylaws
- Development of a systematic approach to stakeholder participation - timely communication, education of actors, facilitation of dialogue
- Develop synergy between forestry and nature protection based on common goals - linking of institutions, alignment of strategies, etc.

Policy recommendation for implementation of forest biodiversity in forest praxis 2/2

- Enhancement of education related to forestry and biodiversity issues in high schools and university, and support for interdisciplinary education
- Provide stable and long-term sources of financing for biodiversity investments - both national and international: LIFE, EU IPA, GEF, GCF, etc.
- Engage local communities in conservation efforts through education, capacity-building
- Introduce a system of financial incentives for private forest owners who implement biodiversity protection measures
- Enhance regional and international cooperation in order to share best practices, secure funding, and strengthening cross-border conservation initiatives

Thank you for your time and attention today!

