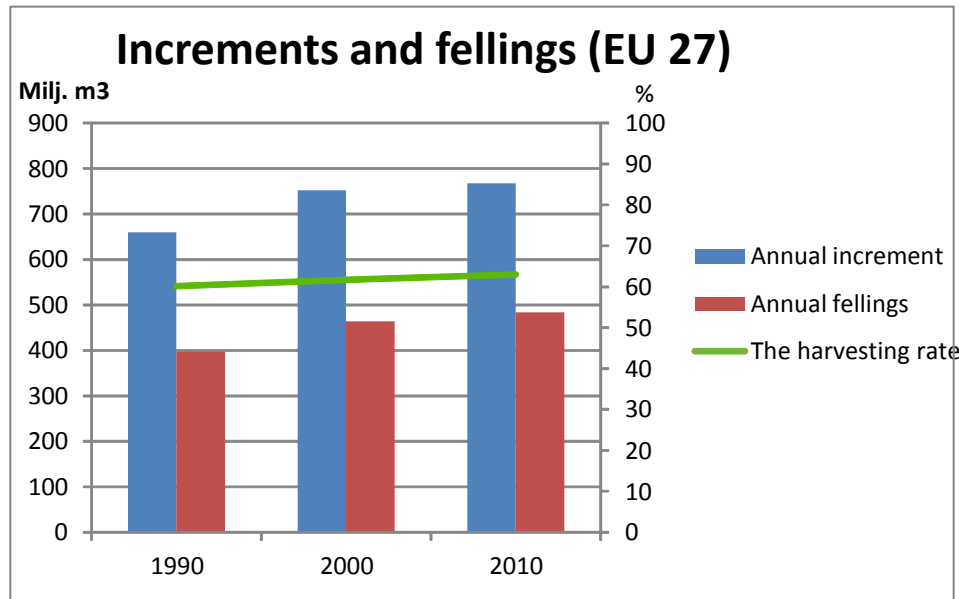


A new EU Forest Strategy for forests and the forest-based sector Industry and jobs

European Parliament, Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development
5.11.2014

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Central Union of Agricultural Producers and Forest Owners, MTK

Europe's forest resources are continually growing



- 2000-2010: The increment of EU's growing stock was 2,5 billion m3 (= growing stock in Finland)
- Only around 60 % of the annual increment is harvested
- Roundwood consumption has been rather stable
- Sustainably harvestings can be increased by 100 million cubic meters annually





Economic growth is a key challenge in the EU

- The mission letter by EU President Mr Junker to Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development
 - The focus in future in rural development should be on jobs- and growth-generating investments
- The forest sector play a key role in the success of the future bioeconomy
- Only a competitive and strong EU forest sector that attracts investments and innovation will be able to provide economic welfare

To improve forest-related policy coordination and coherence in the EU



EU Forest Strategy

Sustainability
criteria for biomass

Biodiversity
Strategy 2020

Green
Infrastructure
Strategy

ILUC

EU Strategy
Bioeconomy

Green
Paper FP&I

Climate
Change -
LULUCF
UNFCCC

Research FP 7/
Horizon 2020

Illegal logging –
EUTR

CAP post 2013 -
Rural Development

Bioenergy
(RES2)

NATURA2000

Habitat Directive

Convention on
Biological Diversity

Forest Europe
INC LBA

Birds Directive

Public procurement

The new Forest Strategy can provide concrete tools for future welfare



- Today forest and forest based industry employ around 4 million people mainly in rural areas
- Delivering wood and other goods, with a total value of 500 billion €, which make up about 8 % of the EU manufacturing GDP
- The role of renewable natural resources and solutions based on it will increase significantly in the future
- Increasing the use of wood has also versatile positive impacts on EU economy. Forest based industries use mainly domestic inputs and hence reduces EU's dependence on imported raw materials.
- This requires political will and open-mindedness from EU policy makers



EU Forest Strategy implementation

- Focus on measures and actions contributing to growth, jobs and rural well-being
→ Priority areas for the Multi-Annual Implementation Plan
- At least, it is crucial to ensure that policies and legislation do not have a negative impacts on competitiveness of the sector by adding further costs and bureaucracy
- Therefore we have to ask:
 - Do we need EU regulation to regulate different uses of wood (so called cascade use)
 - Do we need more regulation on biodiversity, such as No Net Loss initiative
 - Do we need SFM criteria for EU production only if we can't have rules for third countries
 - WHAT EU CAN DO TO ENHANCE FOREST SECTOR'S ROLE IN CONTRIBUTING TO ECONOMIC GROWTH, EMPLOYMENT AND INVESTMENTS
- Promotion the use of wood: What we need is a new, innovative way of thinking





Thank you for your attention!

