



# International Conference on **FORESTS FOR BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE**

**BRUSSELS, Charlemagne building, 4-5 February 2020**

## Schedule and objectives of the sessions

Simultaneous interpretation will be available in EN, FR, DE, ES, IT, PL, RO.

**Tuesday 4 February 2020**

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<b>08.30 – 09.45</b>	<b>Registration</b>
<b>09.45 – 10.00</b>	<b>Opening of the Conference</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Frans Timmermans</b>, Executive Vice President for the <b>European Green Deal</b>, European Commission</li></ul>
<b>10.00 – 10.20</b>	<b>Inspirational speech</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Peter Wohlleben</b>, Forester and Author of best-seller “<b>The Hidden Life of Trees</b>”</li></ul>
<b>10.20 – 11.30</b>	<b>High-level panel on the role of forests for biodiversity and climate</b> <p>Moderation: <b>Anya Sitaram</b>, Rockhopper Media</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Pascal Canfin</b>, Member of the European Parliament, President of ENVI Committee</li><li>• <b>Mario Šiljeg</b>, State Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Energy, Croatia</li><li>• <b>Terhi Lehtonen</b>, State Secretary, Ministry for the Environment, Finland</li><li>• <b>Rita Schwarzelühr-Sutter</b>, Parliamentary State Secretary, Ministry for the Environment, Germany</li><li>• <b>Daniel Calleja Crespo</b>, Director-General, Directorate General for the Environment, European Commission</li><li>• <b>Mauro Petriccione</b>, Director-General, Directorate General for Climate Action, European Commission</li><li>• <b>María de los Ángeles Benítez Salas</b>, Director-General (acting), Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission</li></ul>

11.30 – 13.00

## 1. Forest vulnerability and adaptation to climate change

What are the problems that forests face and how are these likely to evolve? What are the needs for adaptation action?

Moderation: **Yvon Slingenberg**, Director International, Mainstreaming and Policy Coordination, Directorate General for Climate Action, European Commission

- **Michal Wiezik**, Member of the European Parliament ENVI Committee
- **Mireia Mollà Herrera**, Regional Minister of Agriculture, Climate Emergency and Green Transition, Valencian Community, Spain
- **Xavier Morin**, Researcher, National Centre for Scientific Research, France
- **Johan Litsmark**, Insurance Product Specialist Agriculture, Länsförsäkringar AB, Sweden
- **Silvio Schüler**, Head of the Department for Forest Growth and Silviculture, Austrian Research Centre for Forests

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13.00 – 14.30

Lunch break

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14.30 – 16.00

## 2. Protecting and restoring the world's forests -The EU responsibility-

What are the possible regulatory and non-regulatory options? How can we best work in partnership with producing countries to reduce pressure on forests?

Moderation: **Astrid Schomaker**, Director Global Sustainable Development, Directorate General for the Environment, European Commission

- **Delara Burkhardt**, Member of the European Parliament and Rapporteur for the EP legislative initiative report on deforestation
- **Sini Eräjää**, Greenpeace European Unit, Brussels
- **Nathalie Lecocq**, Director General of FEDIOL (EU vegetable oil and proteinmeal industry association)
- **Felipe García Echeverri**, Colombia's Ambassador to the EU

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16.00 – 16.30

Coffee break

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**16.30 – 18.30**

### **3. Forest management practices and funding that promote high biodiversity-value ecosystems**

How can forest stakeholders best respond to biodiversity decline in EU forests? What does sustainable forest management imply in practice?

Moderation: **Luc Bas**, Director IUCN European Regional Office

- **Pierre Bascou**, Director for direct support, Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission
- **Jørgen Bo Larsen**, Professor emeritus, Department of Geosciences and Natural Resource Management, University of Copenhagen, Denmark
- **Eckart Senitza**, President Pro Silva (Europa)
- **Reinhardt Neft**, President of European State Forest Association (EUSTAFOR) and CEO of the Bavarian State Forests
- **Hannah Mowat**, Campaigns Coordinator, Fern
- **Hubert de Schorlemer**, President, Confederation of European Forest owners (CEPF)

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**18.30 – 18.45**

**Opening of the 'European Forests: European Lives' exhibition, organised in partnership with Fern**

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**18.45 – 20.00**

**Cocktail reception**

Wednesday 5 February 2020

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08.00 – 09.00      **Registration and welcome coffee**

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09.00 – 10.30      **4. Work in partnership with producing countries to protect and restore forests**

How can we best work in partnership with producing countries to reduce pressure on forests?

Moderation: **Claude Garcia**, Senior researcher CIRAD

- **Carla Montesi**, Director Sustainable Growth and Prosperity, Directorate General for International Partnerships, European Commission
- **Lee White**, Minister of Water, the Seas, the Environment, in charge of Climate Change, Sustainable Development Goals & Land Use Plan, Gabon
- **Abou Dosso**, Ambassador of Côte d'Ivoire to the EU
- **Hop Vũ Thị Bích**, Chair of the Centre for Sustainable Rural Development Vietnam
- **David Coleman**, Vice-President Public Affairs Europe Mars
- **Christian Ruck**, Facilitator of the Congo Basin Partnership
- **Thaís Linhares-Juvenal**, Team Leader Forest Governance and Economics, FAO

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10.30 – 11.00      **Coffee break**

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11.00 – 12.30

## 5. Equipping the EU with the necessary forest information - Launch of the Forest Information System for Europe (FISE) -

FISE is the first common database on forest information in Europe, covering 39 European countries. Discussion with the potential users and contributors.

Moderation: **Mauro Facchini**, Head of the Earth Observation Unit, Directorate General Defence Industry and Space, European Commission

### Key note speech

- **Hans Bruyninckx**, Executive Director, European Environment Agency

### Panel discussion

- **René Castro-Salazar**, Climate, Biodiversity, Land and Water Department Assistant-Director General, United Nation's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- **Gert-Jan Nabuurs**, Wageningen Environmental Research, IPCC coordinating lead Author, The Netherlands
- **Carina Håkansson**, CEO Swedish Forests Industries Federation, on behalf of the Confederation of European Paper Industries (CEPI)
- **Giovanni De Santi**, Director Sustainable Resources, Joint Research Centre (JRC), European Commission

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12.30 – 14.00

Lunch break

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14.00 – 15.30

## 6. Forests as allies for climate change mitigation

Forests are one of the solutions to fighting climate change. Which measures can ensure healthy and resilient forests? Is forest restoration part of this agenda?

Moderation: **Beatriz Yordi**, Director European & International Carbon Markets, Directorate General for Climate Action, European Commission

- **William Moomaw**, Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University and Lead Author of IPCC Reports, Boston
- **Jo House**, Director of the Masters Programme in Climate Change Science at Bristol University, Author of IPCC Reports
- **Hannes Böttcher**, Senior Researcher, Oeko-Institut, Berlin
- **Barbara Promberger**, Executive Director, Conservation Carpathia Foundation, Romania
- **Pierfrancesco Maran**, Councilor for Urban Planning, Green and Agriculture, City Council, City of Milan

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15.30 – 16.00

**Coffee break**

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16.00 – 17.30

## 7. Manage land to prevent forest fires

What are the best prevention methods? The role of the European Expert Group on Forest Fires and its current activities.

Moderation: **Humberto Delgado Rosa**, Director Natural Capital, Directorate General for the Environment, European Commission

- **Nacira Boulehouat**, Head of Unit Prevention and Disaster Risk Management, Directorate General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), European Commission
- **Tiago Martins de Oliveira**, Director of the Agency for the Integrated Management of Rural Fires (AGIF), Portugal
- **Cathelijne Stoof**, Assistant Professor, Coordinator PyroLife Innovative Training Network, Wageningen University, The Netherlands
- **Julia Rouet-Leduc**, Doctoral Researcher, German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research, University of Leipzig
- **Alessandra Zampieri**, Head of Unit Disaster Risk Management, Joint Research Centre (JRC), European Commission

17.30 – 18.00

## Final remarks

- **Virginijus Sinkevičius**, Commissioner for the Environment, Oceans and Fisheries, European Commission

[https://ec.europa.eu/info/events/international-conference-forests-biodiversity-and-climate\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/events/international-conference-forests-biodiversity-and-climate_en)

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