

# European Forest Research and Innovation Ecosystem

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**EUFORE**  
European Forest Research and Innovation Ecosystem



EUFORE is a  
**Horizon Europe project**  
**funded by the**  
**European Union,**  
running from November  
2022 to October 2026.



# Overarching ambition

to greatly improve the  
sector's **research and  
innovation funding and  
governance structure**



# Aim

to build a **sustainable, transnational, co-creative environment for defining, implementing and evaluating a research and innovation (R&I) agenda and roadmap for the forest-based value chains in Europe**



### **Wood products**

eg Wood construction, furniture, paper, packaging, biorefinery and new materials

### **Wild-forest products**

eg Fruits, seeds, mushrooms, cork, game

### **Regulating ecosystem services**

eg Water regulation, habitat creation

### **Cultural ecosystem services**

eg Health, tourism, sports, culture

**EUFORE brings together new and traditional value chains of forests and the forest based-sector in Europe**

# Main outputs

a Stakeholder Engagement Hub



a strategic R&I agenda —SRIA—  
and roadmap



a basis for a European Partnership  
on Forests and Forestry





a Stakeholder Engagement Hub



a strategic R&I agenda —SRIA—  
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a basis for a European Partnership  
on Forests and Forestry



## Reaching informed decisions

a review of European R&I  
activity, funding and  
governance

societal expectations

policy framework  
and its R&I implications

foresight analysis  
of the sector development

# Work packages

## WP3 | Stakeholder engagement

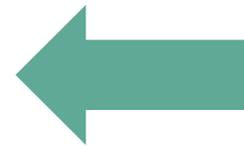
a Stakeholder Engagement Hub



a strategic R&I agenda —SRIA—  
and roadmap



a basis for a European Partnership  
on Forests and Forestry



## WP1 | Knowledge base

a review of European R&I  
activity, funding and  
governance

societal expectations

policy framework  
and its R&I implications

foresight analysis  
of the sector development

WP4 | Communication, dissemination and exploitation

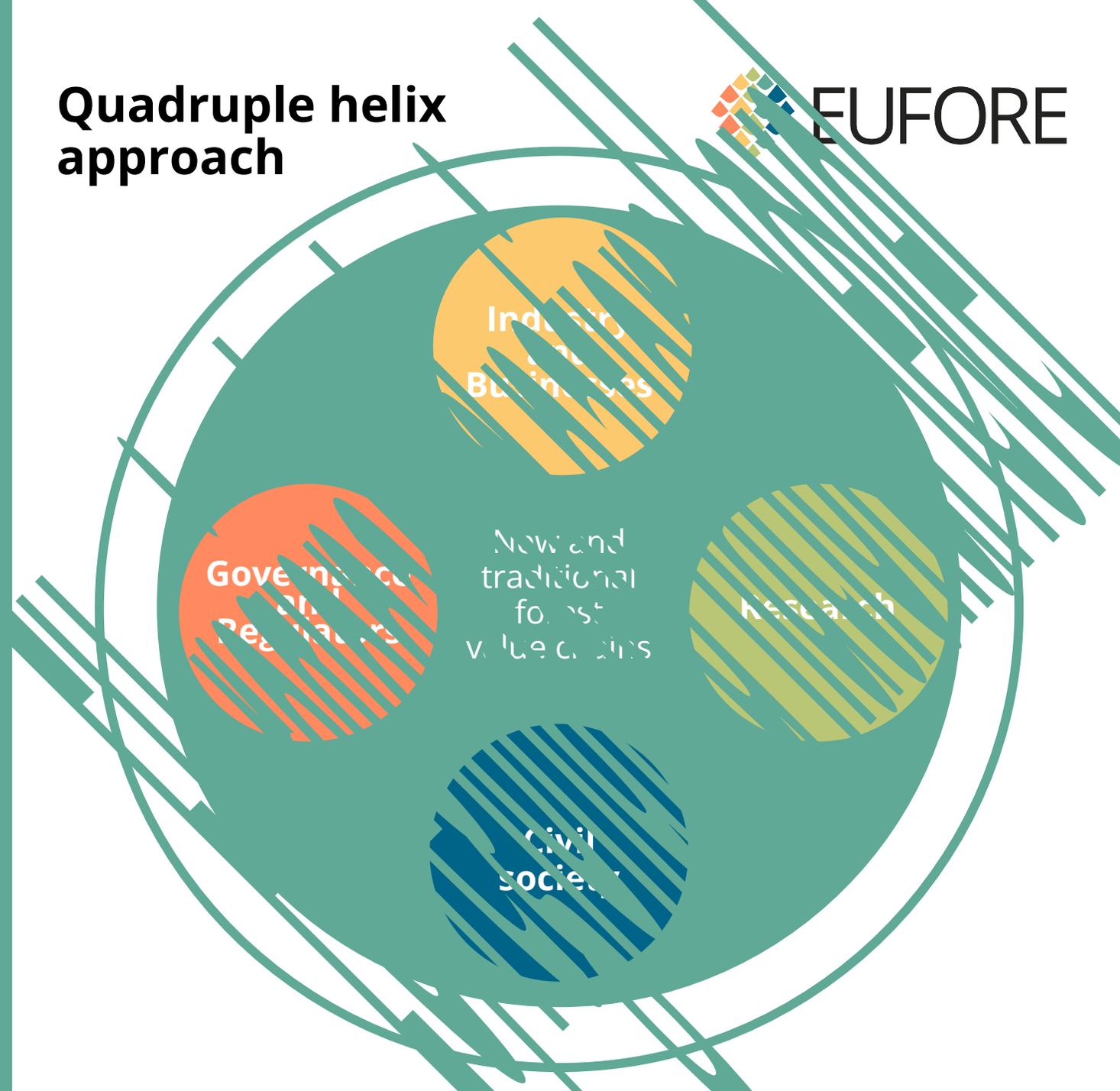
WP5 | Management

WP2 | Future of forests | R&I  
directions

# How are relevant stakeholders identified?

A multi-actor approach is implemented within the framework of the Stakeholder Engagement Hub.

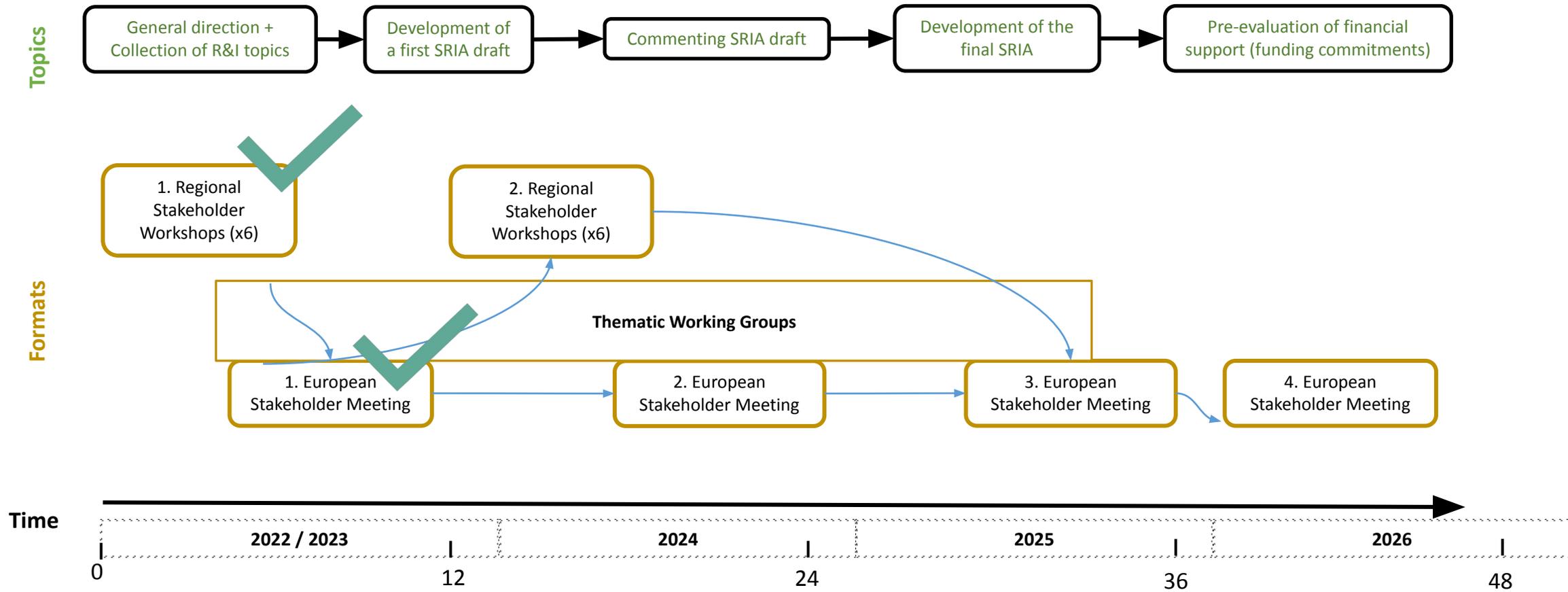
**Quadruple helix approach**



## EUFORE Stakeholder Engagement Hub



# Stakeholder engagement timeline



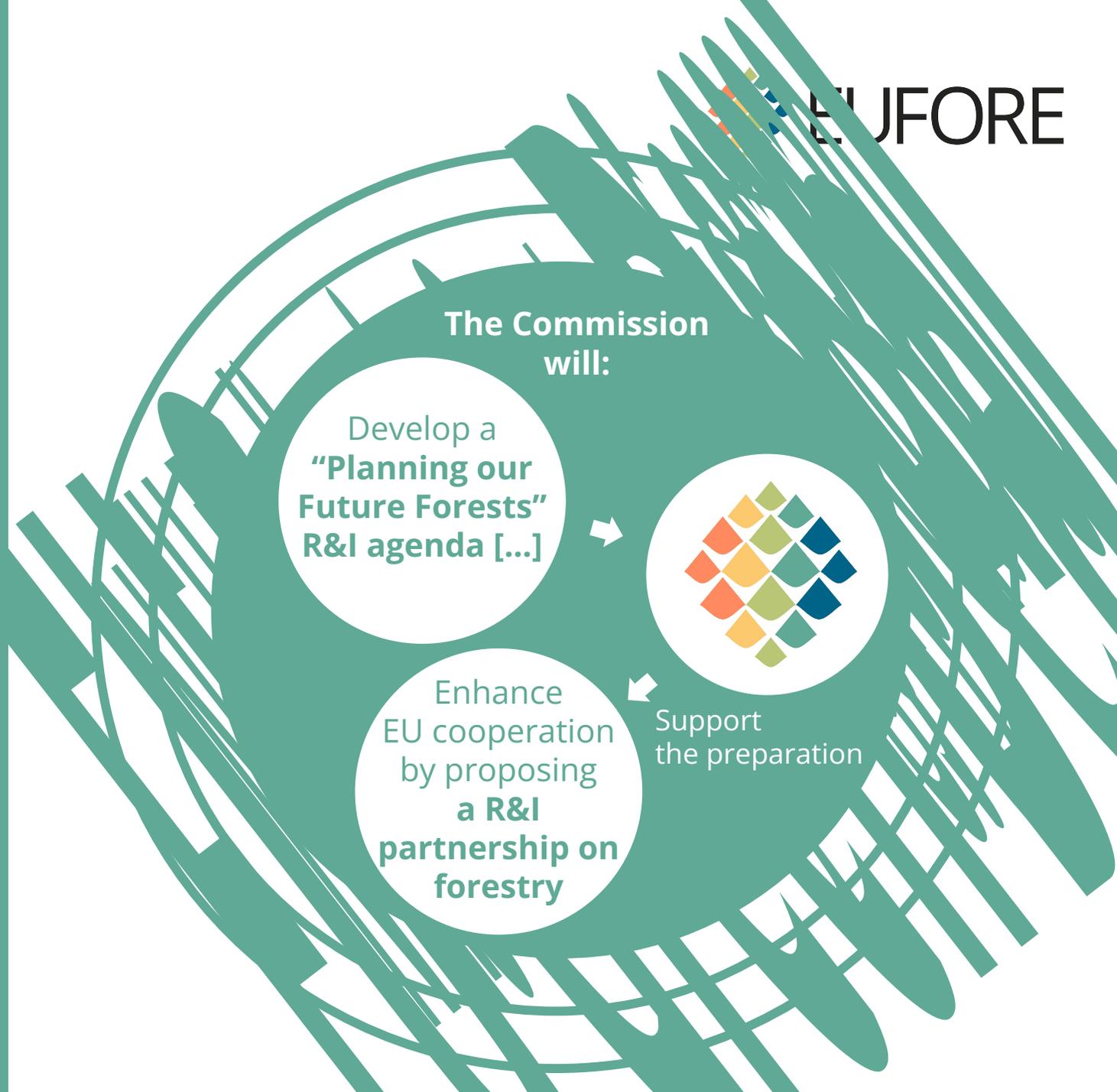
# First Results



# How does EUFOR E contribute to the EU agenda?

EU Forest Strategy 2030 aims to:

- **Support the socio-economic functions** of forests for thriving rural areas and boost forest-based bioeconomy within sustainability boundaries.
- **Protect, restore and enlarge the EU's forests** to combat climate change, reverse biodiversity loss and ensure resilient and multifunctional forest ecosystems.

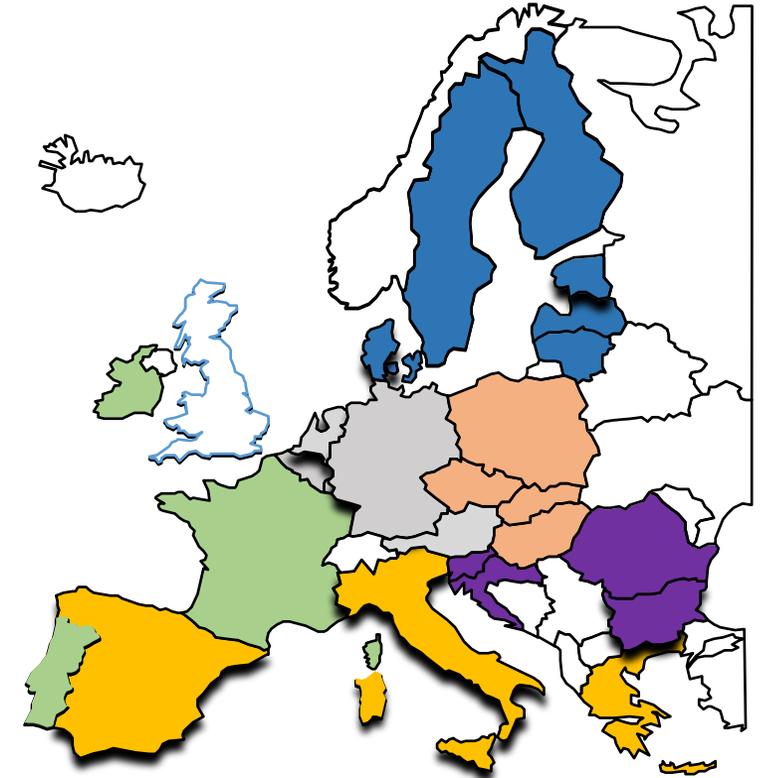


# Regional Workshops: 1st Round



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- Between 06-09/2023
- 6 parallel co-creation workshops following the same methodology
- to kick-off SRIA development: focus SCOPE and Initial collection of R&I topics
- To involve all EU countries (according to regional distribution) + associated countries
- Representatives of the entire quadruple helix for each country
- Approx. 40 participants per workshop
- 1 day workshop
- 4 main topics



EUFORE Regions

Nordic Region

Western - Central

Western - Atlantic

Eastern - Central

Mediterranean

South - Eastern

# *Regional Workshops: 1st Round*



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- 183 participants from 30 countries (EU and non-EU)
  - Northern Europe: 49
  - West-Central: 22
  - Mediterranean: 18
  - Western Atlantic: 37
  - South Eastern: 29
  - Central: 28
- from all four stakeholder branches
  - research: 74
  - government: 42
  - business: 24
  - civil society: 14

# Stakeholder composition

- 345 stakeholders identified as potential TWG members
- 113 stakeholders have indicated their interest in participating in the TWGs
- 65 stakeholders participated in the TWG Kick-Off Meeting at 14 November

TWG	Indications
Forest Ecology	27
Forest Management	33
Forest Products	22
Social Aspects & Policy	18
No TWG chosen yet	29

- 70 stakeholders participated in the first round of TWG meetings in January and February 2024

# *Stakeholder composition*

- stakeholder branches among the 345 stakeholders identified as potential TWG members

Stakeholder branch	Registrations
Research & Academia	128
Government & Regulators	70
Business & Industry	46
Civil society	42

# *Next steps in 2024*

- until middle of April: stakeholder consultations within the single TWGs
- beginning of May: finalising first SRIA draft
- middle of May: presentation of SRIA draft to all interested stakeholders
- middle of May: presentation of SRIA draft and Partnership draft proposal to EU Commission
- end of May: EU Commission to send out request to the member states in order to commit themselves to the Partnership
- late summer: 2<sup>nd</sup> round of regional stakeholder workshops
- September: commitment of member states expected
- November: 2<sup>nd</sup> round of European stakeholder workshop

# European Partnership on Forestry



**EUFORE's work creates a solid collaborative basis for a European Partnership on Forests and Forestry.**  
European Partnerships are Horizon Europe initiatives which bring together the European Commission and public and/or private partners to support **the development and implementation of R&I programmes.**

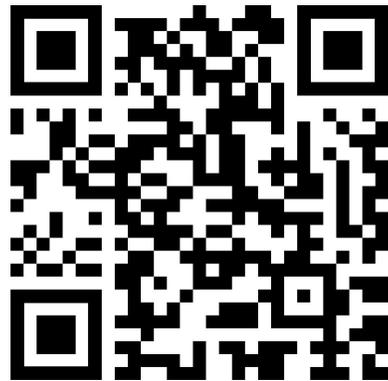


## Expected impacts

- ◆ Increased coordination of R&I funding in the sector
- ◆ Improved sector's open innovation ecosystem
- ◆ Responsive management and benefits sharing



**Do you want to get involved  
and contribute to the  
Stakeholder Engagement  
hub?**



**Help us to set the direction  
for forestry research and  
innovation in the future!**



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Forest-based Sector  
Technology Platform



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