



# *High Level Group (HLG) Forestry & Biomaterials*

*The European Union  
Forestry Strategy.  
A critical review.*



Photo Credit: JE - João Ezequiel and Jorge Catarino

## *Redefining Green: The Imperative Paradigm Shift in EU Forestry Policy*



- *A necessary paradigm shift: from **forestry conservation** to the **multifunctionality of forest**.*
- *EU **para forestry** policy **overshadowed by** the **EU agriculture** policy.*
- *The **transition towards a bioeconomy** and the **role of wood**.*
- *What needs to be done for **bioeconomy's development**.*



# *A necessary paradigm shift: from forestry conservation to the multifunctionality of forests*

## Dual function of forests: **ecological** and **economic**

- *A **Paradigm Shift**: from sanctuaries, carbon storage, and biodiversity havens to **multifunctional landscapes***
- *A **looming risk**: if the EU fails to **adopt a holistic perspective**, it may miss out on the maximum benefits that this ecosystem offers.*
- *Need of an **urgent review** of the European Union Deforestation-free Regulation (**EUDR**) and the **EU Forestry Strategy 2030***



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# *EU forestry policy overshadowed by the EU agriculture policy*

*Agriculture: short production cycles VS Forestry: applies extremely long cycles*

*The EU has traditionally prioritized agriculture, perceived as being of greater economic value.*

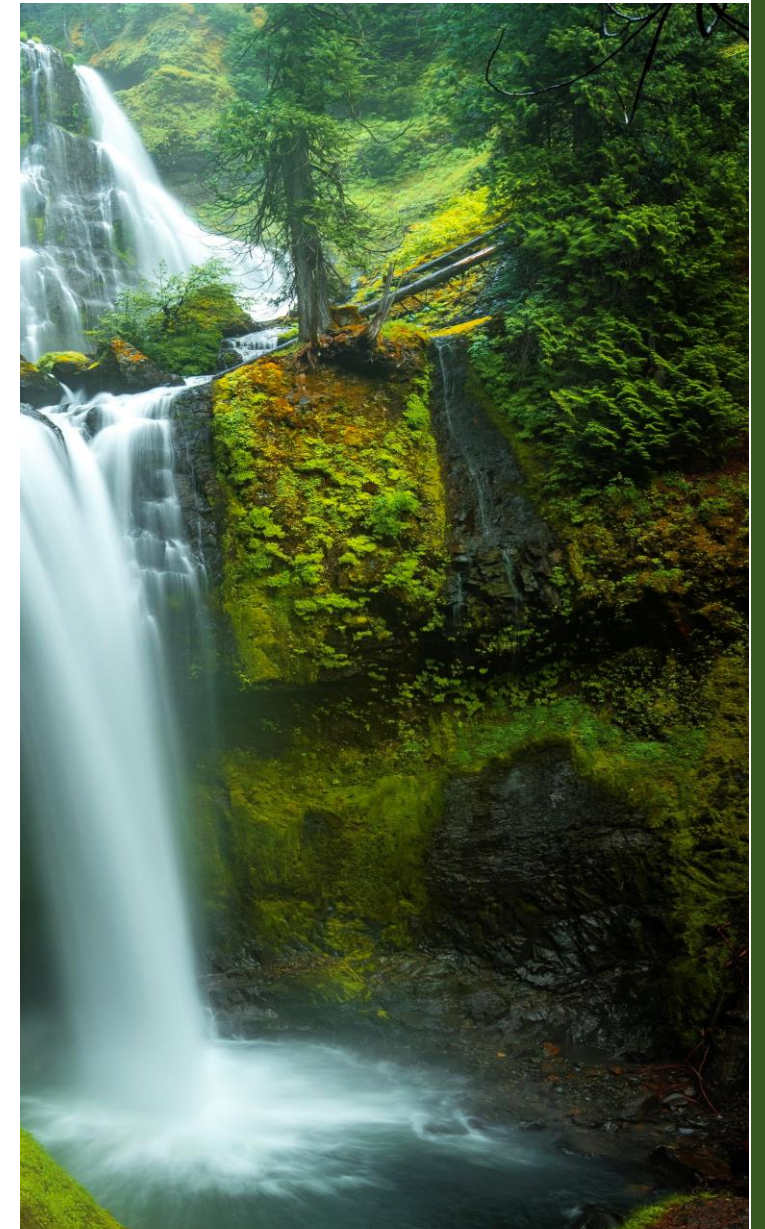
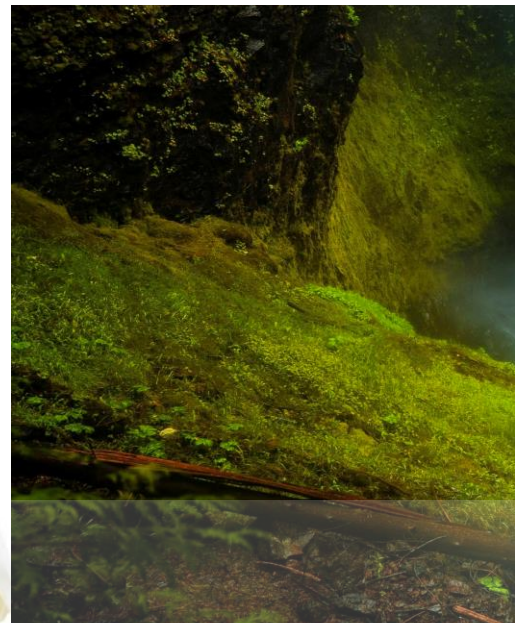
*CAP 2023-2027 ensures a future to agriculture and forestry.*

*Negative consequences: "one-size-fits-all", complex bureaucratic procedures, conflicting objectives.*

# *The transition towards a bioeconomy and the role of wood*

- *Harvested wood products will play a role in:*
  - *material and energy substitution.*
  - *foster sustainable economic development*
  - *increase in production*
  - *sustainable alternatives to traditional materials. E.g., Bio-Composites and Bio-Plastics, Biodegradable Cellulose Film, Prebiotics, Nutraceuticals, Cosmetics, Woody Biomass, Lignin for Adhesives, Insulation or temporary shuttering, e-fuels, inter alia.*

*Some countries have already implemented **policies' measures** aimed to develop a wood-based bioeconomy: Finland, Germany or Austria.*



# What needs to be done for bioeconomy's development



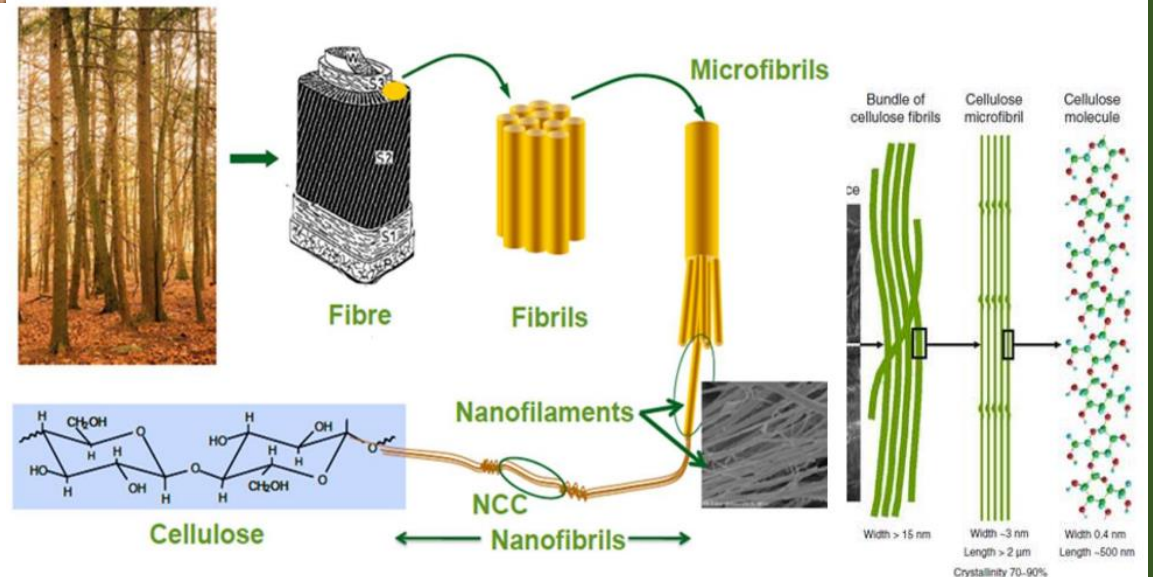
In order to achieve these objectives, the EU should focus its policy efforts on:

- **Tax reforms,**
- **Financial subsidies**
- **and Certification systems**

A comprehensive reevaluation of the EU forestry policies:

**Investments** should target various goals:

- *Research and adoption of new technologies*
- *Better utilisation of forests' biomass*
- *Development of rural economies and repopulation of rural areas.*





THANK  
YOU

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