



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

BRUSSELS, Charlemagne building, 4-5 February 2020

With the participation of Frans Timmermans, European Commission Executive Vice-President responsible for the European Green Deal, and Virginijus Sinkevičius, the Commissioner for the Environment, Oceans and Fisheries.

An “Inspirational key-note speech” will be given at the beginning of the conference by Peter Wohlleben, author of best-seller “The Hidden Life of Trees”

PRELIMINARY Schedule and objectives of the sessions

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

08.30 – 09.45	Registration
09.45 – 10.20	Opening of the Conference
10.20 – 11.30	High-level panel (Representatives from the European Parliament, the EU Council and the European Commission) on the role of forests for biodiversity and climate change
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?
13.00 – 14.30	Lunch break
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?

16.00 – 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?

18.30 – 18.45 **Opening of the 'European Forests: European Lives' exhibition, organised in partnership with Fern**

18.45 – 20.00 **Cocktail reception**

Wednesday 5 February 2020

08.00 – 09.00 **Registration and welcome coffee**

09.00 – 10.30 **4. 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.

10.30 – 10.45 **Coffee break**

10.45 – 12.30 **5. Work in partnership with producing countries to protect and restore forests**

First steps in implementing the EU Communication on stepping up EU action to protect and restore the world's forests.

12.30 – 14.00 **Lunch break**

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?

15.30 – 16.00 **Coffee break**

16.00 – 17.30 **7. Manage land to prevent forest fires**

What are the best prevention methods? Presentation of the European Guidelines on Forest Fires and best practices.

17.30 – 18.00 **Final remarks**

https://ec.europa.eu/info/events/international-conference-forests-biodiversity-and-climate_en

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