



An analysis of the Forestry Strategy and the EU FAP

(but tell me, what is your strategy?)

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Enhanced policy coherence, is that really
your aim?



NGOs have more questions than answers...

- Has the Forestry Strategy really contributed to further coherence?
- Where are the results?
- What are the real aims and objectives?



And where is the political will?

“Bearing in mind that forest conditions are widely divergent throughout the EU and that EU-level actions affecting the forest sector should be complementary in nature and in line with the subsidiarity principle”

**Council conclusions on preparing forests for climate change:
Forest protection and information in the EU**



Forest Action Plan





The action plan is not an action plan in our view

- Internal contradictions: how to “weigh” environmental, social and economic
- No clear performance based results
- Does not provide a vision, but pleases all sectors



Key activity 7: “contribute towards achieving the revised Community biodiversity objectives for 2010 and beyond”

- Activities proposed: exchange of information and dialogue between the Commission and Member States
- Mid-term evaluation: Many stakeholders organisations stated that it was difficult to assess to what extent the EU FAP results can drive changes in practice and that there was little to no effect of the EU FAP on the ground (or in the forest) on the issues concerned



What are the impacts of the implementation of the FAP?

“It is difficult to show concrete examples of effects that the EU FAP has had on the Community actions or on the forest policies in the Member States.”

Mid term evaluation of the implementation of the EU FAP



“Several EU policies, such as the CAP, environment, energy, enterprise and industry, and research affect sustainable forest management and the forest policies of the Member States. The Community objectives in these policy areas also provide an important reference point in the preparation of the EU Forest Action Plan”

Annex to the EU FAP





National Forestry Programmes,





How effective are NFPs?

“NFPs can cover a wide range of approaches to develop, program and implement forest policies in a country. NFPs can be formal or informal governmental processes, with the resulting documents formally adopted or not. Some countries identified their NFP as a set of policies or strategies addressing sustainable forest management”

Mid term evaluation FAP





NFPs in the FAP

- **Key action 15**: apply the open method of coordination (OMC) to national forest programmes
- **Mid term evaluation**: investigation on OMC has not been started



“The NFPs were not able to permanently and significantly alter the way in which forest policy is made in the sense of becoming a more participatory and pluralistic oriented forest policy process; furthermore they also did not have significant effects on the contents of the forest policy, such as, eg a profound ecologisation of forest management.”

An obituary for NFPs? Analyzing and learning from the strategic use of new modes of governance in Germany and Bulgaria, Winkel & Metodi (2011)



Forest protection



Where should we look for the answers to the upcoming challenges?

- There is no clear coherent policy at EU level
- EU forest policies contradict EU biodiversity and climate policy objectives
- There is a lack of coherence at Member States level



It [green paper on forest protection and information in the EU] may also provide input for discussions concerning the possible update of the EU Forestry Strategy on climate related aspects.

Green paper on forest protection and information in the EU

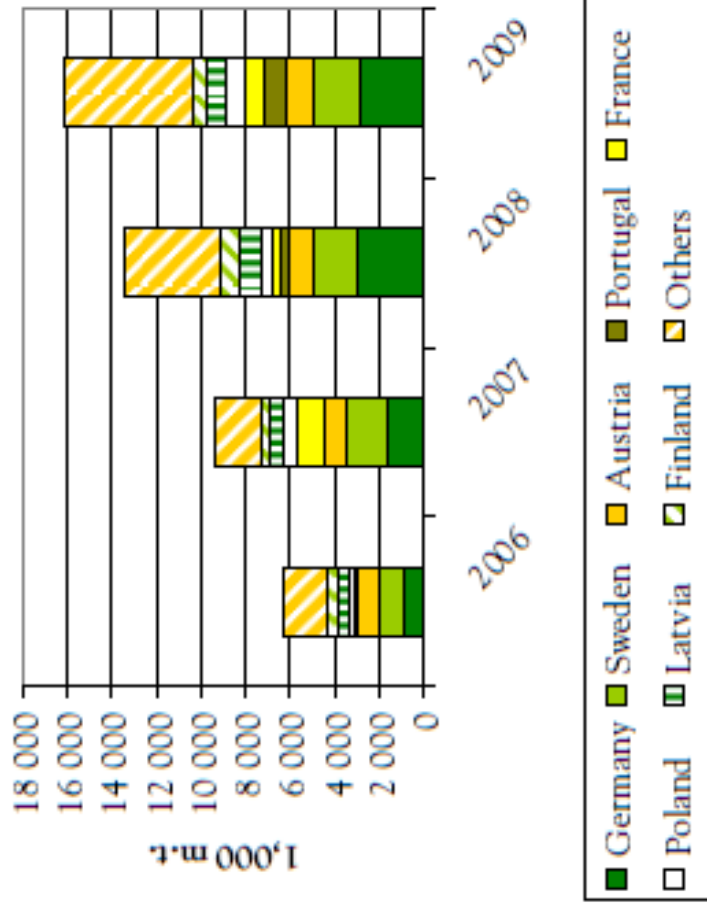


Growth, growth, growth is not the
answer





European wood pellet production capacity, 2006-2009

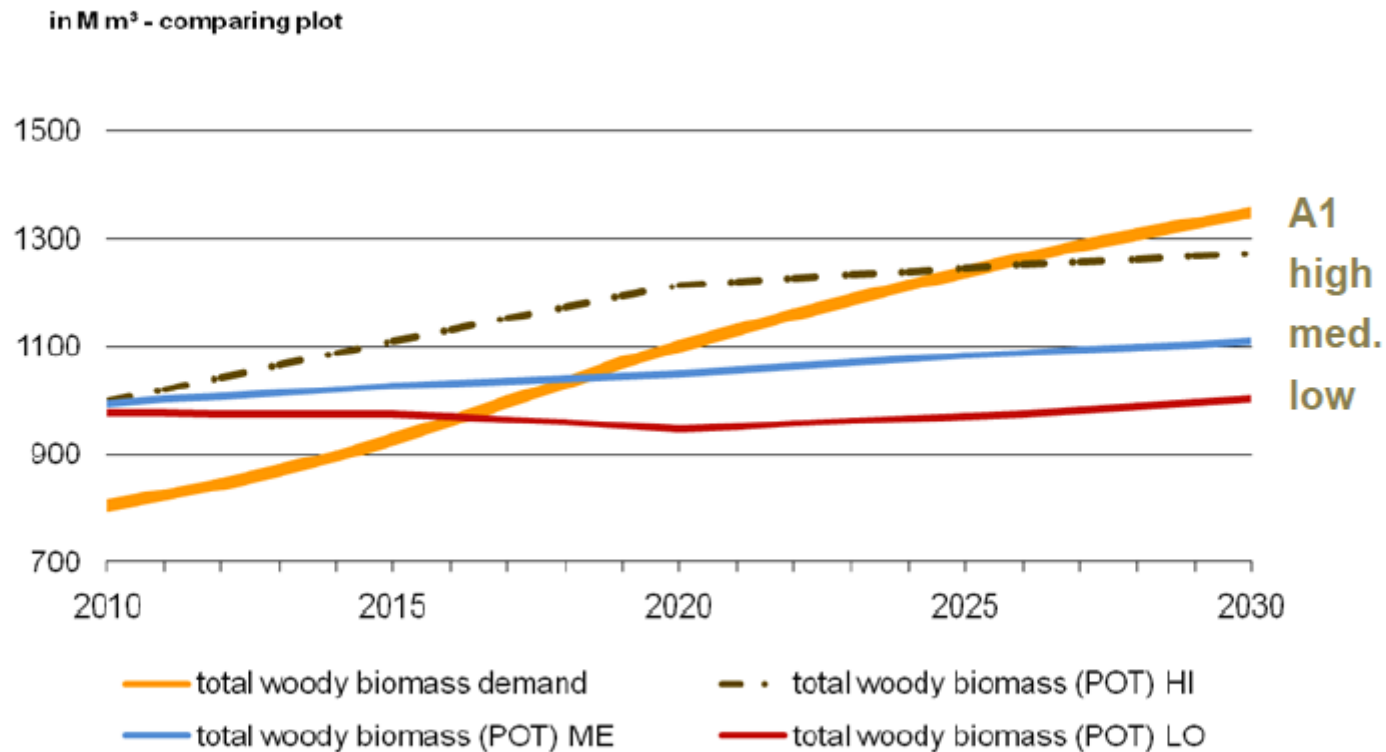


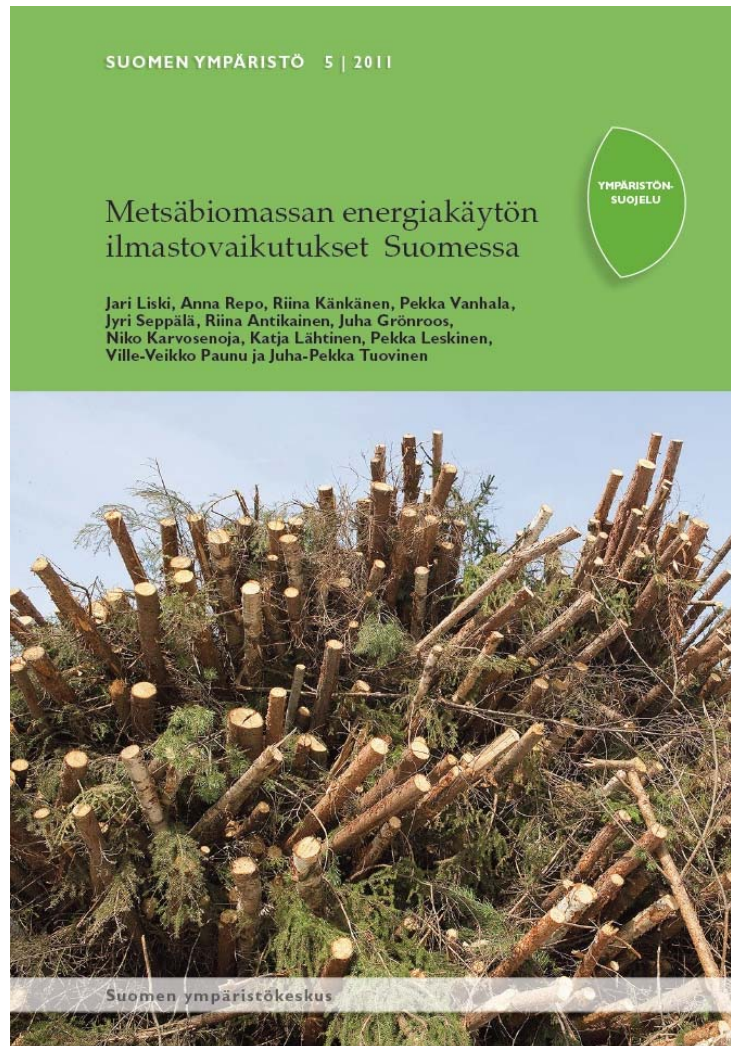
Source: Ljungblom, 2010.



Is there enough wood to satisfy our needs?

- EU27 - total woody biomass demand and potential with low, medium and high mobilisation scenario





Weaker carbon storage capacity of forests undermines the majority of climate benefits from forest energy





Framework: EU Flagship Initiative on Resource Efficiency?

“The supply of resources is limited, and our natural resource base is being eroded. Growing global demand is increasing pressure on the environment, and competition for many resources is increasing. Many natural resources are fundamental to our health, well-being and quality of life, so it is essential that we respect the natural limits of the planet's key ecosystems.”



http://ec.europa.eu/environment/resource_efficiency/index_en.htm



The Resource Efficiency Initiative can provide a framework for a discussion on what forests in the EU can sustainably supply:

- what can forests in the EU sustainably supply, which demands can be met and which choices have to be made
- what are the current demands for forests in the EU (in terms of environmental and social services, wood and fuel) and where are the conflicts between the demands
- what policy initiatives would be needed to ensure that the current conflicting demands would effectively be dealt with and resolved. Policy would have to refocus on supply rather than demand



Forestry strategy have potential, but only if there is ...

1. Willingness to question the effectiveness of the current tools
2. Willingness to come to greater coherence and coordination
3. Willingness to set clear performance based targets and address causes of forest deterioration (eg consumption)
4. A strategy that is set within the framework of enhanced forest protection and resources efficiency
5. Real contribution to other policies and regulations which have clear performance based targets, commitments and plans.
6. Integration of environmental values in other policies



THANK YOU
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