European Forest Institute



Delphi study: The future of global forest governance

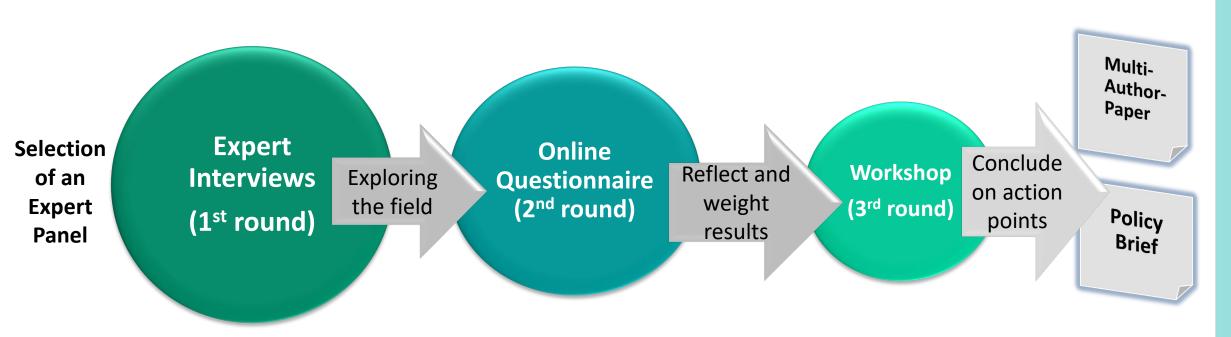
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The study

Objectives:

- Identify major practical challenges and lessons learnt in global forest governance
- Assess possible pathways for future global forest governance
- Derive **conclusions** for practitioners and researchers
- High-level expert panel of 38 experts (approx. ½ researchers, ½ practitioners)
- In this presentation:
 - Challenges and drivers of global forest governance
 - Promising initiatives
 - Influential actors
 - Main effects of global forest governance
 - Wishes and action points (ideal scenario)
 - Assumptions about global forest governance in 2030 (most likely scenario)
 - Widely unexplored future research topics
 - Narratives (partially)

Delphi method



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1. Important challenges and drivers

	Most supported statements	Arithmetic mean
1	Direct drivers of deforestation that mainly lie outside the forest sector, like agriculture, mining and bio-energy demand as well as indirect drivers of deforestation e.g. corruption and insufficient law enforcement threaten global forest governance since they are difficult to curb effectively.	4.41
2	Deforestation and increasingly forest degradation especially in the tropics are the key environmental challenges for global forest governance today and in the future.	4.23
3	A crucial driver of global forest governance is the economic interest of different actors in the forest sector and actors impacting the forests in a way that secures their profits.	4.21
4	Population growth challenges global forest governance because of an increasing demand for food, land and forest products (timber, firewood).	4.2
5	Cross-sectoral cooperation is difficult due to the strong sectoral division of forest governance characterized by sectoral governance architectures and diverging priorities.	4.09
6	A crucial challenge in global forest governance is its fragmentation . Forests are dealt with by different conventions, actors and institutions that do not use the same language, instruments and mechanisms. This makes it difficult to find compromises and harmonize forest policy at global and national level.	4.06

2. Promising initiatives

	Most supported initiatives	Arithmetic mean
1	FLEGT	3.66
2	Forest big data / transparency initiatives	3.55
3	Zero deforestation/commodity initiatives	3.52
	Least supported initiatives	
1	UNFF	2.25
2	CPF	2.5
3	United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030	2.55

REDD+ scored in the medium field

2. Promising initiatives

variability of responses

	High consensus	IQR	Low consensus	IQR
1	CBD (AM: 3)	0	Legality Initiatives (AM: 3.32)	2
2	Jurisdictional initiatives (AM: 3.2)	0.75	NDCs (AM: 3.32)	2
3	Bonn Challenge (AM: 2.94)	0.75	REDD+ (AM: 3.06)	2

3. Wishes and action points

	Most supported statements	Arithmetic mean
1	More cooperation with new powerful states (esp. China and India) is critical.	4.24
2	There should be more coordination and cooperation between different initiatives instead of increasing the number of already existing initiatives and topics.	4.24
3	Experts working in the field of global forest governance should actively raise awareness for forest issues outside the forest sector.	4.18
4	More information disclosure of companies and governments to enable independent monitoring of the civil society is needed.	4.12
5	More "smart/adapted country solutions" that are reflecting better the country and local contexts and consider synergies between different global initiatives are needed instead of "global one size fits all solutions".	4.06
6	There should be more coordination and cooperation between different governance levels focusing on better integrating jurisdictional and regional governance and stakeholders.	4.03
7	Different ministries at national levels should cooperate and coordinate better before contributing to global decision-making.	3.97

4. Narratives of global forest governance

Working definition "narratives":

Narratives are comprehensive world views in an issue area. They identify
a main problem and imply a preferred solution. They are pronounced and
sometimes provocative, advocating about what "needs to be done".

Multisector cooperation

The forest sector should....

"fully open up for multisector cooperation"	AM	IQR	"allow only controlled collaboration"	AM	IQR
Global forest governance is strongly influenced by sectors that emphasize particular ecosystem services of forests. For this reason, the forest sector needs to fully open up for multisector initiatives and projects to create and implement a holistic perspective on forests.	3.65	1	Global forest governance is strongly influenced by sectors that emphasize particular ecosystem services of forests. For this reason, the forest sector needs to maintain control over forest governance trough demonstrating the ability to govern/manage forest holistically and only "controlled collaboration" with other sectors.	2.83	1.25

Conservation ...

"through profitable forest use"	AM	IQR	"through limiting profitable forest use"	AM	IQR
Too much focus on forest (biodiversity) conservation has not stopped deforestation. This is as forests are less profitable than other land uses, and forestry partially has a negative image. In the future, emphasis should be put on profitable management models that incentivise sustainable forest use to boost sustainable forest based development and sustain livelihoods.	3.78	2	Forests are too much recognised for their economic value in global forest governance, e.g. through concepts such as sustainable forest management or a biomass-focused bio-economy. Forest conservation and management needs to be better separated from the economic interests of companies and forestry, and governments and NGOs should push for more forest conservation.	2.94	2



Thank you!



Connecting knowledge to action