



FOREST COOPERATIVES AND SUCCESS EXPERIENCES ON SOCIAL ECONOMY IN FORESTRY

ERIAFF Annual Conference, Amsterdam (The Netherlands)

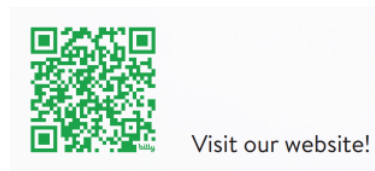
May 12th, 2026 –



Forest cooperatives and success experiences on social economy in Forestry

Moderated by Tiina Paakkari (East and North Finland EU Office)

The session is organized by the **European Network of Forest Regions**, of ERIAFF, jointly with the **SMURF project** (See: <https://www.smurfproject.eu/>) – Horizon Europe Grant Agreement No. 101135516, supported by the European Commission.



Program

11:00-11:05	Introduction and welcome words	Tiina Paakkari
11:05-11:25	Presentation of NORRA SKOG	Satu Aguilar
11:25-11:45	Presentation of UCFF	Tammouz Eñaut Helou
11:45-12:05	Presentation of TANTAI	Nerea Pagaldai
12:05-12:25	Discussion and Q&A	Moderated by Tiina Paakkari
12:25-12:30	Closing remarks	Álvaro Picardo



Visit our website!



Norra Skog

Norra Skog

Cooperative

Owned by 27 000 members that are private forest owners

Own industries

3 sawmills, 3 construction product facilities, 1 pole factory, co-owner of a pulp mill

Operational area

Northern part of Sweden



Forest owner associations in Sweden

**norra
skog**





**Why do forest
owner
associations
exist?**

Norra Skog in numbers



670 employees



800 persons as contractors



2,2 million ha of productive forest land owned by members



5,7 billion SEK in total turnover 2024



266 million SEK in profit sharing to members in 2025



Democratic organisation

- Small local associations
- One member – one vote
- General Assembly
- Swedish Code for Governance for Cooperatives
 - a voluntary framework aimed at promoting member dialogue, democratic processes, and transparency



Services

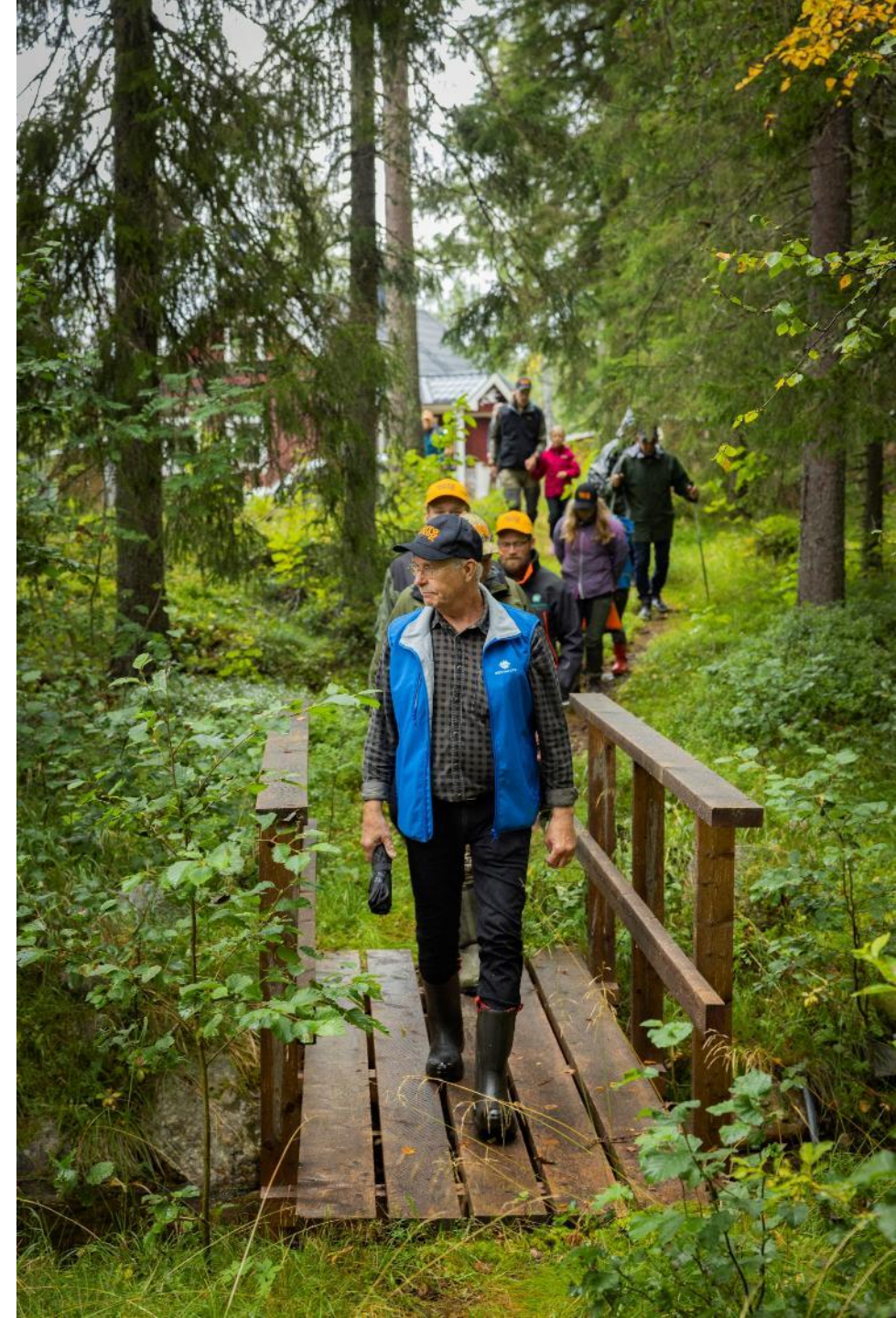
- Advisory services related to forest management
- Tax declaration and legal services
- Forest road planning and building
- Courses and other learning opportunities
- Advocacy work related to forest and industrial policy
- Real estate services



Spreading awareness on water conservation and management

In Grip on Life IP project, authorities, forest owners' associations and NGOs work together to combine modern and active forestry with consideration to the forest's valuable watercourses and wetlands.

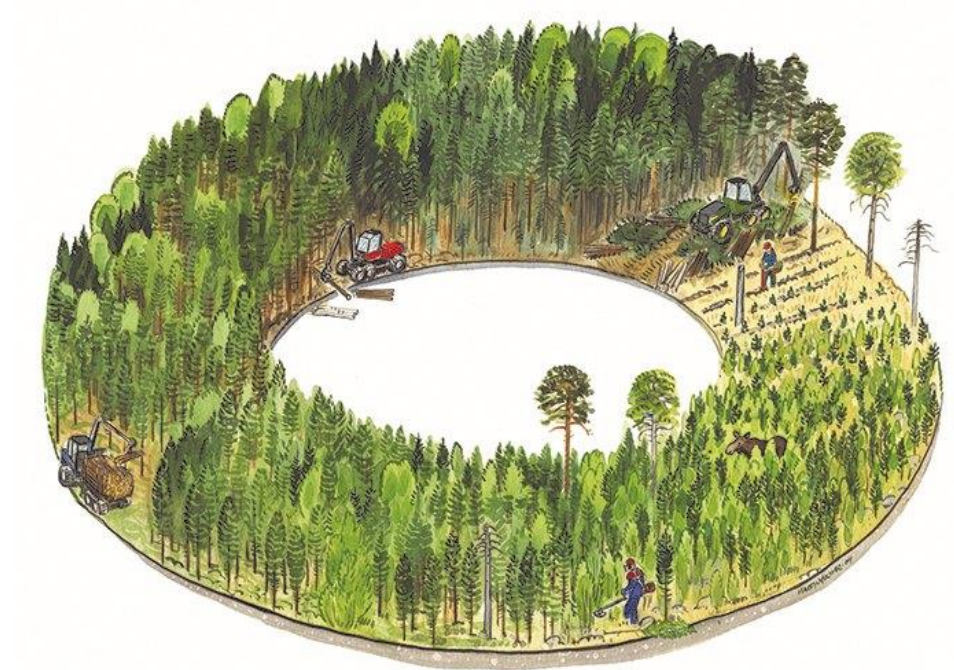
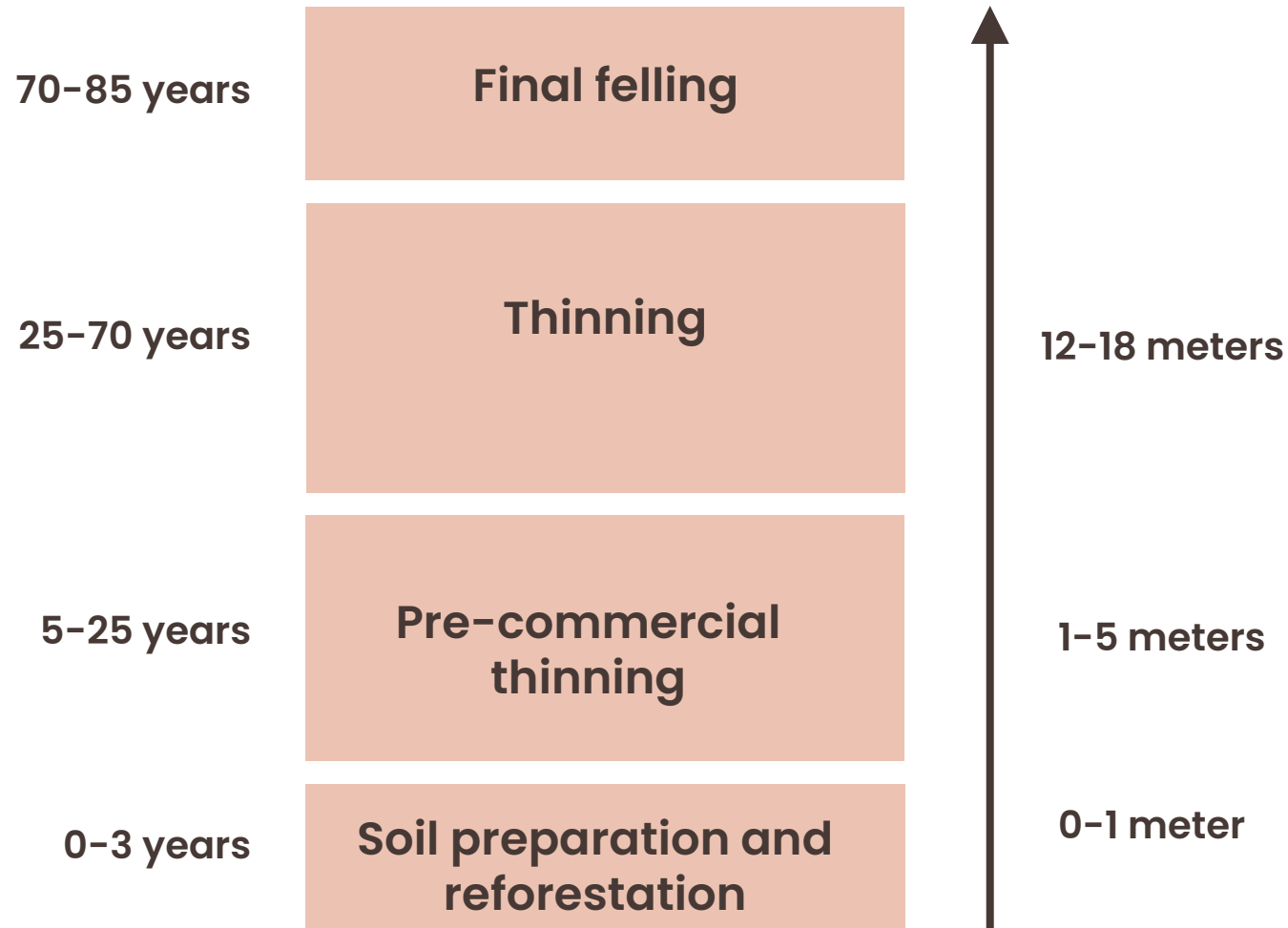
- Demo sites: a trail with info signs
- Water walks
- Information material



Forest management plan



The Swedish forestry model



Alternative methods

- Social values
- Biodiversity values
- Historical values
- Esthetic values
- Variation in site conditions
- The forest owner's management objectives and priorities
- E.g. continuous-cover forestry, gap-based harvesting regimes



Future opportunities and challenges

- Storms, fires, insects, climate change, biodiversity
- Meeting policy goals vs. meeting societal expectations
- Cooperative as a business model

Thank you!

Forest cooperatives in France

Mr Tammouz Eñaut HELOU
Secretary general
Union de la Coopération Forestière Française (UCFF)

ERIAFF, 12 MAY 2026 (AMSTERDAM)



Some topics



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Forests & forestry sector in France

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Private ownership

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French forest cooperatives

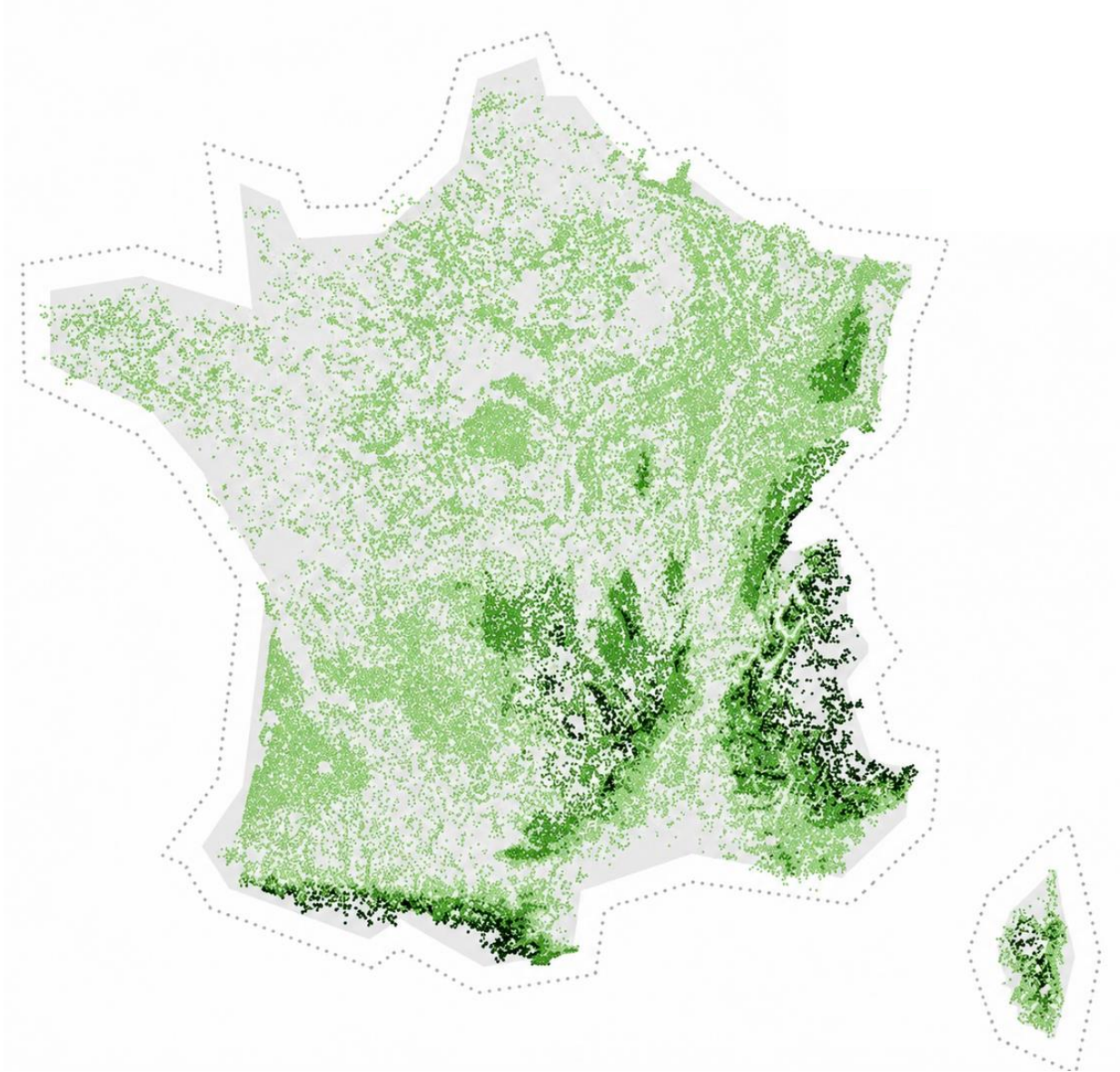
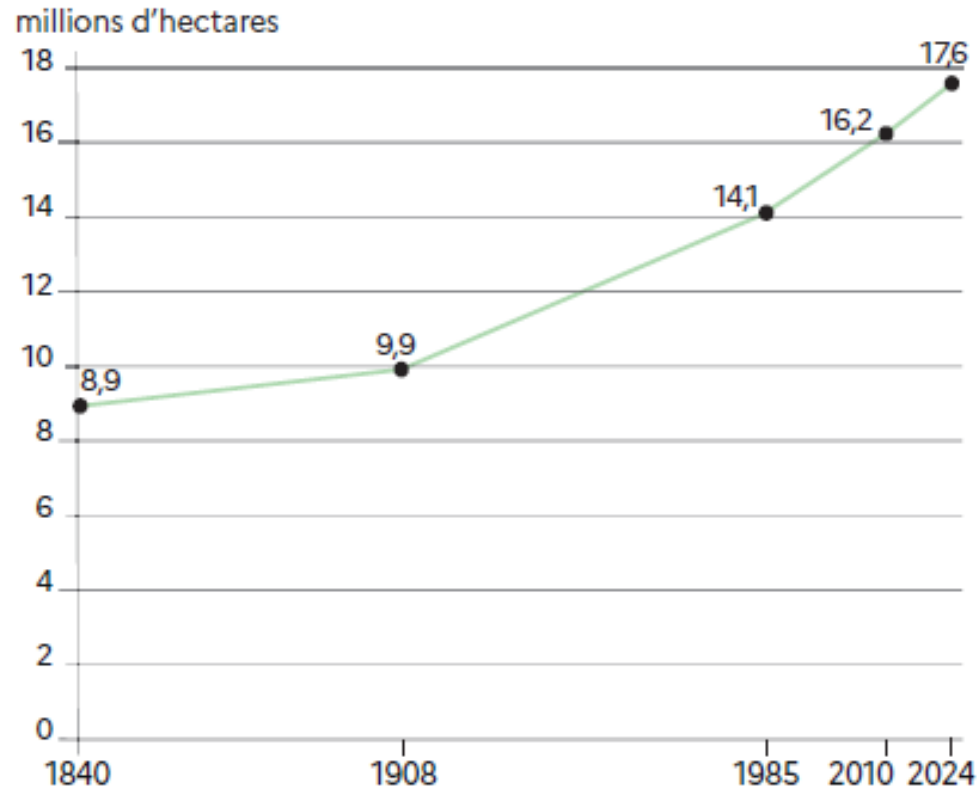
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Challenges & recommandations



Forests & forestry sector in FR

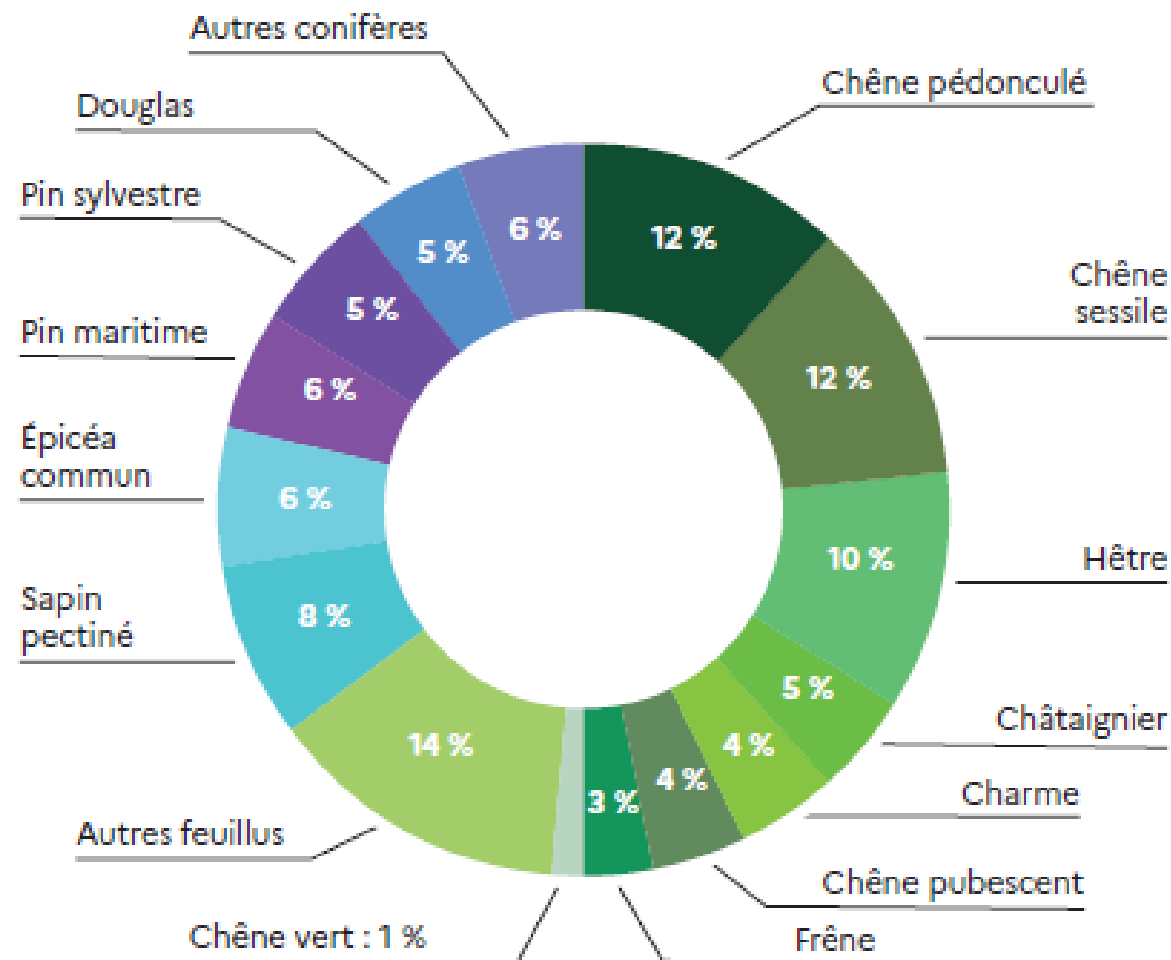
- 17.6 Mha (32 %), vs 9.9 Mha in 1908
- 75 % private forest (13.2 Mha)
 - with 3.4 M private owners



Forests & forestry sector in FR

- 190 foresty trees
- Diversified forests
- Multifunctionality
- 17.6 Mha (32 %), vs 9.9 Mha in 1908
 - 65 % hardwood stands
 - 13 % mixed
 - 20 % softwood stands
 - < 1 % poplar trees

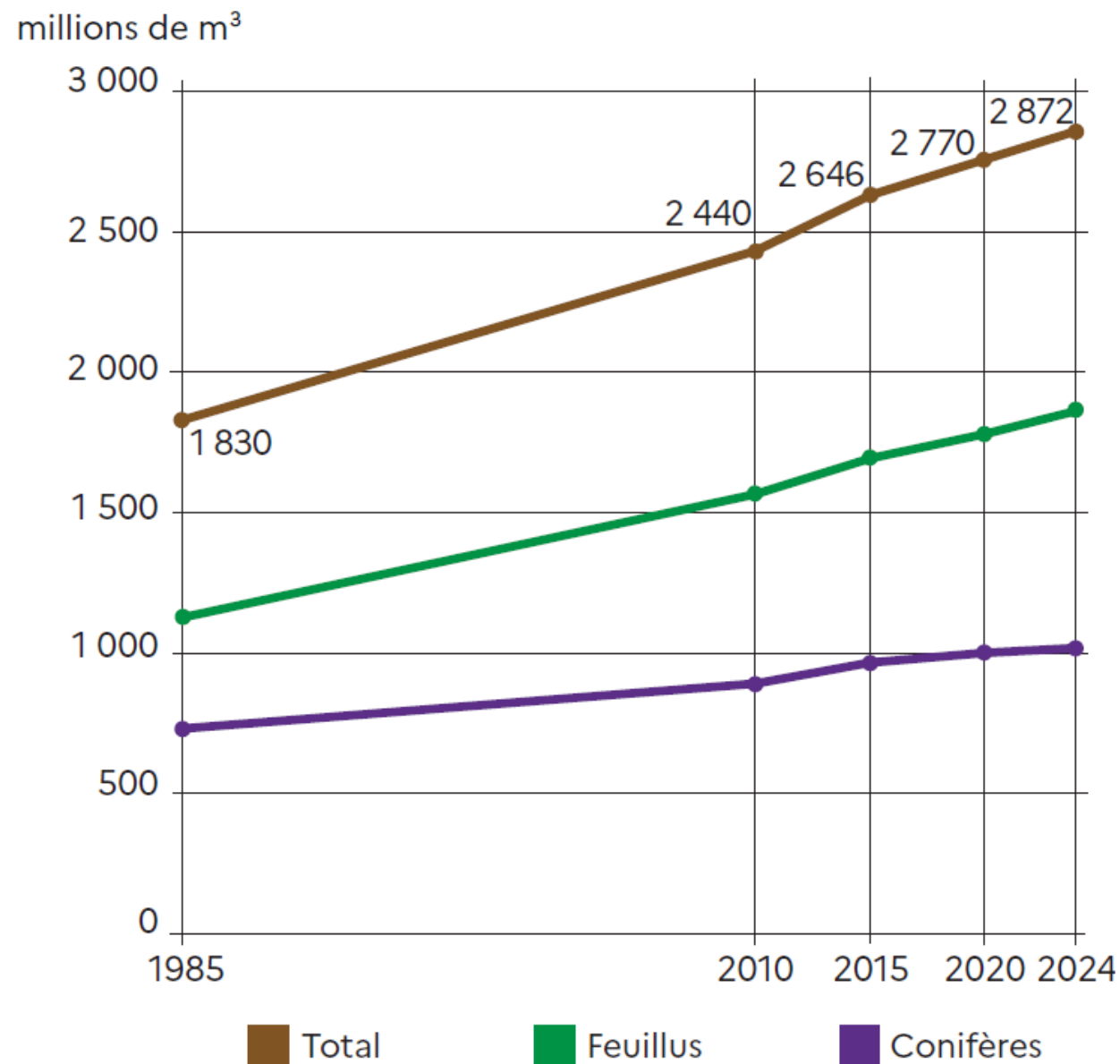
Conifères : 1 005 millions de m³ Feuillus : 1 867 millions de m³



Forests & forestry sector in FR

- Volumes :
 - + 50 % in 40 years
 - 66 % hardwoods
- Harvest : +/- 40 Mm³/year

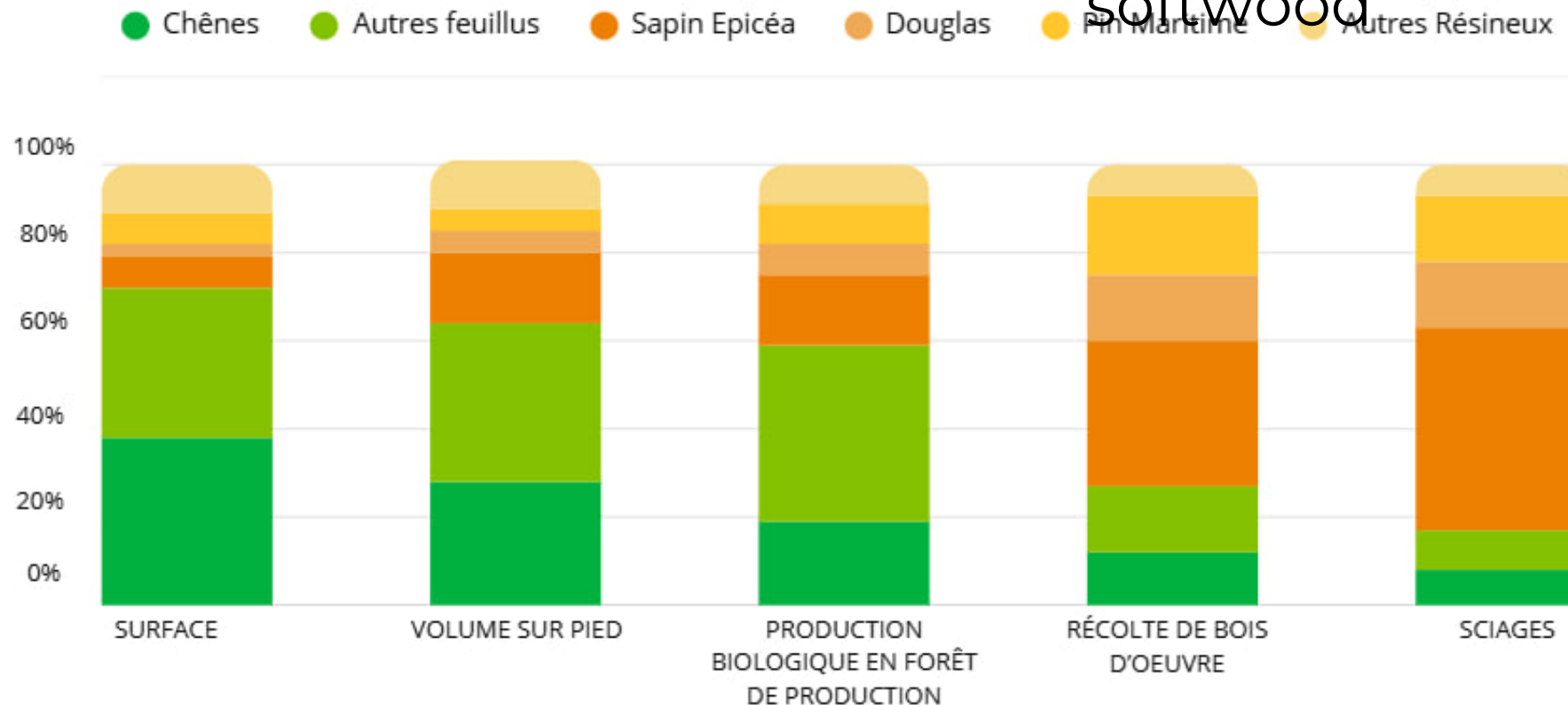
Year	Trade balance (M€)	W
2010	-6 709	
2021	-8 571	
2022	-9 580	
2023	-8 492	
2024	-7 779	



Forests & forestry sector in FR

- Harvested wood : 38 Mm³
 - 18 Mm³ logs
 - 10 Mm³ pulpwood
 - 10 Mm³ energy wood

- Sawn wood : 8 Mm³
 - 1 Mm³ hardwood
 - 7 Mm³ softwood



Private forest ownership

Size	Private Owner (PO)	Forest area (ha)	Average (ha/PO)
< 1 ha	2 203 000	687 000	0.57
1-4 ha	729 000	1 463 000	2.00
> 4 ha	377 000	6 929 000	18.37

- 75 % private forest (13,2 Mha)
- Belong to 3.4 M private owners (PO), so an average of 3.8 ha per PO
 - > 1 ha = 1 142 000 PO (8,38 Mha, average 7.34 ha)
- Forest area (ha)
 - 50 % without any forestry operations since 50 years
 - 27 % ha only with sustainable management plan



Private forest ownership in FR



Trends (mostly)

- Family forest owners (inherit forest from their parents)
- Non-professionals
- Living in cities
- Varied profiles & expectations : wood production, gaming, carbon, biodiversity, soils...
- Impacts of digital social networks “debates”

12 french forestry cooperatives



- “We bring together forest private owners and support them with a global offer to make them active participants in the sustainable management of their forests”
- Same 3 services for all :
 - Management advices
 - Purchasing center
 - Wood sales
- National coverage
- Democratic rules (decision process, transparency, “1 person, 1 voice” ...)
- Global solutions/services for PO

What we do for our sector

- We help PO to manage their forests
- We work for a competitive upstream/downstream sector (providers, contractors, clients)
 - We structure the upstream market
 - Long term contracts
- We implement public policies in private forests



12 french forestry cooperatives



- 110 000 private owners (PO) & 2 Mha
- 1 500 employees
- 238 administrators (PO)
- 40 % of reforestation in FR
 - 15 000 ha/year
- 20 % of timber harvest in FR
 - 7 Mm³/year
 - 70 % sales through “wood supply contract”
 - 80 % certified PEFC or FSC

12 french forestry cooperatives

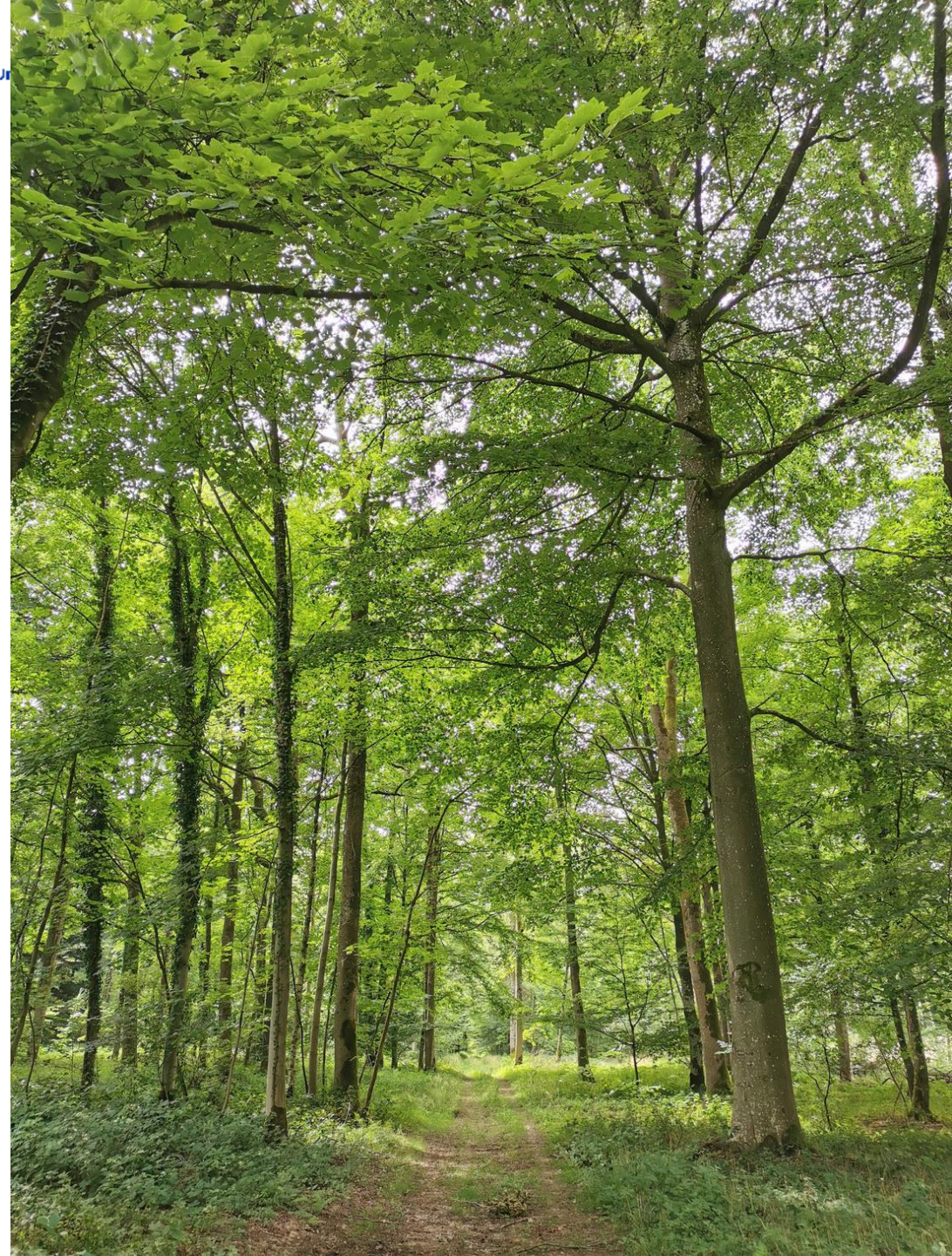


- Involve in tens of innovation projects (from seeds to logistical issues)
 - 20 dedicated employees
- Access to PEFC/FSC certifications
 - 78 % PO & 67 % ha in France from cooperatives
- Current investments for the sector
 - Seed orchard
 - Nursery
 - Forestry works
 - Sawmills
- Carbon, nature credits...

Our main concerns



- Motivate private owners
- Adapt forests to climate change
- Protect employees (safety, vandalism...)
- Protect environment (soils, biodiversity...)
- Skilled workforce
- Multifunctionality & Competitiveness



Recommendations



- A private owner must be connected with a professional forest manager
- Public policies must encourage
 - active sustainable forest management
 - wood-based products use
- Ensure national & EU regulations coherence
- Explain to the “society” the importance of forest management and use of wood

Thank you for your attention

Mr Tammouz Eñaut HELOU
Secretary general



ERIAFF, 12 MAY 2026 (AMSTERDAM)

Union de la Coopération Forestière Française (UCFF)

47 rue de Rome 75008 Paris - info@lescooperativesforestieres.fr

tantai
BASO JABE KOOPERATIBA

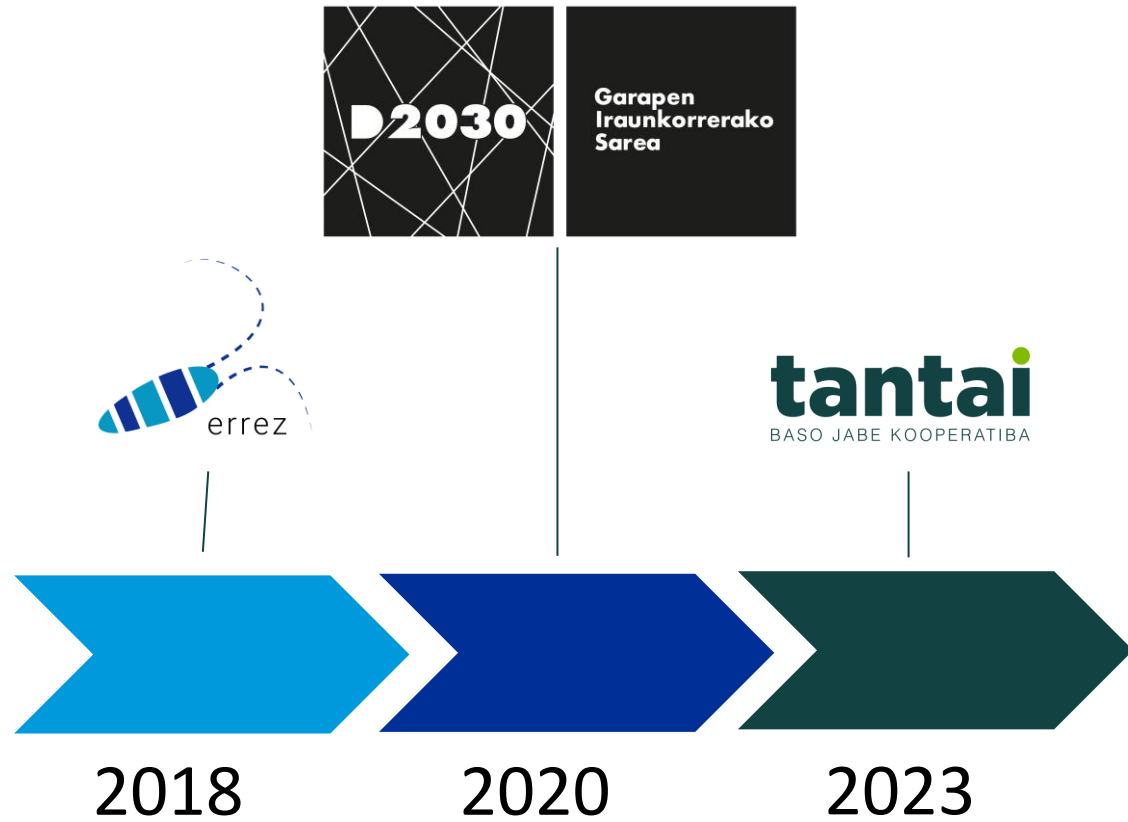
SMALL OWNERS DRIVING THE CHANGE





BEGINNING

Open network of collaboration:



Public administrations:



Foundations:



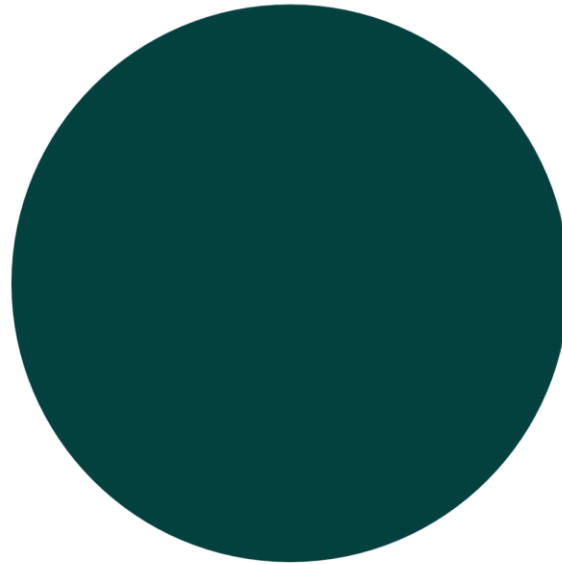
Cooperatives:





WHO ARE WE?

USER MEMBERS
FOREST OWNERS



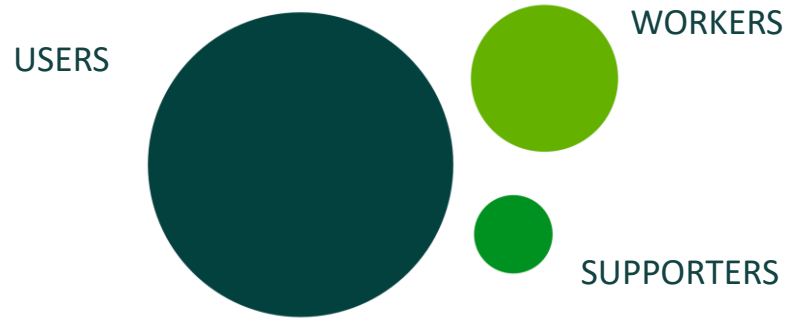
WORKER MEMBERS



SUPPORTER MEMBERS
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATIONS
ORGANIZATIONS
PEOPLE

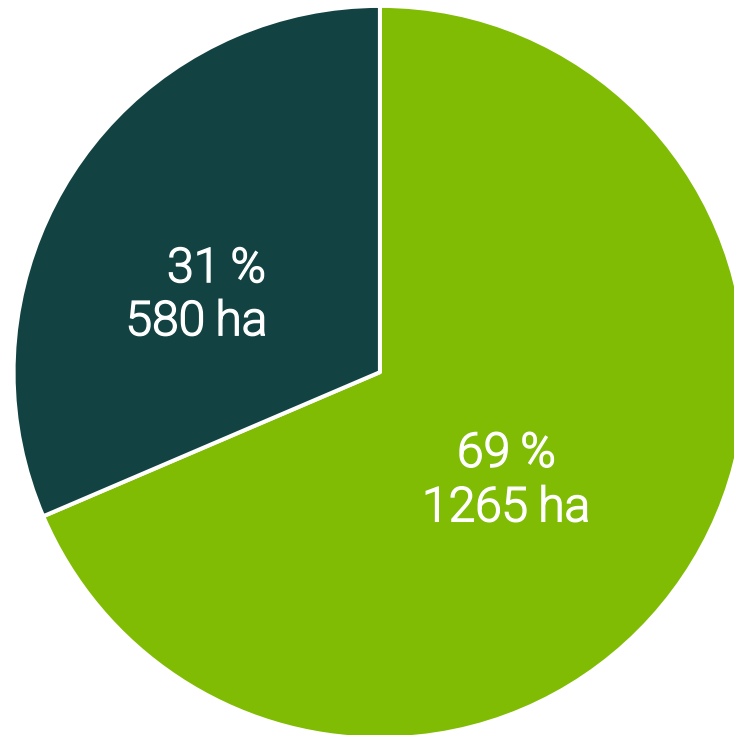


WHO ARE WE?





WHO ARE WE?



■ Private ■ Public

Public administrations
Not members

~2,000 ha

TOTAL: 3,845 ha

OUR OBJECTIVES

Change the forest management model

Look after and improve the **ecosystem**

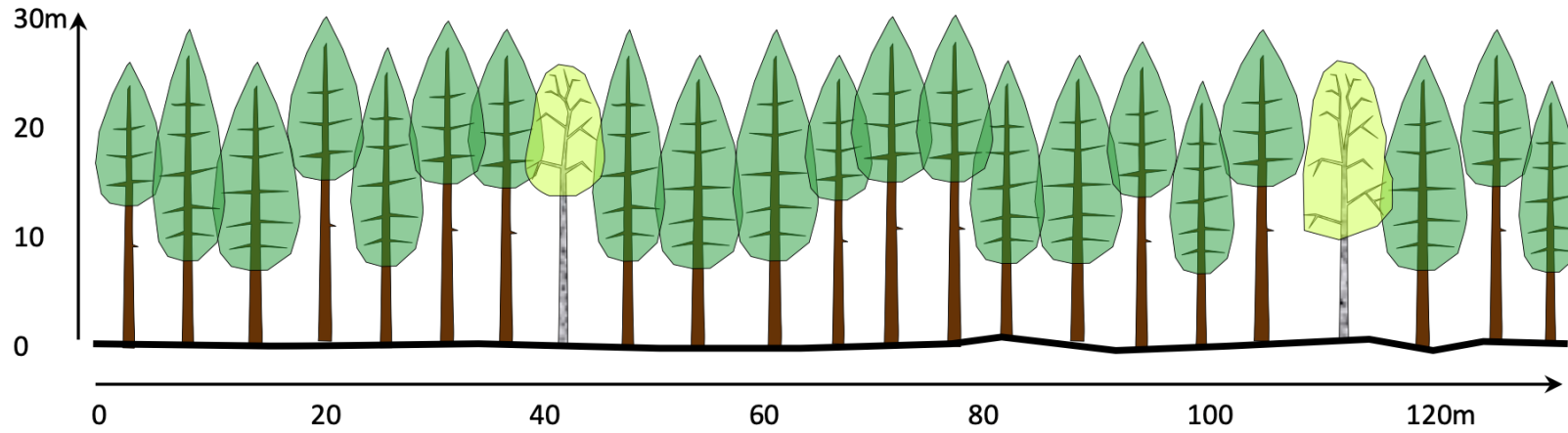
Improve the **working conditions** in forestry



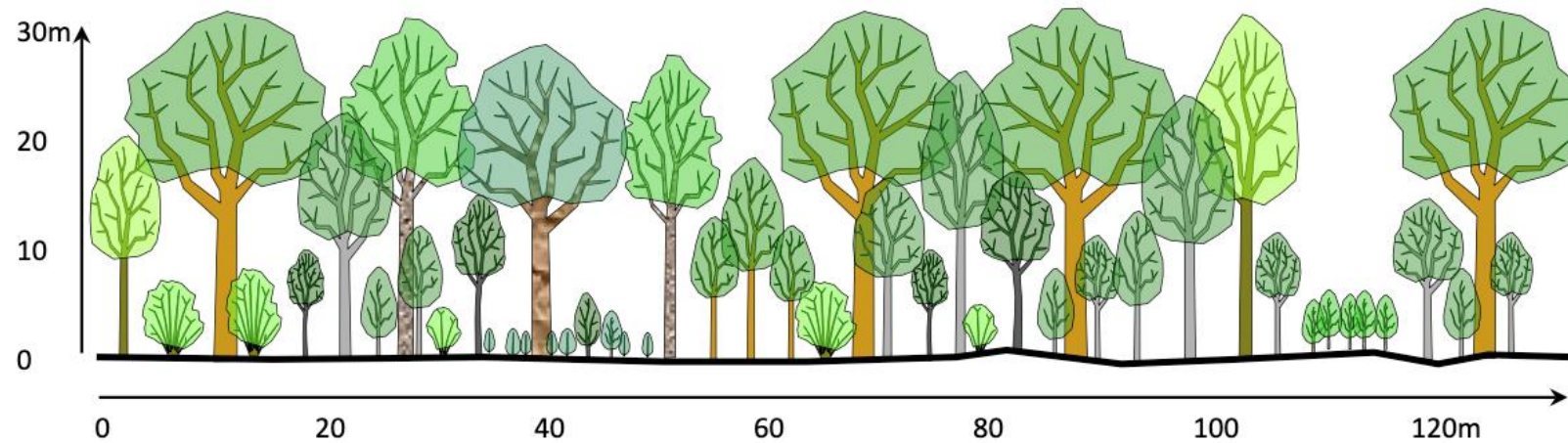


OUR PROPOSAL

FROM:



TOWARDS:





OUR REFERENCES



association *futaie Irrégulière*





SERVICES





SERVICES





SERVICES





RELATIONSHIPS

Cooperatives

FAGOR



LABORAL
kutxa



Others





LESSONS & ACHIEVEMENTS



Run a company

Viability of exploitations

Implementation of CCF in our region

Reforestation 500 ha with native broadleaves.

Translated Christines **book** to basque

Scientific researches: life urbano, life hardwood for the home

We offer from **counselling** to forest operations.

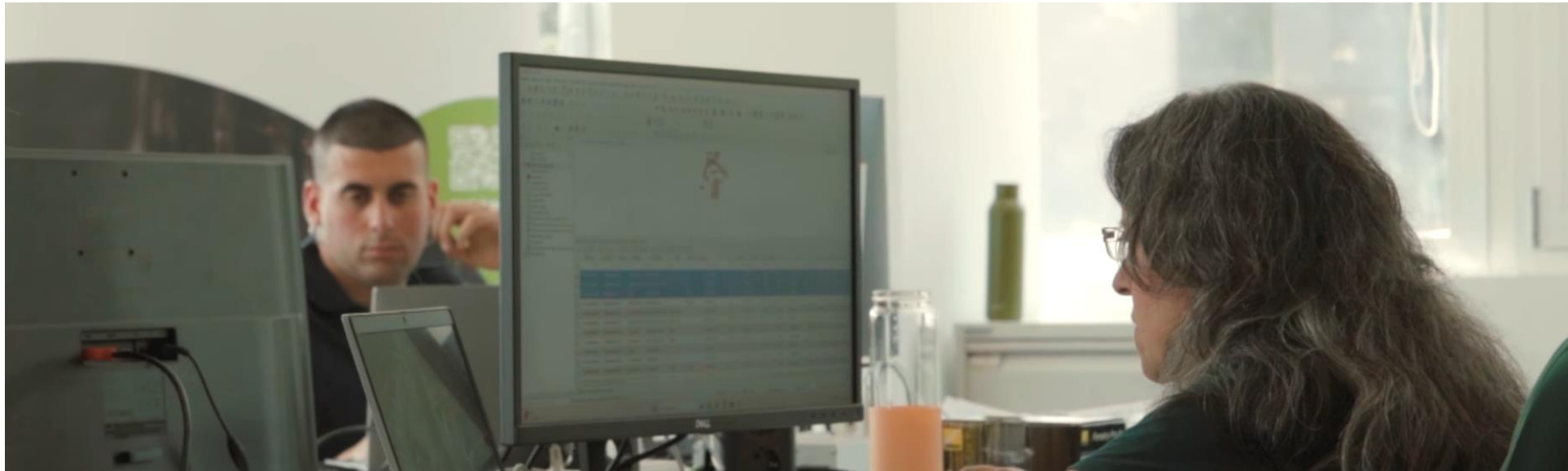


CHALLENGES

Digitalization

Mecanization

Fundings





tantai

BASO JABE KOOPERATIBA



THANK YOU !

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Castilla y León region



Visit our website!



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