



From Forests to Markets: Strengthening Resilience Across Europe's Forest Value Chain | 25 June 2026

Wood is not only a forest product. It is a strategic material for Europe.



EU Policies & Roundwood availability in EU:



THE EUROPEAN WOODWORKING INDUSTRY IS NEARLY

100%

DEPENDENT ON EUROPEAN FORESTS.



WE USED TO IMPORT LOGS FROM RUSSIA AND BELARUS BUT THIS FLOW HAS BEEN INTERRUPTED.



TWO MAJOR DRIVERS WILL REDUCE THE AVAILABILITY OF LOGS FOR INDUSTRY



CLIMATE CHANGE

With both short-term effects such as aftermath of bark-beetle calamities...



...and long-term effects such as adapting forests to the warming climate.



EU POLICIES

Policies passed by the EU (such as LULUCF, Nature Restoration Law...



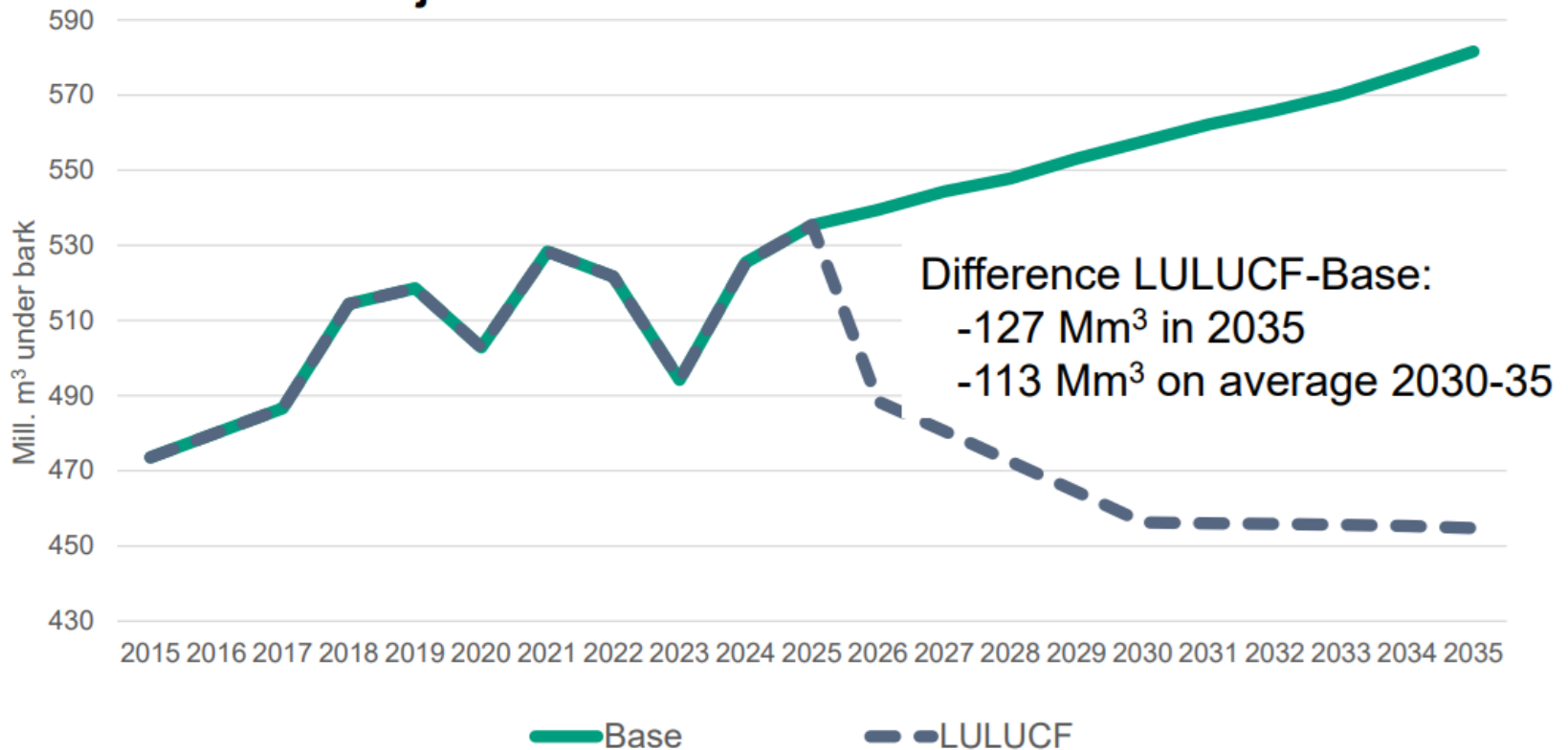
...but potentially also others such as nature credits.



SECURING THE LONG-TERM SUPPLY OF LOGS FOR THE INDUSTRY IS A KEY STRATEGIC ACTIVITY FOR WOOD COMPANIES ACROSS EUROPE.

How do we produce more value from a potentially smaller resource base? LULUCF Projections

Projected roundwood harvests in EU+N



Estimation of impact Nature Restoration Law



FINLAND



The impact on logging by 2050 ranged from a **4%** to over **20%** reduction depending on how the regulation is implemented.



SWEDEN



The Swedish Forest Agency estimates that a far-reaching implementation could remove **1.6 million hectares** of productive forest land from use – corresponding to a loss of nearly **8 million m³** of raw material annually, about 10% of yearly harvesting volumes in Sweden.



GERMANY



Annual cost of implementing NRL could be in excess of **€2 billion.**



POLAND



In the short to medium term, regulatory risk arising from EU climate and nature policy may reduce harvesting by **20–25%** within a decade (not just Nature Restoration Law).



Strengthening resilience requires a dual-track approach:



Only by combining policy coherence and industrial innovation can Europe secure the long-term availability of wood resources and maintain a competitive forest-based value chain.

Innovation in the wood industries

Innovation allows the industry to create more value from each cubic metre harvested.

CROSS-LAMINATED TIMBER (CLT)



Mass timber panel made by gluing layers of lumber crosswise for strength and dimensional stability.



GLULAM



Structural members made by gluing layers of lumber together, ideal for beams, columns and arches.



LAMINATED VENEER LUMBER (LVL)



Engineered wood product made from thin wood veneers bonded together, offering high strength and consistency.



FINGER-JOINTED TIMBER



Shorter pieces of lumber joined together end-to-end using finger joints to create longer, strong and stable pieces.



Innovation in the wood industries: greater value from every cubic metre

- ✓ **Thermal modification technologies**
 - Improve durability and performance without chemical treatments
- ✓ **Advanced automation and robotics**
 - Higher productivity
 - Reduced waste and manufacturing errors
 - Lower production costs
- ✓ **Digital manufacturing**
 - Faster and more precise production processes
 - Improved quality control
- ✓ **Additive manufacturing (3D printing)**
 - Enables complex geometries and customised products
 - Accelerates prototyping and product development

The right policy framework:

✓ What good policies should do

- Encourage active and sustainable forest management
- Support investment in forest resilience
- Ensure regulation remains proportionate and workable
- Facilitate wood mobilisation and market access

Outcome: More resilient forests and a secure supply of raw materials




✗ What poorly designed policies may do

- Restrict access to raw materials
- Create excessive administrative burdens
- Increase uncertainty for forest owners and operators
- Discourage investment and active management








Outcome: Reduced wood mobilisation and higher risk of supply shortages

EXAMPLE: Mandatory Cascading of Wood

Intended objective:

-  Promote efficient use of biomass
-  Support sustainability objectives
-  Encourage innovative bio-based products

Potential unintended consequences:

-  Additional reporting obligations
-  Monitoring requirements
-  Compliance and verification costs
-  Reduced ability of companies to respond to market demand
-  Distortion of investment decisions
-  Higher production costs
-  Risk of supply chain inefficiencies

EXAMPLE: Cascading of Wood in reality



Cascading is not driven by regulation. It is already driven by markets, technology and innovation.

Waste is a huge concern in woodworking. New measures assist in utilizing more of every log.

Today, makers turn offcuts, sawdust, and shavings into panels, pellets, or even bio-based plastics.

Wood foam, a lightweight, biodegradable material which can be made by breaking down wood fibres can replace petroleum-based foams in packaging and insulation materials








Many of our new thermal insulation materials are now wood-based

Conclusions:

Future EU policies should contribute to strengthening the competitiveness of Europe's forest-based value chain.

Forest-related legislation should be assessed not only against environmental indicators, but also against its impact on wood mobilisation, industrial investment, innovation, employment and strategic autonomy.

Wood availability focus:

-  Greater availability of raw materials
-  Stronger industrial competitiveness
-  More investments in innovation and manufacturing
-  Development of new bio-based products and materials
-  More affordable and sustainable construction
-  A stronger European bioeconomy

Conclusions:

Diversifying sourcing strategies, strengthening regional supply networks and investing in circular approaches that maximise the use, reuse and recycling of wood fibre

Close connections between local businesses, researchers and forest managers to facilitate exchange knowledge.

Mapping a region's strengths, such as which species thrive and & enabling regions to select an appropriate portfolio of products to support, matching local competencies and market requirements.

Thank You

