

EESC workshop on the new EU Forest Strategy/ 14 September 2021



What does sustainable forest management imply in practice? How can forest stakeholders best ensure the three dimensions of sustainable development?

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### About Cepi

#### **Represents in Brussels**

500 pulp, paper and board producing companies895 mills across Europe180000 people employed directly18 member countries

Engaged in international fora (UN, FAO, WTO) to defend 22% of the world production

Working across the value chain – from forest owners to converters

Member of the EU Bio-based Industry and Energy Intensive Industry Alliances

Chair: Ignazio Capuano, Burgo Group

A staff of **26** industry, policy and public affairs experts



## About Cepi

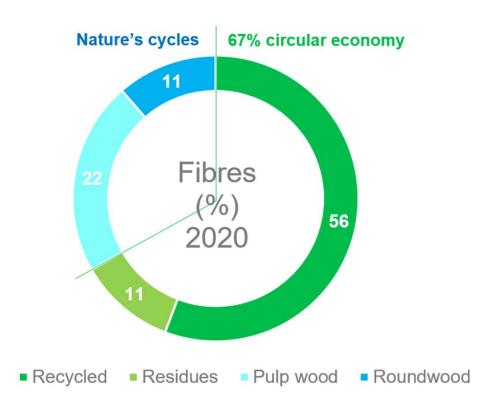
We are renewable and recyclable, sourced and made in Europe, a responsible industry towards the environment, its customers and workers

> Transforming pulp wood into cellulose and bio-based products >92% of our raw materials is sourced in Europe

**Keeping the fibres** in the loop >72% recycling rate of EU paper-based products **Producing** 

Pulp & fibres Nano-cellulose Bio-energy **Bio-chemicals** Print & graphic paper Packaging solutions Hygiene and tissues Specialty papers

# Share of fibre sources in the European Paper Industry







# Identified issues in new forest strategy (1/2)

- Overemphasis on the sink function of forests substitution potential of wood based products not sufficiently recognized, no measures to increase it
- Cascading use of wood a principle that functions well in the forestry sector as long as subsidies are not distorting it. Use Commission own guidance rather than re-inventing the definition.
- Announcement of prescriptive forest management practices while there is a diversity that is needed in Europe's different bioecological regions

# Identified issues in new forest strategy (2/2)

- 3 billion trees initiative Cepi supports and will soon present its engagement. However, the long term sustainable management of these additional forests is crucial.
- It is difficult to understand what role Forest Certification plays in the forest strategy in European pulp and papermaking, 83% of wood comes from certified forests. Certification needs to remain credible, impactful and workable for a critical mass of the forest sector.
- Unclear objective of the announced proposal on forest observation and data collection





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