



One Forest Business Forum

2nd March 2023

Concept

420 millions of hectares of forests have been lost between 1990 and 2020 : a surface bigger than Europe. In the Congo basin a surface equivalent to the size of Senegal has been lost in the past 20 years. Deforestation and forest degradation are important factors of climate change (11% of greenhouse gas emissions) and biodiversity loss.

The business forum will build on the work of the first day of the One Forest Summit on sustainable supply chains, to tackle the three main root causes of deforestation: land consuming agriculture, use of wood as an energy source, and unsustainable forestry practices. It will provide concrete solutions for a sustainable use of forests, enabling communities to thrive and to protect local know-how, while preserving the vital reserves of carbon and biodiversity captured in these ecosystems. These best practices will include exemplary commitments from local and international companies, notably through the sourcing of certified and sustainably produced products and the investment in local transformation and training, with significant value creation and job potential.

It will result in a shared vision and recommendations, which will be first discussed with Ministers and later shared with heads of state and governments on the afternoon of the 2nd of March.

Main deliverables

- Policy recommendations to enhance carbon footprint regulation, promote sustainable wood construction, encourage investment in producing countries, develop land-use planning at landscape level and implement the Nagoya principles
- Guidance from business leaders to orient cooperation between Europe and producing countries on creating the prerequisite for sustainable value chains; New business partnerships resulting in technology transfer and capacity building
- New investments in sustainable forest exploitation and local transformation of forestry and agro-forestry products

Draft Program

9:00 – 10: 15: Meeting of business leaders on the main messages to convey to government leaders (closed session)

10:30 -11:05: Pitching session of innovative solutions for forest preservation

11:15 – 12: 45: Dialogue between ministers, business and civil society leaders

- a. Sustainable use of wood fuels and decarbonization of industrial processes
- b. Innovation, technology transfer and capacity building
- c. Policy and regulatory recommendations
- d. Promote investment in industrialization of producing countries