



# ForestNavigator

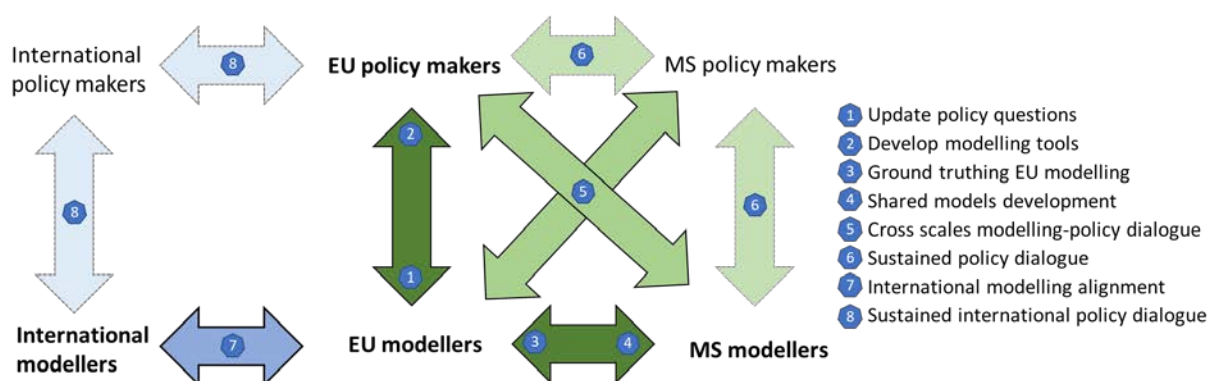
## Forest Policy Modelling Forum

### Description

## Forest Policy Modelling Forum (PMF)

**Background and need:** Forests and the forest sector are important to achieve the new EU goals related to climate, biodiversity, and bioeconomy. While the EU regulations and strategies provide a general policy framework, the implementation is carried out at the level of individual Member States (MS). Both the European Commission and national governments rely on ex-ante model-based policy impact assessments. Therefore, consistent modelling approaches across MSs and between the EU and MS are needed to enhance the consistency and effectiveness of forest-related policies in the EU.

A new **Forest Policy Modelling Forum** brings together policy makers and modelers at the MS and EU level for a dialogue based on ex-ante modelling needs to support forest policy making across the EU. In this dialogue, the ability of biophysical and socioeconomic models to inform policies with forward looking assessments depends on their capacity to represent policy questions, evolving scenarios, and emerging sectorial issues such as impacts of natural disturbances and robustness of policy pathways. This Forum will allow to discuss how modelling approaches can help to tackle current policy questions and to share modelling techniques readily transferable across geographies and scales. The forum will discuss best modelling practices, common interpretation of policies and thus enhance comparability of resulting pathways, the quality of policy impact assessments and policies effectiveness.



### Aim:

1. Discuss emerging policy questions with EU decision makers.
2. Develop new modelling tools to address the rising EU policy questions.
3. Validate EU scale ex-ante modelling by support of national modellers, allowing for enhanced consistency between EU and MS modelling assumptions and resulting sectorial pathways.
4. Accelerate development of new modelling features and best practices made available to MS.
5. Strengthen the cross-scale dialogue between modellers and policy makers for aligning MS pathways to EU policy expectations.
6. Sustain the dialogue between EU/MS policy makers by access to common modelling assumptions and outcome.
7. Enhance the alignment between EU and international modelling
8. Sustain the international policy dialogue by sharing common experiences

This community will be important to anticipate and respond to policy makers' needs through its fostered model developments. Potentially arising common baseline scenarios and model-based assessments will contribute to publications enabling to inform the scientific and technical community about the most relevant advancements.

The first four years of life of the Forum will be supported by the ForestNavigator Horizon Europe research project: <https://www.forestnavigator.eu/> It is our intention to establish a long-lasting community lasting over the project lifetime.

### **PMF members**

The Forum will host:

- Modellers involved in National Energy and Climate Plans (NECP), Long Term Strategies (LTS), and other model-based ex-ante assessments having an impact on forest related policy making at National and EU scale.
- Forest sector experts from EU and National Agencies providing technical support to decision makers and thus often acting as a bridge between modelers and governments.
- Forest sector researchers and experts assisting MS authorities.
- Policy makers and decision makers involved in forest related policies at EU (EC DGs and Agencies) and national scale (National Authorities).
- Members of international institutions performing model-based ex-ante assessments.

The Forum will host primarily modellers and policy makers from the EU region. The Forum will also include modellers with a focus on other relevant global regions (e.g. China and the U.S.) to recognize that the EU forest sector is strongly dependent on developments in other world regions. In addition, this creates an opportunity to interact with internationally recognized experts. The international members will be able to provide scientific and technical assistance, reduce learning curves to new methods and modelling tools, and improve the alignment to the international policy context.

**Tools:** The Forum will rely on an innovative hi-tech online platform. This dedicated IT infrastructure hosted in the ForestNavigator Portal is being designed for open access to data, shared model development, automatized model deployment and visualization of modelling results.