

# European Forest Genetic Resources Programme (EUFORGEN)

## Strategic objectives and implementation plan for Phase VI (2020-2024)

In June 2018, the EUFORGEN Steering Committee decided to continue the implementation of the EUFORGEN collaboration programme and defined strategic objectives for its sixth phase. The decision recognised three important considerations: the fact that in 2015 Signatory of the Forest Europe process committed to “continuing pan-European collaboration on forest genetic resources through EUFORGEN”, the experience and lessons of 25 years of work, and the need for a long-term vision and continued collaboration on forest genetic resources in Europe.

This paper, finalised by the EUFORGEN Steering Committee in April 2019, presents the strategic objectives and the implementation plan for 2020-2024, setting out proposed activities, results and the budget. The paper also provides information on the added value of the programme and an implementation, monitoring and evaluation plan to measure the impact and success of EUFORGEN in this next phase.

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## 1. About EUFORGEN

Since 1994, countries in Europe have been collaborating effectively on the conservation and sustainable use of forest genetic resources (FGR) through the EUFORGEN Programme, which was established to fulfil the 1990 resolution by the 1<sup>st</sup> Forest Europe<sup>1</sup> Ministerial Conference.

Furthermore, in 2015, at the 7<sup>th</sup> Forest Europe Ministerial Conference, signatory countries committed to “continuing pan-European collaboration on forest genetic resources through EUFORGEN”<sup>2</sup>. This commitment is a clear recognition of EUFORGEN’s effectiveness and its distinctive and valuable role in conserving forest genetic diversity and contributing to sustainable resource management<sup>3</sup>.

EUFORGEN also contributes to the implementation of relevant decisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)<sup>4</sup> and to the implementation and monitoring of regional-level strategic priorities of the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation, Sustainable Use and Development of Forest Genetic Resources (GPA-FGR)<sup>5</sup>, which was adopted by the FAO<sup>6</sup> Conference in 2013.

EUFORGEN is an important coordinating tool for European countries to optimise conservation of forest genetic resources at national level and to scale up the conservation needs from a national perspective to the one of the whole species’ distribution range.

EUFORGEN developed, and is maintaining, the European Information System on Forest Genetic Resources (EUFGIS)<sup>7</sup>, a unique system which supports countries in identifying gaps in conservation of forest species and in setting priorities to fill these conservation gaps. The system is a reference for countries and can be used as a national information system.

The European Commission also recognised the role of EUFORGEN as a mechanism to strengthen forest genetic resources conservation within the 2015-2020 European Commission’s Multi-annual Implementation Plan of the EU Forest Strategy<sup>8</sup>. This is also a recognition of the Programme’s unique role in synthesising the needs of the FGR sector and providing a science-policy interface at European level.

The programme is funded by national governments<sup>9</sup> who nominate the National Coordinators through respective ministries responsible for forests. This grounds the Programme in a firm, government-driven consensus.

The overall goal of EUFORGEN is to promote the conservation and appropriate use of forest genetic resources as an integral part of sustainable forest management. The Programme brings together experts from its member countries to exchange information and experiences, to analyse relevant policies and practices, and to develop tools and methods for better management of FGR.

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<sup>1</sup> Strasbourg Ministerial Resolution S2 of the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe, MCPFE, now Forest Europe

<sup>2</sup> Madrid Ministerial Resolution M2, “Protection of forests in a changing environment”

<sup>3</sup> the detailed EUFORGEN’s Mandate is presented in Annex 1

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.cbd.int/gbo3/?pub=6667&section=6710>

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.fao.org/policy-support/resources/resources-details/en/c/469497/>

<sup>6</sup> Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

<sup>7</sup> [www.eufgis.org](http://www.eufgis.org)

<sup>8</sup> EC Multi-annual Implementation Plan of the EU Forest Strategy [http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/forest/forest-map/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/forest/forest-map/index_en.htm)

<sup>9</sup> in 2019 28 Europe countries were members of the EUFORGEN programme

Over the past 25 years, EUFORGEN has evolved globally into a reference platform for collaboration, information exchange and a science-policy-practice dialogue. Based on the collective knowledge of these national experts and through established synergies, EUFORGEN has produced a large number of important outputs, such as the pan-European genetic conservation strategy, technical guidelines, distribution maps of European forest tree species, information systems and other technical and expert publications and reports. The Programme has contributed to assessment reports on European forests and enabled member countries to develop and implement European projects related to forest genetic resources.

EUFORGEN plays a key role in the European FGR community, by linking ongoing research projects with the broader FGR community, while at the same time maintaining active communication channels with all European countries.

EUFORGEN acts as an impartial source of expertise and provides a platform for informed discussion and scientific consensus building. In bringing together people from countries with different levels of expertise and experience, it helps to develop capacity among all member countries and beyond. Furthermore, it provides a venue for enhancing mutual understanding on forest genetic resource conservation and sustainable use.

## **2. The need for pan-European collaboration on forest genetic resources**

Forests provide food and materials, mitigate natural disasters caused by pests and diseases and help to regulate water supply and the climate. At a time of continued human population growth and climate change, forests and their biodiversity are a form of life insurance. At the same time, biodiversity is being lost at unprecedented rates.

Genetic diversity enables forest trees to survive, adapt and evolve under changing environmental conditions. It is critical to maintain the vitality of forests, to minimise risks and to cope with pests and diseases. Conserving this diversity, through the sustainable management of FGR, is a key element of sustainable forest management, because it ensures the ecological and economical resilience of forests. Such management includes *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation as well as the management of ecosystems in which FGR may adapt and, in a broader sense, collating and managing information on FGR.

Without the diversity of FGR to draw on, the breeding and diversification needed to meet future societal demands from forestry cannot succeed. Climate change, along with the ever increasing human population, adds urgency to these needs for diversification, increased production and quality.

Still, the threat of genetic erosion (e.g. because of climate and land-use change) may reduce genetic diversity in forest tree species. Concurrently, the potential of FGR in forest management remains largely unexplored.

There is a clear pathway from well-managed forest genetic resources, through adaptive and resilient forests, to a healthy bioeconomy and greater human well-being.

EUFORGEN, with its demonstrated ability to provide a platform for pan-European discussion and consensus-building on FGR science, management and policy, is an essential element in responding to the challenges of the future.

### 3. Vision

EUFORGEN’s *Vision* is to contribute to sustainable forest management, ensuring that European forests are healthy. The EUFORGEN Steering Committee has identified three areas of work that will allow genetic diversity to be part of the solution for resilient forests by sustaining adaptation:

1. The conservation of genetic diversity and genetic adaptation
2. The development of short and long-term strategies/measures/policies
3. Progress in comprehensive knowledge on forest genetics and genomics

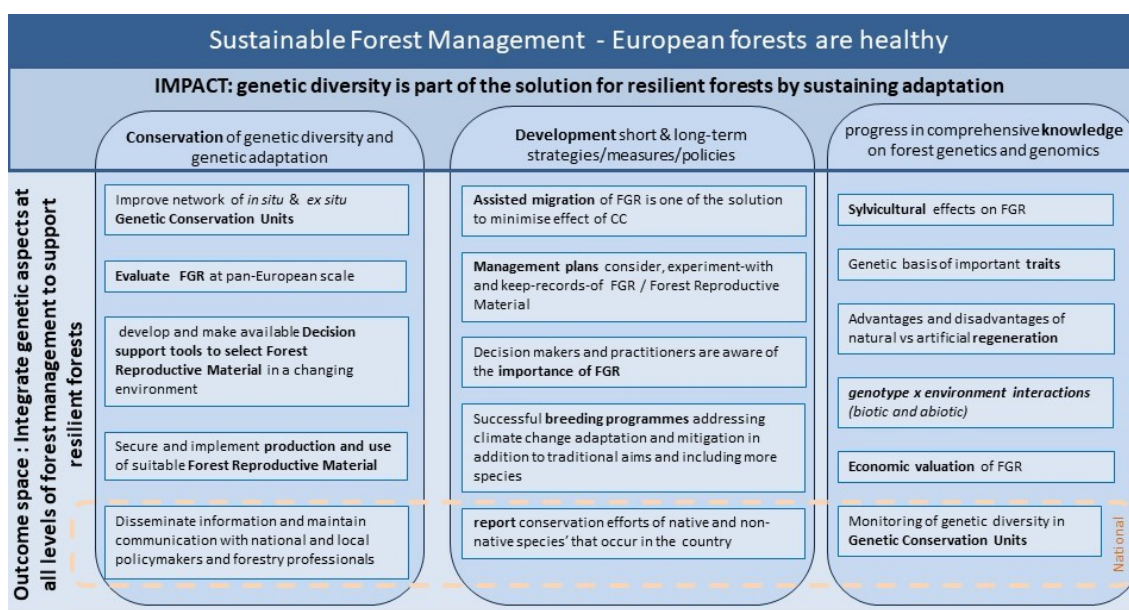


Figure 1: Areas of work of the EUFORGEN Programme during its Phase VI

In order to pursue its *Vision*, the Steering Committee identified the key changes that need to happen in each *area of work* and agreed on the activities that, during the five-year timeframe, will be carried out. The activities have then been structured according to strategic and operational objectives.

### 4. Mission

EUFORGEN’s *Mission* is to serve as a platform for pan-European collaboration in FGR, where member countries contribute to the Programme’s activities and outputs, formulate joint recommendations and promote national implementation of strategies and guidelines for dynamic conservation and appropriate use of forest genetic resources under changing climate conditions. This *Mission* is based on the experience and lessons from 25 years of pan-European collaboration in FGR, the result of a broad review<sup>10</sup> undertaken in 2016 and the prioritisation of the Steering Committee (see previous Chapter 3).

<sup>10</sup> External evaluation of the European Forest Genetic Resources Programme- Policy brief <http://www.euforgen.org/publications/publication/external-evaluation-of-the-european-forest-genetic-resources-programme-policy-brief/>

## 5. Objectives

The objectives of EUFORGEN have evolved through the Phases. Initially, the Programme focused on building capacity across countries and creating a community of professionals working on forest genetic resources in Europe. Then the Programme evolved to exchange information and set priorities. Once EUFORGEN had collectively reached a broad understanding of relevant issues related to forest genetic resources, it set to develop conservation strategies, define conservation priorities and identify research and policy needs.

During Phase VI, EUFORGEN will work towards three **strategic objectives**, along with the related **operational objectives** presented below. These strategic and operational objectives have been defined by the EUFORGEN Steering Committee and arise from consultations with the main stakeholders and the recommendations of the external evaluation.

The three strategic objectives and the related operational objectives for EUFORGEN Phase VI are:

### 1. Facilitate knowledge sharing and communicate with key stakeholders

- Facilitate knowledge sharing and learning among relevant actors (e.g. scientists, national competent authorities, practitioners and policymakers)
- Communicate the importance of genetic diversity and outputs of EUFORGEN to policymakers, forestry professionals and practitioners on the ground, wider scientific community and society
- Maintain and further develop the
- European Information System on Forest Genetic Resources (EUFGIS)<sup>11</sup> and contribute to the further development of the distribution maps of European forest trees
- Contribute to relevant international reporting efforts, such as the State of Europe's Forests reports

### 2. Coordinate the implementation of the conservation of forest genetic resources in Europe.

- Update and promote the pan-European conservation strategy, including responses to large scale risks
- Implement the conservation strategy
- Contribute to the implementation of regional-level priorities of FAO Global Plan of Action for the Conservation, Sustainable Use and Development of Forest Genetic Resources.

### 3. Promote the appropriate use of forest genetic resources.

- Prepare science-based recommendations and tools for better incorporating genetic aspects into Sustainable Forest Management practices
- Analyse policy issues and recommend changes when they conflict with the appropriate use of FGR.

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<sup>11</sup> [www.eufgis.org](http://www.eufgis.org)

## 6. Mode of operation

EUFORGEN continues to operate as a multilateral trust fund. Individual countries will formally join Phase VI by signing a Letter of Agreement with the European Forest Institute (EFI) which specifies the annual financial contribution. EFI will host the EUFORGEN Secretariat.

EUFORGEN is overseen by a Steering Committee, composed of National Coordinators from all member countries. The Programme is coordinated by the EUFORGEN Secretariat and supported by an Advisory Committee. It carries out the work through working groups, Discussion Platforms and a network of EUFGIS focal points. The role and terms of reference of these bodies are described in *Annex 2 EUFORGEN's Modus Operandi*.

## 7. Deliverables

The main foreseen deliverables for Phase VI of EUFORGEN are:

1. Improved Pan-European Strategy for the conservation of FGR integrated with other GenRes domains
2. Upgraded EUFGIS Information system including linking with FOREMATIS and the decision support tool for the management of the genetic conservation units' network
3. Upgraded website, including monitoring of FGR conservation
4. Minimum requirements for dynamic and static *ex situ* conservation
5. Report on strategies for the adaptation to climate change (including assisted migration)
6. Guidelines for nurseries, seed centres, policy makers on production and use of FRM
7. Identification of Policy, Research and forest management needs, related to FGR.

## 8. Monitoring and Evaluation

The Steering Committee will develop criteria for success for all the foreseen outputs of Phase VI and monitor the implementation of activities. The Steering Committee will use these criteria to assess progress annually and will review activities during the Phase VI mid-term meeting (i.e. 2023). Finally, the Steering Committee, during its last meeting of Phase VI (2024), will evaluate the Phase VI achievements. The means of verification are listed in *Annex 4, Implementation Plan for Phase VI*.

## 9. Estimated budget

The total estimated budget for Phase VI (2020–2024) is 2 088 500 EUR; 106 650 EUR of which are carried on from the previous Phase V, 296 250 EUR are based on secured external funding. The total of 1 685 500 EUR is funded directly by countries' contributions.

Funding source	
Countries contribution*	1 685 500
Carry-on from previous Phase V	106 650
External funding (secured <i>i.e.</i> H2020 projects)	296 250
Total	2 088 400

\* based on the 28 member countries financially contributing to the programme in 2019 (Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Moldova, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and United Kingdom).

Staff costs for Phase VI are the main cost category, representing approximately 54% of the total cost. This is a reduction, compared to Phase V, when staff cost was approximately 66%. The external funding secured (H2020 projects) will mainly allow the training of the EUFGIS focal points and the upgrade of the EUFGIS Information System, which is the most important European monitoring and reporting tool on FGR.

Cost category	
Staff	1 122 221
Staff Travel	65 000
Steering Committee meetings	140 000
Discussion Platforms and Working Groups	235 000
EUFGIS (maintenance and training of Focal Points)	115 142
Public Awareness, Communication, Publications and dissemination	85 000
Total direct costs	1 762 363
Overheads 18.5%	326 037
Total cost	2 088 400

## Annex 1 Expected annual financial contributions from countries

The Phase VI annual financial contributions (based on the same membership composition as in Phase V) amount to 337 100 EUR, calculated by dividing the expected countries' contributions over five years (1 685 500 EUR) by five (number of years of the Phase VI). The countries' contributions have been defined based on the UN Scale of assessments, approved for the years 2019, 2020 and 2021, as established by the UN General Assembly Resolution 73/271.

The Steering Committee defined the Phase VI thresholds presented in table below.

Threshold	Category	Annual contribution Phase VI
$x < 0.01$	A	2,500
$0.01 < x < 0.1$	B	5,000
$0.1 < x < 0.5$	C	7,500
$0.5 < x < 1$	D	12,500
$1 < x < 2$	E	15,000
$2 < x < 3$	F	20,000
$3 < x < 4$	G	25,000
$4 < x < 5$	H	30,000
$x > 5$	I	35,000

with  $x$  = UN rate

In order to avoid major fluctuation in annual financial contributions between Phase V and Phase VI, the Steering Committee decided to apply +/- 15% caps to limit variations from countries' contributions from one phase to the following. The table below presents the annual contribution for Phase VI, where applicable, the caps have been already computed.

Country	UN rates (%) Phase VI	Category Phase VI	Annual contribution (Euro) Phase VI
Albania	<b>0.008</b>	A	2,500
Andorra	<b>0.005</b>	A	2,500
Armenia	<b>0.0067</b>	A	2,500
Austria*	<b>0.677</b>	D	12,500
Azerbaijan	<b>0.049</b>	B	5,000
Belarus	<b>0.049</b>	B	5,000
Belgium*	<b>0.821</b>	D	12,500
Bosnia and Herzegovina	<b>0.012</b>	B	5,000
Bulgaria	<b>0.046</b>	B	5,000
Croatia*	<b>0.077</b>	B	6,500
Cyprus	<b>0.036</b>	B	5,000



## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR PHASE VI (2020-2024)

Country	UN rates (%) Phase VI	Category Phase VI	Annual contribution (Euro) Phase VI
Czech Republic*	<b>0.311</b>	<b>C</b>	7,500
Denmark*	<b>0.554</b>	<b>D</b>	12,500
Estonia*	<b>0.039</b>	<b>B</b>	5,000
Finland*	<b>0.421</b>	<b>C</b>	9,600
France*	<b>4.421</b>	<b>H</b>	30,000
Georgia	<b>0.008</b>	<b>A</b>	2,500
Germany*	<b>6.09</b>	<b>I</b>	35,000
Greece*	<b>0.366</b>	<b>C</b>	9,600
Hungary*	<b>0.206</b>	<b>C</b>	7,500
Iceland*	<b>0.028</b>	<b>B</b>	5,000
Ireland*	<b>0.371</b>	<b>C</b>	7,500
Italy*	<b>3.307</b>	<b>G</b>	16,200
Latvia	<b>0.047</b>	<b>B</b>	5,000
Liechtenstein	<b>0.008</b>	<b>A</b>	2,500
Lithuania*	<b>0.071</b>	<b>B</b>	5,000
Luxemburg*	<b>0.067</b>	<b>B</b>	5,000
Malta	<b>0.017</b>	<b>B</b>	5,000
Moldova*	<b>0.003</b>	<b>A</b>	2,500
Montenegro	<b>0.004</b>	<b>A</b>	2,500
Netherlands*	<b>1.356</b>	<b>E</b>	15,000
North Macedonia	<b>0.007</b>	<b>A</b>	2,500
Norway*	<b>0.754</b>	<b>D</b>	12,500
Poland*	<b>0.802</b>	<b>D</b>	12,500
Portugal	<b>0.35</b>	<b>C</b>	7,500
Romania	<b>0.198</b>	<b>C</b>	7,500
Russian Federation	<b>2.405</b>	<b>F</b>	20,000
Serbia*	<b>0.028</b>	<b>B</b>	5,000
Slovakia*	<b>0.153</b>	<b>C</b>	7,500
Slovenia*	<b>0.076</b>	<b>B</b>	6,500
Spain*	<b>2.146</b>	<b>F</b>	16,200
Sweden*	<b>0.906</b>	<b>D</b>	12,500
Switzerland*	<b>1.151</b>	<b>E</b>	15,000
Turkey*	<b>1.371</b>	<b>E</b>	15,000
Ukraine	<b>0.057</b>	<b>B</b>	5,000
United Kingdom*	<b>4.567</b>	<b>H</b>	30,000

\*= Member during Phase V of the programme

## Annex 2 Modus Operandi

As of June 2019, EUFORGEN has 28 member countries (Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Moldova, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and United Kingdom) providing both financial resources and technical expertise to its activities.

Furthermore, 34 countries (all member countries and six associated countries) are providing geo-referenced and harmonised data on dynamic conservation units of forest trees to the European Information System on Forest Genetic Resources (EUFGIS)<sup>12</sup>.

EUFORGEN is overseen by a Steering Committee, composed of National Coordinators from all member countries. The Programme is hosted by the European Forest Institute and coordinated by the EUFORGEN Secretariat. It carries out its activities through working groups, Discussion Platforms and EUFGIS focal points. The role and terms of reference of these bodies are described below.

### Membership

Rules of membership:

- To join the Programme, a country has to sign a letter of agreement (LoA) with EFI.
- Once a country has signed the LoA, it should pay its annual financial contribution during that calendar year.
- Should countries have difficulties in paying their financial contributions, they should inform the Secretariat as soon as possible.
- If a country fails to provide its financial contribution for a given year before the end of December of that year, it has time until June of the following year to provide the outstanding financial contribution. After this, it will no longer be considered a member of EUFORGEN.
- A country with outstanding financial contributions from the previous phase is welcome to re-join the Programme. However, these countries are expected to provide their outstanding financial contributions, or similar level of in-kind contribution prior to re-joining.

### National Coordinators

When joining EUFORGEN Phase VI, each country is required to nominate a National Coordinator to act as the official contact person between EFI and the participating country for all matters relating to the Programme. The role of the **National Coordinators** is to:

1. Participate in Steering Committee meetings and other activities;
2. Promote EUFORGEN and its activities at national level;
3. Liaise with the Secretariat and relevant Ministries and National Agencies regarding membership, fees and other relevant issues;
4. Nominate experts on thematic areas relevant for EUFORGEN and maintain regular contact with them;
5. Assist the experts and the national institutes in contributing to the EUFORGEN activities, as needed.

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<sup>12</sup> <http://portal.eufgis.org>

## Steering Committee

The EUFORGEN Steering Committee is composed of National Coordinators from all member countries and it has overall responsibility for the Programme. Members of EFI and other Organisations may be invited as observers to the Steering Committee meetings. If needed, individual experts may also be invited to participate in the Steering Committee meetings as observers.

The Steering Committee will meet four times during Phase VI. If needed, it can establish *ad hoc* working groups between the meetings to plan activities and advise on relevant issues. At Steering Committee meetings, decisions are taken by consensus. If a consensus cannot be reached, then voting takes place based on a simple majority of votes. Each country has one vote; observers have no voting rights. Should the need for an urgent decision arise between meetings, the Secretariat will contact the Steering Committee members by email and take action upon receiving feedback in the given timeframe. The **Steering Committee** will:

1. Provide guidance and strategic orientation of the Programme
2. Review progress made and decide upon future activities of the Programme;
3. Define and approve the budget of the Programme;
4. Review technical and audited financial reports;
5. Develop an overall work plan for the Phase;
6. Identify themes for the Discussion Platforms to be held;
7. Establish working groups with clear tasks, deadlines, expected outputs and defining roles and responsibilities
8. Agree on principles for selecting and inviting individual experts to participate in working groups and workshops;
9. Review the outputs of working groups
10. Provide inputs to relevant European and global processes, such as Forest Europe and the Global Plan of Action on FGR.
11. Discuss emerging issues relevant to EUFORGEN and the conservation and use of forest genetic resources in Europe.
12. Identify needs and priorities related to FGR conservation and sustainable use in Europe.
13. Evaluate the achievements at the end of the Phase

## Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee consists of four members of the Steering Committee, elected by the Steering Committee for a four-year term of office and representing the European sub-regions (North, West, East and South, in a broad sense), and *ex officio* a designated representative of the hosting organisation. To ensure continuity, one member of the Advisory Committee is replaced by a new member each year. A re-election is possible. Decisions of the Advisory Committee are made by consensus; voting can take place when necessary. The role of the Advisory Committee is to:

- plan or execute the activities of EUFORGEN as decided by the Steering Committee;
- support the Secretariat in the preparation of the Steering Committee meetings;
- identify issues of strategic importance to EUFORGEN and bring proposals to the attention of the Steering Committee;
- represent EUFORGEN at meetings and events, whenever relevant.

## EUFORGEN Secretariat

The EUFORGEN Secretariat manages the Programme and coordinates its activities. Using the resources provided by the countries, EFI appoints the EUFORGEN Coordinator and other Secretariat staff. The Secretariat may also seek advice from observer organisations on relevant scientific, technical or policy-related issues, as needed.

The role of the EUFORGEN Secretariat is to:

1. Ensure that the implementation of the Programme and its activities are in accordance with the mandate given by the Forest Europe process and the work plan and budget developed by the Steering Committee;
2. Prepare annual technical and financial reports;
3. Provide relevant information to the Steering Committee members;
4. Act as a liaison between the Steering Committee and the working groups and Discussion Platforms;
5. Coordinate the working groups and provide them with scientific and technical inputs;
6. Organise meetings and workshops in collaboration with local hosts;
7. Prepare reports and other publications;
8. Develop and maintain communication channels with relevant stakeholders;
9. Maintain the EUFORGEN website;
10. Maintain the EUFGIS Information System, its intranet and portal;
11. Represent EUFORGEN and advocate for conservation and appropriate use of forest genetic resources in relevant European and global processes;
12. Facilitate collaboration with relevant stakeholders and the expansion of the Programme to encourage new countries to become members.

## Discussion Platforms and Working Groups

During Phase VI, EUFORGEN will carry out its activities through:

- **Discussion Platforms** where national experts (one per member country) meet, share, discuss and analyse relevant issues, share perspectives and identify needs;
- **Working Groups**, which can be established directly by the Steering Committee where selected experts develop specific outputs<sup>13</sup>.

## Discussion Platforms

The Discussion Platforms will address issues that need a pan-European perspective. Each member country will be invited to nominate a representative for each Platform. These Platforms are the instrument to analyse and discuss relevant issues, to maintain the overall knowledge and understanding of issues relevant to FGR in Europe and to build capacity among the members of the forum. The Steering Committee will indicate a defined timeframe within which each Platform will operate.

The Discussion Platforms will be organised so as to optimise interactions among more- and less-experienced experts, as a contribution to capacity building. Progress and findings will be reported to the Steering Committee and presented at relevant events. Discussion Platforms can make recommendations to the Steering Committee to establish working groups to address specific issues.

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<sup>13</sup> Example of *discussion forum*: to identify research needs related to forest genetic resources at European level. Example of *working group*: (i) Analyse European forest policy related to FGR, (ii) contribute to the FGR conservation strategy update

The travel and accommodation costs of national representatives will be covered by EUFORGEN. The EUFORGEN Secretariat will seek additional financial resources to support the participation of additional experts from the member countries as well as invited speakers, as needed. A total of three Discussion Platforms' meetings have been budgeted for Phase VI.

### **Working groups**

Once the need for a *working group* has been identified, either by the Steering Committee itself or through the Discussion platforms, *the Steering Committee* will define the tasks, deadlines and expected outputs. The Secretariat, in consultation with the Advisory Committee, will develop a tentative list of experts from the pool of nominated experts from all member countries. The experts will be selected based on their experience and knowledge to match the tasks of a given working group. The geographical distribution of experts as well as their participation in previous working groups will also be considered. The tentative list of selected experts will be circulated to the Steering Committee for comments and final approval. The Secretariat will then inform the selected experts, coordinate their work (including meeting arrangements) and provide technical and scientific inputs to the tasks of the working groups.

Draft outputs of the working groups will be circulated to relevant nominated experts under a given area of work for their comments and review to ensure that every expert, whether present at the meetings or not, has an opportunity to provide their contributions and ideas. Prior to publishing their final output, the leaders of the working groups will present their results to the Steering Committee and at relevant workshops.

The travel and accommodation costs of experts will be covered by EUFORGEN. Financial resources have been budgeted for to organize a total of ten working group meetings during Phase VI.

### **EUFGIS National Focal Points**

The European Information System on Forest Genetic Resources (EUFGIS) will be maintained and further developed as part of EUFORGEN during Phase VI. The National Focal Points nominated by the National Coordinators (or relevant authority in the case of non-member countries) are expected to continue their work during Phase VI.

At any time, the National Coordinator (or relevant authority in case of non-member countries) can nominate a new National Focal Point (e.g. as a result of staff changes in a given institute). Persons nominated for the task are responsible for collecting and maintaining information on forest genetic resources as part of national forest genetic resources inventories or any similar arrangement a country may have in place for obtaining and maintaining the data. More specifically, the EUFGIS National Focal Points are expected to carry out the following tasks:

- participate in EUFGIS-related meetings (associated travel and accommodation costs will be covered by EUFORGEN or relevant projects);
- continue gathering relevant information on the dynamic conservation units of forest trees and compiling national data sets;
- update national data sets in the information system;
- provide inputs to further development of the EUFGIS information system and new initiatives on FGR documentation, as needed.

During Phase VI, the EUFORGEN budget includes financial resources for the maintenance of the

information system (including its intranet<sup>14</sup> and the portal<sup>15</sup>, helpdesk support, training of new National Focal Points, etc.). The GenRes Bridge Project<sup>16</sup> will provide additional resources for further development of the database and for organising workshops for the national focal points.

### **National Experts**

Once a country has joined Phase VI, the EUFORGEN Secretariat will contact the National Coordinator and ask them to provide a list of National Experts in the country who have relevant experience and knowledge related to the defined Discussion Platforms and to characterise the expertise of the person in relation to the objectives of Phase VI. Additionally, each nominated expert may indicate a list of species of which they have an extensive knowledge.

These experts' names will be listed on the website as resource persons for the designated thematic areas and species. After the initial nomination, the National Coordinators can make changes to the expert nominations, as needed.

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<sup>14</sup> <http://intranet.eufgis.org>

<sup>15</sup> <http://portal.eufgis.org>

<sup>16</sup> <http://www.genresbridge.eu>

### Annex 3 Mandate

EUFORGEN was established in 1994 as an implementation mechanism for Resolution S2 (Conservation of forest genetic resources) of the first Ministerial Conference, held in Strasbourg, France in 1990. Strasbourg Resolution 2 called for “*a functional but voluntary instrument of international cooperation*” to be established to promote and coordinate: 1) *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation of genetic diversity of European forests, 2) exchange of reproductive materials, and 3) monitor progress in these fields.

After the Strasbourg Conference, a follow-up committee, consisting of experts from Finland, France, Poland and Portugal, was established to propose how to make this instrument operational. The committee carried out its work during 1991–1993 with the help of several experts from other European countries and Bioversity International (then called International Plant Genetic Resources Institute), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the European Commission. The operational recommendations of the committee and a proposal developed by Bioversity International and FAO for the establishment of EUFORGEN were then endorsed by the Helsinki Conference in 1993<sup>17</sup>. Since its establishment, EUFORGEN has also contributed to the implementation of other Forest Europe resolutions which deal with, or are relevant to, forest genetic resources<sup>18</sup>.

In addition to Strasbourg Resolution 2, the Signatory States of Forest Europe and the European Community have expressed their specific commitment to the conservation of forest genetic resources in several other resolutions and declarations. They have agreed to “*promote the conservation of forest genetic resources as an integral part of sustainable forest management and continue the pan-European collaboration in this area*” (Vienna Resolution 4, 2003) and “*maintain, conserve, restore and enhance the biological diversity of forests, including their genetic resources, through sustainable forest management*” (Warsaw Declaration, 2007). In 2011, the Oslo Conference adopted a vision, goals and targets for European forests based on the earlier Forest Europe commitments. The latest Forest Europe work programme, developed in 2012, also includes EUFORGEN as one of the international activities supportive to the follow-up of the Oslo Conference (“*Promotion of conservation and use of forest genetic resources through the European Forest Genetic Resources Programme (EUFORGEN) to contribute to the implementation of sustainable forest management in Europe*”).

In 2015, at the 7<sup>th</sup> Forest Europe Ministerial Conference, signatory countries committed to “continue pan-European collaboration on forest genetic resources through the European Forest Genetic Resources Programme (EUFORGEN)” (Madrid Ministerial Resolution M2, “Protection of forests in a changing environment”). This is a clear recognition of EUFORGEN’s effectiveness and its distinctive and valuable role in conserving forest genetic diversity and contributing to sustainable resource management. In the same Ministerial Resolution, countries also committed to “promote national implementation of strategies and guidelines for dynamic conservation and appropriate use of forest genetic resources under changing climate conditions,” referencing the strategies and guidelines developed by EUFORGEN over the past decade.

A list of countries committed to the Forest Europe resolutions on forest genetic resources is shown in Table 1.

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<sup>18</sup> Helsinki Resolutions H1 (General Guidelines for the Sustainable Management of Forests in Europe), H2 (General Guidelines for the Conservation of Biodiversity of European Forests) and H4 (Strategies for a Process of Long-Term Adaptation of Forests in Europe to Climate Change); Lisbon Resolution L2 (Pan-European Criteria, Indicators and Operational Level Guidelines for Sustainable Forest Management); Vienna Resolutions V4 (Conserving and Enhancing Forest Biological Diversity in Europe) and V5 (Climate Change and Sustainable Forest Management in Europe); and Warsaw Declaration.

**Table 1.** List of EUFORGEN member countries (as of June 2019). The table also shows the signatories of relevant Forest Europe commitments on forest genetic resources (Strasbourg Resolution 2 and Madrid Resolution 2<sup>19</sup>), the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), and the FAO member countries in Europe.

Country	EUFORGEN member country during Phase V (2015-2019)	S2	M2	WD	CBD	FAO
Albania		√	√		√	√
Armenia					√	√
Austria	√	√	√	√	√	√
Azerbaijan					√	√
Belarus		√	√	√	√	√
Belgium	√	√	√	√	√	√
Bosnia and Herzegovina			√	√	√	√
Bulgaria		√	√	√	√	√
Croatia	√	√	√	√	√	√
Cyprus		√	√	√	√	√
Czech Republic	√	√	√	√	√	√
Denmark	√	√	√		√	√
Estonia	√	√	√	√	√	√
European Union		√	√	√	√	
Finland	√	√	√	√	√	√
France	√	√	√	√	√	√
Georgia			√		√	√
Germany	√		√	√	√	√
Greece	√	√	√	√	√	√
Hungary	√	√	√	√	√	√
Iceland	√	√	√	√	√	√
Ireland	√	√	√	√	√	√
Italy	√	√	√		√	√
Latvia		√	√	√	√	√
Liechtenstein		√	√	√	√	
Lithuania	√	√	√	√	√	√
Luxembourg	√	√	√	√	√	√
Malta		√			√	√
Moldova	√			√	√	
Montenegro				√	√	√
Netherlands	√	√		√	√	√
Norway	√	√	√	√	√	√
Poland	√	√	√	√	√	√
Portugal		√	√	√	√	√
Romania		√	√	√	√	√
Russian Federation		√	√	√	√	√
Serbia	√	√	√	√	√	√
Slovakia	√	√	√	√	√	√
Slovenia	√	√	√	√	√	√
Spain	√	√	√	√	√	√
Sweden	√	√	√	√	√	√
Switzerland	√	√	√	√	√	√
North Macedonia					√	√
Turkey	√	√	√	√	√	√
Ukraine		√	√	√	√	√
United Kingdom	√	√	√	√	√	√

<sup>19</sup> source: [https://foresteurope.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Forest\\_Europe\\_Madrid\\_proceedings.pdf](https://foresteurope.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Forest_Europe_Madrid_proceedings.pdf)



The 2015-2020 European Commission's *Multi-annual Implementation Plan of the EU Forest Strategy*<sup>20</sup> reflects a decision to strengthen forest genetic resources conservation through EUFORGEN. This serves as a further recognition of the Programme's essential role in providing an interface between policy and practical science and its ability to offer a platform through which the European Union might develop, implement and monitor common strategies.

The sixth meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP-6) to the CBD adopted the Expanded Programme of Work on Forest Biological Diversity in 2002. Under Goal 1.4 (*To promote the sustainable use of forest biological diversity*), the Programme of Work specifically encourages development of information systems and strategies for *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation and sustainable use of forest genetic diversity (Objective 1.4.4). COP-9 invited Parties, other governments and international organizations to "*recognize and increase understanding of the potential of forest genetic diversity to address climate change, maintain forest ecosystems resilience and lead to the discovery of new timber and non-timber forest resources*".

In 2010, COP-10 of the CBD adopted a Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, including the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, for the period 2011–2020 (Decision X/2). This Strategic Plan aims "*to improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity*" (Strategic Goal C). Strategies for the conservation of cultivated plants and domesticated animals, as well as their wild relatives (including other socio-economically and culturally valuable species, such as forest trees) should be developed and implemented by 2020 (Target 13).

In 2016, COP 13 of CBD adopted a Decision on Forest biodiversity recognizing the role of international organizations in supporting the implementation of the forest-related Aichi Biodiversity Targets. In particular, it recognizes the role of relevant organizations and initiatives in "*improving monitoring of and reporting on progress, including the harmonization of indicators and reporting processes*" and in "*improving knowledge management, including through open data platforms and interoperability to facilitate the sharing and synthesis of information*";

The Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), was formally established in 2012 to support the CBD and to improve the science–policy interface on biodiversity and ecosystem services. The new IPBES work programme includes regional assessments for biodiversity and ecosystem services. These types of regional assessments and other IPBES activities will benefit from the results of the EUFORGEN work.

In addition to the Forest Europe process and the CBD, European countries have also expressed their commitment to a new global effort on forest genetic resources in the context of FAO. In June 2013, the 38<sup>th</sup> session of FAO Conference adopted a Global Plan of Action for the Conservation, Sustainable Use and Development of Forest Genetic Resources (GPA-FGR), which is a voluntary and non-binding document designed to support the implementation of existing commitments and international agreements, such as the CBD. The aims of the GPA-FGR are to 1) strengthen understanding and knowledge of forest genetic resources, 2) promote the sustainable use and management of forest genetic resources, 3) develop and strengthen *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation programmes through collaboration at national, regional and international levels, and 4) promote access to, and sharing of, information on forest genetic resources at regional and national levels. The GPA-FGR was developed by the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Forest Genetic Resources (ITWG-FGR) in response to the findings of the first report on The State of the World's Forest Genetic Resources.

The GPA-FGR identifies a total of 27 strategic priorities for action at national, regional and international levels. For Europe, two regional-level strategic priorities are of particular relevance, i.e. Strategic Priority

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<sup>20</sup> EC Multi-annual Implementation Plan of the EU Forest Strategy [http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/forest/forest-map/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/forest/forest-map/index_en.htm)

11 (*Develop and implement regional in situ conservation strategies and promote ecoregional networking and collaboration*) and 24 (*Reinforce regional and international cooperation to support education, knowledge dissemination, research, and conservation and sustainable management of forest genetic resources*). FAO has recognized that regional networks and programmes on forest genetic resources, such as EUFORGEN, play a crucial role in the implementation of the GPA-FGR. Subsequently, the EUFORGEN Steering Committee also discussed the GPA-FGR in December 2013 and agreed that the Programme should contribute to the implementation of the regional-level priorities of the GPA-FGR in Europe.

In 2017, the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture adopted targets, indicators and verifiers for FGR to assess the implementation of the GPA and a schedule to monitor the GPA-implementation. It includes the main steps required to prepare The Second Report on the State of the World's FGR (Second Report).

EUFORGEN contributes to the implementation of the regional-level priorities of the GPA-FGR in Europe and to the regional reporting for the State of the World's Forest Genetic Resources.

## Annex 4 Implementation Plan for Phase VI

The three tables below (one for each Strategic objective) presents the key activities for EUFORGEN Phase VI, planned to achieve the defined operational objectives.

### Strategic Objective 1: Facilitate knowledge sharing and communicate with key stakeholders

Operational Objective	Activities Phase VI	Responsibility <sup>1</sup>	Mandate <sup>2</sup>					rationale	Time frame	means of verification
			FE	CBD	GPA FGR	Ext Rev	ToC			
Facilitate knowledge sharing and learning among relevant Actors (eg scientists, national competent authorities, practitioners and policymakers)	SC meetings with invited observers from non-member countries	S +NC	√	√	√		√	An active discussion forum to allow the community to share knowledge, build capacity, steer the programme and lead conservation and use of FGR at national level	ongoing	agenda, list of participants and minutes of the meeting
	Advisory Committee meetings	S +NC	√					To plan activities, to support the Secretariat, to identify issues of strategic importance and to represent EUFORGEN at meetings and events	ongoing	agenda, list of participants and minutes of the meeting
	Support the preparation of new project proposals	S	√				√	Regardless of the role of the Secretariat in new projects, supporting early stages of the proposal preparation is an important service to the community.	ongoing	number of Project consortia where the Secretariat is involved in early stages
	Identify country experts with knowledge on specific tree species and topics	S +NCs			√	√		To involve national experts in the Programmes 'activities, give them visibility at Pan-European level, while creating a new service to EUFORGEN stakeholders.	ongoing	Interface developed / number of species with identified reference person
	Cross border collaboration with non-European Neighbour Countries	S+NC	√	√	√		√	many species relevant for Europe have their edge distribution outside geographical Europe	ongoing	list of event and initiatives

EUROPEAN FOREST GENETIC RESOURCES PROGRAMME (EUFORGEN)

Operational Objective	Activities Phase VI	Responsibility <sup>1</sup>	Mandate <sup>2</sup>					rationale	Time frame	means of verification
			FE	CBD	GPA FGR	Ext Rev	ToC			
<b>Communicate the importance of genetic diversity and outputs of EUFORGEN to policymakers, forestry professionals and practitioners on the ground, wider scientific community and society</b>	Communicate the programme results to stakeholders)	S + EFI comms unit			√	√	√	As part of the EUFORGEN communication strategy	2024	list of events, presentation and leaflets released and disseminated
	Establish/strengthen communication channels with relevant policy makers	S + NCs				√		Building strong and positive relationships with donors and implementing agencies to present the need for the long term existence of EUFORGEN	ongoing	# of high level meeting where EUFORGEN is represented. f reference to EUFORGEN in relevant policy documents
	Promotion campaigns raising awareness on the FGR conservation strategy;				√	√		The conservation strategy needs to be implemented this aims to support national efforts		number and list of leaflets and infographics, evidence of their dissemination
	Get coverage of the topic of FGR in international media by strengthening media partnerships and developing products of interest to media	S		√		√	√	Increasing the understanding of the strategy will increase the likelihood of its implementation; raising awareness on FGR will attract more interest and funding.		list of relevant events and coverage
	Present EUFORGEN, its activities and products outside the circle of forest geneticists	S				√		By sharing products with groups outside of the FGR community, EUFORGEN will multiply its sphere of influence and impact.	ongoing	list of selected scientific and practical events
	Maintain or strengthen communication channels with key actors such as Forest Europe, OECD FRM, FAO CGRFA, FAO ITWFGR, IPBES, CBD	S + AC	√	√	√			By increasing visibility and creating communication channels with key high-level players, EUFORGEN will strengthen its position as reference point and hub for FGR	ongoing	list of Forest Europe, OECD FRM, FAO CGRFA, FAO ITWFGR, IPBES, CBD and other relevant events attended by Secretariat and AC

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR PHASE VI (2020-2024)

Operational Objective	Activities Phase VI	Responsibility <sup>1</sup>	Mandate <sup>2</sup>					rationale	Time frame	means of verification
			FE	CBD	GPA FGR	Ext Rev	ToC			
<b>Maintain and further develop the EUFGIS information system and contribute to the further development of the distribution maps of European forest trees</b>	Connecting EUFGIS with FOREMATIS IS to provide information of the availability of FRM to potential users	S			√	√		This will become a service for user of FGR by knowing where FRM is available, close to where FGR are conserved	2021	feature in place and results operative
	Improving the functionality of EUFGIS to facilitate the national reporting efforts	S	√		√			By allowing an easier use of the Information System for reporting we will encourage countries in maintaining it updated and accurate	2024	new version of EUFGIS Portal and Intranet available
	Collaborate with the Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the European Commission in improving distribution maps, serving as a link between the FGR scientific community and JRC. Provide access to maps via EUFORGEN website	S + MC	√	√	√		√	Distribution maps are a basic element for the monitoring of conservation strategies, by having accurate maps, monitoring and priority settings will be more accurate and effective	ongoing	list of new maps where EUFORGEN's contribution is acknowledged, number of maps in EUFORGEN's website

EUROPEAN FOREST GENETIC RESOURCES PROGRAMME (EUFORGEN)

Operational Objective	Activities Phase VI	Responsibility <sup>1</sup>	Mandate <sup>2</sup>					rationale	Time frame	means of verification
			FE	CBD	GPA FGR	Ext Rev	ToC			
Contribute to relevant international reporting efforts, such as the State of Europe's Forests reports	contribute to the preparation of FAO State of the World FGR, by providing national & Europe Region perspectives	S+ EUFGIS Focal Points + MC	✓		✓			This is a flagship publication, by providing the Regional overview EUFORGEN will strengthen its coordination role	2020-2023	list and text of relevant chapters
	Support the monitoring of the implementation of the GPA- FGR. Provide the Regional perspective	S + MC	✓		✓			On two ways, EUFORGEN will support countries and provide regional overview to strengthen its coordination role	ongoing	EUFGIS is used as source of data for National and Regional reporting
	Contribute to the State of Europe's Forest (Responsible for report on Indicator 4.6)	S + MC	✓				✓	This is needed based on the international reporting commitments. enable countries to report on a common base	2024	data on Indicator 4.6 are provided in due time and reference to EUFORGEN and EUFGIS is made in the report
	Publish reports of the WG or proceedings of relevant events				✓	✓		disseminate the findings of the WG	2024	Reports released electronically
	make available the overview of the State of Europe's FGR report, presenting 4.6 data for all species	S + MC	✓		✓	✓		The SoFE Report presents numerical data for countries and data for very few species. A detailed report, released immediately after the SoEF Report will allow an exhaustive overview of FGR in Europe	2024	data on indicator 4.6 are presented for each species in EUFORGEN's website

## Strategic Objective 2: Coordinate conservation of forest genetic resources in Europe

Operational Objective	Activities Phase VI	Responsibility <sup>1</sup>	Mandate <sup>2</sup>					Rationale	Time frame	means of verification
			FE	CBD	GPA FGR	Ext Rev	ToC			
<b>Update the pan-European conservation strategy also including response to large scale risks</b>	Working group to guide and support the GenRes Bridge project in updating the European strategy for the conservation of FGR	S + WG + SC		√		√	√	The pan-European forest conservation strategy needs to be updated by developing linkages with other GenRes communities and to benefit from new emerging knowledge. By supporting GenRes Bridge, EUFORGEN will ensure that the pan-European perspective is embedded and the ownership of the results will be on the whole EUFORGEN community	2021	composition of the WG records of the inputs to the development of the strategy. updated strategy
	Involve non-member countries and neighbour countries in revising the Pan-European FGR conservation strategy	S + Project partners		√	√	√	√	To ensure the conservation of FGR that in the future will be needed in Europe, we should support all neighbour countries to develop own strategy for conservation of FGR	2021	list of non-member and neighbour countries consulted and involved in the development of the strategy
<b>Support National implementation of the GPA-FGR</b>	attend relevant meetings of FAO ITWG-FGR and CGRFA Global and maintain the link with the Member Countries	S +AC+ NC+ SC		√	√			Countries committed to the support of the GPA-FGR via EUFORGEN will be able to be more effective in its implementation.	ongoing	list of ITWG FGR and CGRFA meetings attended by Secretariat and AC

EUROPEAN FOREST GENETIC RESOURCES PROGRAMME (EUFORGEN)

Operational Objective	Activities Phase VI	Responsibility <sup>1</sup>	Mandate <sup>2</sup>					Rationale	Time frame	means of verification
			FE	CBD	GPA FGR	Ext Rev	ToC			
<b>Implement the pan-European conservation strategy</b>	Working Group developing Minimum Requirements for static and dynamic <i>ex situ</i> conservation	WG+ NEs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	As of date there are no minimum requirements for <i>ex situ</i> FGR conservation. As a result conservation efforts cannot be implemented nor assessed	2023	composition of the working group and report (minimum requirements for <i>ex situ</i> conservation)
	Optimize the European network of genetic conservation units (training of EUFGIS FPs)	S+ GenRes Bridge Partners+ EUFGIS FPs		✓	✓		✓	By training the EUFGIS FPs in identifying and removing errors in the EUFGIS information system, data quality will increase	2021, 2024	list of trained EUFGIS FP, agenda, report and list of recommendations for the improvement of EUFGIS
	implementation of the decision support tool for the management of the genetic conservation units' network	S+ EUFGIS FPs		✓	✓		✓	the EUFGIS information system needs to be modified and EUFGIS FPs trained	2024	the tool is available and the EUFGIS information system modified. EUFGIS FPs trained
	Support the implementation of a pan-European genetic monitoring scheme with focus on the core network of GCUs	S +NCs		✓			✓	Genetic monitoring aims to improve conservation and appropriate use strategies	2024	composition of the WG, report (in case of a WG) or newly created opportunities



### Strategic Objective 3: Promote the appropriate use of forest genetic resources

Operational Objective	Activities Phase VI	Responsibility <sup>1</sup>	Mandate <sup>2</sup>					rationale	Time frame	means of verification
			FE	CBD	GPA FGR	Ext Rev	ToC			
<b>Prepare science-based recommendations and tools for better incorporating genetic aspects into Sustainable Forest Management practices</b>	Discussion Platform (DP) on strategies for the adaptation to climate change	MC+ S	√					There is need to develop adaptation strategies to climate change, from management practices to assisted migration	2024	list of participants, agenda, minutes and recommendations
	WG on strategies for the adaptation to climate change	MC+ S	√					Based on the Discussions, elaborate specific outputs	2021-2024	list of members, minutes of meetings, report of WG
	WG(s) building on Phase V WG on FRM - Customisation of guidelines for various audiences	MC+ S	√	√				The Phase V WG on "Genetic aspects in production and use of forest reproductive material" developed a landmark report, which needs to be communicated to the various actors (nurseries, seed centres, policy makers etc)	2024	list of members, minutes of meetings, report of WG
	workshop to identify research needs and priorities on FGR in Europe (also apply to the other objectives)	MC+ S				√	√	A clear vision of the needs will allow to match funding agencies with projects.	2020	list of participants, minutes, prioritised list of research and policy needs
	link EUFGIS with FOREMATIS (conversion of EUFGIS into a Semantic Information System)	S				√		linking conserved GCU with availability of FRM enable end users to have access to conserved FGR	2021	new Semantic EUFGIS Information system released, effectively linked to FOREMATIS

EUROPEAN FOREST GENETIC RESOURCES PROGRAMME (EUFORGEN)

Operational Objective	Activities Phase VI	Responsibility <sup>1</sup>	Mandate <sup>2</sup>					rationale	Time frame	means of verification
			FE	CBD	GPA FGR	Ext Rev	ToC			
Analyse policy issues and recommend changes when they conflict with the appropriate use of FGR	Working Group on FGR-related policies	S + SR	√		√			A working group to monitor emerging policies related to FGR and ready to react as needed	ongoing	list of members, minutes of meetings, recommendations of WG, reports to SC

1 S=Secretariat, NC= National Coordinators, SC= Steering Committee, SR = Selected Representatives, FP = Focal Points, MC = designated Member countries representatives, AC = Advisory Committee, NE = National Expert, WG= working groups

2 FE = Forest Europe, CBD= Convention on Biological Diversity, GPA FGR = Global Plan of Action for the Conservation, Sustainable Use and Development of Forest Genetic Resources ExtRev= External Review, ToC= Theory of Change