

Bioeconomy from an Austrian perspective

Forest sector: economic and biodiversity trade-offs

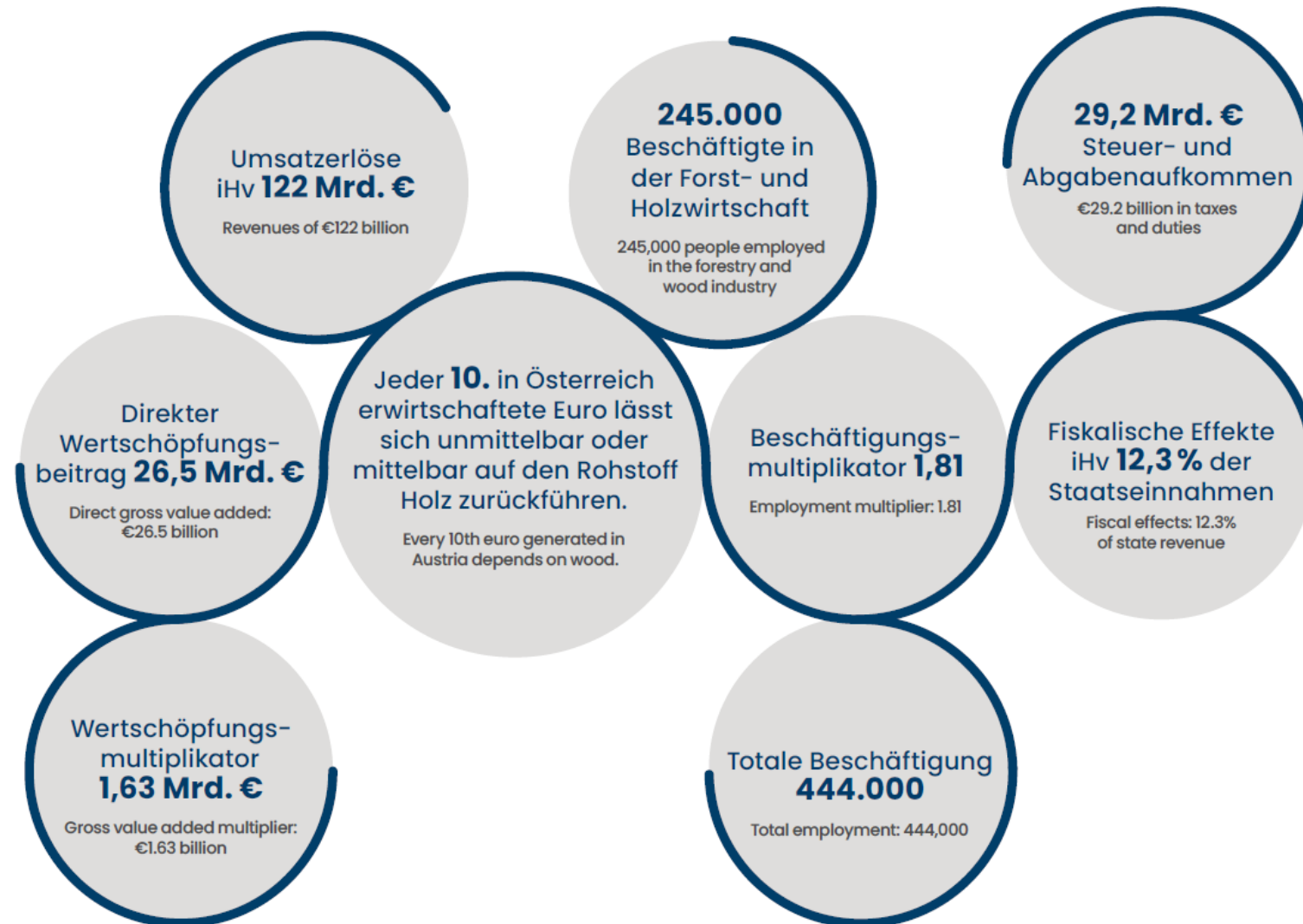
OECD Forest dialogue

16 July 2026

Dr. Raphaela Hellmayr

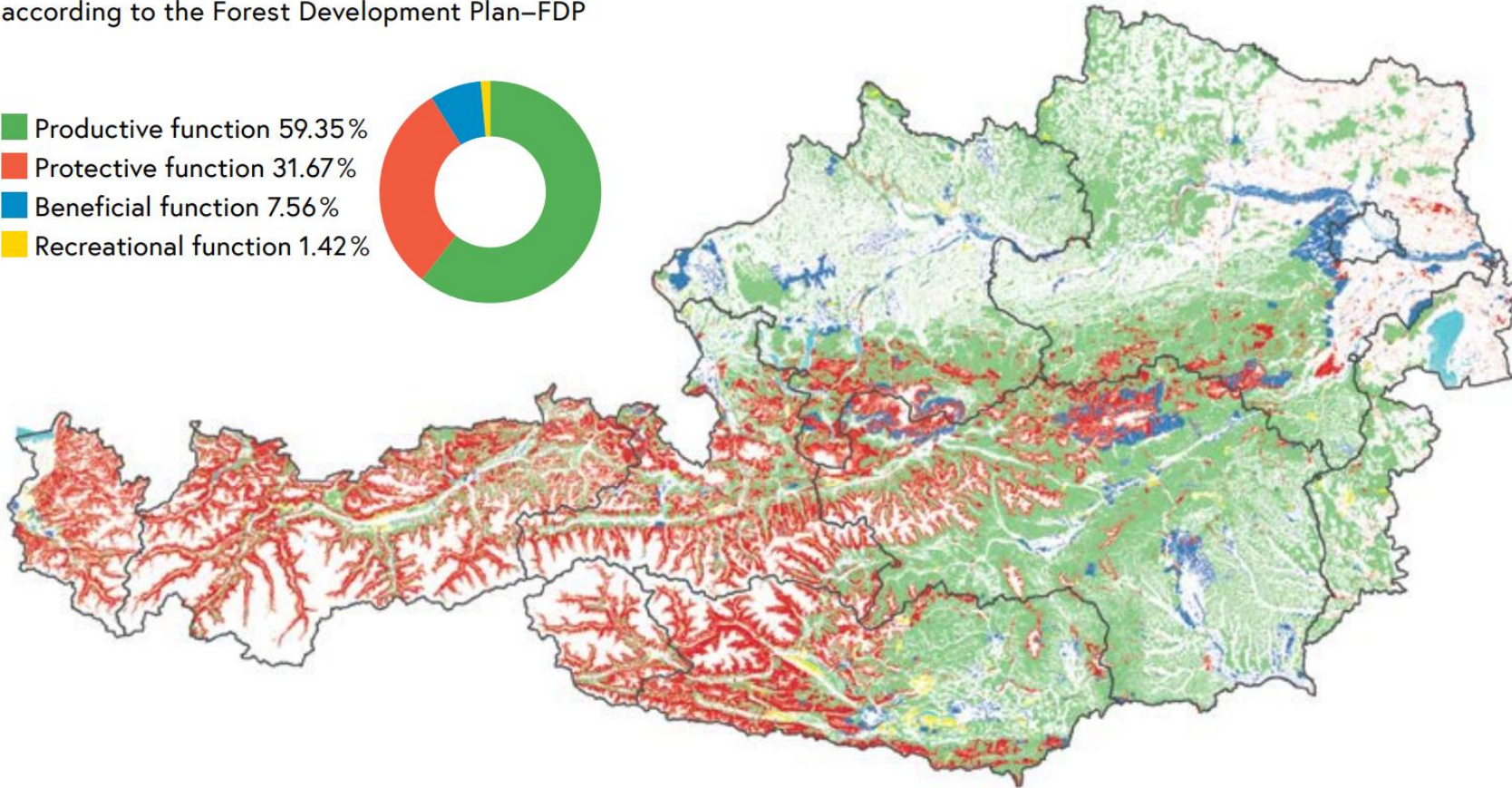
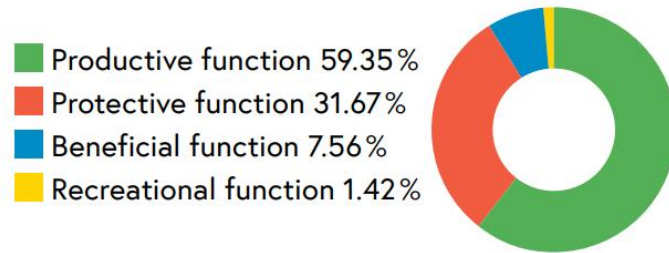
Department Wood Policy, Bioeconomy and Innovation
Federal Ministry for Agriculture and Forestry, Climate and Environmental
Protection, Regions and Water Management, Republic of Austria

Austrian forests and wood facts



Key functions of Austrian forests

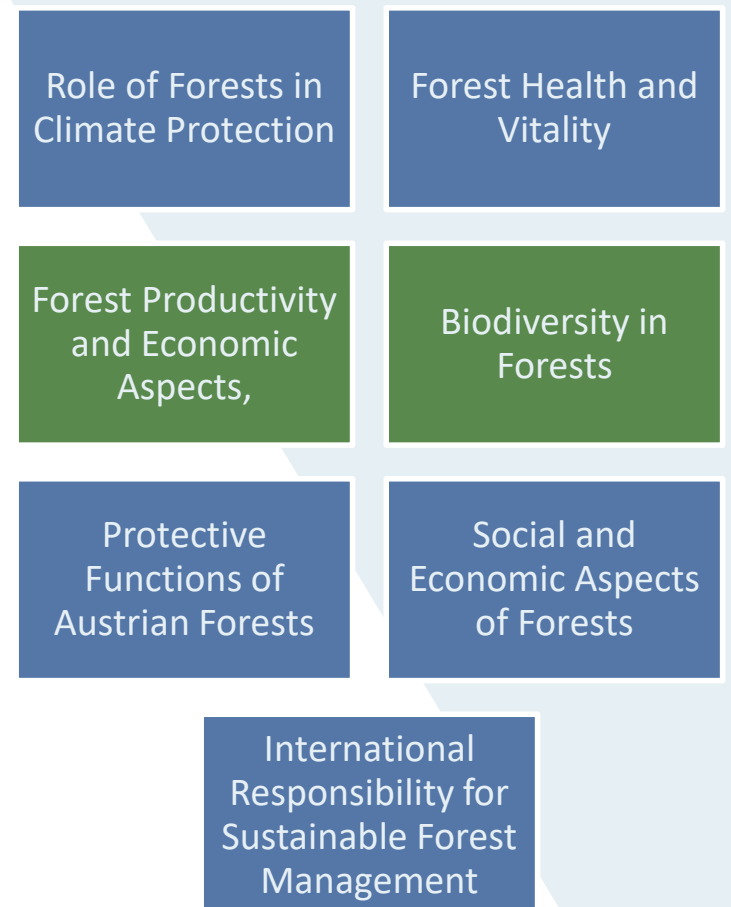
according to the Forest Development Plan–FDP



Austrian Forest
Law since 1853

Forest Dialog & Forest Strategy 2020+

- National stakeholder dialog since 2003
- Participatory, open, and transparent stakeholder process with different activities
- Approximately 90 organizations, institution and individuals are actively engaged in shaping the national forest policy
- **Forest Strategy 2020+**
 - Sustainable, Multifunctional Forest Management
 - Social, ecological and economic dimension



Austrian Forest Inventory

- Condition of and changes in the forest ecosystem
- Introduced in 1961 and conducted in regular intervals
- Conclusions from this data regarding the stability, structure, and dynamics of the forest ecosystem, as well as its economic and ecological sustainability
- Current results refer to the ÖWI 2018–2023



- of the forest fund**
- isation for loss of value caused by bark beetle damage
- on of bark beetle infestation
- ing climate-resilient forests and **strengthening**
- city in forests**
- ening the use of wood as a raw material as an active
- tion to climate protection
-
- The illustration depicts a vibrant forest ecosystem. In the foreground, a blue river flows through a lush green landscape. On the left, a school building with a sign that reads 'VOLKSSCHULE' is visible. A pond with a small dock and a person fishing is situated near the river. A red tractor and a yellow crane are shown in the middle ground. A large beetle is depicted on a tree stump. A magnifying glass and a thermometer are also present. The scene is populated with various trees, including evergreens and deciduous trees, and includes people hiking and animals like a squirrel and a bird. The numbers 1 through 10 are placed in red circles with mouse cursor arrows pointing to specific elements: 1 points to a tree, 2 to a tree, 3 to a beetle, 4 to a log pile, 5 to a crane, 6 to a tree, 7 to a school building, 8 to a magnifying glass, 9 to a pond, and 10 to a squirrel.

Forest-based Bioeconomy



Level 1

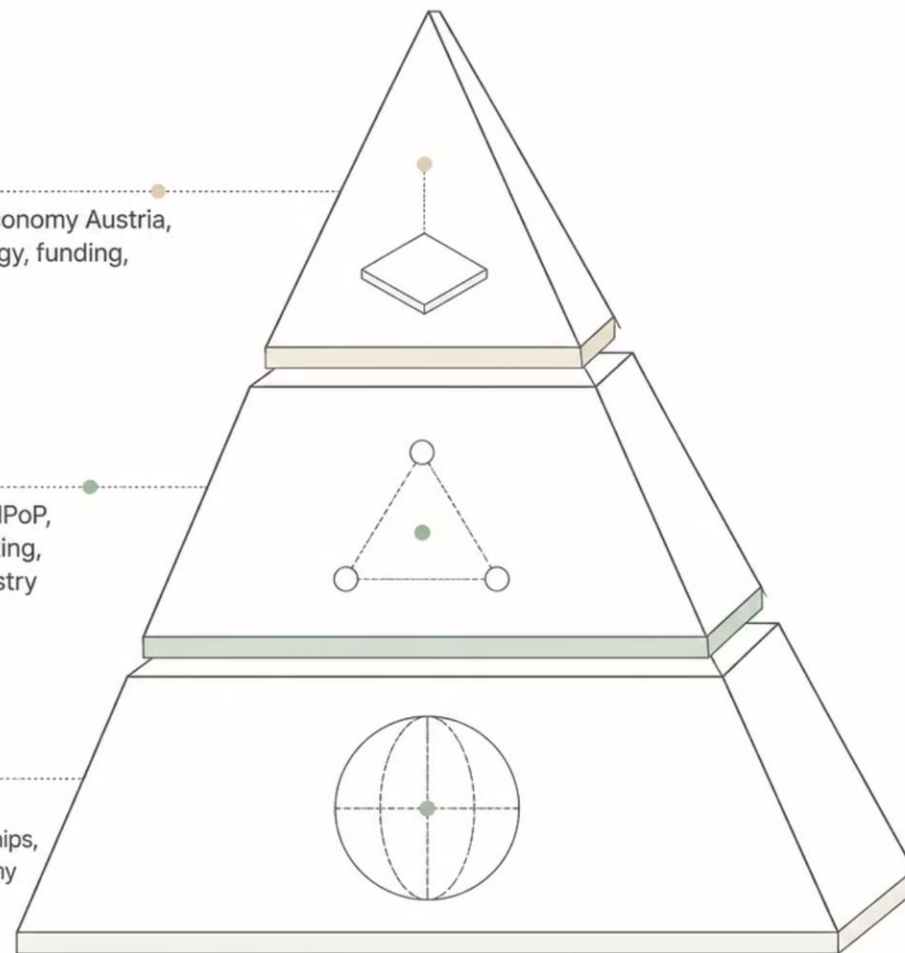
Austria - Bioeconomy Austria,
national strategy, funding,
innovation

Level 2

Europe - WoodPoP,
policy networking,
research, industry

Level 3

Global - COLI,
international partnerships,
sustainable bioeconomy
worldwide



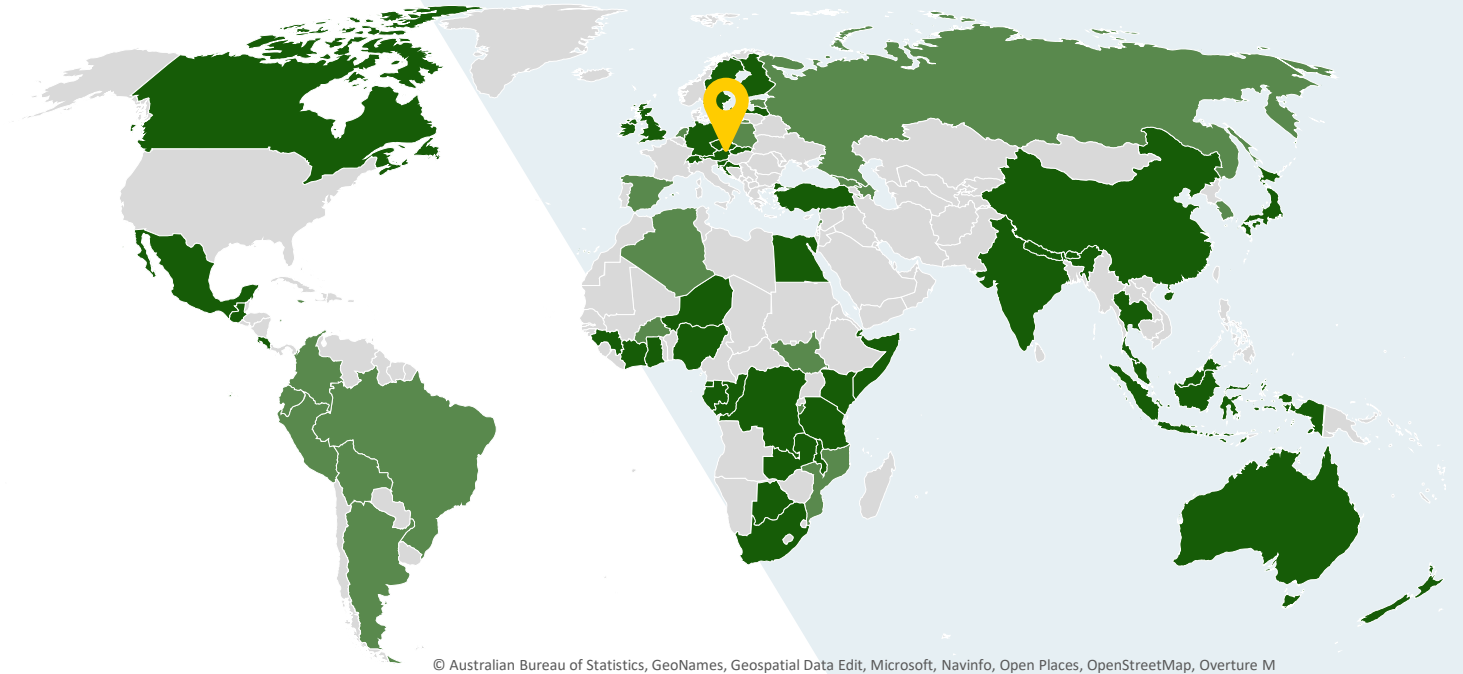
Global COLI Summit

23-25 February 2026 in Vienna, Austria

Co-chaired by **Austria** and **South Africa**

Outcomes

- **Vienna Call for Action (VCA)** for a sustainable forest-based bioeconomy
- **Co-Chairs' Summary** (with recommendations)
 - Presentation at UN Forum on Forests (UNFF21) and
 - FAO's 28th Committee on Forestry (COFO28)



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Thank you!