

EN
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Answer given by Ms Roswall
on behalf of the European Commission
(8.4.2025)

Closer to Nature Forest Management as set out in the Commission guidelines published in July 2023¹ promotes biodiversity-friendly and adaptive forest management for forest multifunctionality and climate change resilience without neglecting socio-economic benefits. The guidelines were prepared with a broad consultation of all relevant stakeholders and are voluntary.

Following the EU Forest Strategy for 2030², the Commission has commissioned a study which includes a comparative analysis of existing and emerging forest certification schemes with the objectives and measures set out in the Commission guidelines on Closer to Nature Forest Management. A first presentation of the study has been made to Member States and stakeholders at a dedicated webinar on 14 March 2025 as a basis for discussion and assessment of further action.

Aspects such as subsidiarity and proportionality, as well as existing certification schemes will be duly taken into consideration in this process, building on process and experience under the Carbon Removal and Carbon Farming Certification Framework³. It is on this basis that the Commission will decide on further action.

¹ <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/2d1a6e8f-8cda-11ee-8aa6-01aa75ed71a1>

² https://environment.ec.europa.eu/strategy/forest-strategy_en

³ https://climate.ec.europa.eu/eu-action/carbon-removals-and-carbon-farming_en