

The FOREST4EU project implemented an online survey to better understand how innovation in the forest sector can be improved. The survey targeted OG members, policymakers, interest groups, NGOs, researchers, and interested practitioners. It was available in 11 languages and online from 01.02.2024 until 31.03.2024. In total, 326 people have fully answered the survey – among them, 73 who are or have been members of OGs. 125 women and 194 men answered the survey. Two respondents indicated that they are diverse, five did not announce their sex. The highest share of respondents lives in Italy. Large numbers of respondents also live in Germany, Croatia, Portugal, Spain, and Finland. Overall, the FOREST4EU partner countries are well represented in the survey.

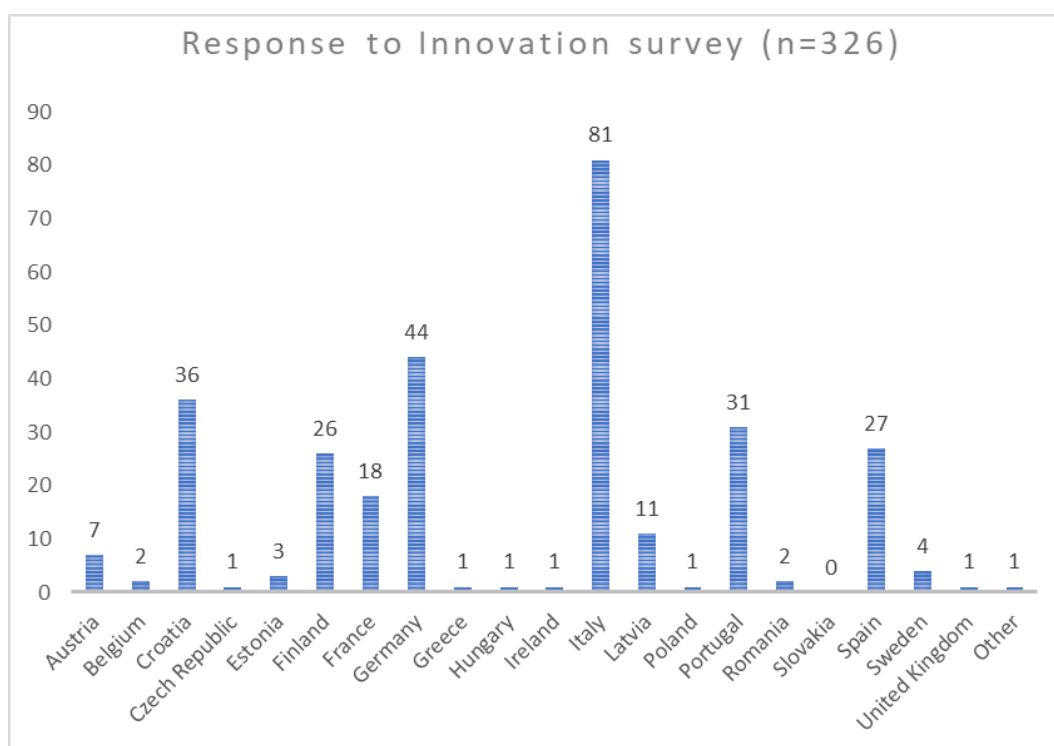


Figure 1. Country response to FOREST4EU survey

Farmers and people working in the forest-based sector represent 26% of the sample. The largest share of respondents works in research and consulting (39%). Government representatives constitute 15% whereas self-employed people and enterprises represent 9% of the sample. Rather few NGO representatives participated in the survey.

The findings reveal that climate change, loss of biodiversity, and changing expectations in society on forestry are major drivers for innovation. Moreover, market developments like a growing bioeconomy and markets for ecosystem services also hold great potential for innovation in forestry and agroforestry. Innovation in forestry and agroforestry is clearly about implementing

new ideas into practice. A positive attitude towards knowledge transfer from research into practice and to “try out something new” are major behavioral drivers for innovation.

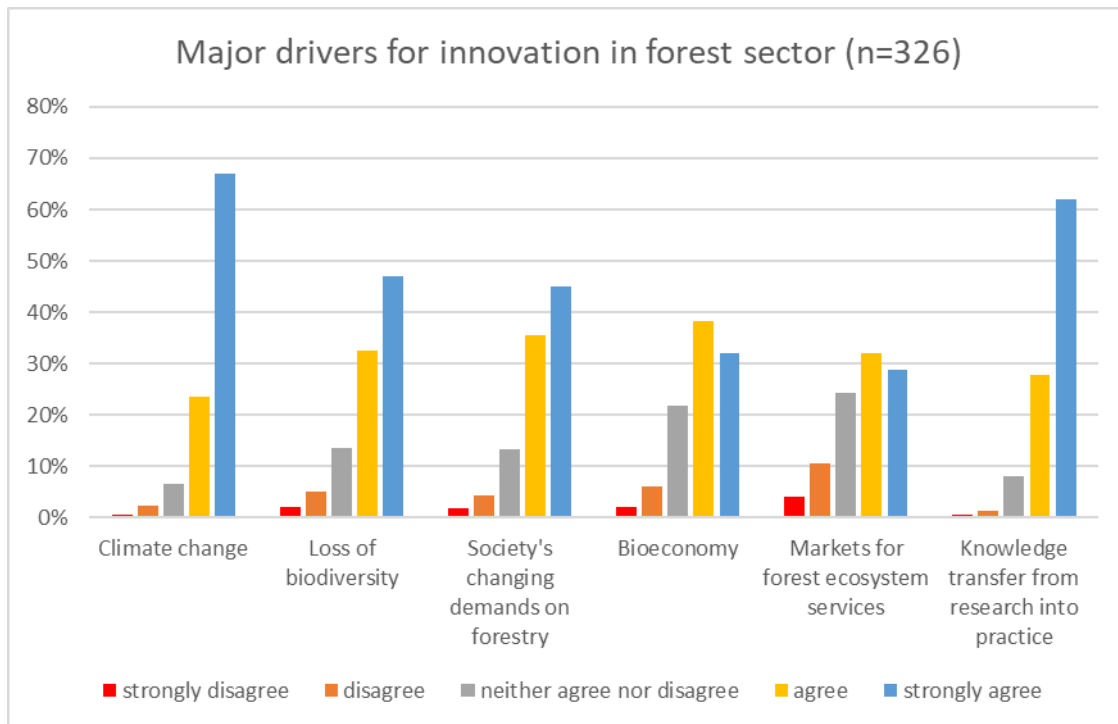


Figure 2. Drivers for innovation in forest sector

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Funded by the European Union

Funded by the European Union (Grant n. 101086216). Views and opinions expressed are however those of the authors only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or REA. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.