



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations



# Forest ownership (in change) in the world and the UNECE region

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**Seminar on State of Forest Ownership in the UNECE Region trends – opportunities – challenges**

**14 December 2018  
Brussels, European Forestry House**



# UNDERSTANDING FOREST OWNERSHIP CHANGE

## FORESTS



- I. By measuring temporal and spatial changes within the respective forest ownership categories; public and private, and beyond
- II. By surveying changes in the meaning of forest ownership; legal frameworks and customary rules that restrict or encourage specific use of forest resources i.e. the definition and understanding of property rights
- III. By exploring the changing values, or lifestyles

# FOREST RESOURCE CHANGE

## FORESTS



**GLOBALY:** 4 Billion ha;.

*2 Billion ha degraded forest,*

*Since 1990, -150 Mha*

*By 2050 loss of another 150 Mha  
(South America and Africa) .*

*By 2050 – 15% of natural forests*



**IN THE SOUTH:** *120 Mha plantations,  
whereof 25-30 Mha well managed  
Increase by 1 Mha/yr*

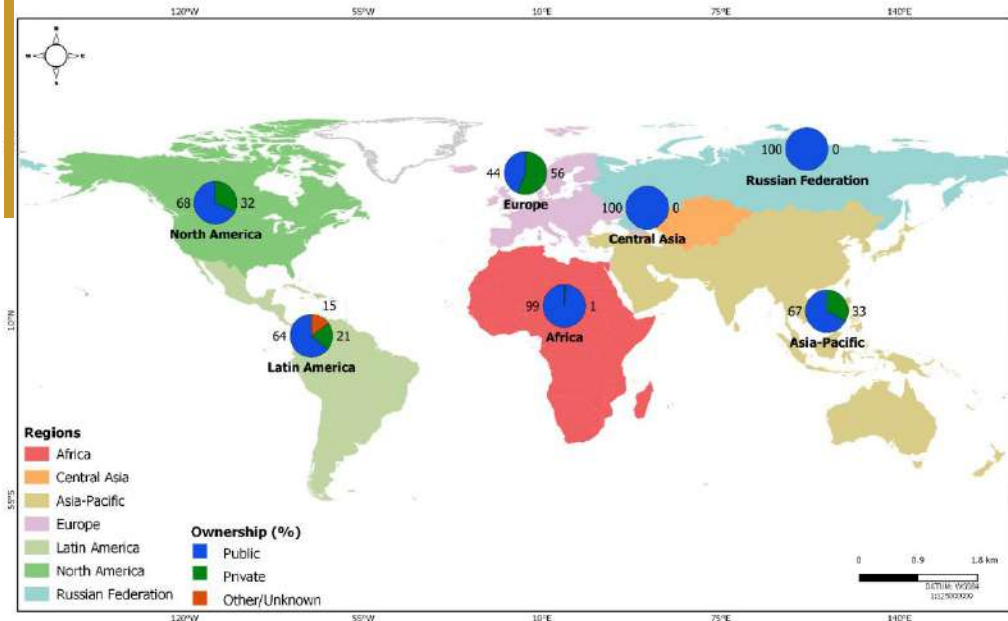
*Data in italics from Sten B Nilsson, 2018. Market analysis  
Report for the Swedish National Forest Program*

# FOREST OWNERSHIP AND TENURE

## FORESTS



Global Forest Tenure



*About 1.5 Billion local/indigenous people have tenure to forest*

Parallel tenure systems

Increased recognition of indigenous peoples right to own and manage land

### GLOBALY:

- 76% public **ownership**,
- 20% private ownership (+)
- 56% owned by individuals,
- 29% by private enterprises (+)
- 15% by local communities/indigenous people

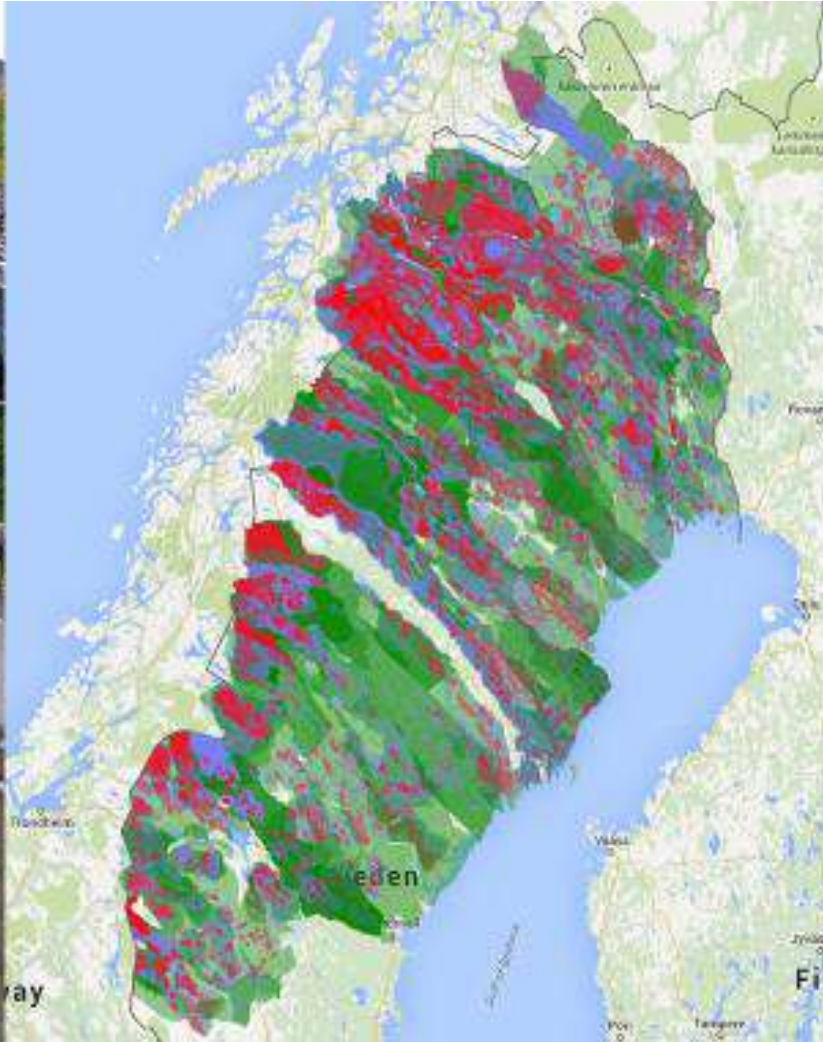
E.g. Australia: 41.9 Mha (34%) of the national forest land now fall under different indigenous regimes.

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# FOREST OWNERSHIP AND TENURE

## FORESTS



## Parallel tenure systems

51 Reindeer herding communities have formal tenure to  $> \frac{1}{2}$  of the land in Sweden



# FOREST RESOURCE CHANGE IN ECE REGION

## FORESTS



Ownership category	Countries with increased forest area	Countries with decreased forest area	Countries with no change
<b>Public, total</b> 	Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Finland, France, Georgia, Iceland, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, Serbia, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United States of America	Albania, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, Lithuania, Slovakia, Slovenia, United Kingdom	
<b>Private, total</b> 	Albania, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States of America	Belgium, Canada, Cyprus, Sweden,	Georgia, Russian Federation

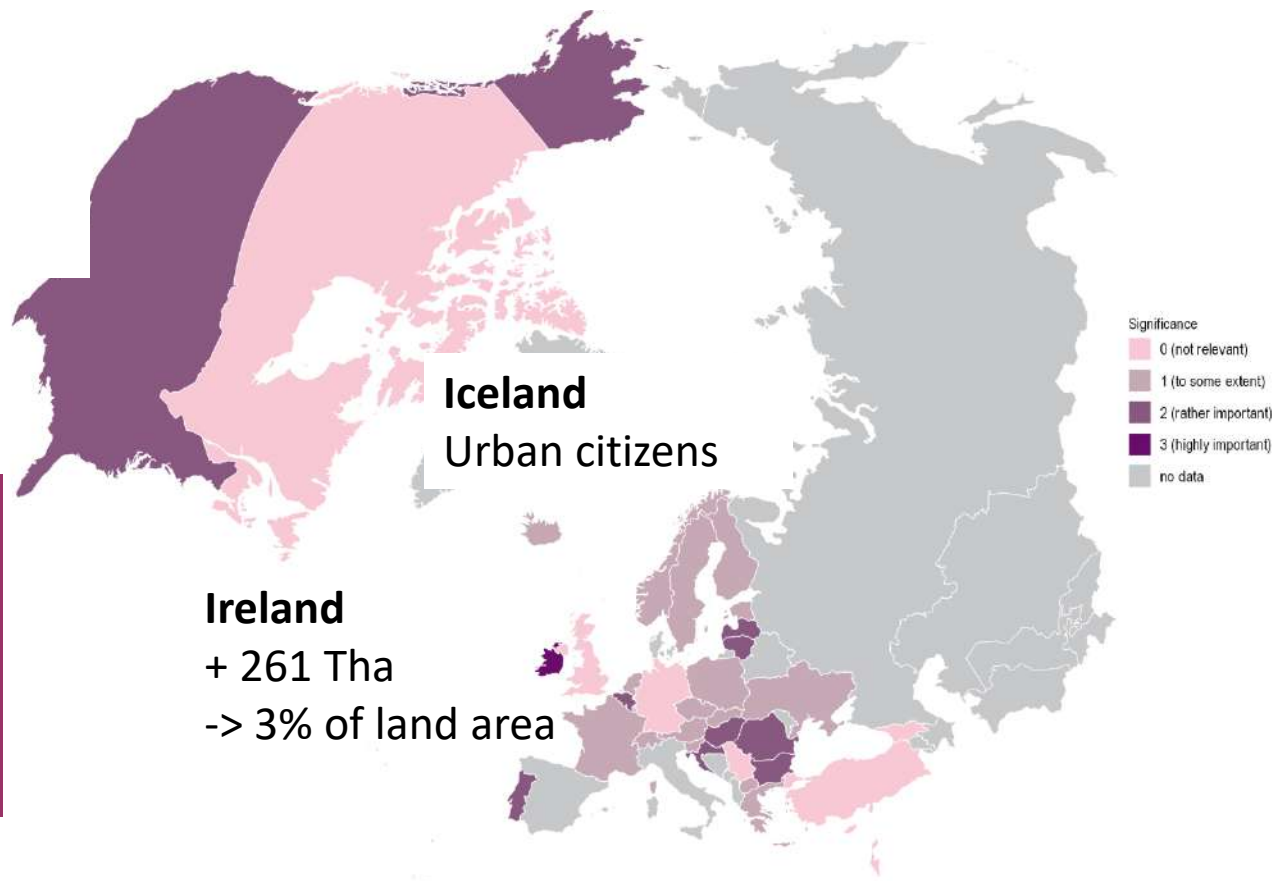
# FOREST OWNERSHIP CHANGE

## FORESTS



## Increasing number of new forest owners through afforestation

**USA**  
New land  
owners



**Rather important trend in Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Portugal, Romania and the United States of America**

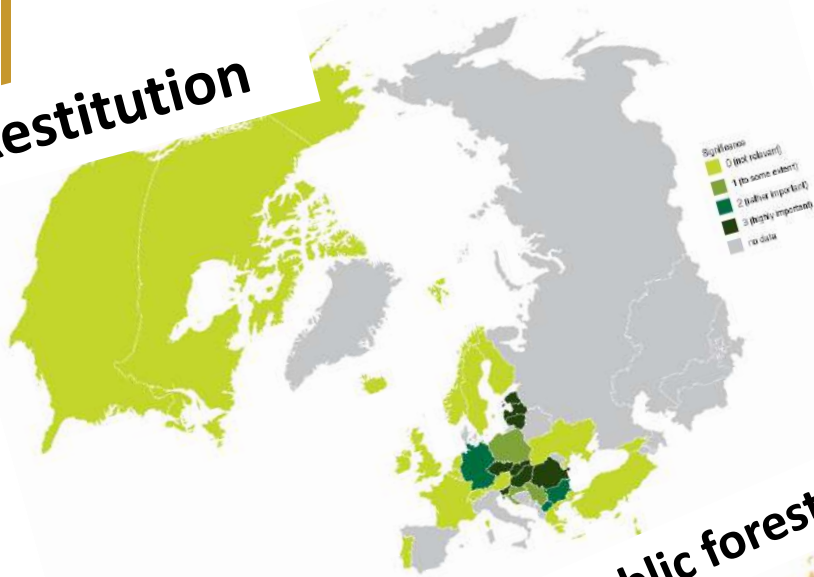


# THE MEANING OF FOREST OWNERSHIP



## FORESTS

### Restitution



### Privatization



### Commercialization of public forest management

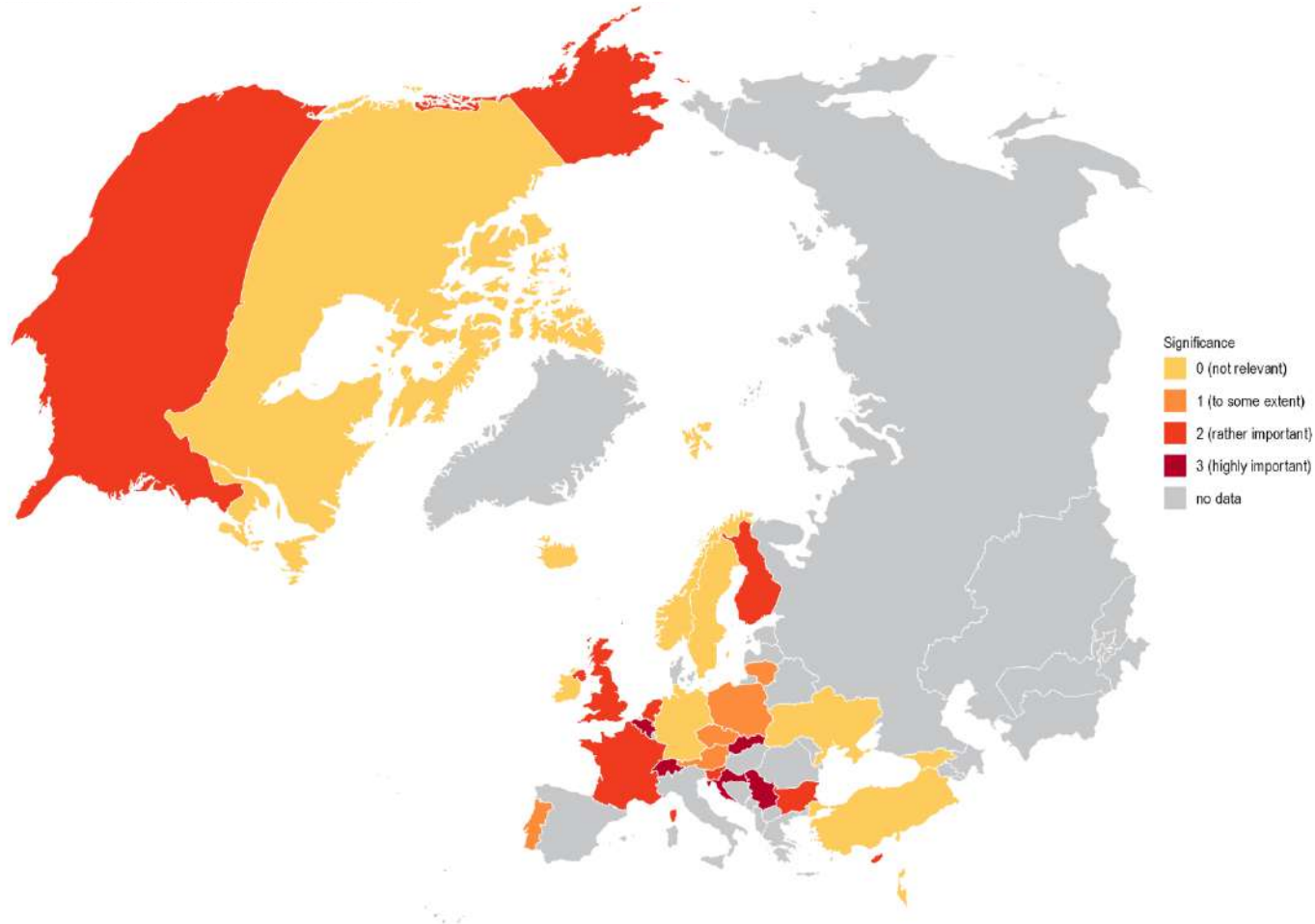




# THE MEANING OF FOREST OWNERSHIP

FORESTS

## Fragmentation through inheritance

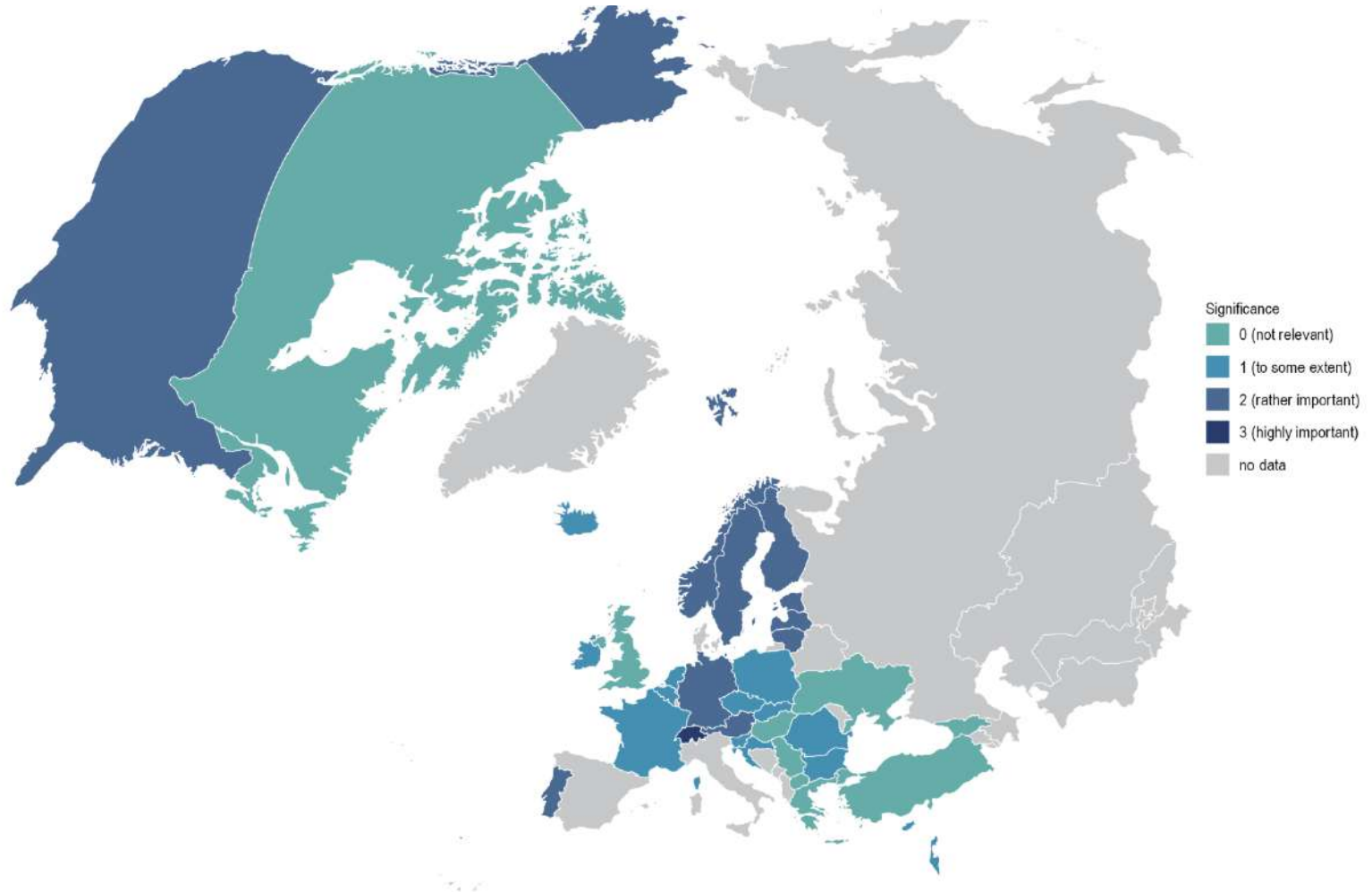


# THE MEANING OF FOREST OWNERSHIP

FORESTS



## Changing life style, motivation and attitudes



# THE MEANING OF FOREST OWNERSHIP



## FORESTS

### CHANGES WITHIN PRIVATE FOREST OWNERSHIP



# CONCLUSIONS

## FORESTS



Even though the relative importance of forest land has declined with regards to employment, value creation and power, **it still constitutes a major source of income in rural areas as well as contributing towards the general economy throughout the ECE region.**

With the prospects of a major turn from a fossil-based to a bio-based economy, the importance of forest land and the availability of forest biomass and forest ecosystem services further emphasize the **importance of improved knowledge about forest ownership particularly as it is up to the forest owners to decide on management priorities and objectives.**







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# Thank you!



FORESTS



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