

# Old-growth forests in the context of climate policy: what is and what is not an old-growth forest?

## International conference

**Date: October 12–13, 2023**

**10:30 am–16:30 pm (EET); 9:30 am–15:30 pm (CET), hybrid**

**Co-organized by Latvian State Forest Research Institute “Silava” (Latvia)  
and Horizon Europe project FORWARDS**

Venue: Riga, Republikas laukums 2, Latvia

## AGENDA



### October 12

CET TIME	
9:00	Coffee
9:30 (20 min)	<b>Welcome and introduction to the project</b> <i>Dr.silv. Jurgis Jansons, Director</i> <i>Latvian State Forest Research Institute “Silava”, Latvia</i>
9:50 (20 min)	Towards strict protection of primary and old-growth forests in the EU <i>PhD Jose I. Barredo, Scientific Officer at European Commission</i> <i>Joint Research Centre</i>
10:10 (20 min)	Old-growth forests in Europe: research progress and gaps. <i>Asst. Prof. Francesco M. Sabatini</i> <i>University of Bologna, Italy (tbc)</i>
10:30 (20 min)	Old-growth forests in Latvia <i>Dr.silv. Aris Jansons</i> <i>Latvian State Forest Research Institute “Silava”, Latvia</i>
10:50 (20 min)	Defining old-growth forest indicators. <i>Dr. Kris Vandekerckhove</i> <i>The Research Institute for Nature and Forest (INBO), Belgium</i>

11:10 (20 min)	Old-growth forests – C sequestration inference from N budgets <i>Prof. Per Gundersen</i> <i>University of Copenhagen, Denmark</i>
11:30 (10 min)	Q/A session
11:40 (40 min)	Lunch break
12:20 (20 min)	Many aspects of old-growth forests <i>Daiga Zute, Researcher</i> <i>Latvian State Forest Research Institute “Silava”, Latvia</i>
12:40 (20 min)	Old-growth forests in Norway and integration of forest naturalness into ecodiversity mapping <i>Eivind Handegard, PhD candidate</i> <i>Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research (NIBIO), Norway</i>
13:00 (20 min)	The carbon balance of old-growth forests in Finland. <i>Anu Akujärvi, Senior research scientist</i> <i>Finnish Environment Institute, Finland</i>
13:20 (20 min)	Old-growth forests in Sweden <i>PhD Anders Ahlstrom, Senior researcher</i> <i>Lund University, Sweden</i>
13:40 (20 min)	Old-growth forests in Italy <i>University of Molise, Italy (tbc)</i>
14:00 (20 min)	The protection status of primary and old growth forest in the EU & implications for strict protection targets under the Biodiversity Strategy 2030 <i>PhD Jutta Beher, research scholar</i> <i>International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), Austria</i>
14:20 (10 min)	Research networks for science and policy dialogue <i>Horizon Europe project FORWARDS</i>
<b>Panel discussion</b>	
14:30–15:20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>International organization &amp; project’s representative</i></li> <li>• <i>Science representative</i></li> <li>• <i>National policy representative</i></li> <li>• <i>EU representative</i></li> </ul>
15:20 (10 min)	Concluding remarks
<b>Concluding at 15:30 CET</b>	
<b>October 13</b>	
<b>CET TIME</b> 9:30–15.00	Forest site visit “Old-growth forests in Latvia”