

A photograph of a desert landscape. In the foreground, there are several small, green, bushy trees scattered across a sandy plain. In the middle ground, there are large, smooth sand dunes. In the background, there are dark, rugged mountains under a clear blue sky.

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What can policy do for Mediterranean forests

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- 2 What can forests contribute to human development?
- 3 Specificities of Mediterranean forests
- 4 What governance framework is required in order to unlock its full potential under Mediterranean conditions
- 5 Conclusions

1 Introduction

Both perspectives are required and complementary



1 Introduction

- It's not about forests but about people: goals, norms, etc. are human constructs



2 What can forests contribute to human development



- Rio+20 Summit agreed on “The future we want” and the concept of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Remaining human challenges are cross-sectorial
- 2000-2015 experience on MDGs: restricted to developing countries, mainly social oriented, sectorial
- SDGs: universal, integrated, aspirational, few
- 17 indicators, 167 targets, 232 indicators
- Timeframe: 2015-2030
- Forests: grown from a single negative indicator (deforestation) to emerge in one SDG heading and 3 targets (15.1, 15.2 and 6.6)
- Benchmarking, analysis of the success and failure cases, interlinkages between SDGs, guide for domestic and external developing strategies based on regional evidences

2 What can forests contribute to human development

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



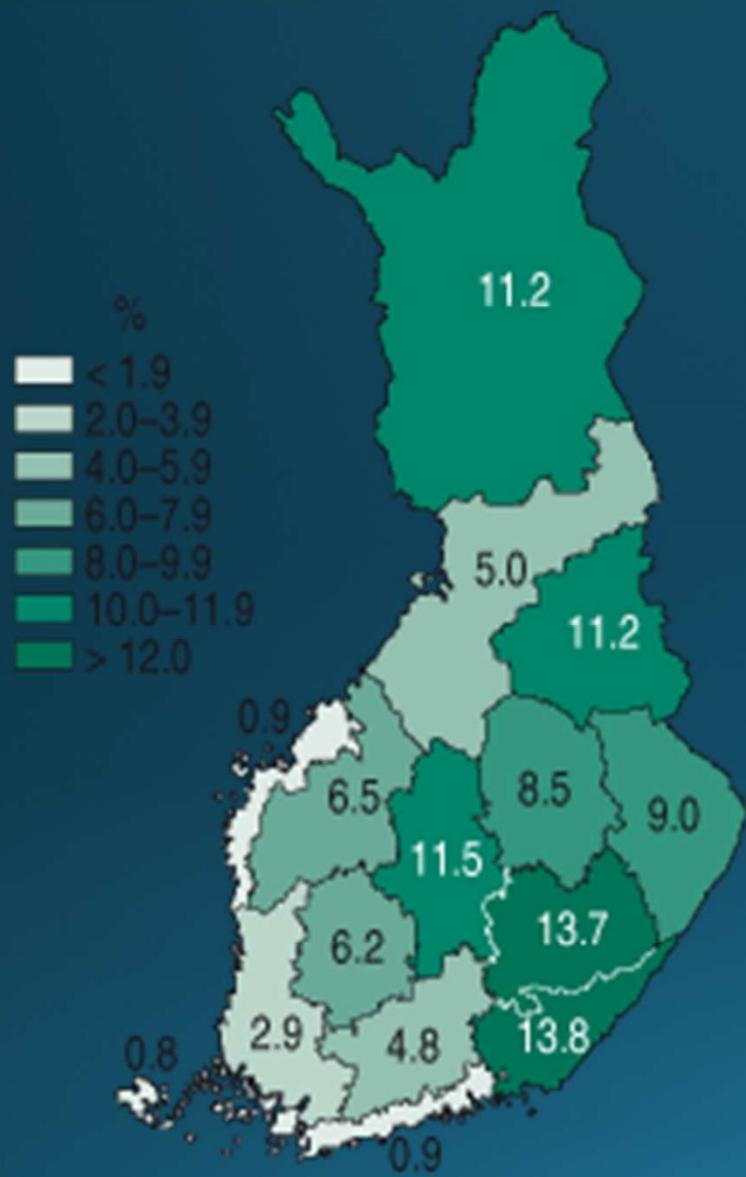
1 What can forests contribute to human development

1 End poverty	Livelihood and security belts (food, fuel, building materials, NWFP, etc.), income in disadvantaged areas, value chain, tourism, exports
2 Zero hunger	1% global food comes from forests, crucial nutritional value (vitamin, protein, minerals) for forest dependent communities, fire wood used by 1/3 humankind, income, fodder for cattle in draught periods, pollination, water regulation
3 Health and well being	Crucial contribution to physical and mental health of urban forests and green areas, active life stiles, medicinal plants, forest food
4 Quality education	Due to urbanization driven loss of rural linkages, urban forests and agriculture may provide strategic opportunities for rebuilding consciousness about relevance of rural areas and the need for sustainable provision of healthy food and environmental services through tailored environmental education
5 Gender equality	Engaging women actively in rural areas is crucial for their future avoiding rural decline by taking advantage of new business opportunities (tertiary, tenure)
6 Clean water and sanitation (6.6)	Hydrological regulation by mountain forests, water quality, permanent flows, prevention of land filling in dams, green filters



1 What can forests contribute to human development

7 Affordable and clean energy	1st renewable energy source (6%) globally and EU wide without incentives and political support (27% African energy consumption), low technological requirements, availability, time flexible, thermic use, wind power in forest areas
8 Decent work and economic growth	10 M formal employments along the value chain, 4x in informal sector, 1% GDP globally and EU, higher in disadvantaged areas, major endogenous development driving force
9 Industry, innovation and infrastructure	Forest based sector is of one of the key industries (10%) and one of the few renewable and carbon-neutral ones, located in disadvantaged areas, crucial for bio-economy (wood 1st renewable raw material)
10 Reduced inequalities	Potential contribution to compensate rural-urban imbalances, based on SMEs, strengthening middle classes (tenure)
11 Sustainable cities and communities	Key contribution to physical and mental quality by urban forests and green areas, active life stiles, nature education, strategic sustainable building and heating materials (wood, bamboo, cork)
12 Responsible consumption and production	Forest products most advanced in sustainability and carbon-neutrality (renewables, certification, legal provisions) contributing to overcome spatial inequalities



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Sp1 50.9 °C

56.7

Sp2 39.8



Sp1
+

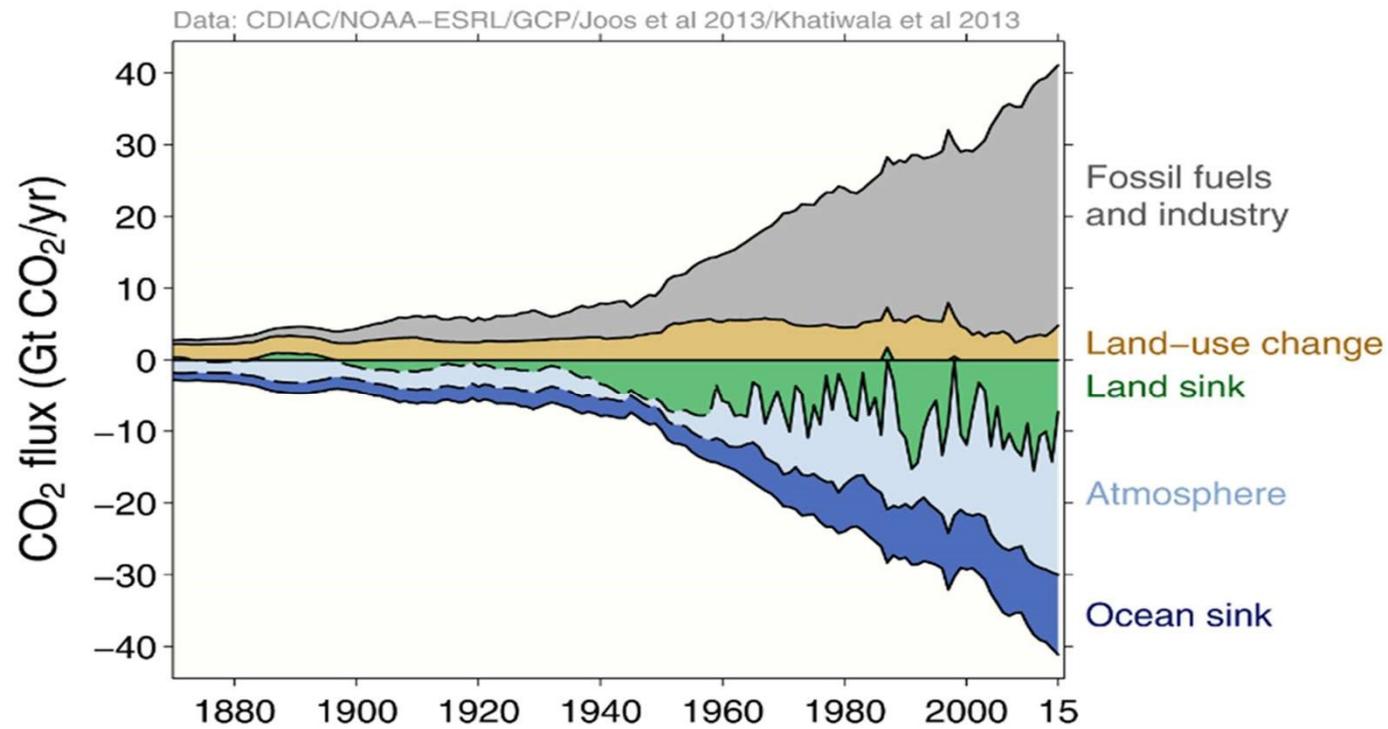
Sp2
+

29.1



1 What can forests contribute to human development

13 Climate action	Single manageable C-sink crucial for the atmospheric C balance by reducing deforestation, increasing permanent and temporary forest stocks as well as substituting fossil energy and non renewable materials with high C foot print
14 Life below water	Reduction of solid materials in rivers through mountain and riverbank forests, mangroves preserving healthy and protective coastal ecosystems
15 Life on land (Forests, land, desertification, mountains, biodiversity and ecosystems) (15.1, 15.2)	Preserving, restoring and sustainable managing forests, biodiversity, ecosystems, land, soils and mountains while fighting against desertification (integration of social, cultural, economic and environmental dimensions)
16 Peace, justice and strong institutions	Renewed tasks and design of public services, strengthening public-private partnerships, concertation and mediation facilities, political and juridical coherence, rural-urban equity
17 Partnerships for the goals	Strengthening forest presence in the international and cooperation agenda

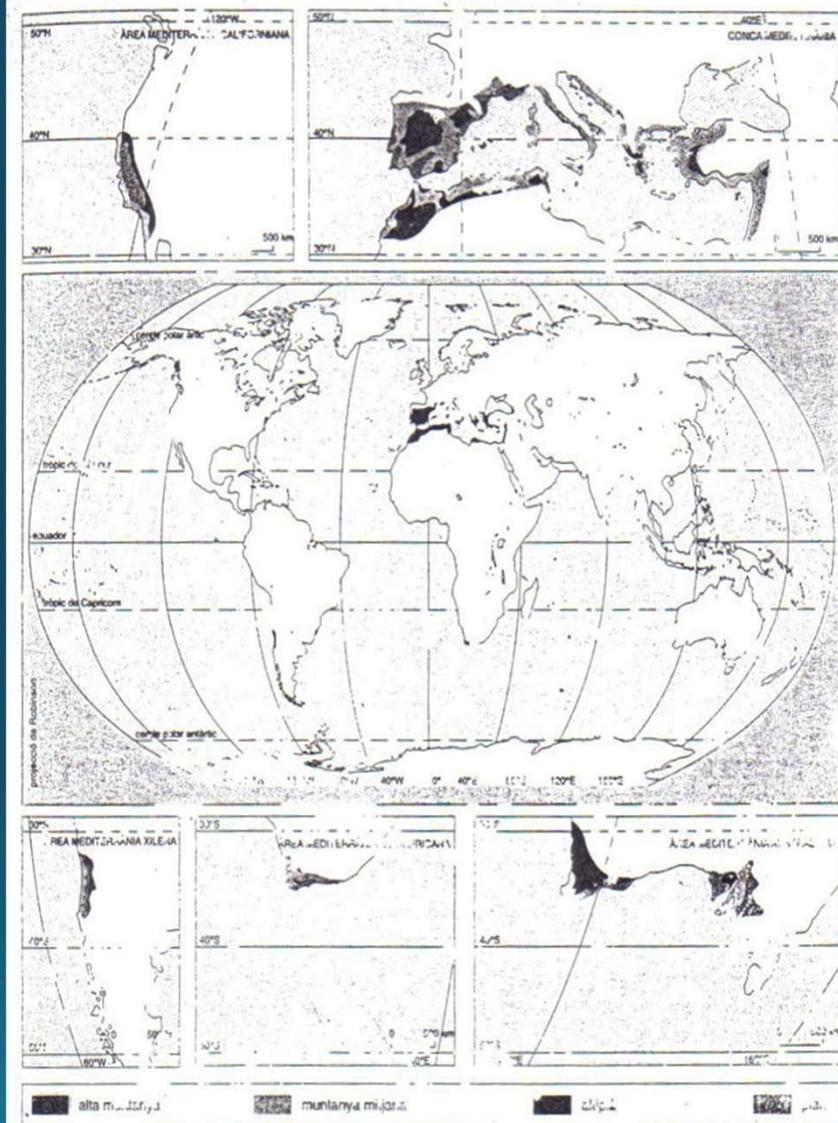


3 Specificities of Mediterranean forests

Unclear borders: watershed, climate, see side countries

Mediterranean climate:

- Anti cyclic rainfall and temperature (unique pattern)
- Mild temperatures
- Restricted to transition between subtropical deserts and temperate area (30-40°) W side of continents, triangular form
- Exceptional size between Europe and Africa due to size of the Mediterranean see (W-E and N-S) that ensures humidity recharge under certain conditions
- Globally 0,6% of the forests



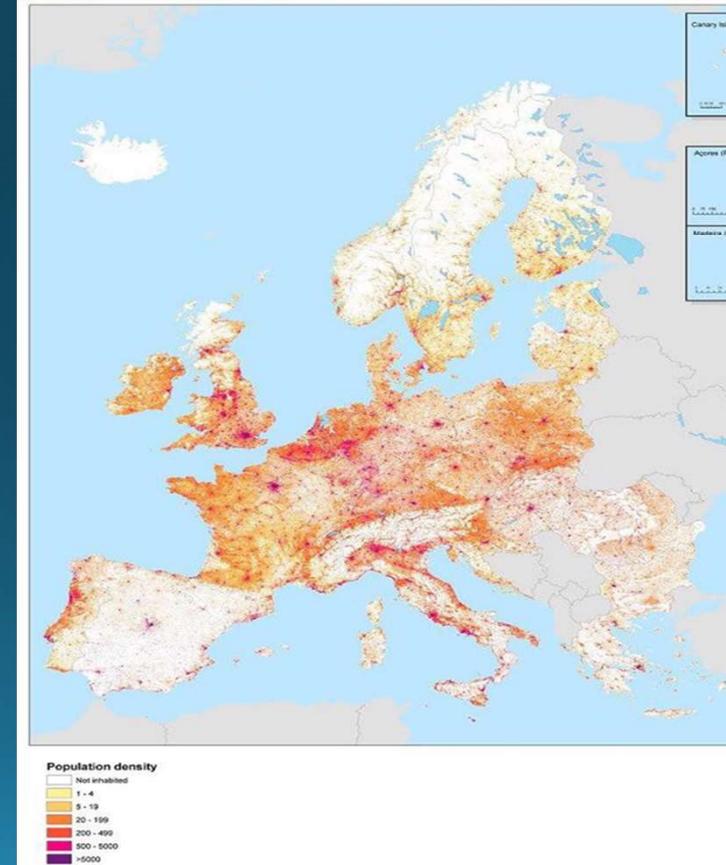
Map: Je la distribució mundial de les zones de clima mediterrani. (Fotònica).

3 Specificities of Mediterranean forests

	EU Med (ex. GR, CY)	Balkan + TR + GR + CY	Levante	Egypt, Libya	Maghreb
Ownership	Private minifundium, communal	State	State, exc. Lebanon & Israel (KKL)	State	State
Forest service	Weakening, regionalization	Strong	Weak	Nearly inexistent	Strong
Forests	Strong growth last 100 years (planting and natural)	Growing	Stable, some growth	Stable, marginal	Growing
Fires	Big issue	Relatively under control (exc. GR)	Growing challenge	None	Under control (exc. ALG)
Climate	Submediterranean-Mediterranean	Submediterranean-temperate	Dry Mediterranean-desertic	Desertic	Dry Mediterranean-desertic

3 Specificities of Mediterranean forests

- Medium growth, lower quality, capitalization process on going
- Fire pruned (kidnaping forest agenda)
- Historical colonization and agricultural pressure
- Rural abandonment (pendular process)
- Secondary vegetation: monotone and burnable
- Water and forests in drylands
- High biodiversity despite long human pressure
- Braun-Blanquet phytosociology (climax vegetation)
- Cultural values
- Touristic value



3 Specificities of Mediterranean forests

Most relevant output of Mediterranean forests: environmental and social services

Macrodecoupling (Mendes, 1999): the higher the share of non market goods and services in relation to the market ones, the less efficient is the market driven allotment of resources (under-allocation)

Symmetric to **Micro-decoupling** (strong pollution): over-allocation

Answer: internalization of external effects

Valorization and payment of environmental services (Merlo et. Al 2005)

Due to tenure and budget constraints little progress observed in the region

-> Forest and rural abandonment

-> Forest fires

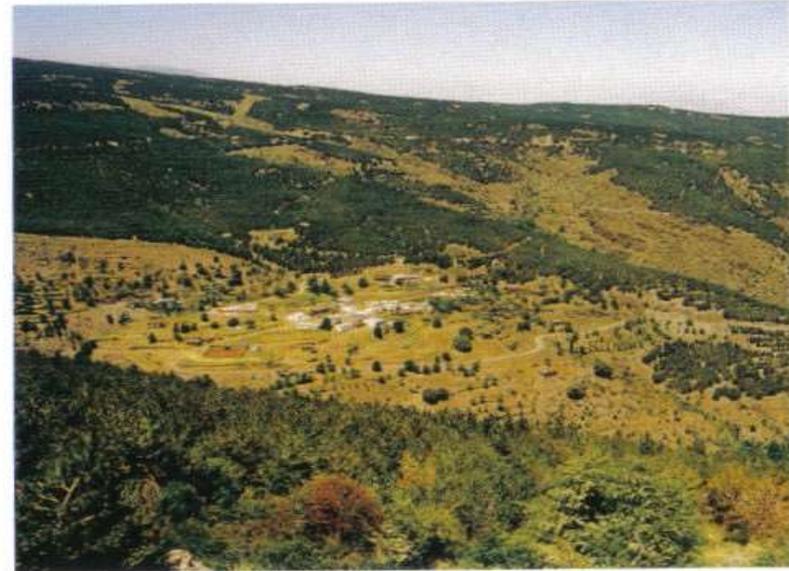
-> Distractive agenda (protected areas, fires, afforestation)

-> Forest potential by far not reached



4 What governance framework is required in order to unlock its full potential under Mediterranean conditions

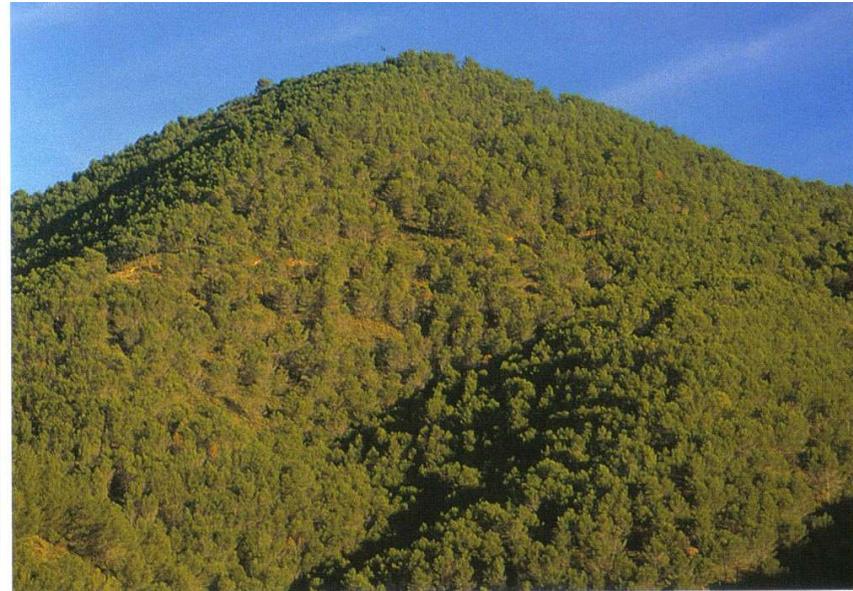
- Unlock the full potential: C, water, soil, landscapes, rural development, bio-economy, employment, cultural values, etc.
- Taking advantage of wealth of long lasting forest experience in the region
- Physical and social restructuring
- Empowering local population (gender, tenure)
- Optimizing the livelihoods contribution
- Supporting entrepreneurship (bottlenecks)
- Inclusive societal deals on forest agenda overcoming old/neo-enlightened despotism
- New tasks and design of public forest services: planning, mediating, financing, cross-sectoral policies
- Financial innovation (Forest funds, earmarked taxes, PES)



Paraje de Alcóntar, Sierra de Filabres. Años 1969 (izquierda) y 1999 (derecha).



Monte Cerro de la Matanza, Málaga. Año 1964.

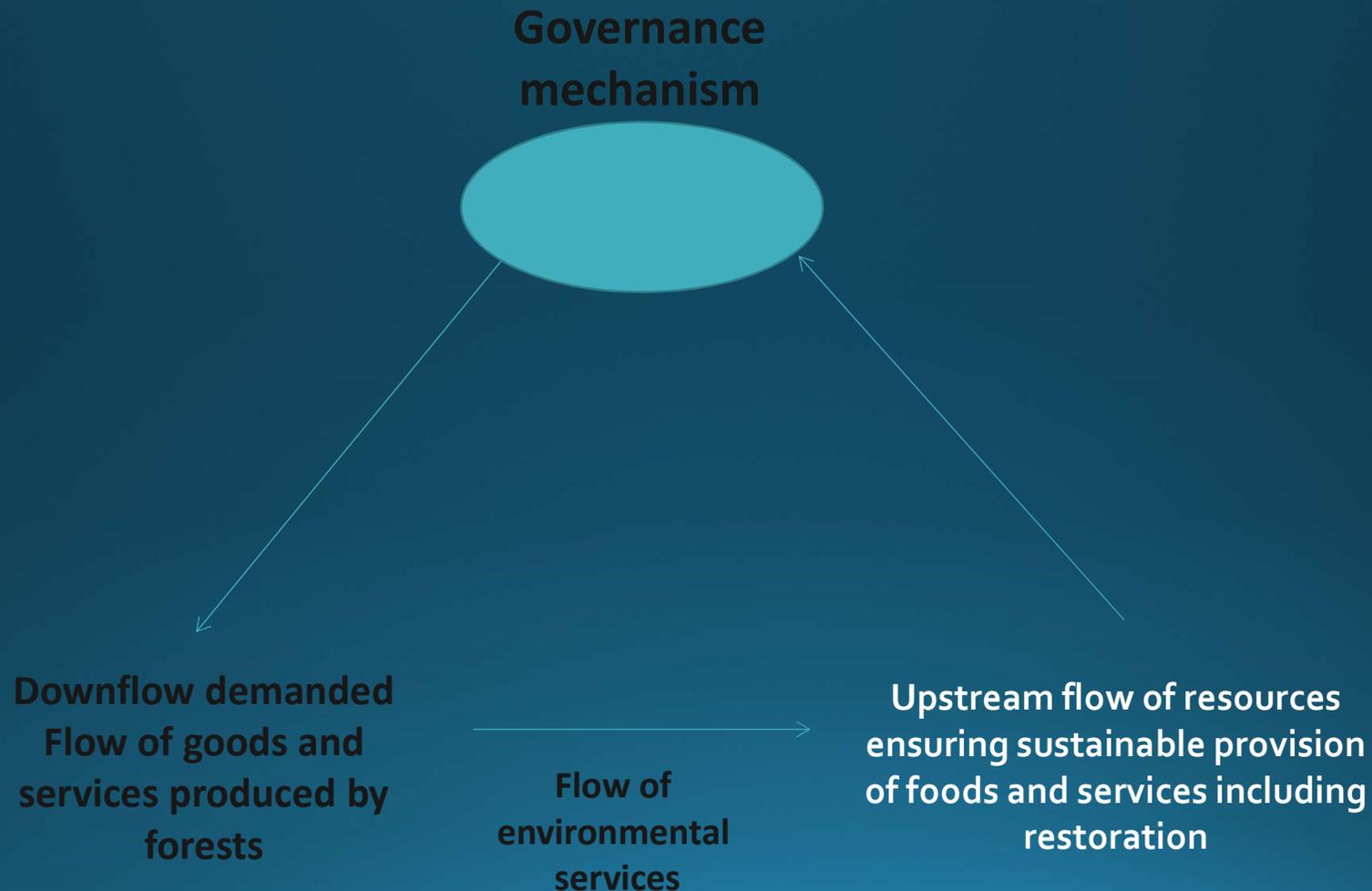


Monte Cerro de la Matanza, Málaga. Año 2001.

Assisted natural regeneration



4 What governance framework is required in order to unlock its full potential under Mediterranean conditions



5 Conclusions

Climate change

Bio-economy

Water and soil

Rural decline

Disaster risk reduction

Wildland fires

Forest
management



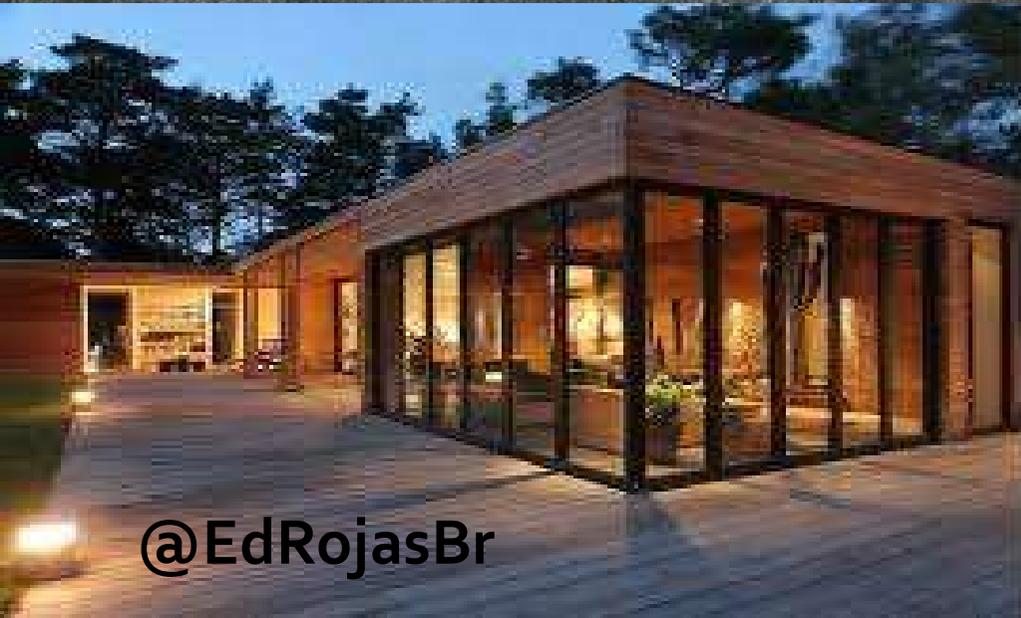
5 Conclusions

- Communication: increasing vast forest culture agenda setting
- Based on empirical and scientific evidence
- Text books schools
- Overcoming political dead logs
- New agroforest models
- Up scalable solutions





Thanks for your attention!



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