

FSC™ IN THE ADRIA-BALKAN REGION **opportunities & challenges**

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Diego Florian, FSC Regional Representative



FOREST STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

FSC® provides forest stewardship standards that enable:

Responsible sourcing

We **verify supply chains** so markets can work with forests responsibly.

Conservation

We work with key organizations to maintain and **enhance forest value**.

Restoration

We convene stakeholders and set policies to **accelerate forest recovery**.

TANGIBLE AND INTANGIBLE
VALUES

Fundamentally balanced

33.3%
Social



Local People and
Society at Large

33.3%
Environmental



Biodiversity
and Ecological Protection

33.3%
Economic



Responsible and
Economically Viable

AT A GLANCE



Today we lead the world's most rigorous and trusted forest certification system, trusted by NGOs, consumers, and businesses alike.

29

years of operation

150+

million certified
hectares of forest

1,200+

individuals and organizations
make up our governing body
across 92 countries

85

locally-adapted
forest stewardship standards

46%

of consumers globally
recognize the FSC logo

1,600+

companies licenced to
promote FSC-labelled products

50K+

certifications that
verify sustainable sourcing

#1

most recognized, trusted,
and rigorous forest
certification system

FSC is already the most recognized and trusted forest certification system.



66%

people expect companies not to contribute to deforestation.



74%

certificate holders agree that FSC helps them communicate their CSR initiatives (90% for promotional licence holders).



83%

certificate holders agree that FSC certification helps to create a positive corporate image (89% for promotional licence holders).



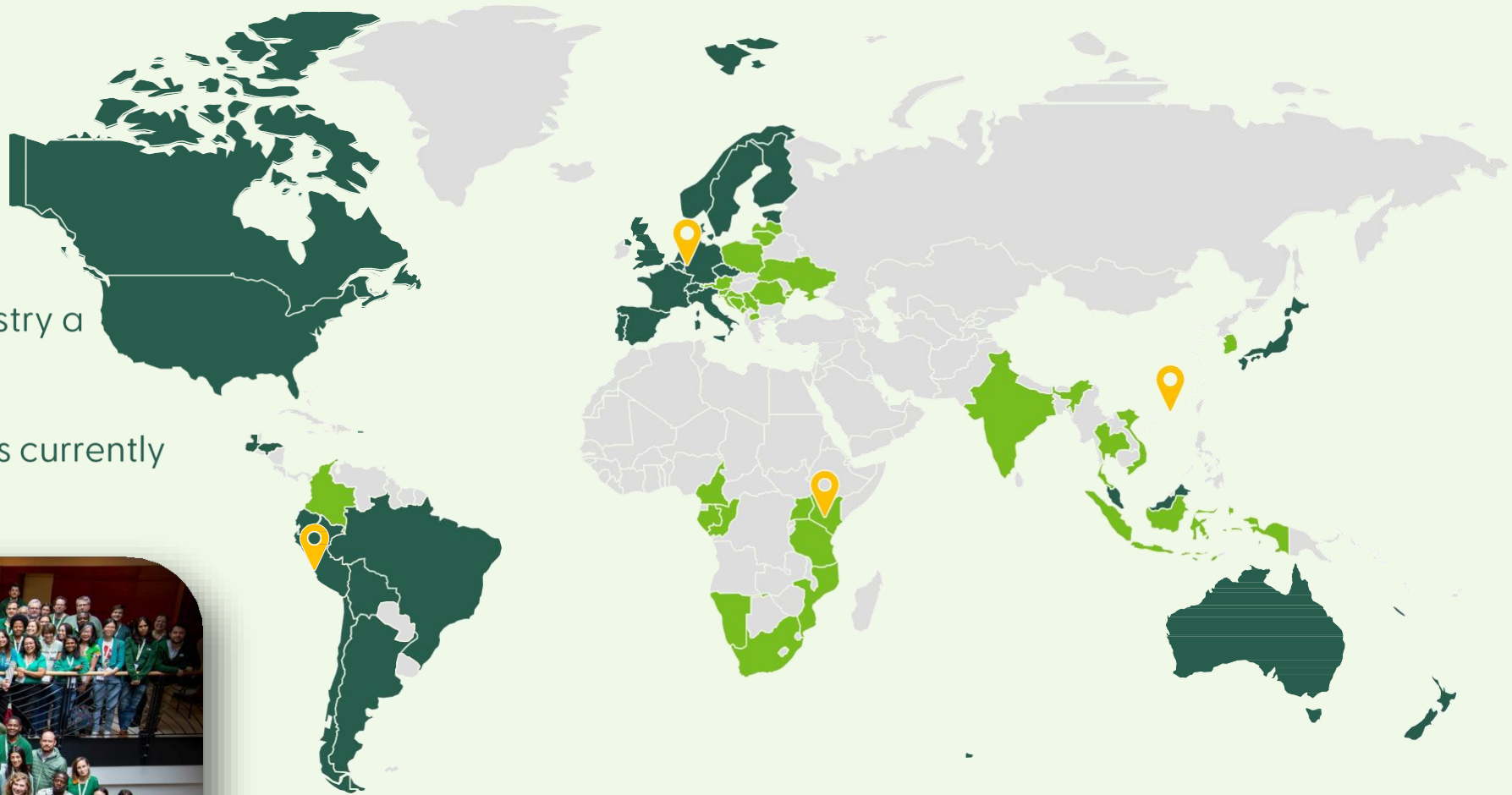
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consumers feel that claims should be independently certified.

Today, FSC is present in over 58 countries worldwide

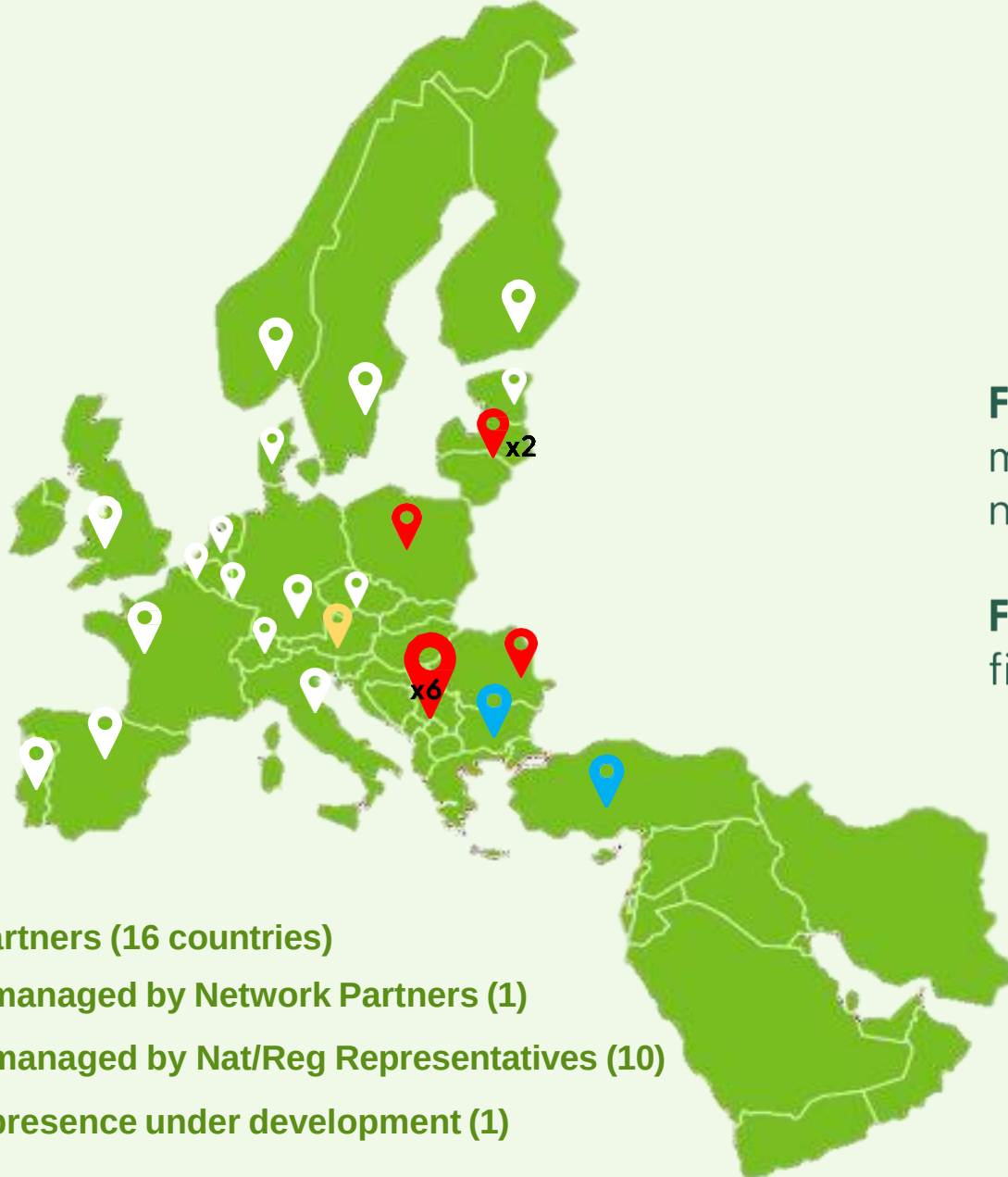
400+ staff making responsible forestry a worldwide mission.

Over 150 million hectares of forest is currently certified worldwide.



-  FSC Network Partner (29)
-  FSC National Representatives (13 locations covering 27 countries)
-  FSC International Branch Offices (2)
-  Regional teams (4 main locations)

FSC's presence in Europe



FSC Network Partner:

member-led, governed by a chamber-balanced national board of FSC members

FSC National Representatives:

field staff hired by FSC International

-  Network Partners (16 countries)
-  Countries managed by Network Partners (1)
-  Countries managed by Nat/Reg Representatives (10)
-  Countries presence under development (1)

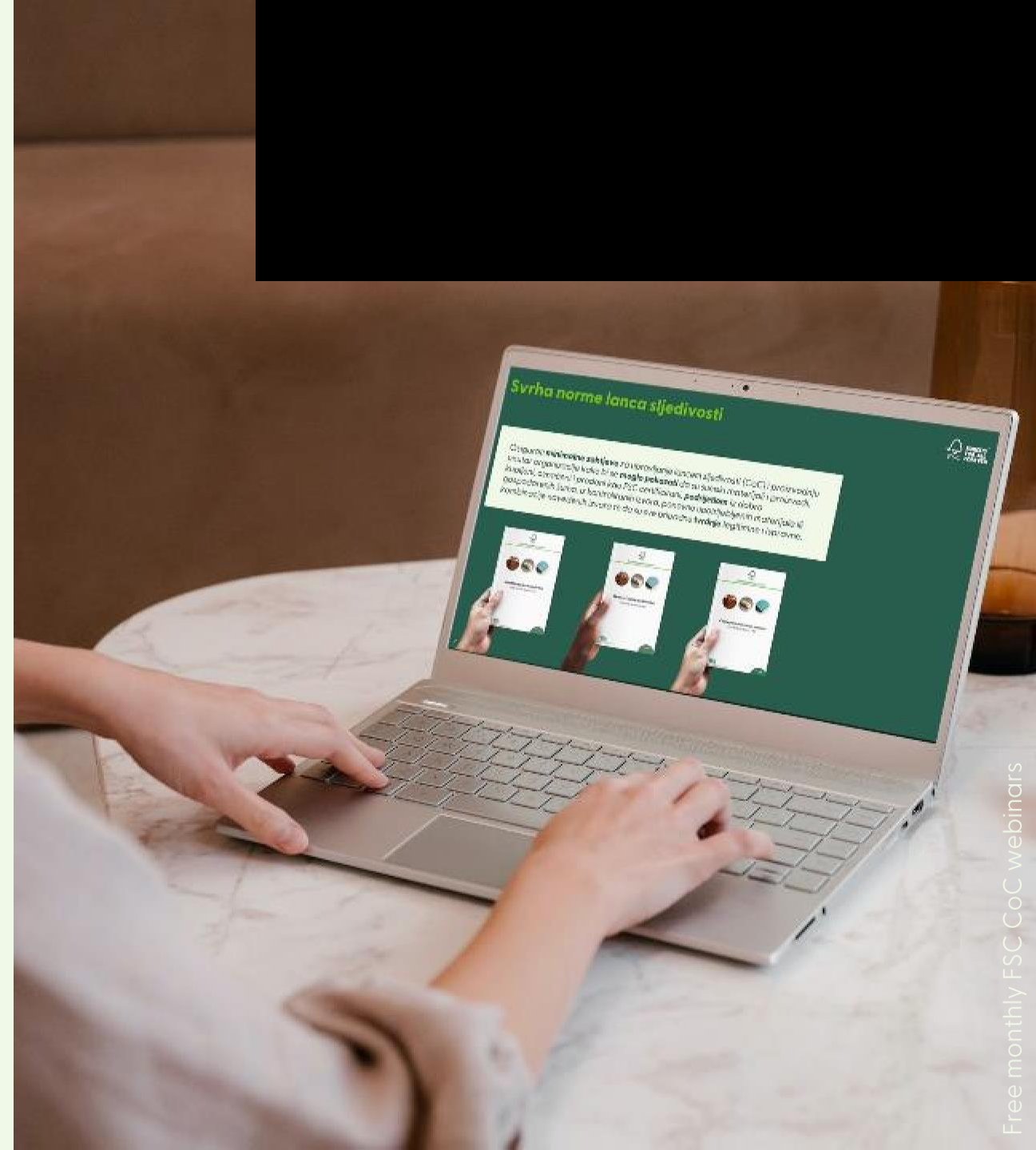
The story of FSC “presence” in the Balkan area



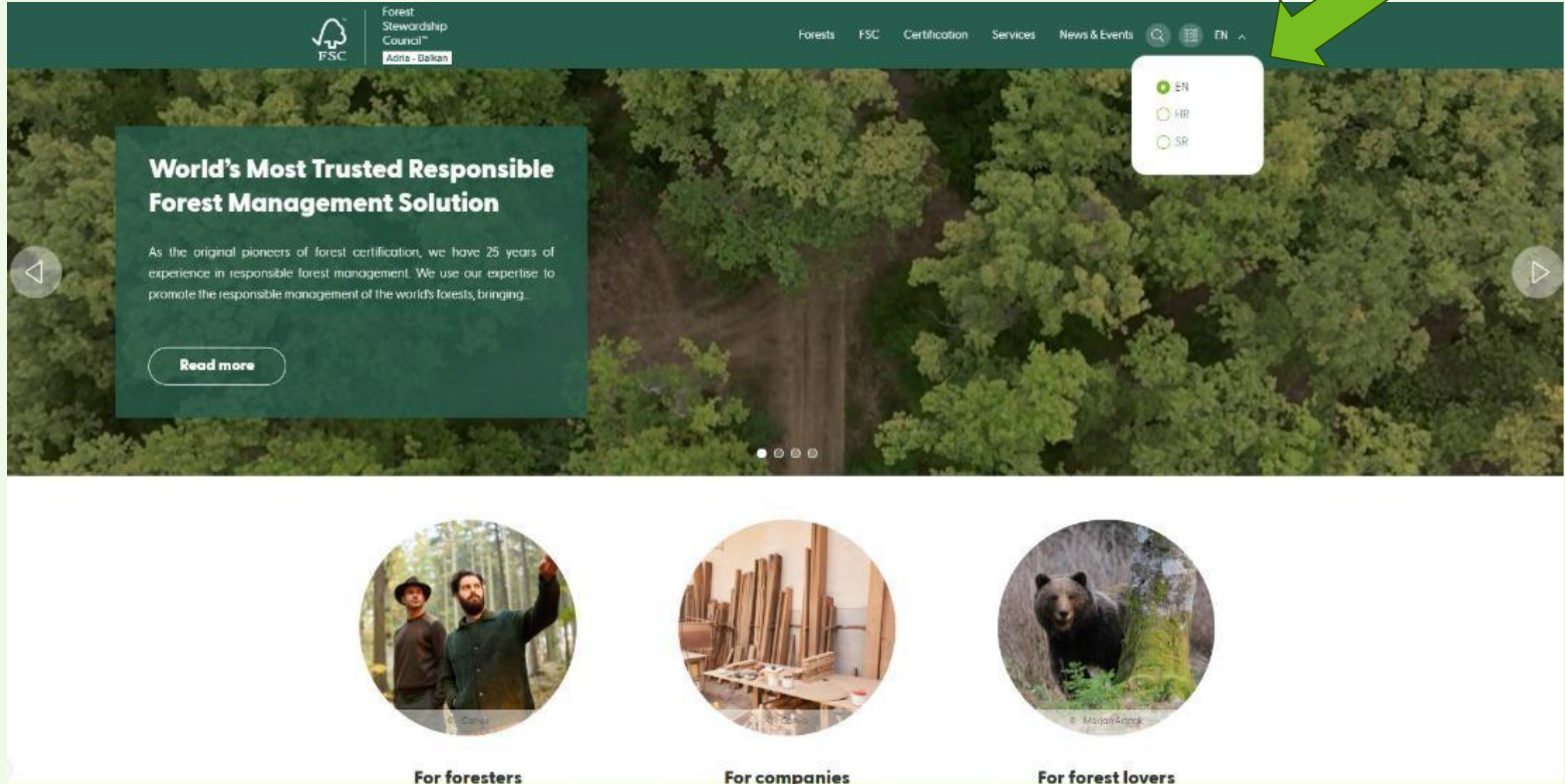
More details → <https://adria-balkan.fsc.org>

The Services provided

1. **Translation** of main documents
2. **Engagement with certificate** holders
3. Engagement with **Institutional stakeholders and local NGOs**
4. Developing an **Interim Forest Management Standard** for North Macedonia
5. **Promoting Chain of Custody Group**
6. Promotion of **Ecosystem Services** verification in the Region
7. Raising **FSC brand awareness** locally
8. **Monitoring** the **integrity of the System** among local operators



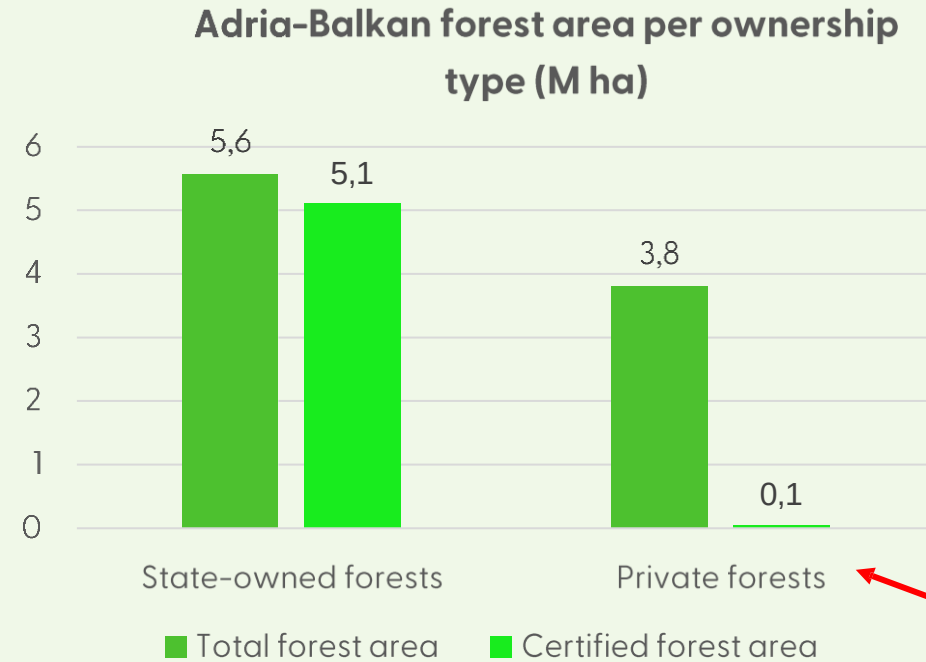
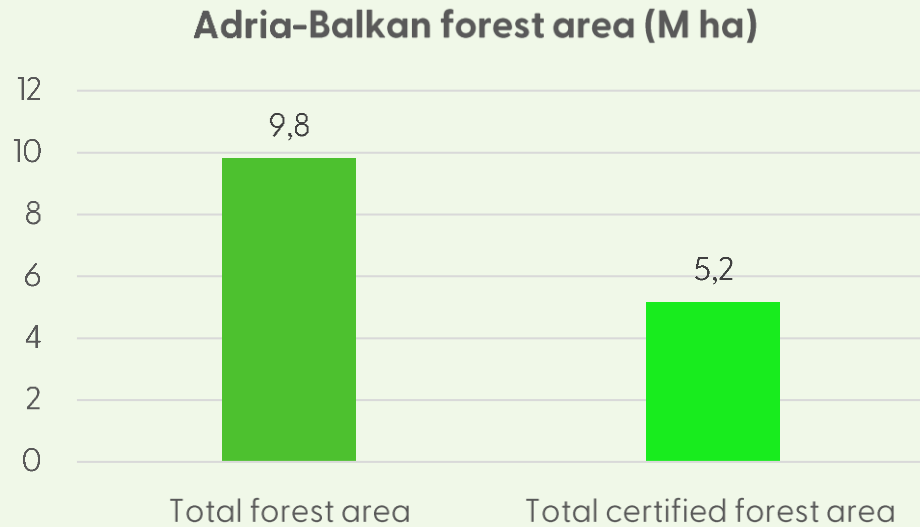
The (online) presence



Strengths of the A-B Region!



FM certification in the main 4 countries (BiH, SRB, CRO, SLO)



FM growth
Opportunity
but also a
Challenge!

More than **50%** of total forest area is already **certified** (mainly FSC or double cert.!)

State-owned forests: high level of FM certification (**over 90%**)

Private forests: none to **low level** of FM certification (depending on a country)

Extreme fragmentation or lack of competitiveness **of private forests** → some encouraging **example from church** forest managing companies (in Croatia)

Only one NFSS so far in Bosnia Herzegovina

Opportunities & challenges



Role of public/state companies is relevant:

- offer stable and sustainable production at «controlled» prices
- offer large job opportunities → high social role/impact
- implementation of FSC standards → responsible F. management at large scale

Risks linked to public/state company model:

- Millions of certified hectares in few certificates...
- Timber prices «controlled» by PFE → less opportunities for private owners comp.
- Difficult control of vaste and remoted areas → crucial role of CBs innovative auditing practices and FSC complementary tools

Future objectives (2024):

- Disseminating information about FSC tools for coping with **EUDR**
- Increasing the implementation of FSC Procedure for verification of **Ecosystem Services**

Ви благодарам!
Thank you
Hvala
Хвала



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