

SCAR INSIGHTS Series Webinar 16 Dec 2024: SCAR Forest Coordinating Forest Innovation

Importance of SCAR Forest's role, Forest Research Partnership

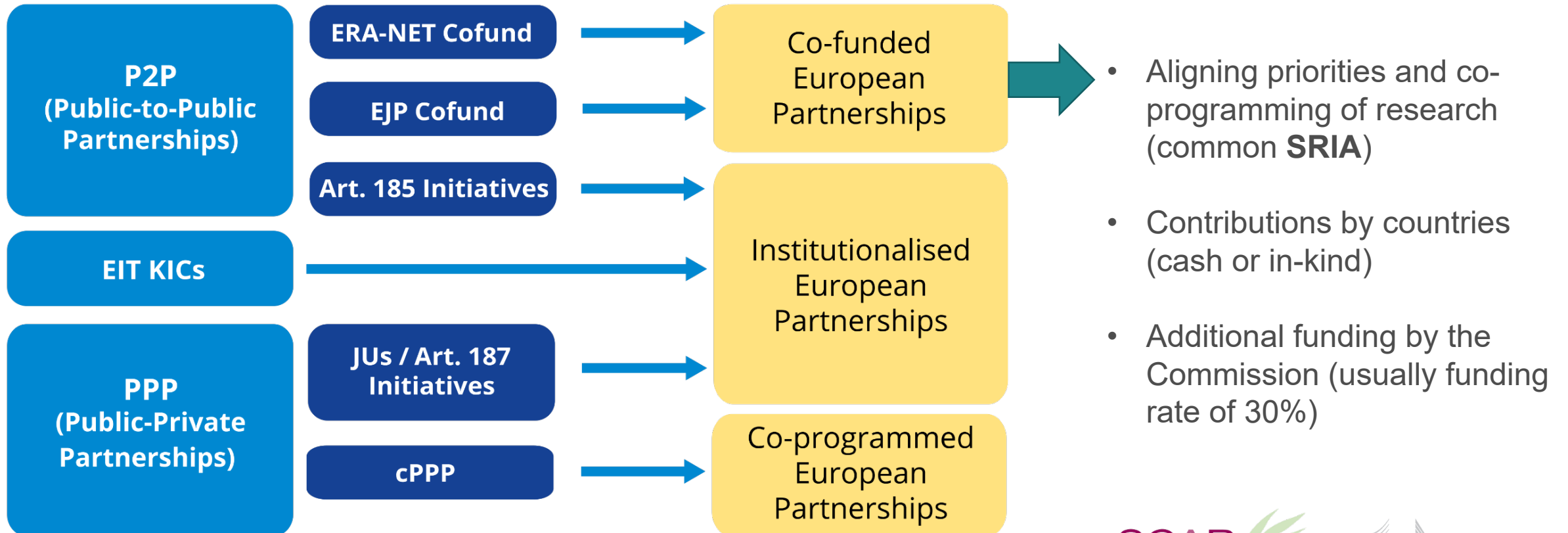
Mika Kallio
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Finland (MMM)



Partnerships in Horizon Europe is a unified approach to instruments and initiatives to develop the ERA (European Research Area)

Horizon 2020

Horizon Europe



Forests and Forestry for a Sustainable Future

Background information

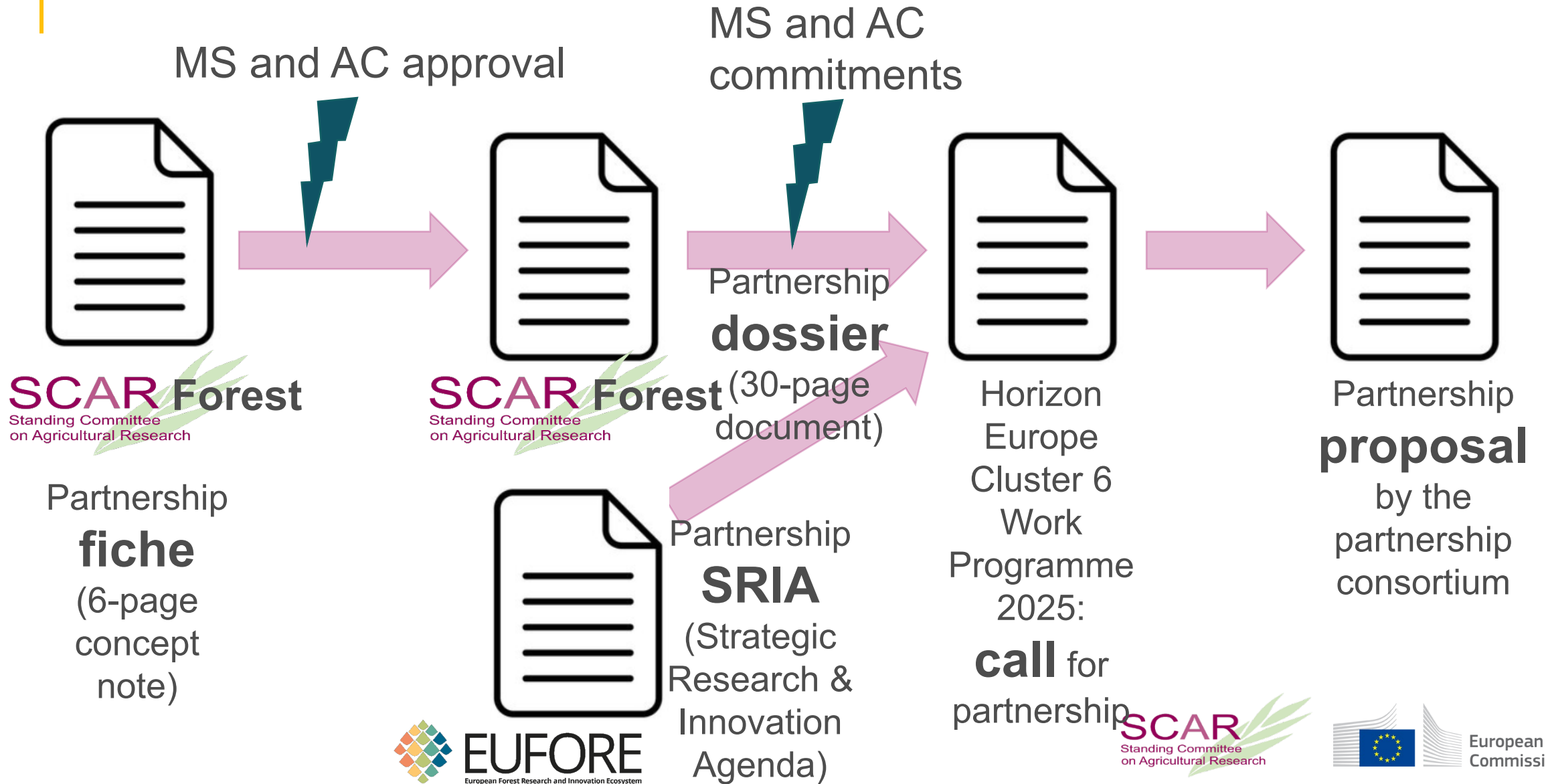
- **Previous investments in the sector**

- Horizon 2020 (2014-2020, 155 M€)
- Horizon Europe (2021-2024, 140 M€)

- ERA-NETs:
 - WoodWisdom-Net (2004-2008, 20 M€)
 - WoodWisdom-Net 2 (2009-2012, 33 M€)
 - WoodWisdom-Net+ (2012-2017, 32 M€)
 - Foresterra (2012-2015, 2 M€)
 - Sumforest (2014-2017, 10 M€)
 - ForestValue (2017-2023, 36 M€)



Building blocks of an EU R&I Forest Partnership



Past chronology of the partnership development



Forests and Forestry for a Sustainable Future

Horizon Europe Strategic Programme Committee meeting on 19 Dec 2023 – SPC positions on the Commission services' assessments:

- 24 MS (AT, BE, CZ, DE, DK, EE, EL, ES, FI, FR, HR, IE, IT, LT, LU, LV, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK) supported the 'European Partnership on Forests and Forestry for a Sustainable Future' as proposed (out of 27)
 - **The European Co-Funded R&I Partnership on Forests and Forestry for a Sustainable Future is included as one of the nine new Partnerships in the Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2025-2027 for research and innovation (adopted 20 Mar 2024)**

Forests and Forestry for a Sustainable Future

Tentative basic data

- **Implementation mode:** Co-funded European Partnership
- **Cluster:** 6 (Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment)
- **Envisioned duration:** 7-10 years (expected start Q1/2026)
- **Union contribution:** **70 M€ (30%)**
 - + MS contributions of min. 163 M€ (70%) = 233 M€
 - + leverage effect of other contributions

>> Sum total of all contributions 300-500 M€

Forests and Forestry for a Sustainable Future

Expected partners

The diversity of forestry challenges at local, regional, national, European and international level requires wide participation in the Partnership:

- MS/AC ministries, research funders and other public authorities of more than 20 countries
- FOREST EUROPE, BIOEAST, European Forest Institute (EFI)
- Platforms: European Forest-Based Sector Technology Platform (FTP), InnovaWood, European Hardwoods Innovation Alliance (EHIA), EEA, European National Forest Inventory Network (ENFIN), European Research Infrastructure Consortium (ERICs), NetworkNature
- Other collaborations, such as:
 - Industry (esp. SMEs), regions and other economic actors (incl. forest owner associations)
 - Biodiversity and conservation actors
 - Non-research organisations (e.g. NGOs) that produce knowledge on forests and society
- INCO feature - The global perspective on forests

Forests and Forestry for a Sustainable Future

Compliance with the legal base

- **Overall/effectiveness: rationale for a European Partnership approach**
 - Improved cross-coordination of the European R&I landscape
 - Improved coordination across different areas and sectors
 - Stronger focus on the processes that lead to transformations toward sustainability in the forest-based and bioeconomy sector at EU level
 - Building of capacities, education and training, and a better connection of these with research
 - Mutualised benefits from the greater diversity of forest-related experiences and forest conditions at the European level

Forests and Forestry for a Sustainable Future

Directionality

- **Objectives:** A research and innovation-oriented transdisciplinary instrument that supports the EU Forest Strategy simultaneously with climate targets and the Biodiversity Strategy.
- **Expected impacts:**
 - Stronger consistency between social, environmental and economic dimensions of forests and forestry
 - Better understanding of the role of forests in climate change and biodiversity targets
 - Improved guidelines on adaptive forestry regimes in European regions
 - New knowledge to support major transitions and innovations in the forest-based bioeconomy towards higher added value
 - Improved, consistent, comprehensive and timely monitoring of forests in line with the Commission proposal for a Regulation on a monitoring framework for resilient European forests
 - New green forestry business models
- **NOTE: Support from Horizon Europe EUFORE project to develop the SRIA**

Forests and Forestry for a Sustainable Future

Additionality: demonstration of EU added value

- Better coordination of forest research between countries
- Better integration of scientific programmes across countries to address common challenges and opportunities
- Learning from the strengths of the forest research in each country
- Possibility to pool MS resources to joint activities with national funding bodies and research organisations

Forests and Forestry for a Sustainable Future

Coherence and synergies

➤ **Complementary Partnerships:**

- Agriculture of data; Biodiversa+; Accelerating farming systems transition - Agroecology living labs and research infrastructures; Circular Bio-Based Europe; Water4All; Built4People; Safe and sustainable food systems

➤ **Other initiatives:**

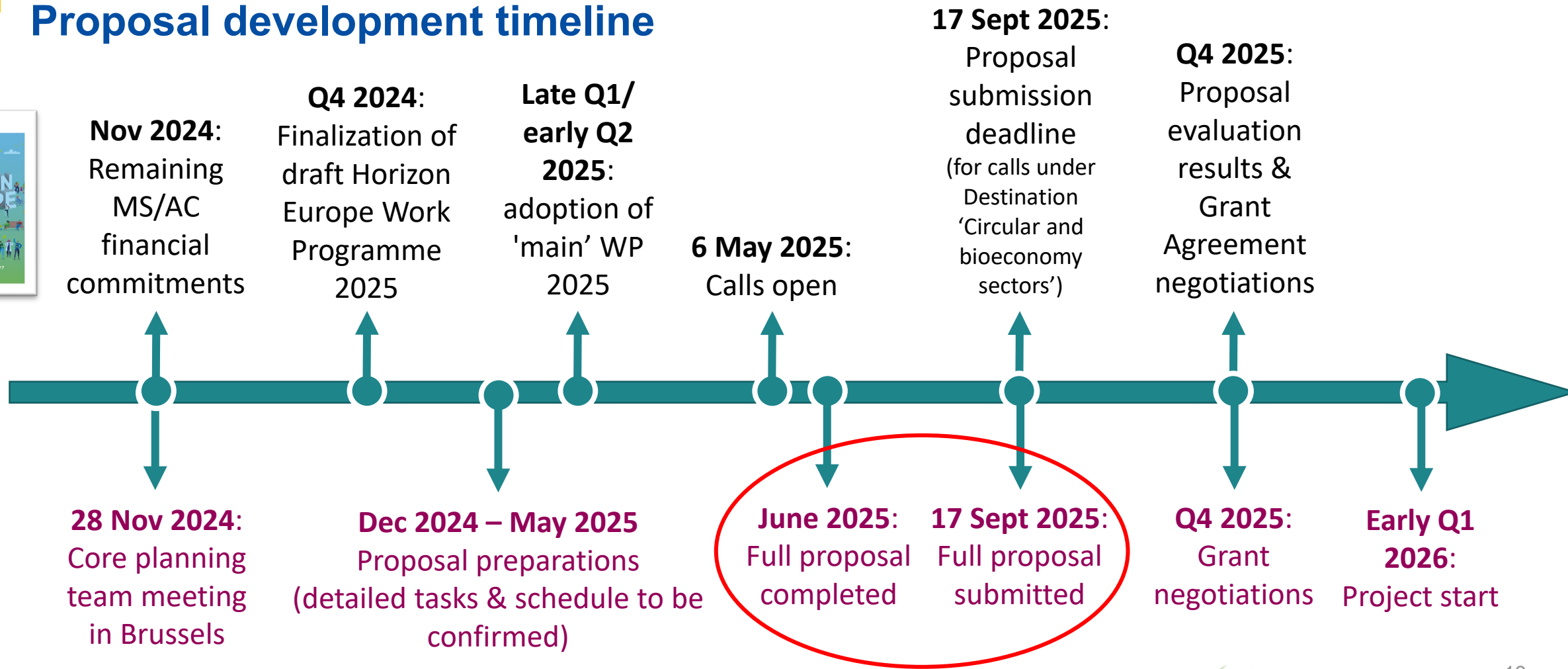
- Missions; forest dedicated platforms and initiatives under the European Green Deal; COST - European Cooperation in Science and Technology - EU-Farmbook, CAP Strategic Plans, LIFE etc.

➤ **Avoiding overlaps:**

- Turning potential overlaps into synergies through holistic approach and integrated solutions across domains (e.g. terrestrial & water ecosystems, forests & soils)
- Outreach to other Partnerships to delineate respective scope

Forests and Forestry for a Sustainable Future

Proposal development timeline



Forests and Forestry for a Sustainable Future

Contacts

- SCAR SWG Forest Co-Chairs:
 - Anne Tolvanen, anne.tolvanen@luke.fi
 - Nicolas Picard, nicolas.picard@gip-ecofor.org
 - Mika Kallio, mika.kallio@gov.fi (Communication Representative)



[SCAR Forest SWG](#)

Thank you



Ministry of Agriculture
and Forestry of Finland

Mika Kallio (mika.kallio@gov.fi)



European
Commission