



**CUARTO EJERCICIO DEL PROCESO SELECTIVO PARA INGRESO,
POR EL SISTEMA GENERAL DE ACCESO LIBRE,
EN EL CUERPO DE INGENIEROS TÉCNICOS FORESTALES**

LECTURA PARA RESUMEN

**EU Communication (2019) on Stepping up EU Action to Protect
and Restore the World's Forests**

Setting the scene: The state of the world's forests

Forests are indispensable. They are our lungs and life-support system, covering 30% of the Earth's land area and hosting 80% of its biodiversity. They give us the air we breathe, taking carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere. Forests provide vital organic infrastructure for some of the planet's densest, most diverse collections of life. They provide subsistence and income to about 25% of the world's population, hold cultural, social and spiritual values and represent a large part of the land traditionally inhabited by indigenous peoples.

Today, the world's forests are in serious danger from deforestation and forest degradation, with a forest area of 1.3 million square kilometres lost between 1990 and 2016; this is the equivalent of 800 football fields of forest lost every hour. In order to ensure human health and well-being and put our societies on a sustainable development path, we must work with others to reverse this trend, and we must protect and regenerate the world's forests.

The threats to the world's forests are one of the biggest sustainability challenges of our time. Deforestation is a major cause of biodiversity decline. Emissions from land-use and land-use change, mostly due to deforestation, are the second biggest cause of climate change after burning fossil fuels. They account for nearly 12% of all greenhouse gas emissions, and action in this area is important to fight climate change. Deforestation can also have a dramatic impact on the livelihoods of the most vulnerable people, including indigenous peoples, who rely heavily on forest ecosystems.

The EU has put in place a variety of regulatory and non-regulatory actions to deal with the challenges of deforestation and forest degradation. While in the EU forest cover has increased over recent decades, the rate of deforestation in other regions, namely in tropical areas, continues at alarming levels.



Despite all efforts so far, conservation and sustainable use of forests cannot be ensured by current policies. Therefore, stepping up action to protect the existing forests, manage forests sustainably and actively and sustainably create new forest coverage, has to play a crucial role in our sustainability policies.

Primary forests require special attention as they are unique and irreplaceable, and heavily affected by deforestation. Afforestation and restoration of degraded forest lands can help to reduce the pressure on natural forests, and be an effective additional defence in our battle against climate change. However, newly planted forests cannot replace primary forests, which have high carbon stocks, and are characterised by their great age, unique ecological features and the established protection they provide to biodiversity.

Further EU measures to protect forests would be consistent with international agreements and commitments, which fully acknowledge the need for ambitious action to reverse the trend of deforestation. The Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the Global Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 adopted under the UN Convention on Biological Diversity and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets promote sustainable forest management, protection and restoration efforts.

Reducing forest loss and degradation is a priority under the UN Strategic Plan on Forests. Strengthening efforts to manage forests sustainably is also central to the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as forests play a multifunctional role that supports the achievement of most Sustainable Development Goals.

Deforestation and forest degradation are driven by many different factors. The increasing demands from a growing global population for food, feed, bioenergy, timber and other commodities, combined with low productivity and low resource efficiency, put more and more pressure on land use and threaten the conservation of the world's forests. Approximately 80% of global deforestation is caused by the expansion of land used for agriculture. Urban expansion, infrastructure development and mining are also factors driving deforestation.



Traducción:

Comunicación de la UE (2019) para Intensificar la actuación de la UE para proteger y restaurar los bosques del mundo

I. Introducción El estado de los bosques en el mundo

Los bosques son indispensables. Son nuestros pulmones y el sistema en que se sustenta la vida; ocupan el 30 % de la superficie terrestre y albergan el 80 % de la biodiversidad del planeta. Nos dan el aire que respiramos porque absorben el dióxido de carbono de la atmósfera. Los bosques proporcionan una infraestructura orgánica vital para algunas de las más densas y diversas formas de vida del planeta. Aportan medios de subsistencia e ingresos a aproximadamente el 25 % de la población mundial, mantienen valores culturales, sociales y espirituales y representan una gran parte de las tierras tradicionalmente habitadas por pueblos indígenas.

Hoy en día, los bosques del mundo se encuentran en grave peligro debido a la deforestación y a la degradación forestal : entre 1990 y 2016 se perdió una superficie forestal de 1,3 millones de kilómetros cuadrados, lo que equivale a una pérdida de 800 campos de fútbol por hora. Para garantizar la salud y el bienestar de los seres humanos y encauzar nuestras sociedades hacia un desarrollo sostenible, debemos trabajar unos con otros para invertir esa tendencia y proteger y regenerar los bosques del mundo.

Las amenazas para los bosques del planeta son uno de los mayores problemas de sostenibilidad de nuestra época. La deforestación es una de las principales causas de la merma de biodiversidad . Las emisiones procedentes del uso de la tierra y del cambio de uso de la tierra, debido sobre todo a la deforestación, son la segunda causa de cambio climático tras la quema de combustibles fósiles. Representan casi el 12 % de todas las emisiones de gases de efecto invernadero, y la actuación en este ámbito es importante para luchar contra el cambio climático . La deforestación también puede tener graves repercusiones en los medios de subsistencia de las personas más vulnerables, en particular los pueblos indígenas, que dependen enormemente de los ecosistemas forestales .

La UE ha puesto en marcha una serie de medidas reglamentarias y no reglamentarias para hacer frente a los problemas de deforestación y degradación forestal. Mientras que en la UE la cobertura forestal ha aumentado en las últimas décadas, la tasa de deforestación en otras regiones, concretamente en las zonas tropicales, permanece en niveles alarmantes.

A pesar de todos los esfuerzos realizados hasta la fecha, los objetivos de conservación y uso sostenible de los bosques no pueden alcanzarse con las



políticas vigentes. Por consiguiente, la intensificación de las medidas de protección de los bosques existentes, la gestión forestal sostenible y la creación de manera activa y sostenible de nueva cobertura boscosa deben desempeñar un papel fundamental en nuestras políticas de sostenibilidad.

Es preciso prestar una atención especial a los bosques primario, que son únicos e irremplazables y se ven especialmente afectados por la deforestación. La forestación y la restauración de tierras forestales degradadas pueden contribuir a reducir la presión sobre los bosques naturales y convertirse en una eficaz defensa adicional en la lucha contra el cambio climático. Los bosques de nueva plantación, sin embargo, no pueden sustituir a los bosques primarios, que tienen enormes reservas de carbono y se caracterizan por su antigüedad, sus peculiaridades ecológicas únicas y la probada protección que brindan a la biodiversidad

Otras medidas de la UE para proteger los bosques pueden ser coherentes con acuerdos y compromisos internacionales que reconocen plenamente la necesidad de adoptar medidas ambiciosas para invertir la tendencia de la deforestación. El Acuerdo de París sobre el Cambio Climático y el Plan Estratégico Mundial para la Biodiversidad 2011-2020, adoptado en el marco del Convenio de las Naciones Unidas sobre la Diversidad Biológica y las Metas de Aichi para la Diversidad Biológica, promueven los esfuerzos de restauración, protección y manejo sostenible de los bosques

La reducción de la pérdida y la degradación forestales es una prioridad del Plan Estratégico de las Naciones Unidas para los Bosques. La intensificación de los esfuerzos hacia un manejo forestal sostenible es también fundamental para la Agenda 2030 de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo Sostenible, ya que los bosques desempeñan un papel multifuncional que favorece la consecución de la mayoría de los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible.

La deforestación y la degradación forestal se ven impulsadas por varios factores. La demanda en aumento de una población mundial en crecimiento de alimentos, piensos, bioenergía, madera y otros productos básicos, junto con una baja productividad y una pobre eficiencia en el uso de los recursos, ejercen una presión cada vez mayor sobre el uso de la tierra y ponen en peligro la conservación de los bosques del mundo. Aproximadamente el 80 % de la deforestación mundial se debe a la expansión de los terrenos agrícolas. La expansión urbana, el desarrollo de infraestructuras y la minería son otros factores impulsores de la deforestación.



MINISTERIO PARA LA TRANSICIÓN
ECOLÓGICA Y EL RETO DEMOGRÁFICO

TRIBUNAL CALIFICADOR

Resolución de 9 de septiembre de 2019
de la Subsecretaría del MAPA



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TRADUCCIÓN DIRECTA

USDA to decide fate of American chestnut restoration

University researchers are seeking approval to restore the iconic chestnut to American forests by using a genetically engineered (GE) variety that can tolerate the blight that has killed billions of wild trees.

If the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) accepts the deregulation petition, the blight-tolerant chestnut would be the first GE tree approved for environmental conservation use in the US. China has already approved a GE poplar tree, and the US previously approved virus-resistant GE papaya and plum trees.

“Researchers have been trying for years to control chestnut blight through conventional breeding, bio-controls and biotechnology,” said State University of New York (SUNY) researcher William Powell. *“We’ve completed a rigorous research and testing process that confirmed GE trees offer the best defense against the blight, while having no harmful impact on forest ecosystems.”*

The key now is getting those GE trees out into the forests, where they can breed with wild-type chestnuts to help them gain better resistance to the disease. When a GE father tree is planted near a wild-type mother tree and they cross, half the resulting nuts will carry the blight-tolerant trait.

“This outcrossing process will allow us to rescue much of the surviving genetic diversity and build in local adaptability for the restoration program,” Powell said. Though blight ultimately kills trees, chestnuts have the ability to sprout from their root collar, Powell said. Millions of stump sprouts are still growing in the forest, comprising a natural reservoir of genetic diversity that will strengthen restoration efforts.

“That’s our game plan, to see it [the chestnut] come back as a keystone species,” said SUNY co-researcher Charles Maynard. *“We would like to see it back in the forest, slugging it out with all the other trees.”*



Though the restoration effort has won tremendous public support, researchers say regulators now need to hear from all those who want chestnut trees to thrive again in the forest. The American Chestnut Foundation has created a page that includes links to all the relevant documents, as well as tips on writing a comment, which are due by Oct. 19.

Over the past century, some three to five billion trees have succumbed to the ravages of chestnut blight, a pathogen inadvertently introduced from Asia. The fungus functions by colonizing a wound in the bark and producing oxalic acid, which creates a canker that eventually proves lethal by girdling the trunk.

To develop the GE variety, Powell and Maynard worked with a team of 100 university scientists and students at the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry. They identified a gene from bread wheat that detoxifies the oxalic, providing an effective defense against chestnut blight.

The wheat gene produces an oxalate oxidase enzyme that is found in all grain crops and many other familiar foods, Powell explained. Though the enzyme does not kill the fungus, it causes it to change its lifestyle. Instead of forming a destructive canker, it can survive on the bark as a harmless saprophyte.

The application comes as a new scientific paper published in Conservation Biology argues that efforts to use biotechnology to improve forest health should be afforded the same consideration, acceptance and support as biotech projects intended to improve human health.

Opposition to biotechnology's use in agriculture and forestry may be driven by concerns that GE plants will primarily benefit corporations or disrupt the environment, note the paper's authors, Michael Aucott and Rex A. Parker.

"But to conflate genetic modifications intended to promote healthy ecosystems or preserve threatened species with GE projects aimed at benefiting corporate agriculture and forestry is misleading and illogical," they write. "Further, the pervasive human disruption and damage to forest ecosystems makes it prudent to bring the best that science can offer to the protection and restoration of critical woodland denizens and broader ecosystem health. The notion that minimal human intervention in the forest environment may be the best approach ignores humanity's responsibility to help manage and protect some of the very places that have been most damaged by human intrusion."

"This is a project for our grandchildren," Powell said. "It will take 100 years before we're able to get a token of what we had at one time. But it's a start."