



THREE BILLION ADDITIONAL TREES BY 2030

3 Billion Trees pledge – Copenhagen Workshop
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WE GROW
TOGETHER



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European Green Deal objective

The EU's forest area needs to improve, both in quality and quantity

Biodiversity Strategy 2030

**New EU Forest Strategy
(+ Roadmap for 3 billion trees)**



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ADENE



Afforestation

3 billion trees is equivalent to
+1,3% to +1,9%
of the current EU forest area



Urban areas

The potential for trees in EU cities is around 4 million hectares, representing:
2,1 billion trees



Agroforestry

**Potential for 13 million hectares
of planting on agricultural land,
representing**

3,13 billion trees

Why plant trees?

Benefits for the Environment

- Habitats for species
- Improve water bodies
- Prevent soil erosion in agricultural land

Benefits for the Economy

- Wood and non-wood products and services
- Jobs
- *Forest-based industries = 2 million jobs (2011)*

Benefits for EU Citizens' & our Planet's Health

- Well-being
- Culture
- Filtering pollutants

e.g. 305 tonnes filtered by trees and shrubs in Barcelona, worth >1M€

Benefits for the Climate

- Carbon sinks
- 3 billion trees = 4 million tonnes of CO₂ removed in 2030*

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3 Billion Trees: Basic principles

ADDITIONAL

Not a replacement for forest protection but an additional element

ECOLOGICAL

The right tree in the right place, for the right purpose.

CARE

Not only plant but also grow and look after the trees

How to do it in practice?

WHERE TO PLANT

- 1) Forests, agroforestry/ agricultural areas, urban areas, along the infrastructures.
- 2) Not to plant in high nature value areas such as mires, bogs, fens, wetlands, peatlands, semi-natural grasslands.

WHAT TO PLANT

- Right mix of tree species**
- native species
 - climate change considered
 - no invasive alien species

HOW TO PLANT

- 1) With a long-term vision (planting and growing).
- 2) Planting for the right purpose.

For more information: https://ec.europa.eu/environment/pdf/forests/swd_3bn_trees.pdf

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The EU Counter

Open to organisations

Since December 2021

Open to individuals
(MapMyTree app)

Since May 2022

LIVE tree status counter for EU:

36,395,944

additional trees planted and
reported in EU27

80

Active organisations

27

Participating EU countries

Challenges to tree planting

[Commission + Milieu study](#) identified a range of barriers and challenges:

- **Regulatory** (e.g. strict rules on land reclassification, permitting) and unclear land ownership (cadaster)
- **Land availability** (competition with agriculture and urban development) and **high land prices**
- Agroforestry: **Knowledge gap** and lack of incentives
- **Funding availability** → The Commission published [Financing Guide](#)
 - General information on the **selected EU funding programmes** and advisory services/other support
 - **Country-specific information for each EU Member State**

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Links to other legislation

Nature Restoration Regulation:

- **Article 13:** in restoring terrestrial ecosystems (forest, agricultural, urban), Member States shall aim to contribute to the 3 Billion Tree commitment
- Member States to ensure that the additional trees:
 - Respect ecological criteria (species diversity, preference for native species)
 - Contribute to increased ecological connectivity and urban greening
- Member States to **indicate number of additional trees** to be planted through implementing restoration measures in their **National Restoration Plans**

Carbon Removal and Carbon Farming Regulation: additional tree planting should be rewarded for the additional carbon sequestration this achieves → Commission to adopt methodologies in H1 2026