

THREE BILLION ADDITIONAL TREES BY 2030

**3 Billion Trees – Workshop on the implementation of
the EU pledge for 3 Billion additional trees in Spain**

23 April 2026

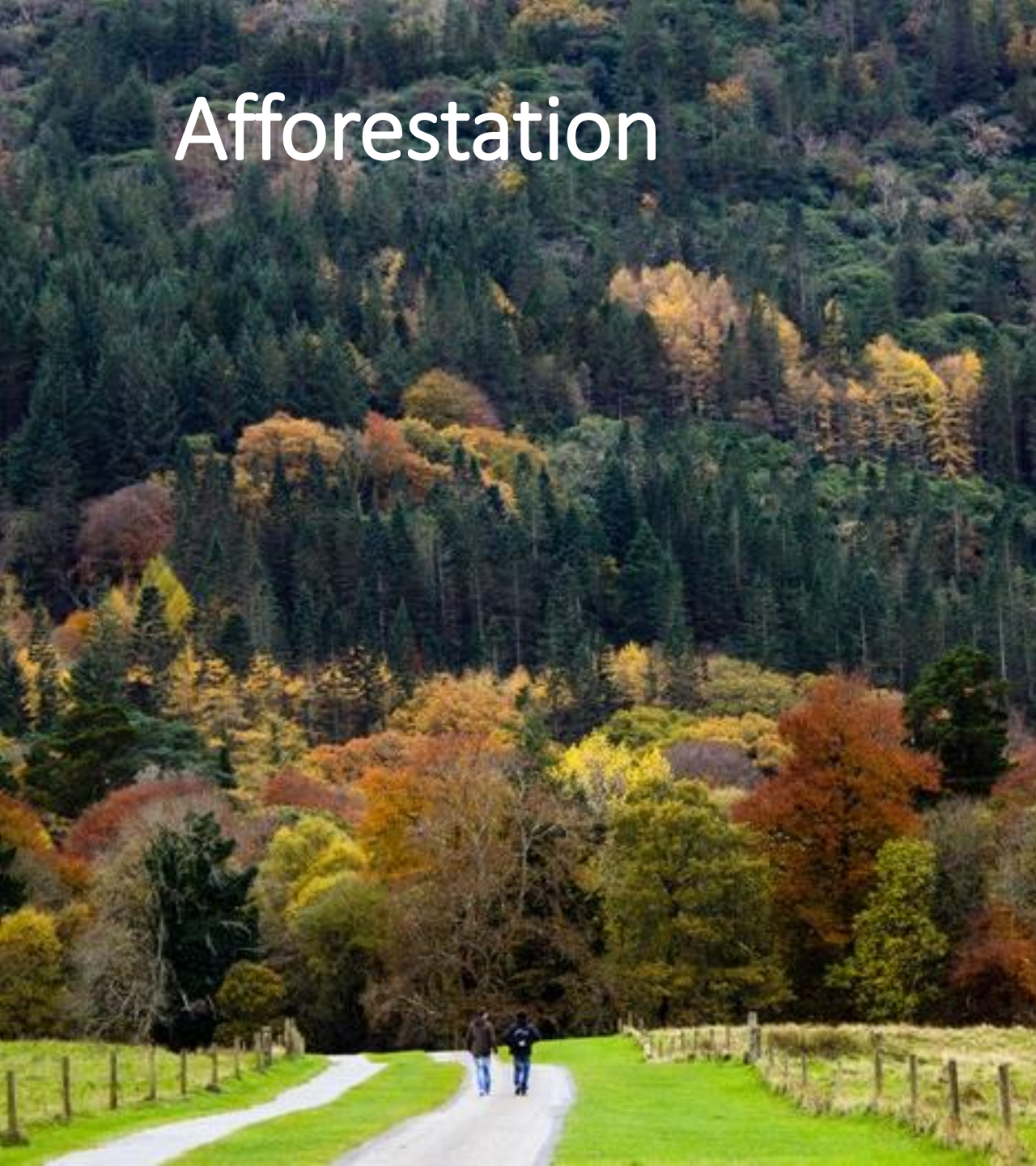
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WE GROW
TOGETHER



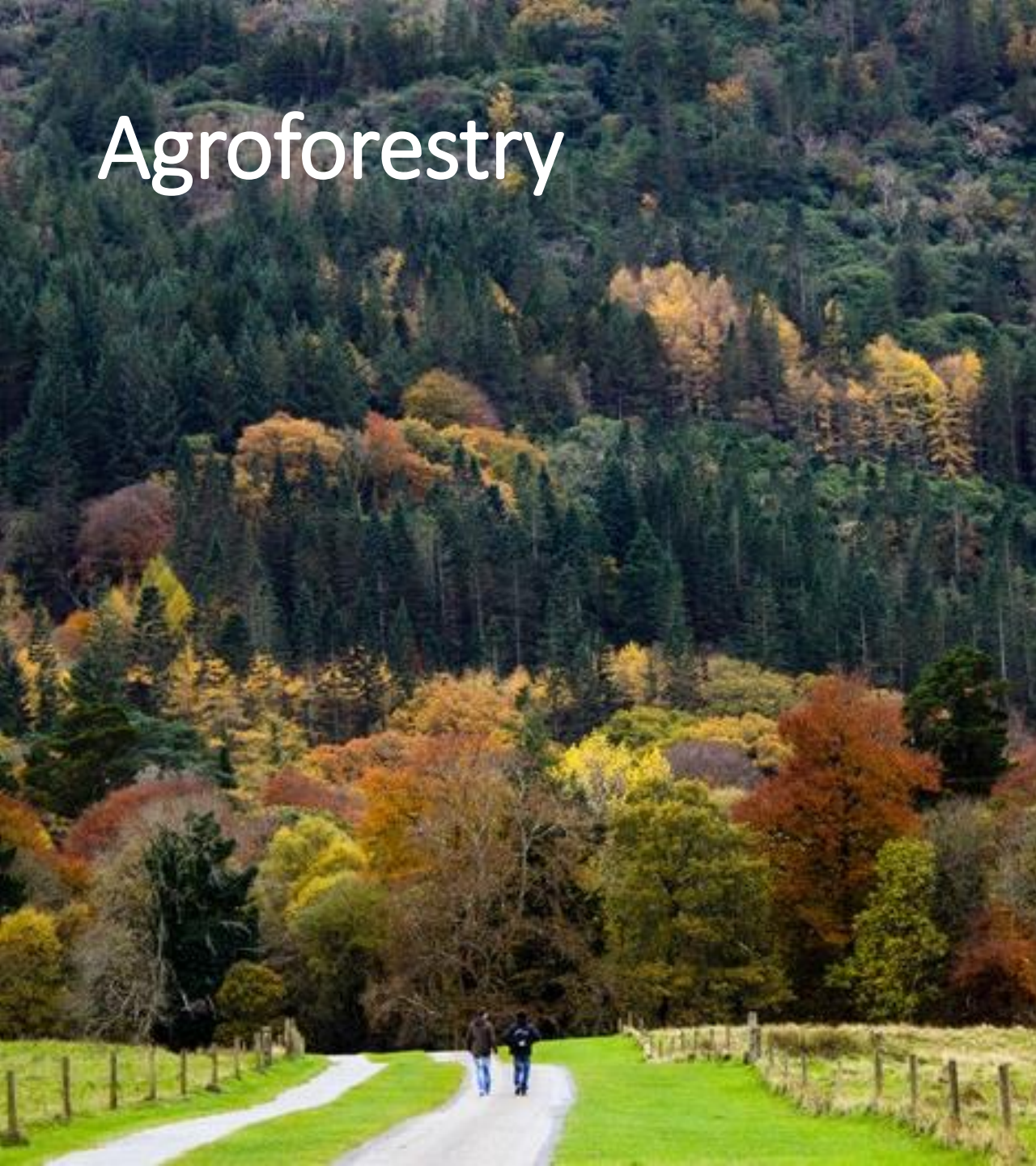
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Afforestation



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

Agroforestry



Potential for planting 13 million
hectares on agricultural land,
representing

3,13 billion trees

European Green Deal objective

The EU's forest area needs to improve, both in quality and quantity
As forests provide environmental, social and economic benefits.

**Biodiversity Strategy for
2030**



EU Forest Strategy



Roadmap for 3 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

- Forests, agroforestry/ agricultural areas, urban areas
- No planting in high nature value areas such as mires, bogs, fens, wetlands, peatlands, grasslands.

WHAT TO PLANT

- Trees that benefit biodiversity and the climate in line with the DNSH principle,
- Excluding the planting of invasive alien species

HOW TO PLANT

- With a long-term vision (planting and growing).
- For the right purpose.

For more information: [click here](#)

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Why register in the Pledge?



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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:

38,432,930

additional trees planted and
reported in EU27

86

Active organisations

27

Participating EU countries

[The #3BillionTrees Pledge - European Commission](#)

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Challenges to tree planting

Challenges can be divided into the main following categories:

- Legal framework
- Consistency with national and regional nature and forest conservation objectives
- Land use and land use conflicts
- Compliance with ecological conditions
- Funding availability
- Political support, stakeholder cooperation and communication

Source: European Commission, Support for implementing the 3 Billion Trees Pledge, Challenges and Barriers, June 2025

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Financing sources in Spain

- **EU funding:** ERDF (regional and INTERREG – SUDOE and POCTEP), EAFRD, Just Transition Fund, Recovery and Resilience Fund, LIFE, Horizon Europe
- **National funding:** MITECO funding, Biodiversity Foundation
- **Regional funding:** Generalitat de Catalunya, Cantabria, Galicia, Navarra, Valencia, Comunidad de Madrid, Ayuntamiento de Madrid, Region of Murcia, La Rioja
- **Innovative funding:** Carbon footprint registry, CO2 Revolution, Sylvestris, ReTree, Bosques Sostenibles, Apadrina un Olivo, Motor Verde, Spanish Olympic Committee, Sanitas – Healthy cities, Municipality of Ansó, Girona

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Source: European Commission, 3 Billion Trees Pledge Financing Guide, 2024



Link to the Nature Restoration Regulation

Article 13 - In restoring terrestrial ecosystems (forest, agricultural, urban), Member States shall aim to contribute to the 3 Billion Tree commitment , in full respect of ecological principles.

Regulation 2025/912 - Rules for devising the National Restoration Plans

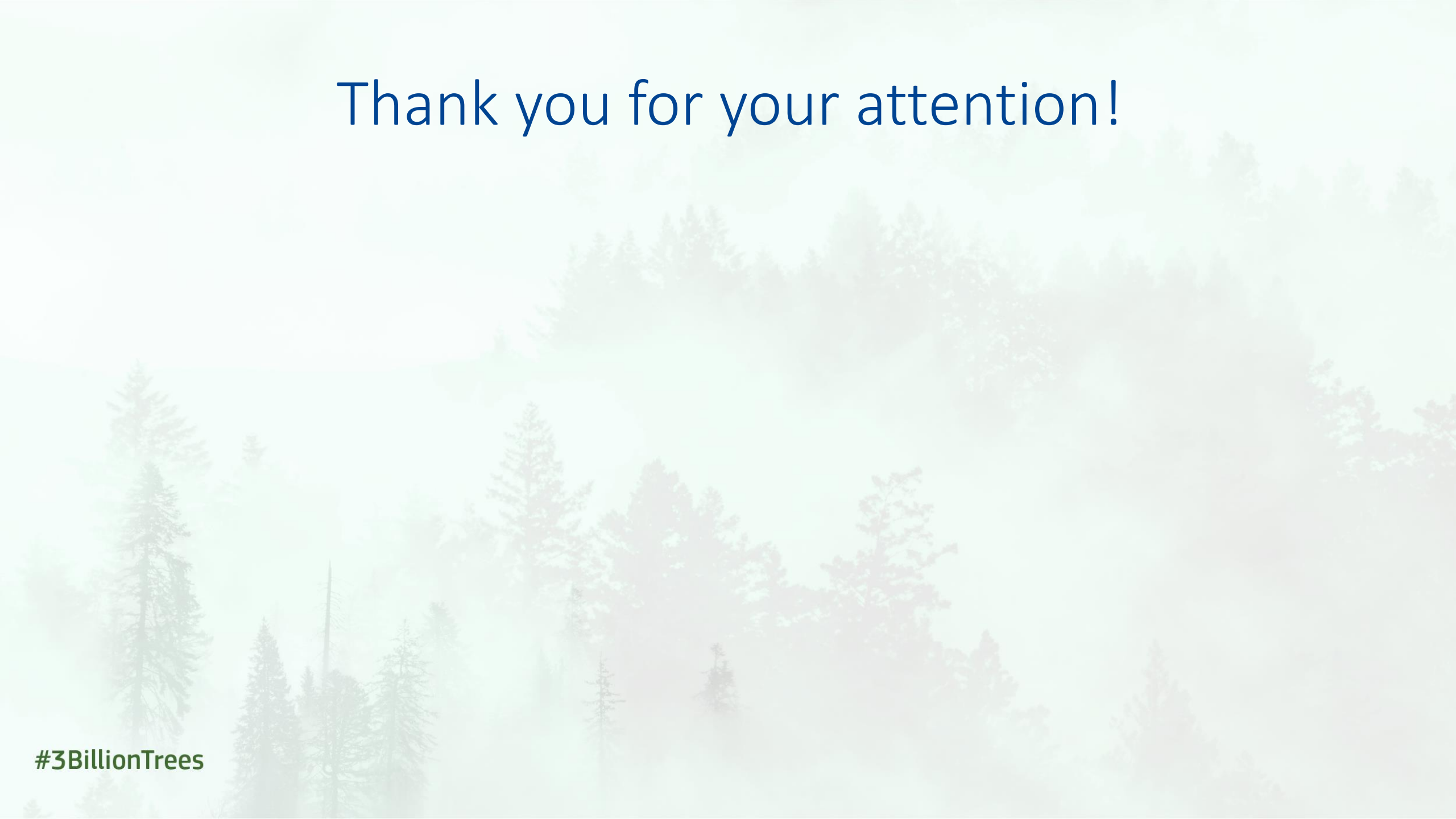
Can be found on the following website:



- [Explanatory notes](#)
- [NRP preparation tool](#)
- [Typology of measures](#)

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For further questions on the link between NRR and 3BT:
nature.restoration.helpdesk@eea.europa.eu

A background image of a dense forest of evergreen trees shrouded in thick fog or mist, creating a soft, ethereal atmosphere. The trees are silhouetted against the lighter, hazy background.

Thank you for your attention!

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