

Thematic Focus Group Table 2: Adaptive Forest management for coping with current and long-term uncertainties

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Figure 1. Mentimeter rating statements for the Table 2

Executive Summary of Table 2:



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The findings of table 2 are based on an online survey and the outcomes from the hybrid EUSALP workshop at Trento. 41 people gave their rankings online to the prepared statements on Mentimeter (Fig. 3), Thereof, 68% were from Italy, 4 from France and Germany, 2 from Austria, and the remaining 1 from non-EUSALP countries (Fig. 1). Most of them (36.6%) were from public administrations and the forestry sector (24,4%). 17.1% and 7.3% of the replies are assigned to environmental and timber value chain organisations

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(Fig. 2). And about 14.6% of the voters are related to other thematic sectors. At the workshop itself, about nine people contributed in person to the intensive discussions on the six main statements prepared for table 2.

Participants emphasized the importance of close-to-nature silviculture as an effective tool to face climate change challenges while improving biodiversity, restore water resources, soil protection and wood production. On the other hand, they raised severe doubts on possible risks of introducing non-native species.

A major task concerns the management of ungulate game-populations which significantly hinder the development of mixed forest stands.

It was also underlined that a sustainable forest adaptation strategy to handle climate change and geopolitical crises may balance between economic interests of timber supply and sustaining ecosystem services for the public welfare. However, there was a broad consensus that this is only possible if the major players in the wood processing sector adapt their demands accordingly and deal respectfully with the changed conditions.

Transition pathways to raise the resilience of forest stands might also include pioneering models for forest insurance to compensate biotic and abiotic damages or the endangerment from natural hazards. This would require an economic evaluation of ecosystem services for valorising their societal relevant benefits.

Finally, communication and cooperation among different fields and colleagues is not optimized and it is urgent to make steps to reduce the gaps between researchers/experts and other stakeholders.

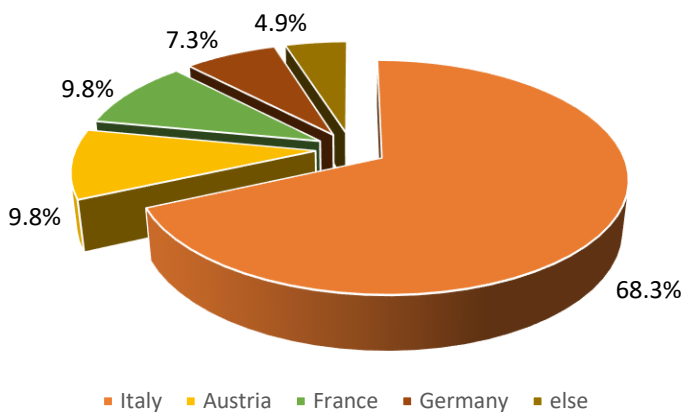


Figure 2. Distribution of the respondents country

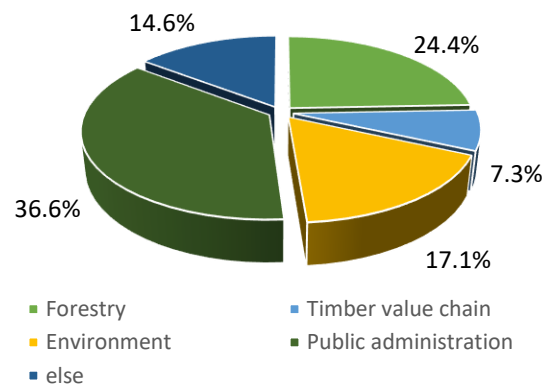


Figure 3. Distribution of the respondents by sector