

# Recap of Eol key themes

1<sup>st</sup> TG meeting – 16 March 2023

Kaley Hart, CAP Implementation Contact Point



 [#EUForests](#)  
[#Rural Areas](#)



**Funded by  
the European Union**

# Context

- ✓ Call for Expressions of Interest – 31 January to 21 February
- ✓ Question: ‘What are the top 3 needs / issues facing forest-dominant rural areas and municipalities?’
- ✓ 76 responses

# Forest-dominant areas' needs & issues

## Social issues

- Depopulation
- Lack of services / infrastructure
- Low wages / limited jobs

## Business challenges

- Economic feasibility / profitability
- Funding
- Lack of skills / knowledge / qualified workforce

## Local economy/ supply chain

- Bioeconomy support
- Enhanced competitiveness
- Value-added products / innovation

## Public awareness

- Communicate value of forests and services they provide
- Greater involvement of local actors

## Climate change & risk management

- Mitigation and adaptation for resilient forests
- Natural disasters – fire, pests & diseases

## SFM / biodiversity

- Maintain & enhance forest ecosystems
- Multifunctional, active forest management
- Balance conservation and use
  - PES

## Policy / political issues

- Avoid conflicts of interest / harmonise policies
- Ensure smart, sustainable use of local resources

# Thank you for your attention!



 [#EUForests](#)  
[#Rural Areas](#)



**Funded by  
the European Union**