

ANNEX V - Alignment with European Policy Frameworks

The four call topics contribute to key European policy frameworks. It provides a structured mapping between the thematic areas of the call, their core focus, and relevant EU strategies, and explains how proposals funded under each topic are expected to support policy objectives.

The mapping is indicative and non-exhaustive. It is intended to support transparency and coherence for funders and stakeholders, while maintaining flexibility for applicants.

This annex is intended to illustrate alignment with key policy frameworks. It does not limit proposal scope, which may address cross-cutting or emerging issues consistent with the objectives of the call.

Topic	Key EU Policy Alignment	and how the topic contributes
Topic 1 – Climate-Resilient Forest Systems (Climate-resilient forest ecosystems and biodiversity)	EU Forest Strategy for 2030 EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 European Green Deal	> strengthens climate adaptation and mitigation > supports biodiversity conservation and ecosystem functioning > provides evidence for policy and monitoring
Topic 2 – Adaptive & Multifunctional Forest Management Systems (Forest management, ecosystem services, implementation)	EU Forest Strategy for 2030 EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 European Green Deal	> enables sustainable forest management > integrates biodiversity into management systems > supports resilience and ecosystem service delivery
Topic 3 – Timber and Innovative Wood-Based Products (Materials, construction, circular bioeconomy)	EU Bioeconomy Strategy Circular Economy Action Plan European Green Deal	> substitutes fossil-based materials, particularly in construction > supports circular use and cascading of wood > contributes to decarbonisation of industry
Topic 4 – Forest Value Chains, Markets and Governance (Markets, policy, system-level change)	EU Forest Strategy for 2030 EU Bioeconomy Strategy European Green Deal	> strengthens value chains and market uptake > supports governance and policy frameworks > enables the transition to a sustainable bioeconomy

Table 1 Policy alignment overview

Topic 1 – Climate-Resilient Forest Systems

This topic contributes to EU policy objectives by strengthening the resilience and adaptive capacity of forest ecosystems under climate change. It supports the implementation of climate adaptation and mitigation measures, enhances carbon sinks, and contributes to biodiversity conservation.

Projects funded under this topic are expected to improve understanding of ecosystem processes and disturbance dynamics, support the development of climate-resilient forest systems, and provide evidence, tools, and indicators relevant to policy development, monitoring, and implementation.

Topic 2 – Adaptive and Multifunctional Forest Management Systems

This topic supports the transition towards sustainable forest management systems that balance environmental, economic, and societal objectives. It aligns with EU policy priorities on biodiversity, climate resilience, and sustainable resource use.

Projects funded under this topic are expected to develop and implement adaptive management approaches, integrate biodiversity considerations into forest management, and enhance the provision



of ecosystem services. They should also support decision-making processes and provide practical tools for forest managers and policymakers.

Topic 3 – Timber and Innovative Wood-Based Products

This topic contributes to the circular bioeconomy and supports the decarbonisation of industry and construction through the development and uptake of sustainable wood-based products and of more eco-friendly processes. It aligns with EU objectives on reducing reliance on fossil-based materials and promoting circular resource use.

Projects funded under this topic are expected to advance timber construction systems and a range of wood-based materials and products, improve product performance and sustainability, and enable circular approaches. They should also address barriers to market uptake and contribute to the substitution of carbon-intensive materials, particularly in the built environment.

Topic 4 – Forest Value Chains, Markets and Governance

This topic addresses the enabling conditions required for the effective functioning and transformation of forest-based value chains. It supports EU objectives related to sustainable economic development, governance, and the bioeconomy.

Projects funded under this topic are expected to strengthen market structures, improve business models, and assess governance and policy frameworks. They should address barriers to market uptake, support the development of sustainable value chains, and contribute to the broader transition towards a competitive and sustainable forest-based bioeconomy.

Cross-Cutting Contribution

Across all topics, proposals are expected, where relevant, to:

- contribute to climate mitigation and adaptation objectives
- support biodiversity protection, restoration, and ecosystem sustainability
- advance the circular bioeconomy, including reduced reliance on fossil-based materials
- integrate environmental, economic, and social considerations
- support policy development and implementation

