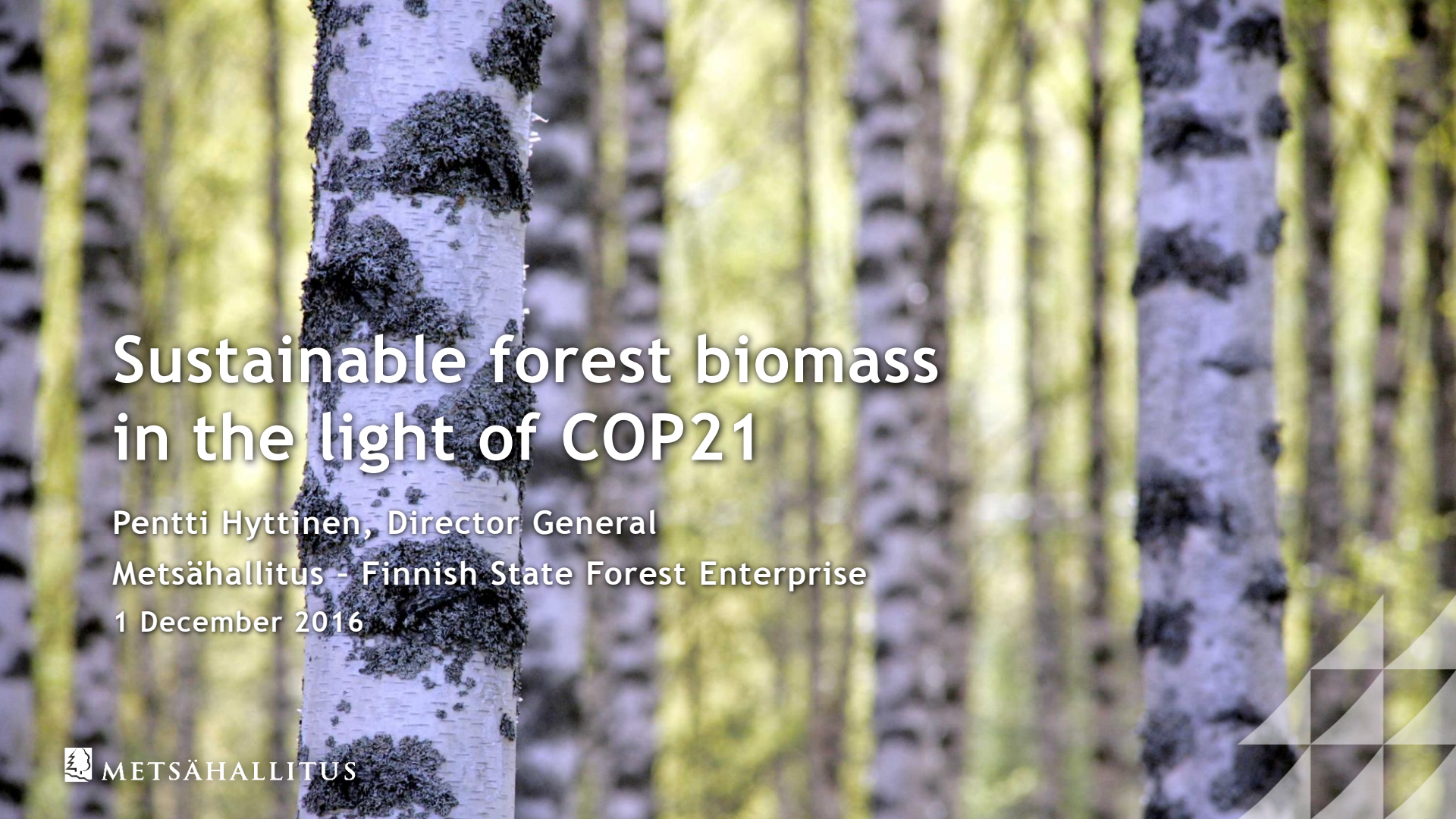

Sustainable forest biomass in the light of COP21

Pentti Hyttinen, Director General
Metsähallitus – Finnish State Forest Enterprise
1 December 2016

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Metsähallitus

Manages state owned land and water areas

- cover 1/3 of the total area of Finland
- 10 % of timber sales in Finland
- turnover 350 M€ + other funding 60 M€
- 1 500 employees

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Carbon sink or carbon source?

- Scientifically: Finnish forests form an excellent **carbon sink**

- Politically: Finnish forests are in a risk of becoming a **carbon source**

Concern 1:

- EU Commission's baseline year 2009 is exceptionally unfavourable for Finland:
  "All-time low" harvestings, due to several paper mill closures and major industrial downshifting actions due to the global financial crise

Concern 2:

- Finland has the longest forest inventory data globally, but due to the lack of comparable EU-wide data, Finland´s scientific justifications are not valid

Carbon sink and storage

- Well-managed forests are **an efficient carbon sink and storage**

- The most essential thing is to maximise growth (= photosynthesis)

- Forestry aims at maximizing the value of wood
  - Large-dimension quality timber goes for building purposes (=carbon storage)
  - Growing high-quality saw logs requires intermediate thinnings and tending
    => **Pulp wood and energy wood come automatically as side products**
  - Set-asides are carbon storage (finally they absorb and emit carbon equally)

=> Well managed forests are in the service of **both climate and economy!**

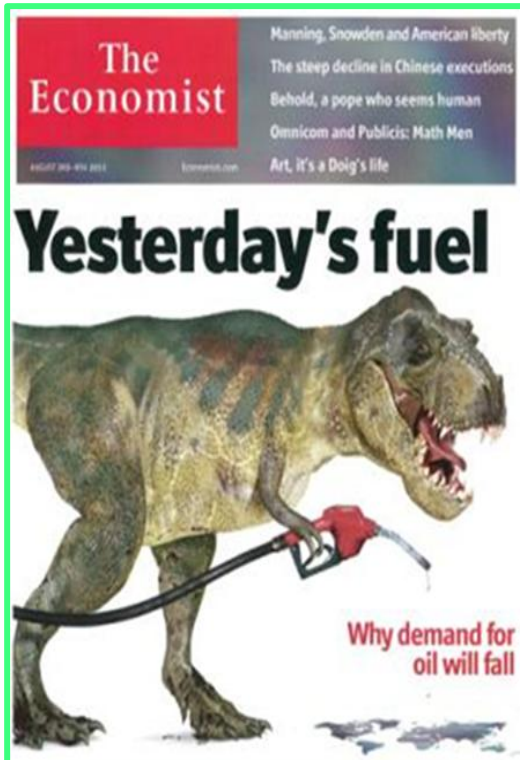
From fossile economy to bioeconomy

Means more wood for:

- **construction – to replace concrete, steel etc.**
- **packaging – to replace fossile-based plastic packaging**
- **bioenergy – to replace oil and coal**

→ Finnish National Forest Programme - by 2025:
Increase in forest harvesting by 15 mio. m^3/y (+25 %)

→ Long-term potential – by 2060:
Increase in annual growth from 100 => 150 mio m^3/y



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Increasing the use of wood for construction is good for climate

- To build a typical wooden log house, we need 30 m3 of log blocks
- The amount of CO2 stored in a wooden log house compares to the amount of CO2 emitted in driving a passenger car 400 000 km

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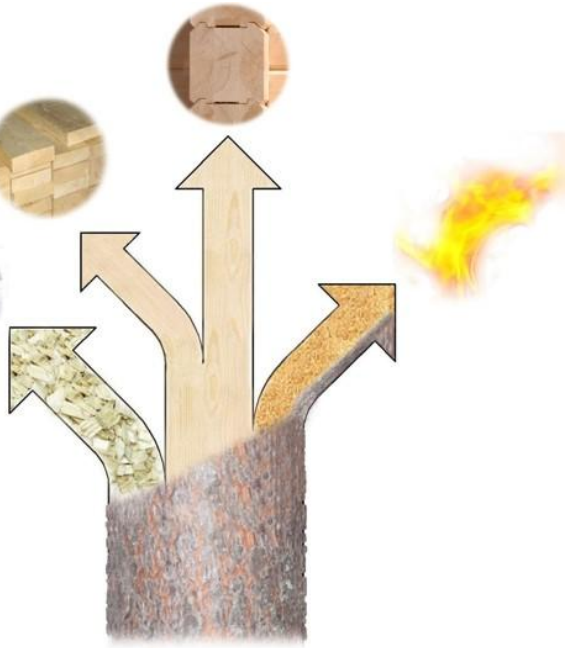
30 m³
Log house blocks

24 m³
Other sawn goods

30 m³

Biomass for energy
(bark and saw dust)

34 m³
For paper and board



120 m³ large-dimension logs

+ 180 m³ small-dimension pulp and energy wood

The good news from Finnish forests

We do…

- maximize our carbon sink level in forests
- maintain high carbon storage in forests
- increase carbon sink in wooden products
- have reached the turning point in forest biodiversity – it is no more decreasing!

…by means of modern sustainable forest management.

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