

Glossary

Forest culture

By forest culture we mean practices, procedures, perceptions, meanings and values related to the forest shared by individuals and communities in a social context. Forest culture is an ongoing process that engages with the past, the present and the future.

Forest-cultural perspective

The forest-cultural perspective is the view used in the study of forests and forest-related activities, with the focus on man as the active party. The forest-cultural perspective promotes forest-related interaction between people and enhances understanding of human-forest relations and values that people attach to the forest. It offers preconditions for matching different forest-related objectives.

Relationship with the forest

A forest relationship is a living relationship, direct or indirect, that an individual or a community has with the forest. It is an interactive entity made of the individual and the forest. The forest relationship is part of the individual's broader relationship with the environment and identity. It is formed during the individual's different stages of life, and it can manifest itself in a variety of ways in the different roles or environments. Since the forest is a distinct natural and cultural environment, one's relationship with the forest is different from that with nature.

Forest relationship approach

The forest relationship approach starts with the idea that everyone has some kind of relationship with the forest. Making these various relationships visible and understanding them promotes the interaction and coordination of different forest-related objectives. Identifying your relationship with the forest strengthens your identity and increases your well-being.

Forest history

Forest history refers to a community's past with the forest as well as describing and studying this past.

Cultural sustainability

Cultural sustainability can be seen as the fourth dimension of sustainable development, or it can be regarded as a factor that balances, explains and conveys economic, ecological and social sustainability. Culture can also be seen as the foundation and backbone of

sustainable development as a whole, an instrument that can be used to achieve the goals of sustainable development.

Adapting the perspective of cultural sustainability to the forest makes it possible to reconcile seemingly conflicting forest-related objectives, for example by taking into account people's different needs and values in terms of the forest. As an innovative force, cultural sustainability brings together man and nature as well as past, present and future, and reality and human imagination; it also creates relationships between these.

Sustainable development

Sustainable development will ensure that the present and future generations have equal opportunities to fulfil their needs and lead good lives. The concept of sustainable development has conventionally been explored not only from economic and ecological but also from social and cultural points of view.