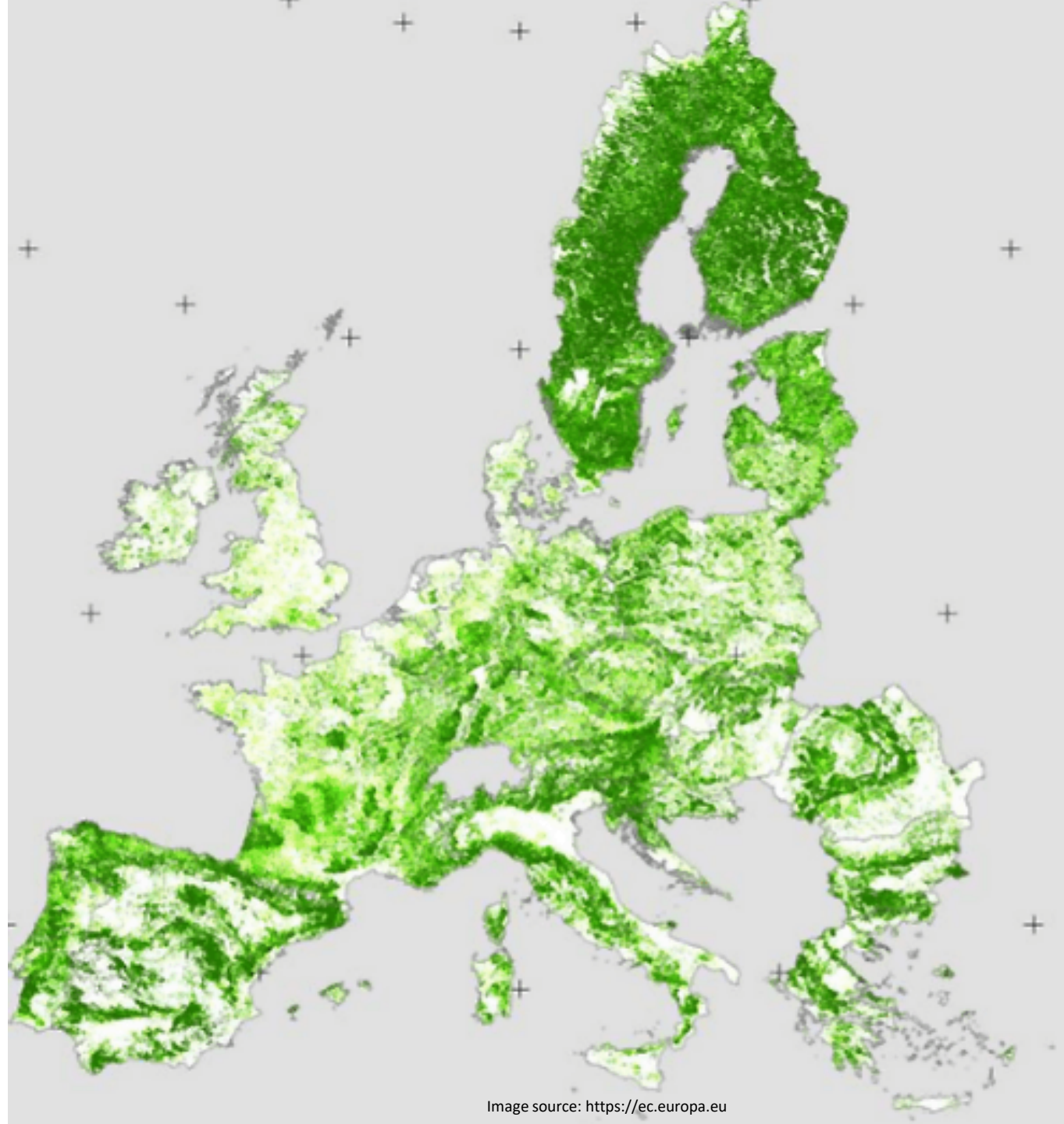


**Our Forests, Our Future -
Sustainable forest management to address societal
challenges**

**Panel Discussion:
Opportunities and challenges for the
bioeconomy**

J. Peter Clinch, PhD

**Jean Monnet Professor of Public Policy
University College Dublin
Ireland**



Discussion Points

- The Forestry Sector is a critical component of the Bioeconomy - well-established intermediate and end-uses for its products
- Even greater understanding today of importance of the sector as, through innovation, we discover more and more uses for forest products and services.
- Outlook for price depends on, inter alia:
 - Supply-side: take-up of incentives for afforestation; inter-relationship between environmental policy, forest policy, and agriculture and food policies.
 - Demand-side: increasing demand for biomass for energy; rapid pace of innovation in use of timber as building material – e.g. structural, air-tightness, insulation.
 - Coherence between technological innovation and policy innovation: research frameworks, design know-how, regulatory acceptance, construction expertise.
- Conflicts between policy domains remain a threat: European Union, Member States and international trading partners have enormously significant role to play in bringing coherence to these, at times, competing interests.