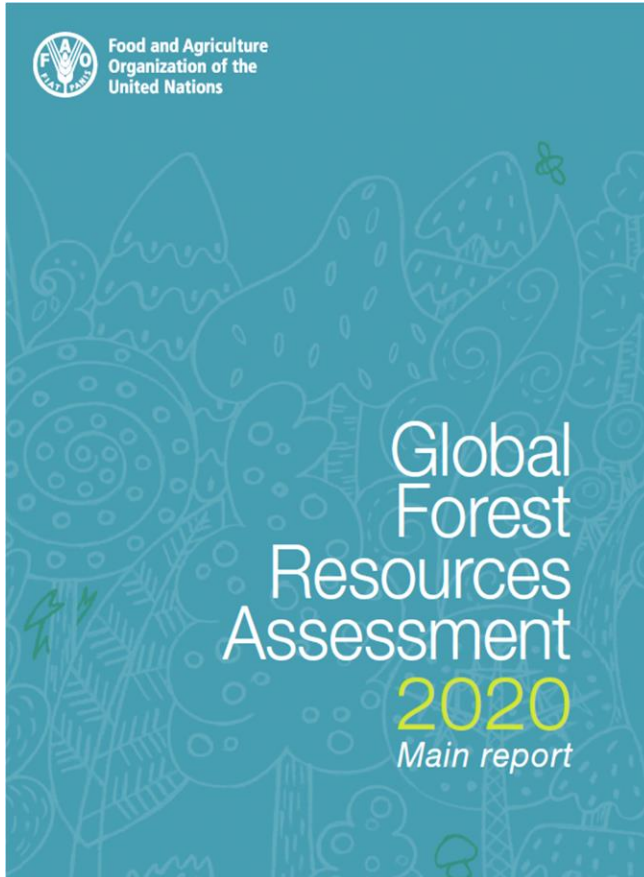




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<https://fra-data.fao.org>



[www.fao.org/state-of-forests/en/](http://www.fao.org/state-of-forests/en/)

# The World's Forests in 2020

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Mette L. Wilkie

Director, Forestry Division

# THE WORLD'S FORESTS: 31% OF TOTAL LAND AREA – 4.06 BILLION HECTARES



Tropical  
45%



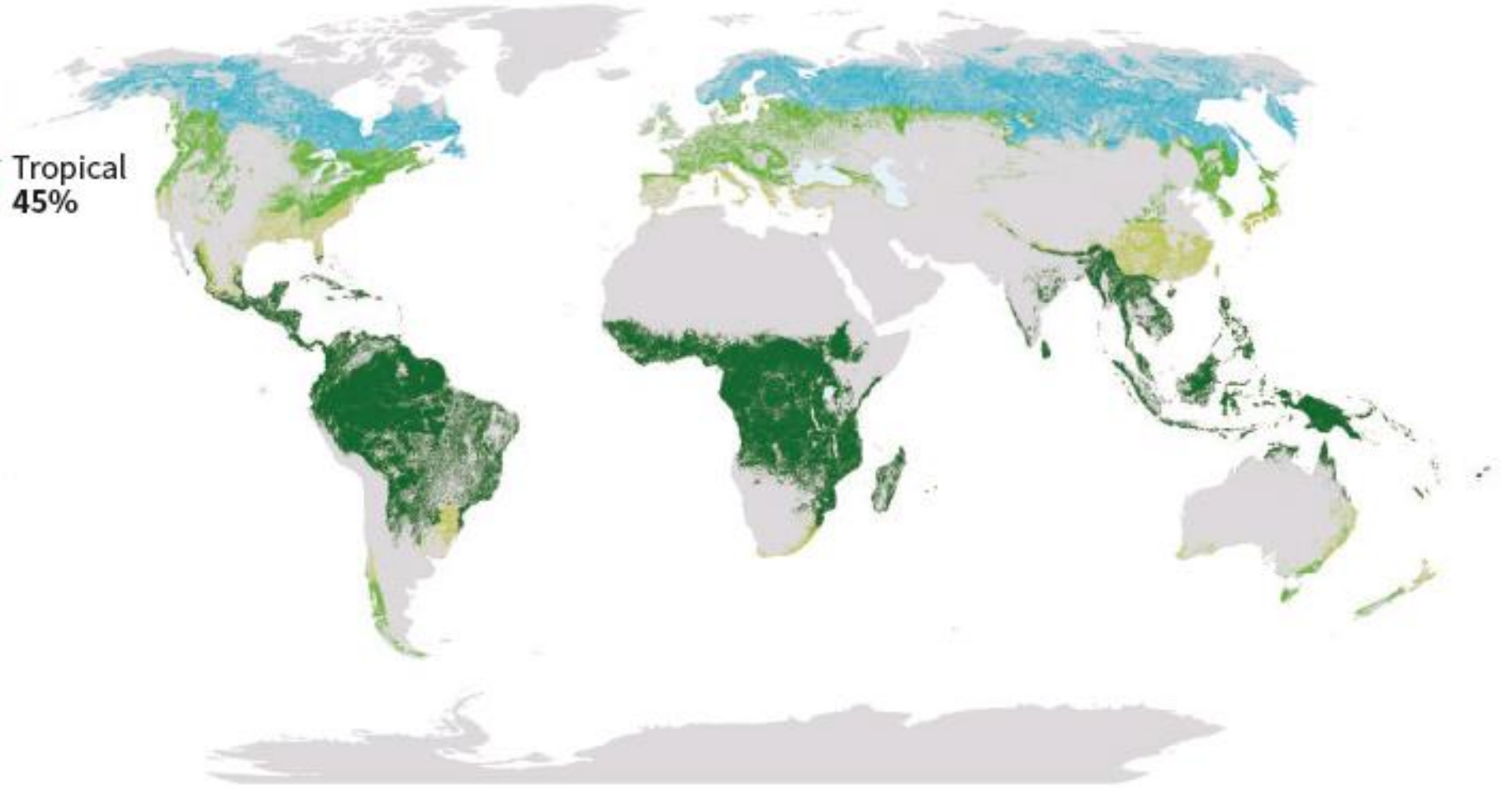
Boreal  
27%



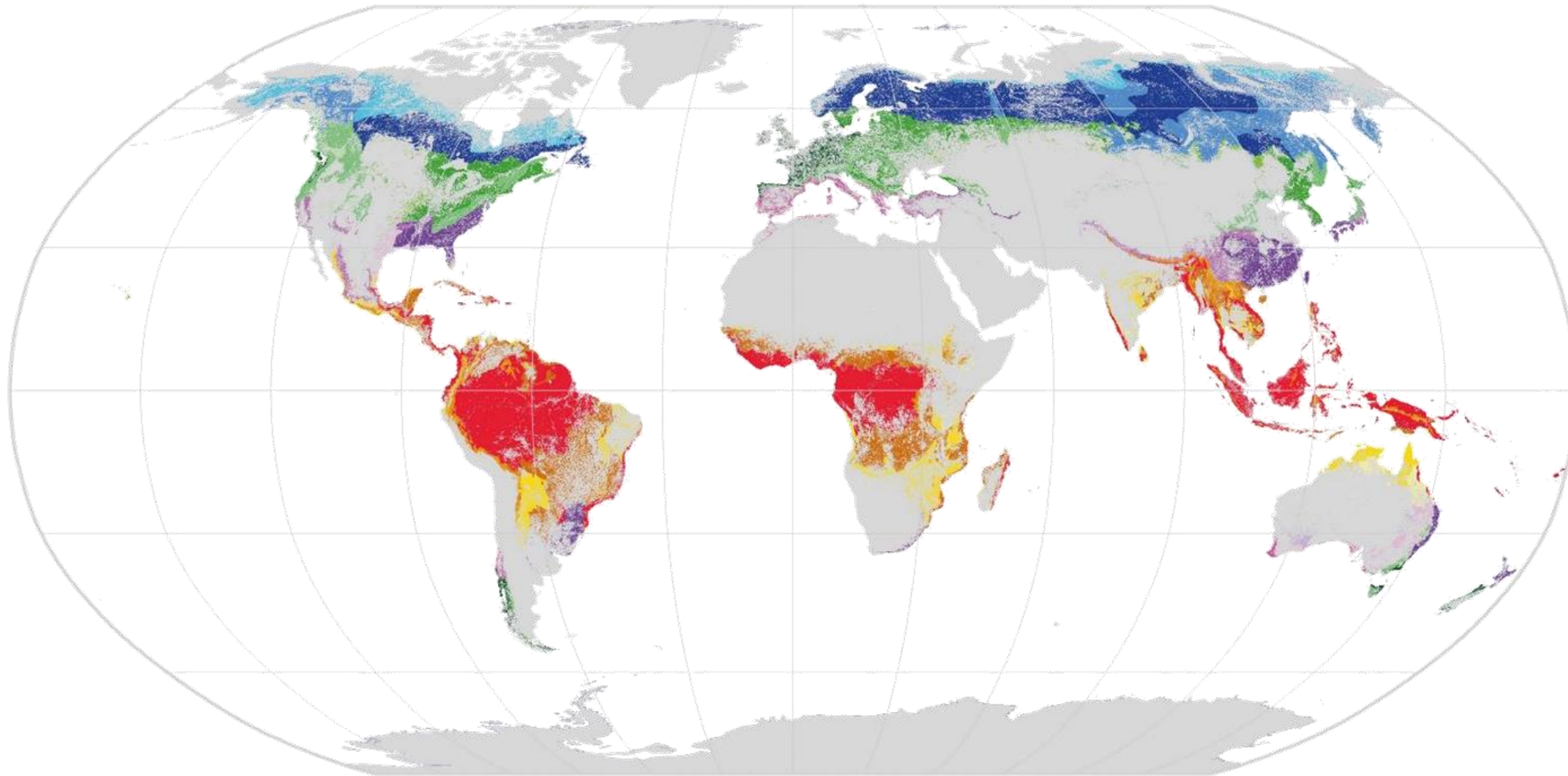
Temperate  
16%



Subtropical  
11%



# FOREST BY GLOBAL ECOLOGICAL ZONE



- Tropical rainforest
- Tropical moist forest
- Tropical mountain system
- Tropical dry forest
- Tropical shrubland
- Tropical desert
- Subtropical humid forest
- Subtropical dry forest
- Subtropical mountain system
- Subtropical steppe
- Subtropical desert
- Temperate oceanic forest
- Temperate continental forest
- Temperate mountain system
- Temperate steppe
- Temperate desert
- Boreal coniferous forest
- Boreal tundra woodland
- Boreal mountain system
- Polar

# FORESTS ARE HOME TO MOST OF EARTH'S TERRESTRIAL DIVERSITY


- **> 60,000 different tree species**
- **60% of all vascular plants are found in tropical forests**
- **80% of all amphibian species**
- **75% of all bird species**
- **68% of all mammal species**
- **> 1 million insects and soil microbes**



# FORESTS PROVIDE ESSENTIAL SERVICES FOR ALL PEOPLE



**FORESTS ABSORB  
CO<sub>2</sub> AND EMIT O<sub>2</sub>**



**75% OF ACCESSIBLE  
FRESHWATER COMES  
FROM FORESTED  
WATERSHEDS**



**35% OF GLOBAL  
FOOD PRODUCTION  
BENEFITS FROM  
ANIMAL POLLINATION**



**FORESTS HELP  
MITIGATE AND  
ADAPT TO  
CLIMATE CHANGE**

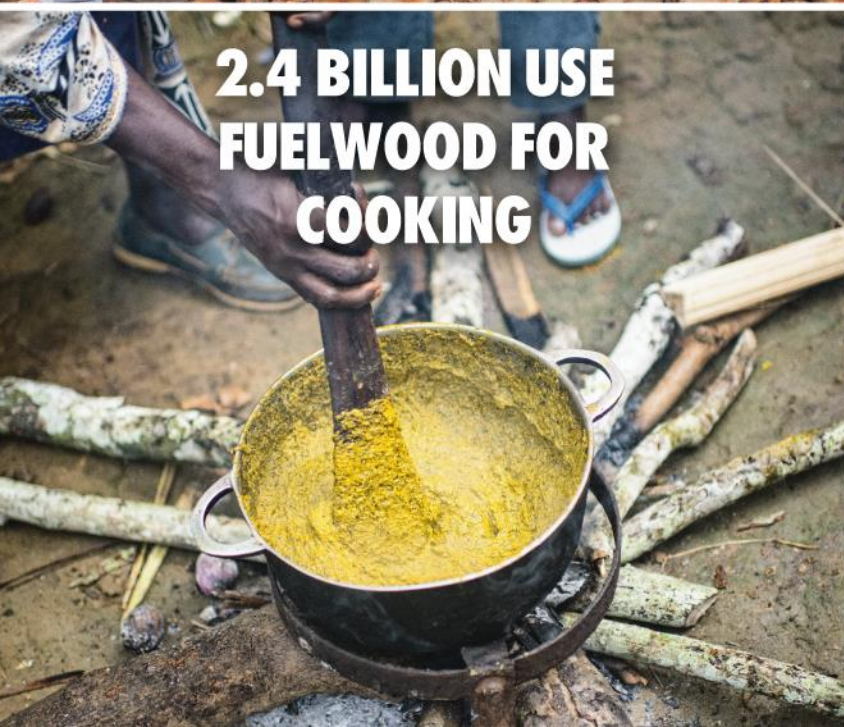


**>86 MILLION  
GREEN JOBS**

**FORESTS PROVIDE  
PRODUCTS,  
LIVELIHOODS AND  
HUMAN WELLBEING**



**880 MILLION COLLECT  
FUELWOOD OR  
PRODUCE CHARCOAL**



**2.4 BILLION USE  
FUELWOOD FOR  
COOKING**



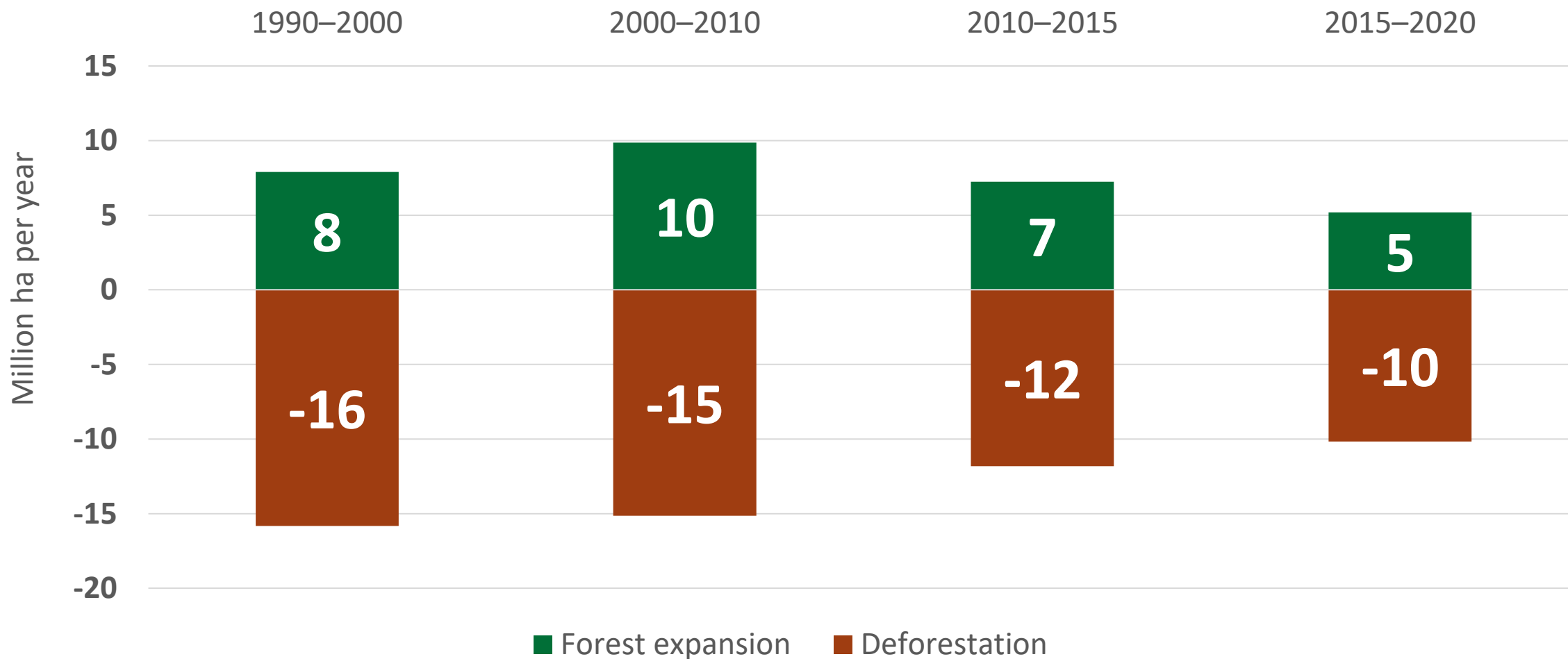
**1 BILLION DEPEND  
ON WILD FOODS**



**>28 000 PLANTS ARE  
OF MEDICINAL USE**

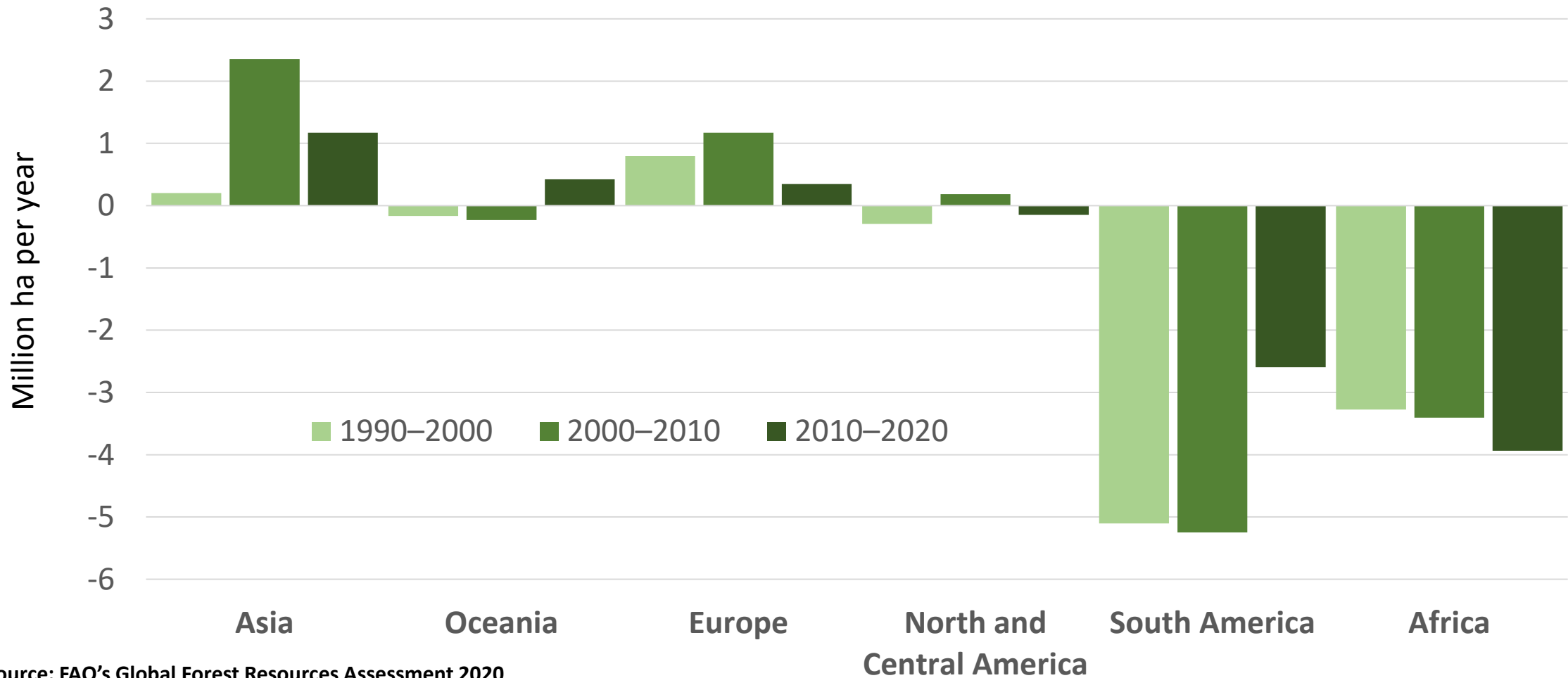
# DEFORESTATION IS SLOWING DOWN – BUT WE ARE STILL LOSING AN AREA TWICE THE SIZE OF COSTA RICA EVERY YEAR

Annual rate of forest expansion and deforestation, 1990–2020



# AFRICA CURRENTLY HAS THE HIGHEST NET LOSS OF FOREST AREA

Annual forest area net change, by decade and region, 1990–2020



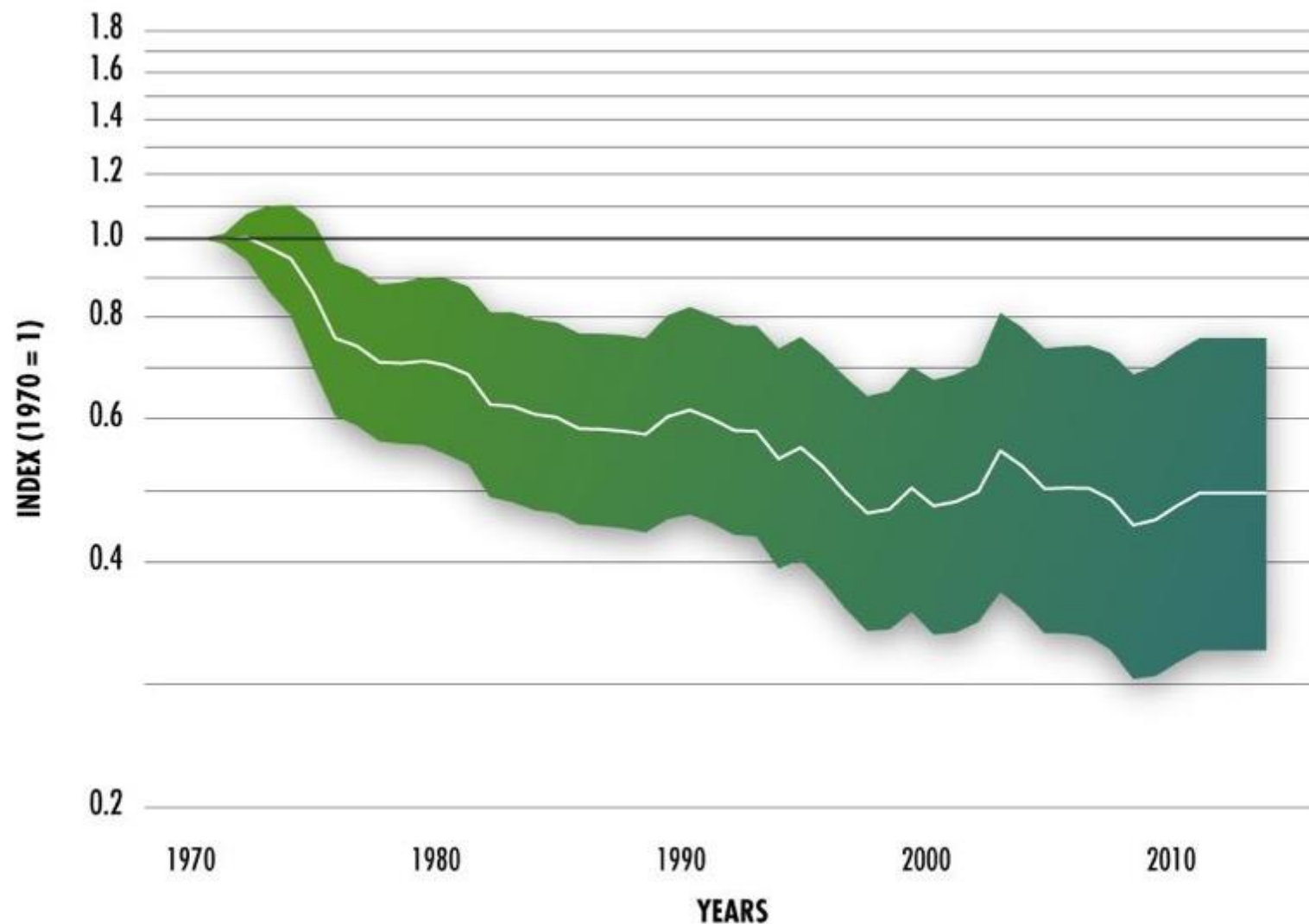


# THE MAIN DRIVER OF DEFORESTATION IS AGRICULTURAL EXPANSION

- **Large-scale agriculture: 40%**
- **Small-scale agriculture: 33%**



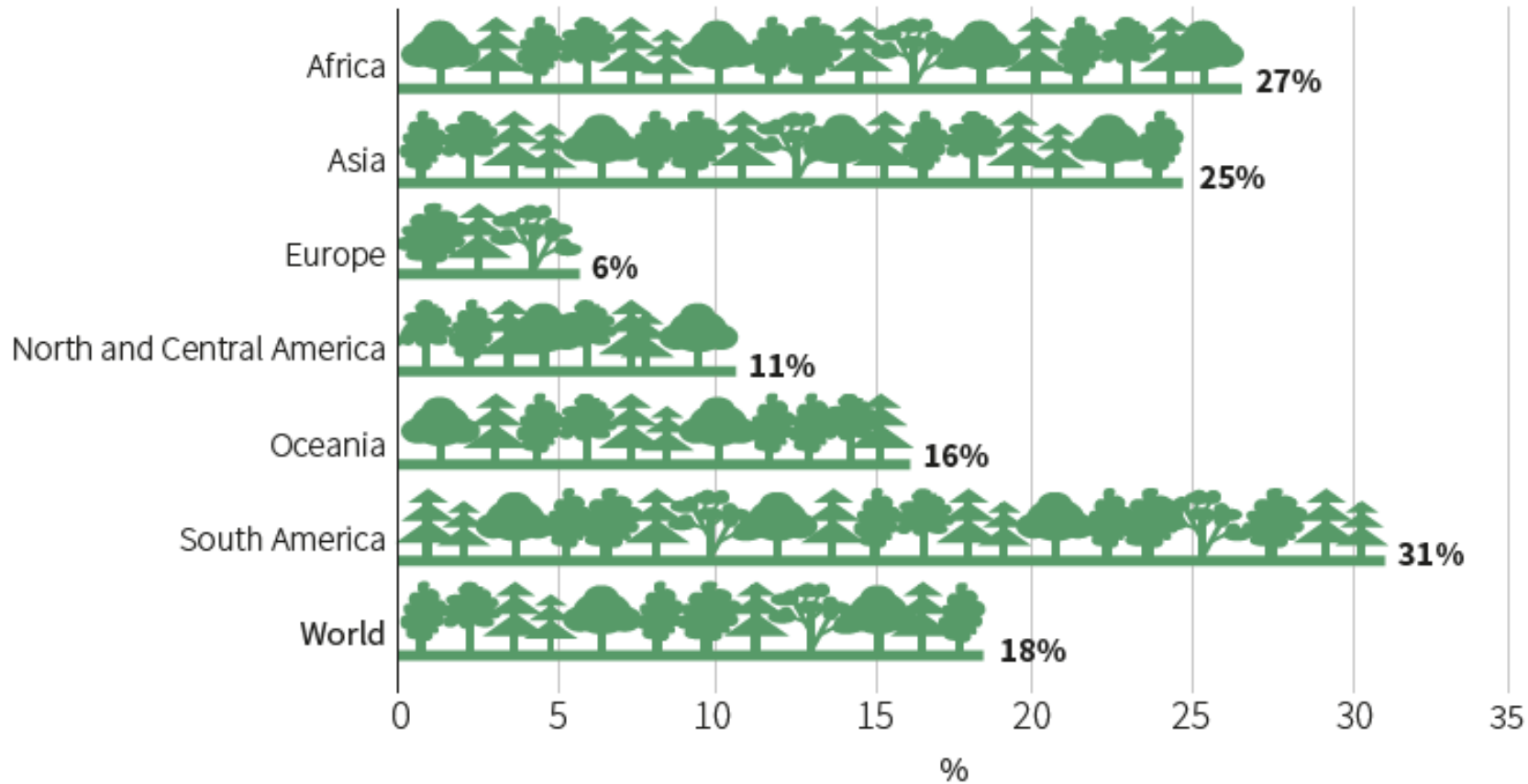
# BELOW THE CANOPY: RAPID DECLINE OF FOREST VERTEBRATES



Source: Green *et al.*, 2019.

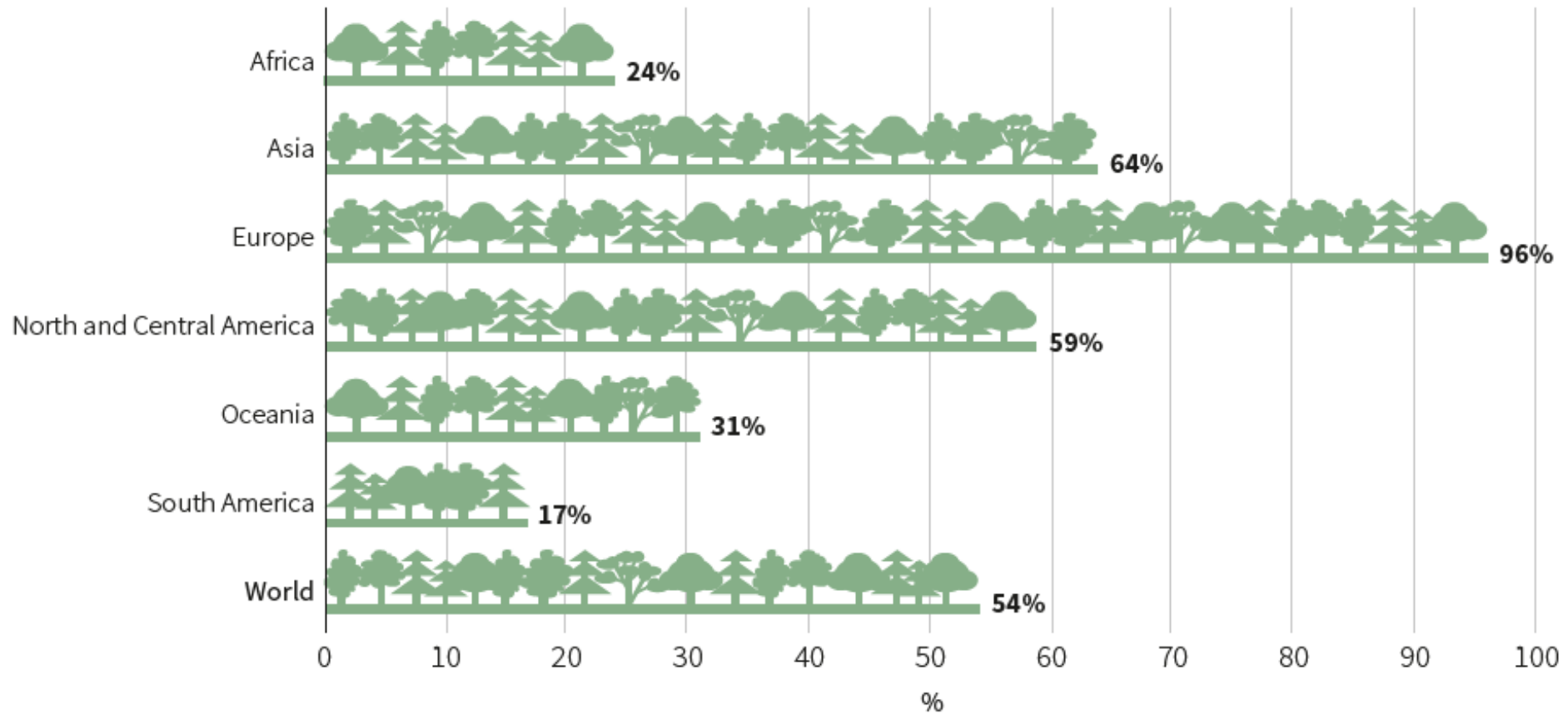
# 18% TARGET HAS BEEN MET FOR FORESTS: 18% OF ALL FORESTS ARE LOCATED IN PROTECTED AREAS

Proportion of forest in protected areas, by region, 2020



# MORE THAN HALF OF THE WORLD'S FOREST HAVE A LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT PLAN

Proportion of forest area with long-term management plans, by region, 2020



**WE MUST TAKE BOLD  
ACTIONS TO REVERSE THE  
LOSS OF FORESTS AND  
THEIR BIODIVERSITY FOR  
THE BENEFIT OF PEOPLE  
AND THE PLANET**



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**FORESTS,  
BIODIVERSITY  
AND PEOPLE**

**SOFO  
2020**

# PROTECT: TRANSFORM FOOD SYSTEMS



# MANAGE: BALANCE CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE

# RESTORE: REPAIR THE DAMAGE DONE



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2020