

## **“Fade out” or “Jump in”?**

**Forest ownership of small scaled forests in Bavaria –  
Activating forest owners and strengthening their  
“Forest-owner-identity”**

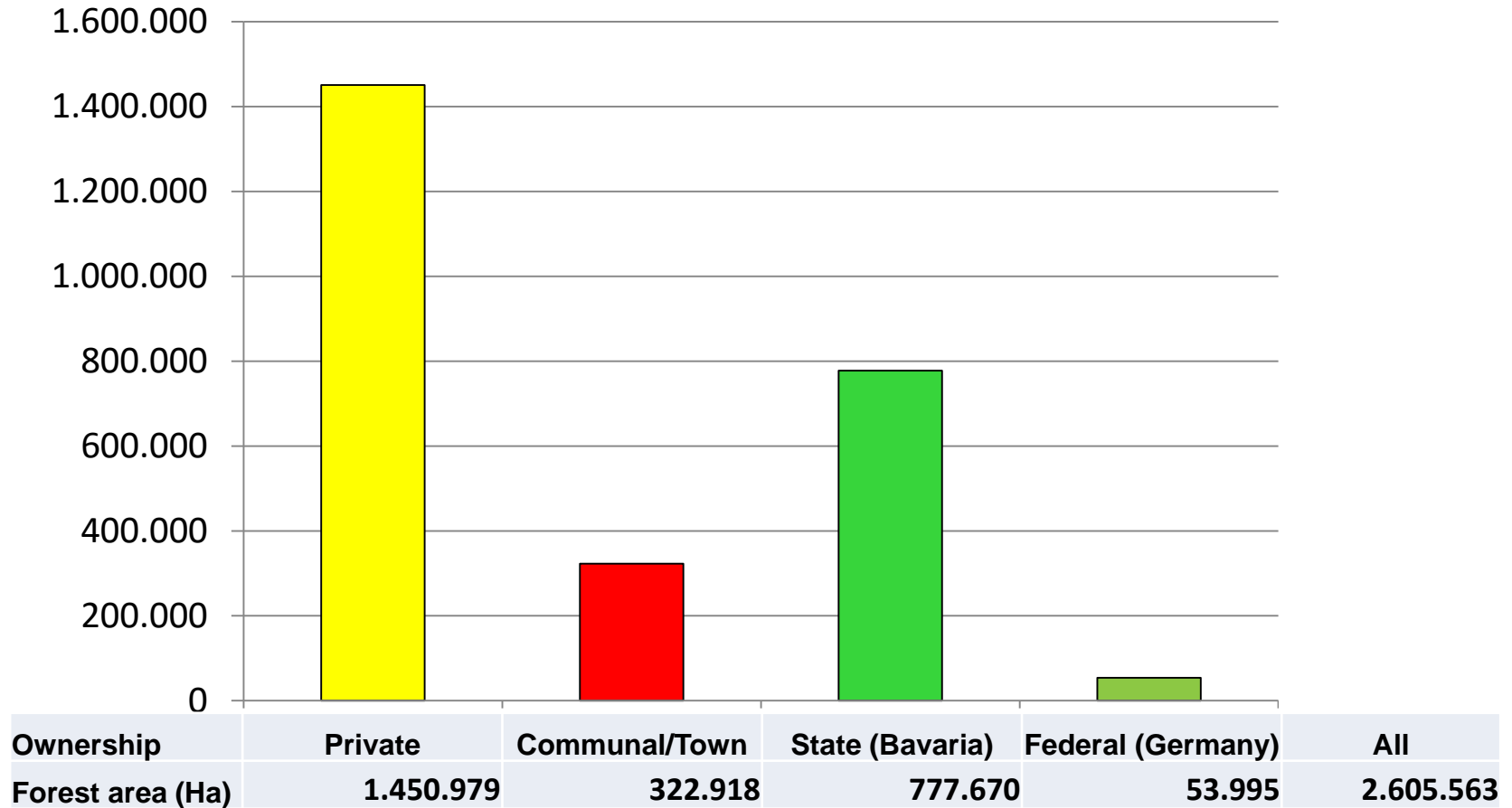
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# Presentation Outline

- The Structures of the (private) Forests in Bavaria
- What do we need? What/Who should be mobilized?
- The structural Problem
- Evaluating the structural improvement measures in Bavaria
- Conclusions
- Time for Questions and Discussion

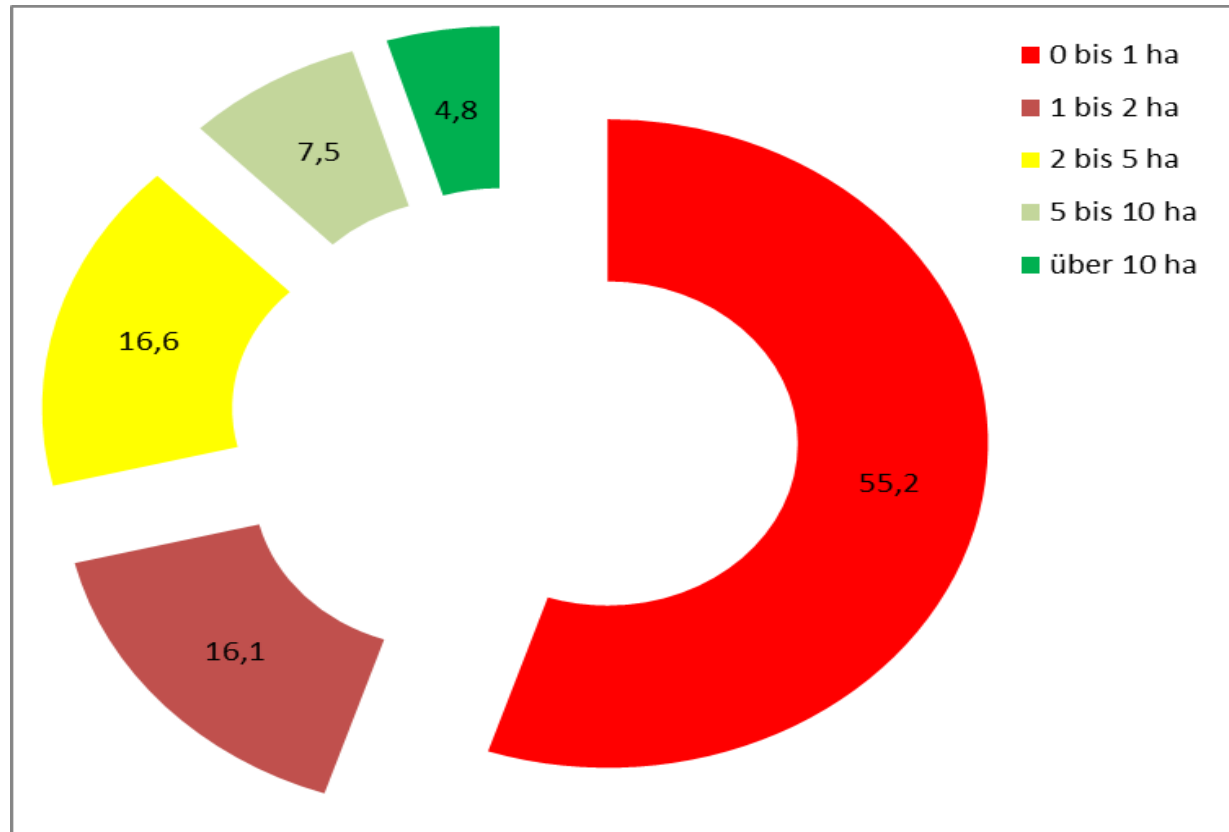
# Ownership of forests in Bavaria

Bavaria: Forest area in Hectares



# Ownership of private forests in Bavaria

Percentage of priv. owners in different size-classes



≈491.000 ownerships (47 AELF = Ø 10.446 ownerships/each)

Single-ownership:  
313.000

2-Person-ownership:  
138.000

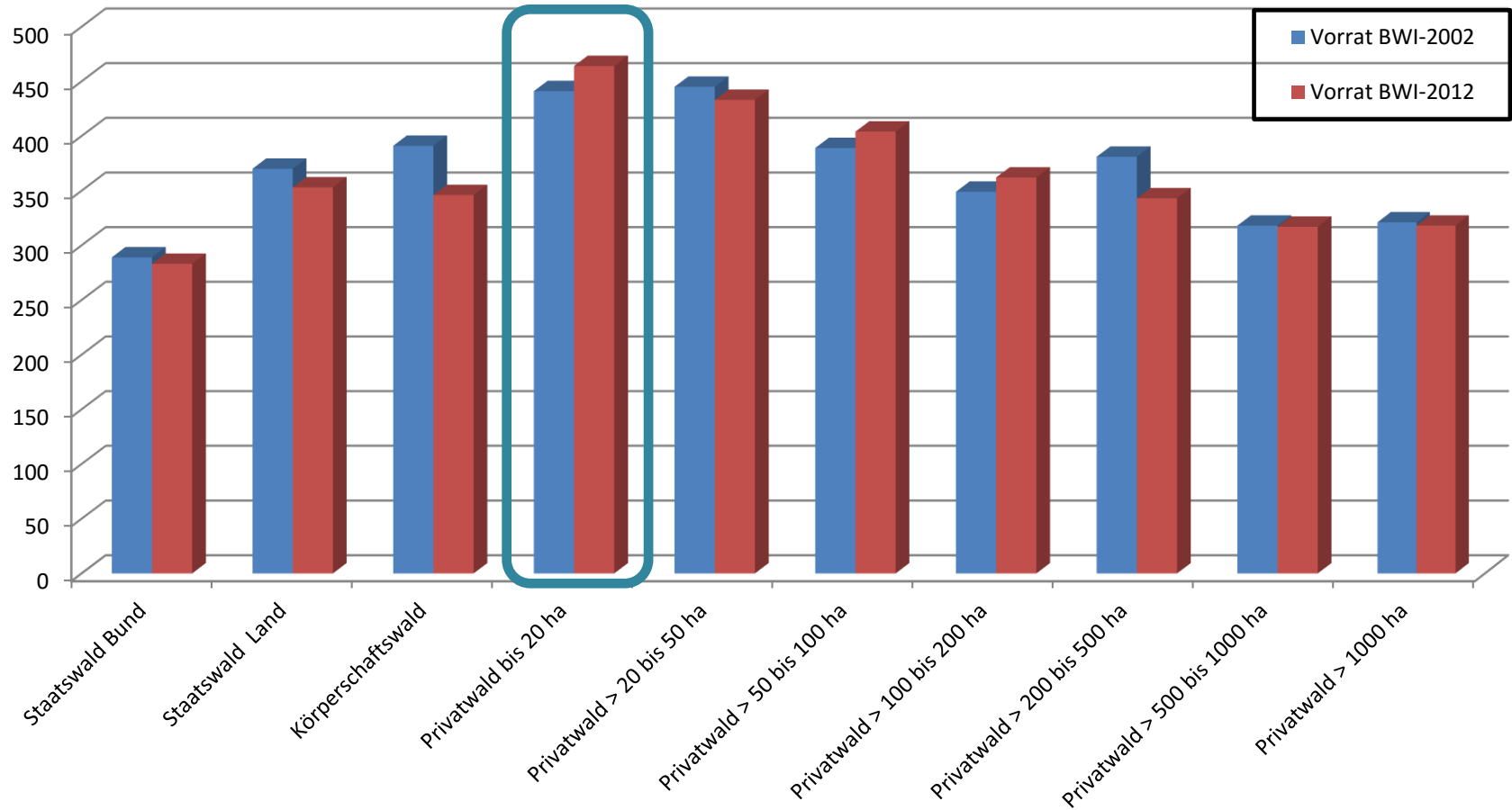
>= 3-Persons ownership:  
40.000

## What do we need? What/Who should be mobilized?

Standing-volume-Index-2012 (in m<sup>3</sup>/ha) compared to 2002 = 100% (BWI 2012)

Federal-State		State	Federal	Town	Private	Total
Baden-Württemberg	[%]	97	106	105	103	104
Bayern	[%]	99	96	89	104	100
Brandenburg + Berlin	[%]	119	115	150	127	124
Hessen	[%]	129	109	111	114	111
Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	[%]	100	118	106	114	114
Niedersachsen	[%]	111	109	120	118	115
Nordrhein-Westfalen	[%]	123	102	106	99	101
Rheinland-Pfalz	[%]	60	108	104	112	106
Saarland	[%]	103	116	141	130	124
Sachsen	[%]	114	123	114	124	122
Sachsen-Anhalt	[%]	115	106	144	118	116
Schleswig-Holstein	[%]	89	131	105	120	120
Thüringen	[%]	97	118	113	113	114
Germany (total)	[%]	106	107	106	109	108

## Which owners should be activated?

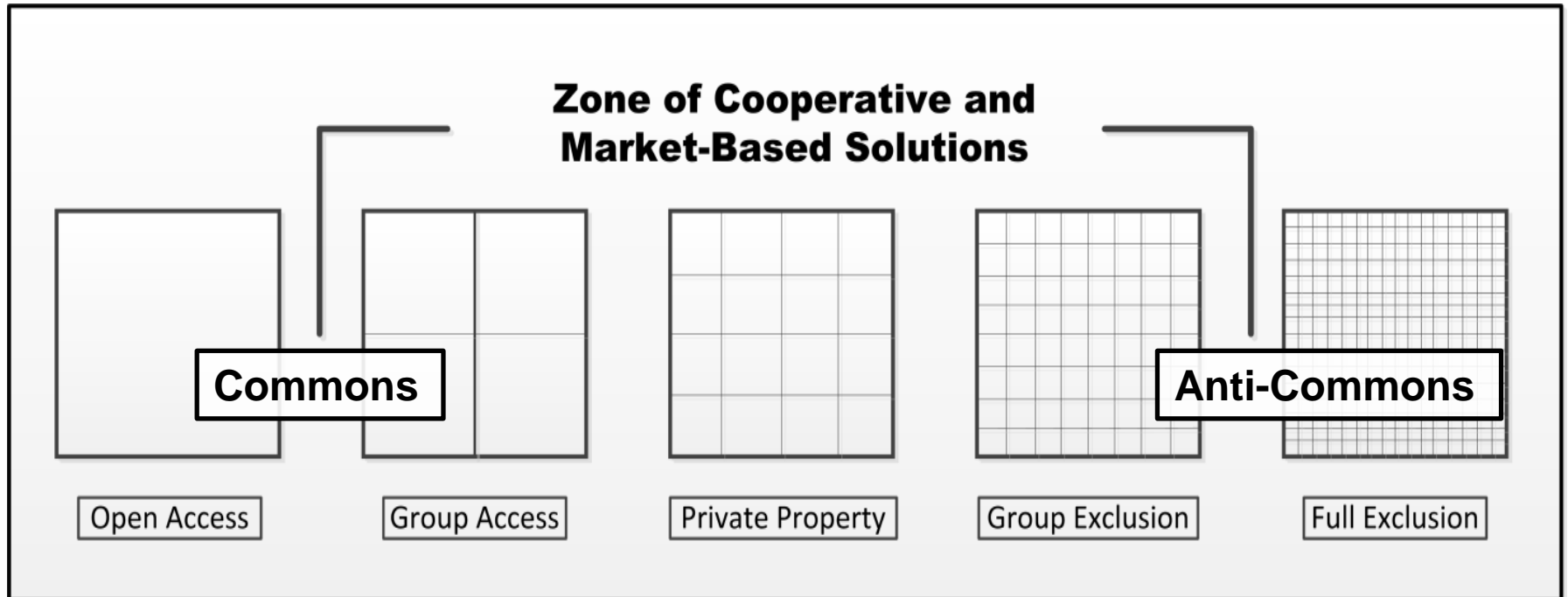


**Bavaria: Standing volume in different ownership categories (BWI-2002 and BWI-2012)**





# Theory of property rights



“The full spectrum of property”, Heller (2001)



### Aims of the Project

- In Bavaria about 300.000 Hectares are highly fragmented and the forest management is hampered or even fails due to this ownership situation.
- The Project (funded by the Bavarian Forest Ministry): „Opportunities for sustainable forest management in small and micro parceled forests” should find “Solutions”
- Different tools to improve the structural disadvantages in areas with a high degree of parceled small private forests should be evaluated.
- The research has been concentrated on measures with "real" (permanent) structural improvements (“Forest Land Consolidation” and “Voluntary land exchange”)

### Material and Methods

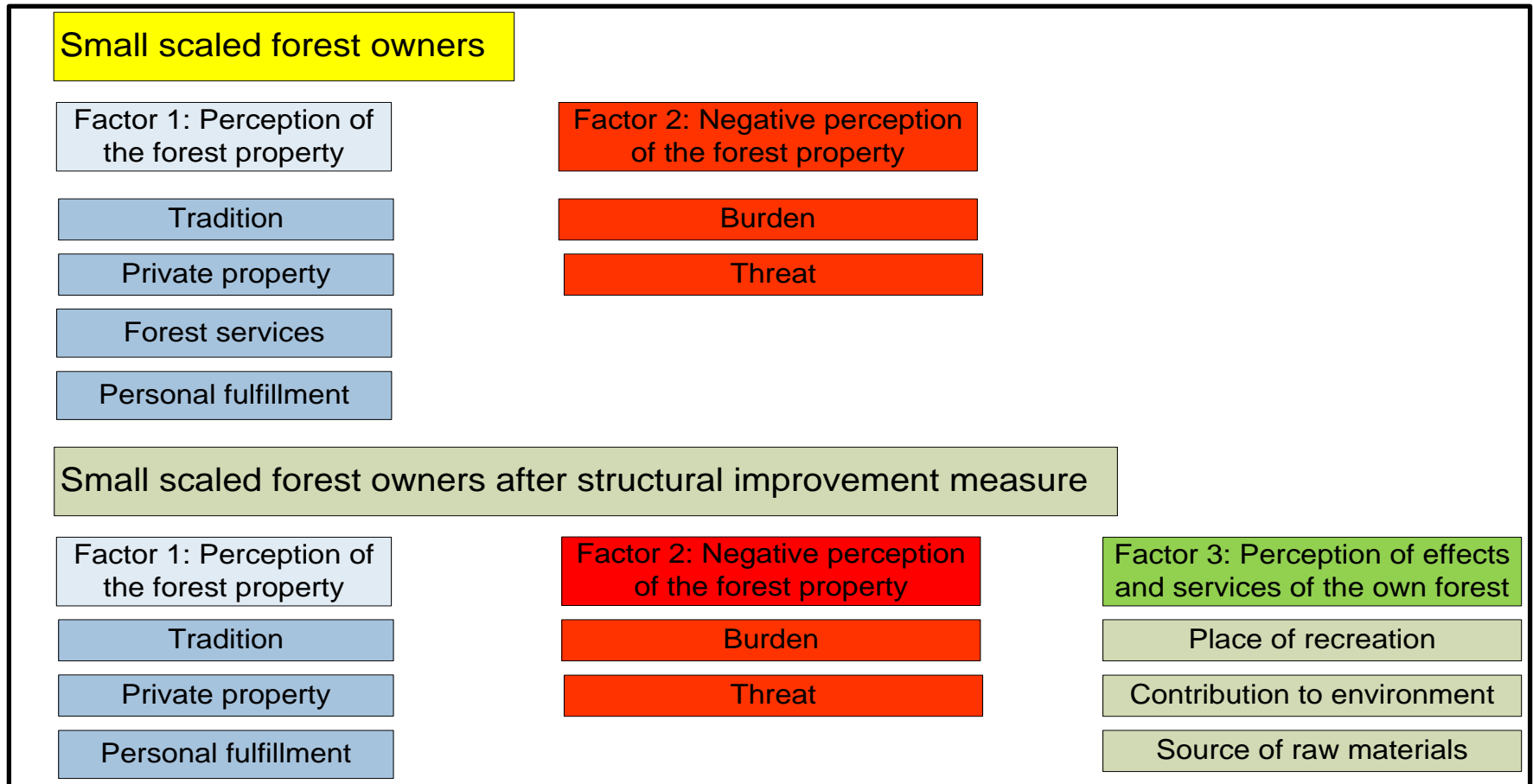
- Data was collected with postal surveys in two groups (2012)
  - Group 1: Small scaled forest owners (ssfo) were assembled randomly which have not been involved in a structural improvement measure before (2639 questionnaires).
  - Group 2: Ssfo which have participated in a voluntary land change or in a land consolidation (948 questionnaires)
- Except the special questions concerning the measure itself, questions were similar in the two questionnaires. In the first group 385 answers could be used for the quantitative analysis in the second group 201.
- Both datasets have been analysed in 2013 and 2014 with SPSS (Version 20). Beside the descriptive evaluation some of the survey questions have been assessed with a factor analysis.

## Research project in fragmented forest areas – Results I

Joint presentation of the results of the questions regarding the usage in forests (2 Groups)		
Question	Small scale forest owners	Ssfo after structural impr. measure
Yes, I use my forest	69,9 %	85,1 %
No, I do not use my forest	30,1 %	14,9 %
Self-consumption fuelwood	65,5 %	93,9 %
Fuelwood for others	5,5 %	< 1 %
Self-consumption Constr.-wood	19,7 %	35,7 %
Construction-wood for others	9,9 %	<1 %
Other usages	1,8 %	< 1 %

Answers of both groups to the questions regarding the usage of the forests.

## Research project in fragmented forest areas – Results II



Results of the factor analyses of the question “*I see my forest as...*” in the two survey-groups.

## Research project in fragmented forest areas – Results III

### Ranking of different structural measures in the grades 1 (best) to 6

Definition of the boundaries  
Forest Land Consolidation  
Joint harvests/thinnings  
„Market“ for forest parcels  
Forest road construction  
Voluntary Land Change  
Founding a „Commons“  
Renting Forest by Contract

2

3

3

3

4

4

4

5

1

1

3

3

2

3

4

4

Small scale forest owners



Ssfo after structural  
impr. measure



## Research project in fragmented forest areas – Conclusions

- Marginalization and Fragmentation are proceeding and in the end forest management is declining, so there is a need for policy instruments addressing structural deficits.
- Those owners who went through a structural improvement measure have a different view on and as it seems a different relationship to their forests.
- Their private forest property is now clearly defined, accessible, has a greater value and more presence.
- Owners after the measure are extremely satisfied also with the way the measure was processed and with the results.
- For owners voluntary land change and Forest Land Consolidation mark either the starting point of new engagement or after consideration it offers the opportunity to give up the forest land.
- **Don't go mobilizing timber – Go activate forest owners!**



**THANK YOU !!!**

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