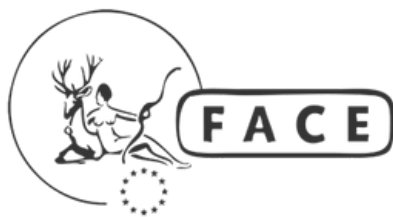


THE ECONOMIC VALUE OF HUNTING

Hunting is an important socio-economic activity for Europe's rural areas.



Direct economic benefits

Europe's 7 million hunters spend €16 billion per year.

- ✓ The average European hunter spends approx. €2,400 per year on hunting equipment, licences, hunting dogs, travel, social activities around hunting, etc.

Indirect benefits

Hunters provide employment, increase the social fabric of rural communities and transmit cultural traditions.

- ✓ In the UK, hunting provides 350,000 direct paid jobs.
- ✓ In France, hunting provides 27,800 full-time jobs.

Mapping and Assessment of Ecosystems and their Services

MAES is a process which provides policy makers (at national and European level) with assessments of the ecosystem services that are present in different ecosystem types. FACE follows and contributes to the work of MAES at EU level.

Conservation benefits

Every day right across Europe, hunters conserve nature and restore biodiversity.

- ✓ The 2016 FACE Biodiversity Manifesto reports on 221 projects involving hunters, which are linked to four of the six targets of the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020.
- ✓ 100 of these projects occur on Natura 2000 sites. Wetlands are the most common habitat type managed by hunters.
- ✓ On 187 case studies, hunters undertake actions to improve knowledge and manage species of EU interest.

Wider benefits to society

Hunting helps to deliver ecosystem services that retain culture (Cultural Ecosystem Services) and provide food (Provisioning Ecosystem Services).

Following the Conference on the Economic Value of Hunting on 27 September 2016, the Intergroup “Biodiversity, Hunting, Countryside” urges EUROSTAT to survey, at five-year intervals, the economic impact of hunting, fishing, watching and gathering wild species as an EU indicator of sustainable use for assessing the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity.