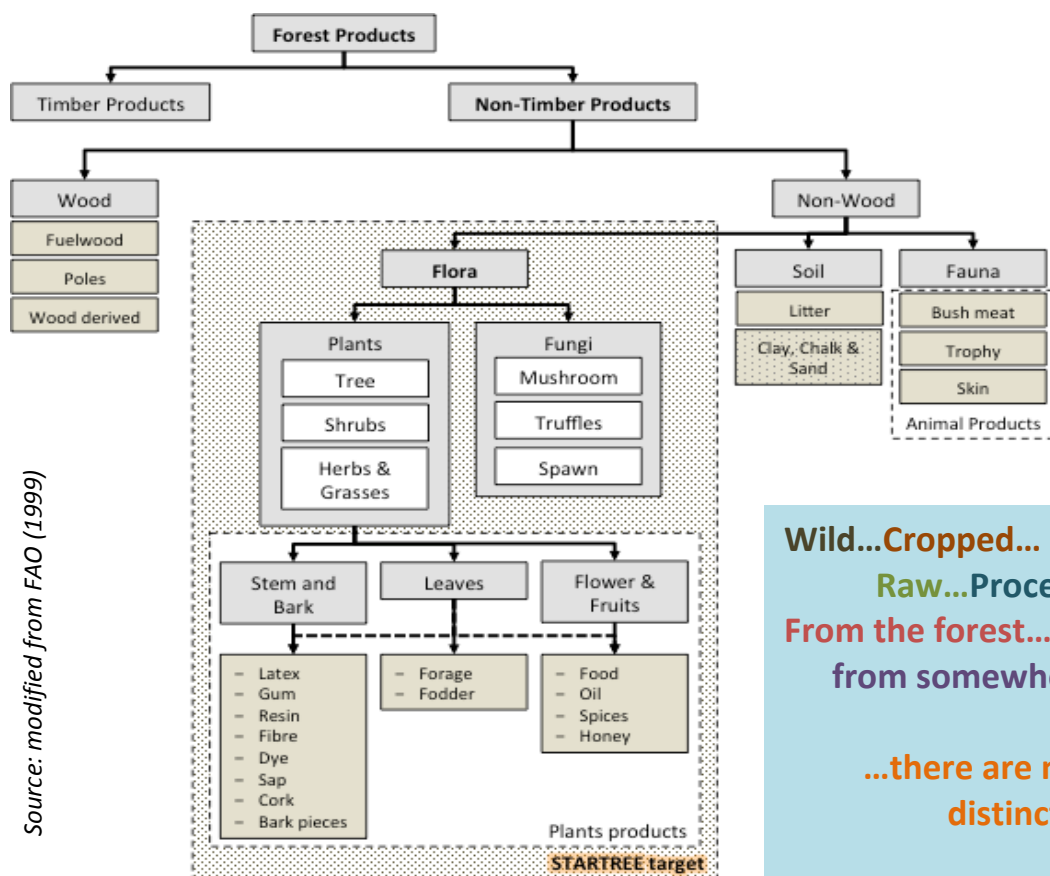


Wild forest products

...also known as non-wood forest products... So what's in the name?



Wild...Cropped...
 Raw...Processed...
 From the forest...
 from somewhere else...
 ...there are no clear distinctions!

There are many terms used for products harvested from forests which are not wood or timber. StarTree project adopted the technical term **non-wood forest product (NWFP)**, for its scientific work, using the definition proposed by FAO (1999): “products of biological origin other than wood derived from forests, other wooded land and trees outside forests”. This definition covers a very wide range of resources and products including plants, fungi, fauna and soil. Altogether, the products which are included in FAO’s definition of NWFP number several thousand plant, fungi and animal species.

However, the use of a “negative” form “non” is not so marketing friendly and could even detract from the positive image people would like to convey about these products. The EU provides an alternative legal definition, calling **wild products** those that result from the “collection of edible plants and parts thereof, growing naturally in natural areas, forests and agricultural areas”¹. Many SMEs prefer the word “wild” because it clearly communicates the origin beyond the product.

So the alternative term **Wild Forest Products (WFPs)** is used frequently in StarTree communications.

Want to know more? Read the whole report!

¹ Art. 12, comma 2, Reg. 834/07 “organic law”.

