



**Reporting on the
pan-European Qualitative Indicators
for Sustainable Forest Management
and
National Implementation of
Commitments of the Ministerial Conference on the
Protection of Forests in Europe**

COUNTRY: Bulgaria

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Abbreviations

CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FRA	Forest Resources Assessment
FTE	Full Time Equivalent
ha	Hectares
MCPFE	Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (abbreviation replaced by brand name FOREST EUROPE, November 2009)
Nfp	National Forest Programme
NGO	Non-governmental organization
SFM	Sustainable Forest Management
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFF	United Nations Forum on Forests

Introduction

In preparation for the sixth Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe, planned to be held in Norway in June 2011, FOREST EUROPE¹ correspondents are asked to provide information to assess progress made since the reporting for the fifth Ministerial Conference in Warsaw, Poland 2007. This enquiry intends to enable signatory countries and the European Union to provide information on progress made towards sustainable forest management and implementation of commitments in the period 2007-2011. Countries which did not report for the fifth Ministerial Conference in 2007 may consider reporting also more in-depth on the current status of indicators, not only on changes.

This enquiry consists of two parts.

Part 1 contains the pan-European qualitative indicators for sustainable forest management. Results from this part will be combined with the results of the reporting on pan-European quantitative indicators (sent to the FRA national correspondents on 19.02.10), and will be presented in the next report on the State of Europe's Forests.

Part 2 contains reporting of implementation of FOREST EUROPE commitments since 2007. It asks for national implementation of the Warsaw commitments and provides the opportunity to report on any major national activities since 2007 in implementing former commitments of the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe. National responses to this part of the enquiry will be published in a report on implementation of FOREST EUROPE Commitments 2007-2011, together with reporting on pan-European implementation of Warsaw commitments and former commitments of the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe.

The reports "State of Europe's Forests 2011" and "Implementation of FOREST EUROPE Commitments 2007-2011" (preliminary names) will serve as background information for the political discussions of future opportunities and challenges, and political responses to these, at the sixth Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe.

The structure of this questionnaire was improved, compared to the 2007 version by learning from previous experience. The main change from the previous version is that reporting on national implementation of former commitments is separated and simplified. The change is meant to reduce the reporting burden on countries, while still providing for descriptions of national implementation of Warsaw commitments and former commitments of the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe, if applicable. The questionnaire was prepared in consultation with partners at FAO and FOREST EUROPE, shared with the UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Monitoring SFM and FOREST EUROPE national focal points, and subsequently improved.

In completing the enquiry, you may wish to consult the following sources of information on policies and institutions:

MCPFE 2007 qualitative indicators: <http://www.unece.org/timber/fra/mcpfe07qualcountryreport.htm>

FRA 2010²: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/44375/en>

FAO-LEX: <http://faolex.fao.org/faolex>

¹ "FOREST EUROPE" has recently replaced the abbreviation "MCPFE" as the brand name of the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe

² Country data not yet available

1. Reporting on the pan-European Qualitative Indicators

Reporting on pan-European Qualitative Indicators consists of parts A and B. The five indicators in **Part A**: “Overall policies, institutions and instruments for SFM” aim to describe overall policy approaches for a sustainable forest management. **Part B**: “Policies, institutions and instruments by policy area” contains twelve indicators aiming to provide information in addition to the information provided in Part A. This concerns the specific policy objectives, the main institutions relevant to achieve the objective as well as the main policy instruments used. Under both A and B, significant changes since the last reporting process in 2007 should be reported. There is no need to repeat information already supplied in 2007³. This part will be used for the report on the *State of Europe’s Forests 2011*. Please see Annex 1 for Terms and definitions, and Annex 2 for an overview of the pan-European qualitative indicators.

For reporting, please note the following:

1. In the tables all requests for responses are marked by [], visible on computer screens (not necessarily on print-outs). All requests for responses are limited to approximately 100 words or 650 letters (including blank spaces) automatically in order to keep the analytical efforts within reasonable bounds.
2. The sum of texts provided per indicator in Parts A and B should not exceed 2 pages, and be around 1 page, if possible.
3. Changes since the reporting in 2007 will be analyzed systematically, first by determining whether or not such changes were reported. No information is interpreted as “no significant change”.
4. The main indicator related to climate change is B.2 (carbon balance). Please include information related to climate change policies under this indicator. Where relevant, you can also include information related to climate change under B.3 (health and vitality) and B.4 (production and use of wood).
5. Please provide further information on the measures taken, as deemed relevant, e.g. major partners in implementation, time period, budget involved experiences made (lessons learned, obstacles encountered and solutions).
6. Please provide the latest information available unless otherwise specified
7. Please specify reference documents as follows: - Author or institution. Year of publication (if published). Title. Reference Number. Publisher.

³ Country Reports submitted in 2007 are available at:
<http://www.unece.org/timber/fra/mcpfe07qualcountryreport.htm>

A. Overall policies, institutions and instruments for SFM

A.1. National forest programmes (Nfp) or similar and related forest policies					
Nfp or similar process for forest related dialogue, policy development & implementation					
Existence of Nfp process or of similar process	<input type="checkbox"/> Formal Nfp process ¹ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Process explicitly guided by Nfp principles <input type="checkbox"/> Similar process <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above				
Name of Nfp or similar process	Name: 1. National Strategy for sustainable development of the forest sector 2006-2015 (In 2003 was elaborated and adopted by Council of Ministers the first National Forest Policy and Strategy / Council Decision № 651/15.09. 2003) 2. Strategic Plan for development of the forest sector 2007-2011. 3. Annual programme with targets and priorities for forest management in Bulgaria www.iag.bg	Starting year:	2006/2007		
Main formal decision making body of the process	<input type="checkbox"/> Body with members other than Ministry responsible for forestry <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ministry responsible for forestry <input type="checkbox"/> Other. Please specify:				
Characteristics of Nfp or similar process, including Nfp principles as defined by MCPFE					
Commitment to iterative process		Yes/fully <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Partly <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know <input type="checkbox"/>
Who is regularly participating in the Nfp or similar process?	Administration responsible for forestry Forest owners representatives Representatives from other sectors Forest-related environmental and social groups Forest based industry Forest education and/or research	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are other sectors actively involved in the Nfp or similar process?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, which: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> tourism <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> energy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> others: Ministry of Interior Fire protection services	How are the key sectors involved: <input type="checkbox"/> mostly formal arrangements ² <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> mostly informal arrangements <hr/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> mostly participation in Nfp workshops <input type="checkbox"/> mostly separate consultation processes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: Ministry of Interior and Fire protection services assist the forestry sector in identification and realization of measures in the field of forest protection		
Are other policies and international commitments ⁴ explicitly referred to in the Nfp or similar process?		Yes/fully <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Partly <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know <input type="checkbox"/>
	National development policy/strategy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	International forest-related commitments ³	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
How is policy implementation monitored and evaluated?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pre-specified periodic monitoring <input type="checkbox"/> Periodically, but not pre-determined <input type="checkbox"/> Not specified, not planned <input type="checkbox"/> Other:				
	Are MCPFE criteria & indicators for SFM used in monitoring and evaluation policies?	Yes/fully <input type="checkbox"/>	Partly <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know <input type="checkbox"/>

Significant changes related to the Nfp process or similar since 2007	<p>Up-dating of the national strategic forest documents was done in the end of 2009, it is foreseen this up-dating to be introduced, discussed and adopted by the National Forest Council which is a consultative body at the Executive Forest Agency, and then –reporting and adoption of the up-dated documents by the minister of agriculture and food.</p> <p>Since the end of 2009 and during the first half of 2010 was elaborated new Forest Act, based on good European practices and principles for sustainable forest management via division of the control-administrative functions and the management functions of the state forest administration which manages 75% of the forest areas in the country.</p>				
Major results of the Nfp or similar process and key lessons learned	<p>In 2006-2009 less than 30% from the foreseen in the national strategic forest documents targets, measures and action have been implemented due to lack of financial resources.</p> <p>As a lesson learned we can point out that it is necessary to foresee more simple, clear and financially secured actions.</p>				
Comments on the Nfp or similar process	<p>Necessity of a common (fund) mechanism on EU level for financial support of implementation of certain common –EU and national forest policies related to sustainable forest management and protection.</p>				
Forest policy document (national forest programme document, forest policy statement, strategy or other)					
Existence of forest policy document (other than law)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No			
Title of main forest policy document ⁴ and internet links	<p>Title: National Strategy for sustainable development of the forest sector 2006-2015 2. Strategic Plan for development of the forest sector 2007-2011. Internet links: www.iag.bg</p>				
Forest policy document development process	<input type="checkbox"/> formal Nfp process or process explicitly guided by Nfp principles <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> process similar to Nfp or other process				
Name of endorsing/authorizing /enacting institution of the forest policy document	<p>In 2003 was elaborated and approved by the Council of Ministers the first National Forest Policy and Strategy 2003-2015/ Decision № 651/15.09.2003.</p> <p>The present National Strategy for sustainable development of the forest sector 2006-2015 has not been approved by the Council of Ministers.</p> <p>The Strategic Plan for development of the forest sector 2007-2011 was adopted by the Minister of agriculture and forests in 2006</p>	Date of endorsement			
Current status of the forest policy document	<input type="checkbox"/> in development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in implementation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in review				
Is there explicit reference to / uptake of MCPFE instruments in the forest policy document?		Yes/fully	Partly	No	Don't know
	MCPFE definition of SFM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	MCPFE criteria and indicators for SFM	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	MCPFE guidelines for Nfps	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	MCPFE Classification of Protected and Protective Forests and Other Wooded Land	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	MCPFE Pan-European Operational	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Level Guidelines for Sustainable Forest Management. MCPFE Pan-European Guidelines for Afforestation and Reforestation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>If the responsibility for forest policy is decentralized:</i> Existence of formally endorsed subnational forest policy document(s)			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
Significant changes related to main forest policy document since 2007	There were no significant changes in the forest policy document since 2007. There is a current up-dating and some changes coming in 2010.				
Comments on the forest policy document	The existing and acting strategic forest documents are enough, even too detailed, but most of the specific actions are not financially secured.				
Reporting notes					
<p>1. Formal Nfp process means formally and explicitly acknowledged and referred to as “Nfp process”</p> <p>2. Formal arrangements comprise e.g. steering committees or other decision making bodies, consultative bodies, sector-specific working groups, etc.</p> <p>3. You may wish to refer for instance to UNFF Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests, CBD, UNFCCC, etc.</p> <p>4. The main forest policy document can be a national forest programme document, a forest policy statement, a forest strategy or other. Forest legislation is covered separately under A3.</p>					

A.2. Institutional frameworks				
Government bodies	Please specify the type of forest-related institutional arrangements - forest policy administration - legislative supervision & enforcement - general support to forest management - management of public forests	Part of Ministry <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Separate body <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	other <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Please specify the level of main responsibility - forest policy administration. - legislative supervision & enforcement - general support to forest management - management of public forests	Central government <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Subnational governments <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	other <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Comments [max. 100 words]			
Resources and capacity of public organizations related to forests	Name or group/type ¹ :	Forest-related staff ² (2008,FTE)		
	Total [estimate]	9517		
	...of which forest administration ³	8479		
	...of which management of public forests	2+451		
	...of which public forest research, education and training institutions	96+347		
... of which others	1+41+100			
Main private sector organizations relevant for forest policy (interest groups, associations and NGOs etc.)	Name			
	BULPROFOR			
	Gorovladeletz			
	Association Municipal Forests			
Significant changes in the institutional framework, public and private, since 2007	<p>With Decree of Council of Ministers №168/ 23.07.2007 National Forestry Board (NFB) was transferred into State Forestry Agency (SFA). In contrast to NFB which was a body at the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests, SFA was directly under the Council of Ministers. On 25 October 2007 with Decree of Council of Ministers №259 was adopted the Regulation for functioning of SFA. On 29.04.2008 was adopted the Law on amendment and supplementation of the Forest Act which enforced the transformation of the present so far state forestry units into State Forest Enterprises (SFE), and the state hunting areas according to the Law on hunting and game protection - into State Hunting Enterprises (SHE). SFE and SHE became independent juridical structures with a status of trade enterprises according to art. 62, par. 3 from the Trade Law.</p> <p>On 15 of October 2009 was adopted a Decree of Council of Ministers 246 according to which SFA was transformed into Executive Forest Agency (EFA) at the Ministry of Agriculture and Food.</p>			
Comments on the institutional framework	<p>The activity, structure, functions and number of personnel of EFA are postulated in Rules for operation of EFA adopted with Decree of Council of Ministers № 339/30.12.2009, published in SG. 4/15.01.2010, in force since 15.01.2010.</p> <p>EFA is a juridical body on a state budget seated in Sofia – secondary user of budget credits at the minister of agriculture and food.</p>			
Reporting notes				
<p>1. Please provide aggregated figures for each group/type of organizations, including all levels of government. Publicly owned business entities should be excluded. Where it is impossible or inappropriate to separate the activities of publicly owned business entities from other public sector activities in forest sector, this should be noted and staff of the entities should be included in the table. Please specify in the space left for comments which institutions are included (or not) in the figures you provide.</p>				

2. Forest-related staff in public organizations includes human resources within public forest institutions at subnational level. This refers to professionals as well as administrative staff.
3. "Forest administration" includes the first three sub-categories mentioned in the previous part of the table, i.e. forest policy administration, legislative supervision & enforcement, and general support to forest management.

A.3. Legal/regulatory frameworks and international commitments

Legal/regulatory frameworks		
General characteristics of legal/regulatory framework: formal authority on main forest matters is laid down... [multiple answers possible]	<input type="checkbox"/> in constitution <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in legislation enacted by parliament <input type="checkbox"/> in administrative decrees / regulations only <input type="checkbox"/> other: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> at central government level <input type="checkbox"/> at federal level <input type="checkbox"/> other:	
Main forest and SFM related legal/regulatory act with national scope (e.g. Forest law, act or code)	Name and reference to legal document	Forest Act last am. SJ 94 and 103/29.12.2009 Expected new amendments in 2010
	Main changes from previous legal act	See below
	Date of enactment	29.12.1997
	Date of latest amendment	29.12.2009
Significant changes in the legal/regulatory framework since 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - With Decree of Council of Ministers №168/ 23.07.2007 National Forestry Board (NFB) was transferred into State Forestry Agency (SFA). In contrast to NFB which was a body at the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests, SFA was directly under the Council of Ministers. - In relation to this institutional reform, on 29.04.2008 was adopted the Law on amendment and supplementation of the Forest Act which enforced the transformation of the present so far state forestry units into State Forest Enterprises (SFE), and the state hunting areas according to the Law on hunting and game protection - into State Hunting Enterprises (SHE). SFE and SHE became independent juridical structures with a status of trade enterprises according to art. 62, par. 3 from the Trade Law. SFA established National Fund Bulgarian Forests as an independent juridical body and seconded in utilization of budget credits at SFA, in order to financially support the activities for sustainable forest management. - On 15 of October 2009 was adopted a Decree of Council of Ministers 246 according to which SFA was transformed into Executive Forest Agency (EFA) at the Ministry of Agriculture and Food. In relation to this change, Law on amendment and supplementation of the Forest act (published in SJ 80/09.10.2009) was adopted. The established in 2008 National Fund Bulgarian Forests was closed down. 	
Comments		
International commitments		
Significant changes in implementation of international commitments related to forests signed by your country, since 2007	Voluntary reporting under MCPFE, UNFF	
Comments	Real and effective implementation of the regulations of different legal act: joint activities with Ministry of Interior and the Prosecutors office – joint methodic guidelines	

A.4. Financial instruments and economic policy			
Economic policy			
Main characteristics of economic policy related to forests	Planning and reporting the budget implementation on a cash bases according to the Common budget classification. Methodic guidelines are used when applying the Law on accounting and the accounting standards in the budget organizations.		
Significant changes in economic policy related to forests (public and private) since 2007	EFA is a secondary user of budget credits with an adopted annual budget according to the budget framework resulting from the Law on the state budget of Republic of Bulgaria. In the budget of Ministry of agriculture and food is defined a programme format of the budget with target measures and indexes.		
Comments			
Financial instruments			
Public forest management	Finances the management activities which are executed by the state enterprises.		
Government financial instruments: private forest management	Using of financial instruments like fiscal measures, subsidies, loans and etc. for the private forest owners in order to assist the group planning and governance. Support to the management, regeneration, utilization and protection of the forests and lands within the forest land which are owned by private physical and juridical bodies. Support to the physical owners for forestation of uncultivated lands outside the state forest fund.		
Public expenditure ¹			
Year: 2009	Domestic funding (mil€)	External funding (mil€)	Total (mil€)
Operational expenditure ³	46,5	0	46,5
Transfer payments (support to private forest management) ⁴	0	0	0
Total public expenditure¹	46,5	0	46,5
Of which ⁵ ...	For forest administration		17,56
	For management of public forests		28,9
	For public forest research, education and training institutions		0,04
	For other institutions. Please specify:		0
Significant changes in financial instruments related to forests since 2007	According art.24, par. 1 from the Forest Act and in relation to §68 from the Law on amendment and supplementation of the Forest Act (published in SG 43/29.04.08) – SFE are independent juridical bodies with the status of state enterprises according art. 62, par. 2 from the Trade Law, e.g. the state enterprises are not on a state budget.		
Comments			
Reporting notes			
<p>1. Data on operational expenditure, transfer payments and total public expenditure for the year 2009 has been reported to FRA 2010 (http://www.fao.org/forestry/fra) in local currency. FRA definitions and reporting guidelines, also specified in these reporting notes, apply. Please indicate figures based on FRA data, or updated figures when available. Please specify the year which the data refers to in the intended box.</p> <p>Public expenditure refers to all government expenditures on forest related activities. It corresponds to the total budget allocated and spent by all concerned institutions. It includes expenditures for administrative functions, reforestation funds, direct support to forest sector (e.g. grants and subsidies) and support to other institutions (e.g. training and research centers). It excludes expenditures in publicly owned business entities. Where it is impossible or inappropriate to separate the activities of publicly owned business entities from other public sector activities in</p>			

forest sector, this should be noted and expenditure of the entities should be included in the table. In this case, please specify in the space left for comments which institutions you included (or not).

2. **Operational expenditure** is all government expenditure on public institutions solely engaged in the forest sector. Where the forest administration is part of a larger public agency (e.g. department or ministry), this should only include the forest sector component of the agency's total expenditure. As far as possible, this should also include other institutions (e.g. in research, training and marketing) solely engaged in the forest sector, but it should exclude the expenditure of publicly owned business entities. Where it is impossible or inappropriate to separate the activities of publicly owned business entities from other public sector activities in forest sector, this should be noted and expenditure of the entities should be included in the table. In this case, please specify in the space left for comments which institutions you included (or not). Operational expenditure includes expenditure on: personnel; materials; operating costs; and capital investment (e.g. buildings, equipment, tools, vehicles and machinery), whether funded by domestic or external sources of finance. It includes expenditure on contract or outsourced activities. It also includes the operating costs associated with any forest sector incentive schemes. It excludes expenditure on: marketing; trade facilitation; general research, education, training; or development projects, where forest is not the main focus of activities.
3. **Transfer payments** refer to all government expenditure on direct financial incentives paid to non-government and private-sector institutions, enterprises communities or individuals operating in the forest sector to implement forest related activities. It includes cash grants and subsidies. It excludes tax incentives; government loans; benefits in kind (free or subsidized materials and/or advice). It also excludes direct financial incentives available to all individuals and enterprises or not specifically related to forest related activities (e.g. relocation grants, employment subsidies, general training grant schemes).
4. See A2 reporting notes.

A.5. Informational means	
Main characteristics of informational policies	<p>Please describe the main objectives and instruments used in forest-related informational policy.</p> <p>A Communication strategy of EFA/2010-2013/ has been adopted in order to secure transparency and information provided to the citizens and the business. The aim of this Strategy is to support EFA in establishing and maintenance of scrupulosity, mutual understanding and cooperation between the organization and the interested parties in its activity, media, societal groups and people.</p> <p>The main communication tool is the Annual media plan.</p>
	<p>Does a written (governmental) forest-related outreach and communication strategy exist?</p> <p>The Communication Strategy of EFA /2010-2013/ that secures transparency and information provided to the citizens and people is elaborated under activity 7 from project "Increasing Transparency and Accountability in the Activities of State Forest Agency or EFA", co-funded by European Social Fund trough Operational program "Administrative capacity" (A08-12-47-C/06.02.2009).</p>
Significant changes in informational means / forest related communication since 2007	<p>EFA governs a strategic resource from the societal commonwealth – the forest. After 2007 incurred the necessity for communications strategy which to have a complex effect upon the different group of users:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - international organizations, companies and separate individuals who have relation to the activity of EFA; - national organizations, companies and institutions that have relation to the EFA activities; - associations of citizens and non-governmental organizations; - society and separate interested groups; - medias; - according to the character of the target groups are elaborated the information materials and other influence tools
Comments	

B. Policies, institutions and instruments by policy area

B.1. Land use and forest area & other wooded land		
Changes in main objectives since 2007	In the elaboration of the new Forest Act more possibilities are envisaged in order usage of forest areas – renting, leasing, right to use, servitudes and others, as the enlarged usage of these areas is in addition to the pointed so far objectives.	
	Policy objectives / targets related to forest area: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> to increase by ha within / until (period or year)	
	Policy objective / targets related to short rotation forestry area: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> to increase by ha within / until (period or year)	
Changes in main legal or reference document(s) since 2007	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Name/reference</td> <td>See A2 and A3</td> </tr> </table>	Name/reference
Name/reference	See A2 and A3	
Changes in most relevant institutions since 2007	In 2007 the National Forestry Board at the Ministry of Agriculture and forests was transferred into State Forestry Agency at the Council of Ministers. In 2009 the State Forestry Agency was changed into Executive Forest Agency at the Ministry of Agriculture and Food	
Changes in main instruments used since 2007	In order to be achieved the additional objectives, there will be mechanisms developed in the new Forest Act	
Other comments	There are no specific figure equivalents for the objectives pointed out, as those are common goals and are not linked with specific parameters. The increase in usage of forest areas via renting, leasing, right to use, right for construction, servitudes and others is new additional objective to the pointed out ones in the SoEF 2007 report, and linked with “sustainable and multifunctional forest management”.	

B.2. Carbon balance													
Changes in main objectives since 2007	<p>-Obligatory objective for increasing with 20 % the share of Renewable energy sources within the total energy consumption in EU till 2020.</p> <p>-Obligatory objective of 10 % for all Member EU States for minimum share of the biofuels within the total consumption of petrol and diesel in EU transportation sector till 2020 which to be achieved in an economic-effective way, incl. increasing the share of timber biomass for energy production.</p> <p>-Enhancing the energy effectiveness as a major factor to strengthen the competitiveness of the economy, insurance of energy supplies and environmental protection via:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. using a system of activities and measures to enhance the energy effectiveness at the end users; 2. Development of the market of energy services and implementation of activities and measures to enhance energy effectiveness at the end users and energy traders. <p>As well as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. encouraging development and usage of technologies for production and usage of energy from RES and alternative energy resources; 2. encouraging development and usage of technologies for production and usage of biofuels and other renewable fuels in the transportation sector; 3. energy supplies diversification; 4. enhancement the capacity of SME's, producers of energy from RES and alternative energy resources and biofuels and other RE-fuels producers; 5. environmental protection; 6. establishment of conditions for sustainable development on local and regional level; <p>Policy objectives / targets related to carbon sequestration by forests: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Existence of specific policy / measures for forests adaptation to climate change: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>												
Changes in main legal or reference document(s) since 2007	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 30%;">Name/reference</th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>Law on energy effectiveness in force since 14.11.2008 am. SJ 15/23.02.2010,</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Last amendment in the Law on environmental protection from SJ 103/29.12.2009.</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Law on renewable and alternative energy resources and biofuels, published in SJ 49/19.06.2007, am. SJ 98/14.11.2008.,in force since 14.11.2008.</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Law on amendment and supplementation of the Law on encouragement of investments (published SJ 97/1997, am. and supp. SJ 42 and 53 from 2007, SJ. 69 from 2008)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Ordinance № 16 - 27 from 22.01.2008 for the conditions and order for elaboration of assessment of the current and future potential of the resource for energy production from RES or alternative resources.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Name/reference			Law on energy effectiveness in force since 14.11.2008 am. SJ 15/23.02.2010,		Last amendment in the Law on environmental protection from SJ 103/29.12.2009.		Law on renewable and alternative energy resources and biofuels, published in SJ 49/19.06.2007, am. SJ 98/14.11.2008.,in force since 14.11.2008.		Law on amendment and supplementation of the Law on encouragement of investments (published SJ 97/1997, am. and supp. SJ 42 and 53 from 2007, SJ. 69 from 2008)		Ordinance № 16 - 27 from 22.01.2008 for the conditions and order for elaboration of assessment of the current and future potential of the resource for energy production from RES or alternative resources.
Name/reference													
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	Law on amendment and supplementation of the Law on encouragement of investments (published SJ 97/1997, am. and supp. SJ 42 and 53 from 2007, SJ. 69 from 2008)												
	Ordinance № 16 - 27 from 22.01.2008 for the conditions and order for elaboration of assessment of the current and future potential of the resource for energy production from RES or alternative resources.												

		Ordinance № 16 - 28 from 22.01.2008 for the content, conditions, order and way for provision of information for the produced, bought and sold quantities energy of RES and alternative resources, bought and sold quantities of biofuels.
Changes in most relevant institutions since 2007	Establishment of Energy effectiveness fund as a sole specialized institution for financing investment projects in the field of energy effectiveness New name – Ministry of economy, energy and tourism	
Changes in main instruments used since 2007	National long term programme for encouraging the biomass utilization (2008-2020). National long term programme for encouraging the utilization of RES (2005-2015). National long term programme for encouraging the consumption of biofuels in the transportation sector (2008-2020). National short term programme for encouraging the utilization of RES for 2007. Methodic for implementation of a green gas monitoring to the operators of installations, participating in the scheme for emissions quotas trade, 2008. National action plan for quotas distribution for trading with green gasses - participation in the EU green gasses emission trade for the period 2008-2012.	
Other comments	In addition, EFA is a partner in an INTERREG IV C project FUTUREforest with a main objective: improvement of the effectiveness in development of regional policies and input to the economy modernization and improvement the competitiveness in Europe via exchange, sharing and knowledge and good practices transfer in the field of forest management. The following concrete results for Bulgaria are expected: elaboration of Programme of measures for adaptation of Bulgarian forests and mitigation of negative climate change impact upon them, up-dating "Classification scheme of types of forest habitats in Republic of Bulgaria".	

B.3. Health and vitality	
Changes in main objectives since 2007	No changes in the main objectives, e.g. : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To preserve the Bulgarian forests as a national wealth - Formation and maintenance of viable and sustainable ecosystems
Changes in main legal or reference document(s) since 2007	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no
	Name/reference
Changes in most relevant institutions since 2007	See A2 and A3
Changes in main instruments used since 2007	<p>In the period 2005-2007 is finalized the research task „Methodic for collection, processing and verification of green gasses”.</p> <p>For execution of main objectives annually are foreseen the following actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Forest pathology monitoring of the pests and diseases and elaboration of reliable forecast for the development of gradations and epiphytities. 2. Control of the gradations of the economic important pests in the forests via executing forest protection activities using biological methods and harmless combating tools. 3. In-time limitation of the population of pests and prevention of economic losses. <p>Mentioned in SoEF 2007 regulations refer to instruments and are still in force. In addition to them the following are also relevant:</p> <p>Regulation №1/04.01.2002 for the conditions where pests, plants, plant and other products are used for scientific goals and selection</p> <p>Regulation №68/16.05.2006 for phytosanitary checks of imported from third countries plants, plant and other products, executed in places different from those determined for import in the territory of EU Community</p> <p>EC Regulation 690/2008 from 4th of July 2008 for acknowledgment of protected areas in the Community exposed to phytosanitary risks</p> <p>List of Decisions and derogation of EU Commission.</p>
Other comments	

B.4. Production and use of wood

Changes in main objectives since 2007	<p>Since 2007 the main legal document for the forest sector – Forest Act and the Regulation for its implementation have been changed several times. Most important change was the transfer of State forest units into State Forest Enterprises as independent trade bodies, also the transfer of State Hunting units into State Hunting Enterprises. Those changes led the sector to desired sustainability and transparency and in the end of 2009 started the elaboration of new Forest Act. At the present moment, the project for new FA is finalized and presented for consideration. It envisages separation of control functions from management activities in the Bulgarian forests. The control will be executed by EFA within the Ministry of Agriculture and food, and the management activities in the state forests will be performed by 1 or 6 state forest enterprises, which sub-structures will be the State forest and hunting units.</p> <p>In this draft Forest Act in contrast to the acting in this moment Forest Act and Regulation for its implementation, are foreseen only minimum framework conditions, according to which the timber harvesting and realization will be executed. It is envisaged the details, related to the types, mechanisms and procedures for timber harvesting and selling to be described in details in additional Ordinance, but not like now – in the main legislative document the Forest Act. As a whole, the main objectives remain the same – establishment of legislative, economic, technological and organizational conditions for optimal usage of the timber productive potential of the forests, while preserving and improving their site productive functions.</p>		
	<p>Policy objectives / targets related to the harvesting of wood:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> to increase up to 8 mln. m³ / per year within 2010-2013</p>		
	<p>Policy objectives / targets related to the use of wood:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consumption of energy from wood: to increase</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Use of forest products in construction: to increase</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other uses To increase the uses of non-timber forest products Specific figures cannot be pointed out, but the objectives foreseen for the harvested timber are comparable with those for the used one, e.g. 8 mln. m³ per year within 2010-2013. In relation to the use of energy from timber products as a strategic action in the National strategy for sustainable development of the forest sector is pointed out „Encouragement the use of wood biomass for energy”.</p>		
Changes in most relevant institutions since 2007	See A2 and A3		
Changes in main legal or reference document(s) since 2007	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 2px;">Name/reference</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">See A2 and A3</td> </tr> </table>	Name/reference	See A2 and A3
Name/reference	See A2 and A3		
Changes in main instruments used since 2007	Introduction in the practice of long term contracting of timber sales and giving rights for executing harvesting. Instruments mentioned in SoEF 2007 report are still relevant.		
Other comments			

B.5. Production and use of non-wood goods and services, especially provision of recreation			
Changes in main objectives since 2007	No changes		
Changes in main legal or reference document(s) since 2007	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <table border="1" data-bbox="502 360 1410 517"> <tr> <td>Name/reference</td> <td>Forest Act, last amended SG 103/29.12.2009 Regulation for the implementation of Forest Act, last amended SJ 89/14.10.2008 Foreseen amendments in 2010</td> </tr> </table>	Name/reference	Forest Act, last amended SG 103/29.12.2009 Regulation for the implementation of Forest Act, last amended SJ 89/14.10.2008 Foreseen amendments in 2010
Name/reference	Forest Act, last amended SG 103/29.12.2009 Regulation for the implementation of Forest Act, last amended SJ 89/14.10.2008 Foreseen amendments in 2010		
Changes in most relevant institutions since 2007	See A2 and A3		
Changes in main instruments used since 2007	<p>In the draft Forest Act are foreseen additional mechanisms for utilization of non-timber forest products.</p> <p>No changes in the other instruments.</p>		
Other comments	Possible diversification of incomes for the forest sector from non-timber products and provision of public services: Elaboration of niches in harvesting and selling of non-timber forest products, as well as provision of services related to recreation. Improvement the conditions to secure more diversification of forest products and services from sustainable managed forests via identification and elimination of unwanted obstacles and introduction of suitable incentives.		

B.6. Biodiversity			
Changes in main objectives since 2007	<p>Overall policy objectives / targets related to protected forest areas: to increase within the Natura 2000 network</p> <p>1. No major changes according to the objectives and commitments. At this very moment is running the announcement of the Orders for the Protected zones by the Ministry of environment and waters according to the Birds Directive 79/409/EEC and Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC. The Ministry of environment and waters is the leading institution in relation to conservation of protected areas and zones in R of Bulgaria.</p> <p>2. No changes Ordinance № 2/02.02.2009 for forestation and inventory of forest plantations regulates the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - conditions and order for planning and organization of forestations in the forest and agricultural land and inventory of the forest plantations; - requirements for defining the type of habitat, choice for tree and shrub species for forestation and the type of forest plantations - types of soil cultivation, methods and seasons for forestation and support to the regeneration via forestation activities - way of cultivation and thinning of the forest plantations and their fencing, as well as the order and requirements for their filling in; control over the activities implemented <p>3. No changes</p> <p>Policy objectives / targets related to protected forest areas: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> to remain about the same <input type="checkbox"/> to increase by ha within / until (period or year) <input type="checkbox"/> no objective / other. Please explain:</p>		
Changes in main legal or reference document(s) since 2007	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%; vertical-align: top;">Name/reference</td> <td> <p>1. Law on protected areas last am. SJ 103/29.12.2009 Law on biological diversity last am. SJ 103/29.12.2009 Law on environmental protection last am. SJ 103/29.12.2009 Ordinance № 2/02.02.2009 for forestation and inventory of forest plantations, approved by the State Forestry Agency, published in SJ 15.24.02.2009</p> <p>2. Law on GMO, in force since 01.06.200, published in SJ 27/29.03.2005, last am. SJ 25/30.03.2010.</p> </td> </tr> </table>	Name/reference	<p>1. Law on protected areas last am. SJ 103/29.12.2009 Law on biological diversity last am. SJ 103/29.12.2009 Law on environmental protection last am. SJ 103/29.12.2009 Ordinance № 2/02.02.2009 for forestation and inventory of forest plantations, approved by the State Forestry Agency, published in SJ 15.24.02.2009</p> <p>2. Law on GMO, in force since 01.06.200, published in SJ 27/29.03.2005, last am. SJ 25/30.03.2010.</p>
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Changes in most relevant institutions since 2007	No changes and see A2 and A3		
Changes in main instruments used since 2007	<p>No changes and additionally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elaboration of projects for restoration and maintenance of habitats according the Habitats Directive. - The purpose of the projects is mainly in direction of conservation of the biodiversity and improvement the ecological balance in Republic of Bulgaria. They are financed mainly from EU programmes, the Bulgarian government and other donor. - The instruments for achievement of the main objectives could be based on the political will of Bulgaria and in relation to implementation of EU legislation 		
Other comments	.		
Reporting notes			

Please refer to the following levels/dimensions of biodiversity:

1. Ecosystem, habitat, protected areas, landscape patterns
2. Species diversity, especially tree species composition and threatened forest species
3. Genetic diversity, especially in situ and ex situ gene conservation and seed production

B.7. Protective services	
Changes in main objectives since 2007	No changes, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regulation № 1 defines the conditions and order for combating the erosion and landslides in the forest fund and the construction of fortifications. In this regard it may be considered also as an instrument - Raising the quality of life through protection and enhancement of the social and cultural forest functions; - Enhancing social forest functions
Changes in main legal or reference document(s) since 2007	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes
	Name/reference See A2 and A3
Changes in most relevant institutions since 2007	See A2 and A3
Changes in main instruments used since 2007	No changes, e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - elaboration of projects and programmes for erosion control with national and local importance for protection of vulnerable areas; - support to private forest owners when construction fortifications; - application of specific methods and technologies for land cultivation and forest utilization, aiming sustainable forest management; - training to forest owners and controlling officers
Other comments	According the input for decreasing the natural disasters effect as an MCPFE commitments related to the climate changes, the following anti-erosion forestations have been done: 2007 – 740.5 ha; 2008 – 760.2 ha; 2009 – 942.1 ha The main objectives pointed out in the second and third bullet point do refer to protective forest services.
Reporting notes	
Protective services cover services as specified in pan-European indicators 5.1 “Protective forests – soil, water and other ecosystem functions” and 5.2 “Protective forests – infrastructure and managed natural resources“	

B.8. Economic viability		
Changes in main objectives since 2007	<p>The objective is to preserve Bulgarian forests as a national asset – main habitat forming factor, via regeneration and sustainable forest development and multifunctional utilization in the benefit of the owners or the society.</p> <p>The main objective changed from economic stabilization to sustainable development.</p>	
Changes in main legal or reference document(s) since 2007	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Name/reference</td> <td>See A2 and A3</td> </tr> </table>	Name/reference
Name/reference	See A2 and A3	
Changes in most relevant institutions since 2007	See A2 and A3	
Changes in main instruments used since 2007	<p>With a Decree of the Council of Ministers 168/23.07.07 NFB is transferred in SFA at the Council of Ministers. According art.24, par. 1 from the Forest Act and in relation to §68 from the Law on amendment and supplementation of the Forest Act (published in SG 43/29.04.08) – SFE are independent juridical bodies with the status of state enterprises according art. 62, par. 2 from the Trade Law, e.g. the state enterprises are not on a state budget.</p> <p>This does not exclude the main actions to be carried on after 2007, only the way of financing is different, as the institutional framework has changed.</p>	
Other comments		

B.9. Employment (including safety and health)		
Changes in main objectives since 2007	No changes: Appointment of management staff by competition on the basis of obligatory examination	
Changes in main legal or reference document(s) since 2007	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes (if yes, please fill in below)	
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Name/reference</td> <td>Law on health and safety labor conditions last am. SG 12/12.02.2010 Regulation for health and safety labor conditions – updated in 2007</td> </tr> </table>	Name/reference
Name/reference	Law on health and safety labor conditions last am. SG 12/12.02.2010 Regulation for health and safety labor conditions – updated in 2007	
Changes in most relevant institutions since 2007	Transfer of the State forest and hunting units into State Forest and Hunting Enterprises according to the Trade Law, according to the Forest Act and Law on hunting and game protection. Transfer of the Regional Forest Directorates on a higher level administration – secondary and necessity for reappointment of all expert servants according to the Law on civil servants, not according to the Labor Code as before.	
Changes in main instruments used since 2007	No changes	
Other comments		

B.10. Public awareness		
Changes in main objectives since 2007	<p>The main objective was the elaboration and adoption of a Communication strategy which to ensure enhancing the information rate of separate target groups via positive materials and unostentatious presence in the media, like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - secure transparency of the EFA activities in the conditions of market economy; - popularization of the measures and activities undertaken in relation to protection and enhancement of the forest and game wealth of Bulgaria; - energizing and joining the society while solving problems related to forests – fire prevention, illegal timber harvesting, poaching, and etc.; - explaining the perspectives and developments of the forest sector; - improvement of the image of the state forest administration and raising the profile of the people working in the field of forestry; - popularization and strengthening the role of EFA in the society among the kids, youth and adults, as a structure that aims enhancing the national wealth 	
Changes in main legal or reference document(s) since 2007	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">Name/reference</td> <td>EFA Communication strategy, 2009</td> </tr> </table>	Name/reference
Name/reference	EFA Communication strategy, 2009	
Changes in most relevant institutions since 2007	See A2 and A3	
Changes in main instruments used since 2007	Main instrument is the Annual communication plan. Other instruments are still valid.	
Other comments	As this Communication strategy has not been officially adopted by the Bulgarian Parliament, we cannot confirm that the mentioned above objectives are official policy objectives.	

B.11. Research, training and education			
Changes in main objectives since 2007	No changes		
Changes in main legal or reference document(s) since 2007	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%; vertical-align: top;">Name/reference</td> <td> Law on Bulgarian Academy of Sciences last am. SJ 41/22.05.2007 Law on professional education and training, last am. SJ 74/15.09.2009 Law on high education last am. SJ 99/15.12.2009 </td> </tr> </table>	Name/reference	Law on Bulgarian Academy of Sciences last am. SJ 41/22.05.2007 Law on professional education and training, last am. SJ 74/15.09.2009 Law on high education last am. SJ 99/15.12.2009
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Changes in most relevant institutions since 2007	No changes, See A2 and A3		
Changes in main instruments used since 2007	No changes		
Other comments	Main research institutions take part in different project under the programmes Cost, Life+, SEE, 7 th Framework programme, etc.		

B.12. Cultural and spiritual values			
Changes in main objectives since 2007	Main objectives in the recently adopted legislation: 1. Equality of the different types of cultural heritage when protecting it; 2. Decentralization of the governance and financing of activities for protection of cultural heritage; 3. Publicity and transparency in governing activities for protection of cultural heritage.		
Changes in main legal or reference document(s) since 2007	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes		
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Name/reference</td> <td>Law on monuments of culture and museums - repealed Law on cultural heritage, published SJ 19/13.03.2009, in force since 10.04.2009</td> </tr> </table>	Name/reference	Law on monuments of culture and museums - repealed Law on cultural heritage, published SJ 19/13.03.2009, in force since 10.04.2009
Name/reference	Law on monuments of culture and museums - repealed Law on cultural heritage, published SJ 19/13.03.2009, in force since 10.04.2009		
Changes in most relevant institutions since 2007	Closing down the State agency on tourism and transferring responsibilities to the Ministry of economy, energy and tourism		
Changes in main instruments used since 2007	National strategy and Action plan for sustainable development of tourism in Republic of Bulgaria 2009-2013		
Other comments			

2. Reporting on National⁵ Implementation of Warsaw commitments and activities since 2007 in implementing former commitments of the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe

National implementation of the Warsaw Declaration

1. Participation in an INTERREG IV C project FutureForest with main vision:

“Through regional cooperation to establish instruments, methods, policies and programmes to support the forest owners and decision makers to carry on securing the multiple benefits from the forests and to leave for the next generations forests that are well adapted and flexible to nature risks and climate changes”. The topics within the project are related to important aspects of forest management like: impact upon the circle of water, relation with Framework Directive 2000/60/EC for the water policy; impact upon the soil preservation; relation with Framework directive COM (2006) 232 for soil protection; biodiversity impact, relation with NATURA 2000; upon the timber production (economic function); negative or positive impact upon the tree species; will the carbon sequestration increase; increase the risk of nature disasters like forest fires, pests and diseases);

2. Elaborated Concept for sustainable, multifunctional and close-to-nature forest management under Phare Twinning Light project „Strengthening of the administrative capacity of the State Forestry Agency in the field of implementation of the requirements of EC Resolution from 15th of December 1998 for the EU Forest Strategy, EU Forest Action Plan and other legislative documents related to sustainable, multifunctional and close-to-nature forest management”.

National implementation of Warsaw Resolution 1 Forests, wood and energy

1. See B2.

2. As a part of the implementation of a project “Assistance to the forest sector reform in Bulgaria” was prepared an analyses of the forest infrastructure and the timber supply chain, as well as a review of the timber market and wood processing industry development. Concept for development of combined forest and wood processing sector was elaborated, as well as proposal for Action Plan with 41 priority issues in relation to mid term strategic development of the Bulgarian forest and wood processing sector.

3 As a priority goal in the Bulgarian forests management, EFA had a goal for enlarging the share of utilization of the woody biomass from the forests for energy production (RES). **Other goals of** the management are related to establishment of Intergovernmental council for scientific services, participation in implementation and introduction of European and world practices and initiatives in relation to the prevention and forest adaptation to the climate change, as well as improvement of the cadastre and data base for Bulgarian forests via introduction of satellite technologies.

4. Within the implementation of a project under the Operative Programme Administrative Capacity “Strengthening the transparency and reporting of the EFA Activity” a Communication strategy and media-plan for the agency have been

⁵ Note that the European Commission is asked to report on EU relevant implementation activities

elaborated as an important tool for improvement the transparency and reporting to the community for the activities of the state forest sector, as well as the improvement of their image. In the framework of this project has been optimized the EFA web page, have been created web pages of all Regional Forest Directorates, Nature Parks Directorate, Forest protection and Seed control stations at EFA, and also a related training has been organized. Via these web pages the people and business representatives can obtain aster and easier information for the status problems and services in the state forest sector, also to look at up-dated of national strategic documents, incl. National Strategy for sustainable development of the forest sector in Bulgaria (2006-2015) and Strategic plan for forest sector development (2007-2011). The project started with the establishment if 4 regional information centers in Varna, Veliko Tarnovo, Stara Zagora and Sofia. There each citizen or company can obtain information for the auction for entrusting the harvesting or timber sale, how to buy fuel wood, information about the management and utilization of the forests and the game, and other related to administrative and other services in the forests.

National implementation of Warsaw Resolution 2 Forests and water

1. Ministry of Environment and Waters is responsible for the Vision for elaboration of a national strategy for development of the water sector till the end of 2010. We hope there will be a visible link between the forests and the water.

2. In 2009 started a SEE project Climate change and impacts on water supply relates to establishment of methods and instruments to forecast the influence of the land use changes upon the waters, as well as elaboration of proposals for measures for adaptation of the water management to those changes and identification of a suitable model for quantity appraisal of the climate changes on the watershed level via analyzing the water balance.

Specific goals of the project:

- Identification of future stock of drinking water related to climate changes and land use changes impact
- Demarcation of the anthropogenic influence and natural one upon the water stocks and their protection
- Establishment of common tools for risk appraisal related to the supply of drinking water in the conditions of changing climate
- Establishment of suitable technical measures and legislative base in order to diminish the negative influence of the climate change and land use changes upon the water management
- Proposals for economic and social measures
- Establishment of system for optimization the supplies from drinking water
- Experience exchange in Southeast Europe, awareness raising and proposals for a common approach for sustainable trans-national water management
- Proposals for measures towards the local structures and the society as end water users

3. In 2009 started a SEE project „ Practical Use of MONITORing in Natural Disaster Management” with main goals: minimizing the specified discrepancies in the information flow, development of instruments and procedures for introduction of different information sources; improvement the access and effectiveness in the plans

for disaster and risk maps; improvement the information reliability; analyzing the necessity of the different societal groups to specialized information.

Expected results:

Development of a common integrated monitoring system, analyses, simulation modeling and risk management related to floods and torrents on the bases of research done, collected data and aliases done in the framework the this MONITOR project in a pilot region within the watershed of river Varbitsa. The system will aim to preserve data from past events and to support a dynamic map of the risk zones and objects; to report the diverse activities and regimes in different plans and projects; to warn the stakeholders when the risk is higher than definitive level; to model the dynamic processes related to consequences of high waves (risk zones, flood zones, torrent energy and etc.).

Annex 1: Terms and definitions

Forest	<p>Land with tree crown cover (or equivalent stocking level) of more than 10 percent and area of more than 0.5 ha. The trees should be able to reach a minimum height of 5 m at maturity <i>in situ</i>. May consist <u>either</u> of closed forest formations where trees of various storeys and undergrowth cover a high proportion of the ground; <u>or</u> of open forest formations with a continuous vegetation cover in which tree crown cover exceeds 10 percent. Young natural stands and all plantations established for forestry purposes, which have yet to reach a crown density of 10 percent or tree height of 5m, are included under forest, as are areas normally forming part of the forest area, which are temporarily unstocked as a result of human intervention or natural causes but which are expected to revert to forest.</p> <p><u>Includes:</u> Forest nurseries and seed orchards that constitute an integral part of the forest; forest roads, cleared tracts, firebreaks and other small open areas within the forest; forest in national parks, nature reserves and other protected areas such as those of special environmental, scientific, historical, cultural or spiritual interest; windbreaks and shelterbelts of trees with an area of more than 0.5 ha and a width of more than 20 m. Rubberwood plantations and cork oak stands are included.</p> <p><u>Excludes:</u> Land predominantly used for agricultural practices.</p>
Other wooded land	<p>Land either with a tree crown cover (or equivalent stocking level) of 5-10 percent of trees able to reach a height of 5 m at maturity <i>in situ</i>; or a crown cover (or equivalent stocking level) of more than 10 percent of trees not able to reach a height of 5 m at maturity <i>in situ</i> (e.g. dwarf or stunted trees) and shrub or bush cover.</p> <p><u>Excludes:</u> Areas having the tree, shrub or bush cover specified above but of less than 0.5 ha and width of 20 m, which are classed under "other land"; Land predominantly used for agricultural practices.</p>
Forest institutional framework	<p>It refers mainly to the organizational set-up of forest policy in the country. It further comprises formal coordinating mechanisms between these (including e.g. national forest programme process)</p>
Forest policy	<p>A set of orientations and principles of actions adopted by public authorities in harmony with national socio-economic and environmental policies in a given country to guide future decisions in relation to the management, use and conservation of forest and tree resources for the benefit of the society.</p>
National forest policy/strategy document or statement	<p>It describes the objectives, priorities and means for implementation of the forest policy.</p>
Subnational forest policy/strategy documents or statements	<p>Forest policy document or statement which refers to subnational administrative units, e.g. States in a Federation or Autonomous Regions or Provinces.</p>

<p>“National forest programme” (Nfp)</p>	<p>According to the MCPFE approach (Vienna resolution 1), a national forest programme (Nfp) is a participatory, holistic, inter-sectoral and iterative process of policy planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation at the national and/or subnational level in order to proceed towards the further improvement of sustainable forest management as defined in Helsinki Resolution H1, and to contribute to sustainable development.</p> <p>The principles of Nfps in Europe are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participation - Holistic and inter-sectoral approach - Iterative process with long-term commitment - Capacity building - Consistency with national legislation and policies - Integration with national sustainable development strategies - Consistency with international commitments recognising synergies between international forest related initiatives and conventions - Institutional and policy reform - Ecosystem approach - Partnership for implementation - Raising awareness
<p>Law (or Act or Code) on forest</p>	<p>Set of rules enacted by the legislative authority of a country regulating the access, management, conservation and use of forest resources.</p>
<p>Institutional framework</p>	<p>Institutional framework is understood to refer mainly to the organizational set-up of forest policy in the country. It further comprises formal coordinating mechanisms between these (including e.g. national forest programme process).</p>
<p>Forest management</p>	<p>The processes of planning and implementing practices for the stewardship and use of forests and other wooded land aimed at achieving specific environmental, economic, social and /or cultural objectives. It includes management at all scales such as normative, strategic, tactical and operational level management.</p>
<p>Forms of ownership</p>	<p>Generally refers to the legal right to freely and exclusively use, control, transfer, or otherwise benefit from a forest. Ownership can be acquired through transfers such as sales, donations, and inheritance.</p> <p><u>Explanatory notes:</u> In this questionnaire, forest ownership refers to the ownership of the trees growing on land classified as forest, regardless of whether or not the ownership of these trees coincides with the ownership of the land itself.</p>
<p>Publicly owned forest</p>	<p>Forest owned by the State; or administrative units of the Public Administration; or by institutions or corporations owned by the Public Administration.</p> <p><u>Explanatory notes:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Includes all the hierarchical levels of Public Administration within a country, e.g. State, Province and Municipality. 2. Shareholder corporations that are partially State-owned, are considered as under public ownership when the State holds a majority of the shares. 3. Public ownership may exclude the possibility to transfer.
<p>Privately owned forest</p>	<p>Forest owned by individuals, families, communities, private cooperatives, corporations and other business entities, private religious and educational institutions, pension or investment funds, NGOs, nature conservation associations and other private institutions.</p>

Annex 2: Pan-European qualitative indicators

A. Overall policies, institutions and instruments for sustainable forest management

A.1 National forest programmes or similar

A.2 Institutional frameworks

A.3 Legal/regulatory frameworks and international commitments

A.4 Financial instruments/economic policy

A.5 Informational means

B. Policies, institutions and instruments by policy area

Ind. No.	Crit.	Policy area	Main objectives	Relevant institutions	Main policy instruments used			Signific. changes since last Ministerial Conference
					Legal/regulatory	Financial/economic	Informational	
B.1	C1	Land use and forest area and OWL ²						
B.2	C1	Carbon balance						
B.3	C2	Health and vitality						
B.4	C3	Production and use of wood						
B.5	C3	Production and use of non-wood goods and services, provision of especially recreation						
B.6	C4	Biodiversity						
B.7	C5	Protective forests and OWL						
B.8	C6	Economic viability						
B.9	C6	Employment (incl. safety and health)						
B.10	C6	Public awareness and participation						
B.11	C6	Research, training and education						
B.12	C6	Cultural and spiritual values						