



Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe

## Reporting on the pan-European Qualitative Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management

A special request is related to any foreseen changes related to policies, institutions and instruments until December 2014. Please select the button to provide such information.

Yes  No

COUNTRY: Finland

DATE OF SUBMISSION: 29/ 09/ 2014

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### Other professionals involved in the reporting process: 1

Name: Several colleagues have contributed to the preparation of the report.  
 Organization: In addition, the report has been circulated to the interministerial working group on international forest issues.  
 Email: Some 5 persons sent their comments.

### Deadline for submission :

## PART I: Policies for Sustainable Forest Management (SFM)

### A1. 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

Formal NFP process  
 Process explicitly guided by the FOREST EUROPE NFP principles  
 Similar process  
 Other. Please specify:

Name of NFP or similar process

Name: National Forest Programme  
 Internet Link: [http://www.mmm.fi/en/index/frontpage/forests/forest\\_policy/strategies\\_programmes/kmo2010.html](http://www.mmm.fi/en/index/frontpage/forests/forest_policy/strategies_programmes/kmo2010.html)  
 Starting year: 1993

Main formal decision making body of the process

Body with members other than Ministry responsible for forestry  
 Ministry responsible for forestry  
 Similar process  
 Other. Please specify:

Yes  No

Significant changes related to the NFP process or similar since 2011

If yes, please describe the reason/s for and type of changes [max.100 words]

Changes in the world market and the pressures for more diverse use of forests give rise to imply significant changes in the forest policy. The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry conducted a participatory process to prepare the Forest Policy Report 2050 which was endorsed by the Government in February 2014. This is the first report of its kind ever drawn up in Finland. The Parliament discussed the report in May 2014. The memorandum and Parliament opinion drawn up based on the report will be utilized in

preparing the Forest Strategy 2025, which will be the next National Forest Programme of Finland.

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <b>Key lessons learned on the NFP process or similar</b>   | Please specify [max. 100 words], particularly on the NFP principles related to NFP as iterative process, stakeholder participation and approaches to inter-sectoral coordination and collaboration:  |  |
|  | The process encourages the Finnish Government to allocate resources for the forest sector. The Government has been able to provide support for the forest sector in spite of the economic recession. The process provides an opportunity for stakeholders to take part in preparing the National Forest Programme as well as engages them to participate in its implementation. It also keeps up the dialogue between actors and encourages the cooperation. Due to the diversity of actors, many different perspectives are taken into account. The collaboration with stakeholders is one of the strengths in the NFP-process.   |  |
| <b>Comments on the NFP or similar process</b>  | Please explain [max. 100 words] and provide reference documents when relevant:   |  |
|  | Finland has a long tradition of making national forest programmes since the 1960s. The new kind of NFP-process started in 1993, and it differs from the earlier ones as it is an open process, prepared and implemented in cooperation with all relevant interest groups.  |  |
| <b>Main Forest policy document (national forest programme document, forest policy statement, strategy or other)</b>                      |  |  |
| <b>Existence of forest policy document (other than law)</b>  | Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/>  |  |
| <b>Title of main forest policy document and internet links</b>   | Name: Government Report on Forest Policy 2050<br>Internet Link:<br><a href="http://www.mmm.fi/en/index/frontpage/forests/forest_policy/strategies_programmes/forest_policy_report.html">http://www.mmm.fi/en/index/frontpage/forests/forest_policy/strategies_programmes/forest_policy_report.html</a>   |  |
| <b>Forest policy document development process</b>  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> formal NFP process or process explicitly guided by NFP principles<br><input type="checkbox"/> process similar to NFP or other process  |  |
| <b>Name of endorsing/authorizing /enacting institution of the main forest policy document</b>  | <input type="checkbox"/> Parliament<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Council of Ministers or similar<br><input type="checkbox"/> Minister responsible for forestry<br><input type="checkbox"/> Forestry Department or similar<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other. Please specify:   | Date of endorsement / authorization / enactment<br><br>6 February 2014 |
| <b>Evaluation of policy implementation</b>   | <input type="checkbox"/> Periodically, pre-specified in the NFP document<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Periodically, but not pre-specified<br><input type="checkbox"/> Not specified, not planned<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other   |  |
| <b>Is there explicit reference to FOREST EUROPE instruments in the forest policy document?</b>   | <p>FOREST EUROPE definition of SFM Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>FOREST EUROPE criteria and indicators for SFM Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>FOREST EUROPE guidelines for NFPs Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>FOREST EUROPE Classification of Protected and Protective Forests and Other Wooded Land Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>FOREST EUROPE Pan-European Operational Level Guidelines for Sustainable Forest Management Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>FOREST EUROPE Pan-European Guidelines for Afforestation and Reforestation Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> |  |
| <b>If the responsibility for forest policy is decentralized:</b><br>Existence of formally endorsed subnational forest policy document(s) | Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/>  |  |
| <b>Significant changes related to main forest policy document since 2011</b>   | <p>Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/></p> <p>If yes, please describe the reason/s for and type of changes [max. 100 words]:</p> <p>Based on the vision "Sustainable forest management is a source of growing welfare" the Forest Policy Report presents three strategic objectives: 1) Finland is a competitive operating environment for forest-based business, 2) Forest-based business and activities and their structures are renewed and diversified, and 3) Forests are in active, sustainable and diverse use. The report further presents thirteen sets of measures to achieve these strategic objectives.</p>  |  |
| <b>Comments on the main forest policy document</b>   | <p>Please explain [max. 100 words] and provide reference documents where relevant:</p> <p>Please note that the document "National Forest Programme 2015" is still valid and implemented. The Forest Policy Report 2050 will guide the preparation of Finland's Forest Strategy 2025, which will be the next NFP of Finland. Other national strategies which address forest related issues are e.g. Strategic Programme for the Forest Sector (by the Ministry of Employment and the Economy in 2011), Finland's Bioeconomy Strategy (approved by the Government in May 2014), Government Report to the Parliament on Natural Resources (in 2014). The Forest Biodiversity Programme for Southern Finland METSO is being implemented alongside the NFP.</p>   |  |

## Policy objectives by policy area

## Policy areas

Are there any specifically stated policy objectives in relation to each policy area:

Yes  No

If yes, please specify and provide quantified targets, if any:

**B1. Land use and forest area**

Due to the high forest coverage (73% of the total land area) it has not been considered necessary to set specific targets related to land use and forest area.

Are there any significant changes in main policy objectives since 2011

Yes  No

If yes, please describe and include reason/s for the changes

Are there any specifically stated policy objectives in relation to each policy area:

Yes  No

If yes, please specify and provide quantified targets, if any:

**B2. Carbon balance**

Maintaining carbon sequestration and stocks in forest ecosystems at 10-20 million tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> eqv. per year. Increasing the use of wood based energy to 27% of total energy consumption with a view to reaching the 29% target by 2020.

Are there any significant changes in main policy objectives since 2011

Yes  No

If yes, please describe and include reason/s for the changes

Are there any specifically stated policy objectives in relation to each policy area:

Yes  No

If yes, please specify and provide quantified targets, if any:

Maintaining the percentage of complete and severe forest damages that reduce stand quality at no more than 3% of all land used for forestry purposes.

**B3. Health and vitality**

Are there any significant changes in main policy objectives since 2011

Yes  No

If yes, please describe and include reason/s for the changes

Monitoring of damages caused by insects has been increased due to the risk of bark beetle. Monitoring is done in collaboration between Metla and Finland's Forest Centre and an internet-portal has been launched for better communication. Finland's National Strategy on Invasive Alien Species was adopted as a Government resolution in 2012. Strategy and the Action Plan include several objectives concerning invasive alien species related to forests. A national Internet-portal on Invasive Alien Species has been launched in June 2014 as a part of the actions in the Strategy. Citizens can provide with the observations through this portal.

Are there any specifically stated policy objectives in relation to each policy area:

Yes  No

If yes, please specify and provide quantified targets, if any:

**B4. Production and use of wood**

Maintaining the annual increment at 100-110 million cubic metres. Increasing domestic roundwood removals to 65-70 million cubic metres.

Are there any significant changes in main policy objectives since 2011

Yes  No

If yes, please describe and include reason/s for the changes

Are there any specifically stated policy objectives in relation to each policy area:

Yes  No

If yes, please specify and provide quantified targets, if any:

**B5. Production and use of non-wood goods and services**

Increasing entrepreneurship based on ecotourism and further processing of natural produce as well as the commercialisation of intangible commodities, including more detailed indicators: Developing an indicator for measuring the growth of tourism outside the cities; and Increasing the turnover of business based on further processing of natural produce.

Are there any significant changes in main policy objectives since 2011

Yes  No 

If yes, please describe and include reason/s for the changes

Are there any specifically stated policy objectives in relation to each policy area:Yes  No If yes, please specify and provide quantified targets, if any:

Preventing the increase of the percentage of endangered forest species of the estimated number of forest species from the level established in the assessment of threatened species in 2000 (564 species). Increasing the volume of deadwood in forest and scrub land areas by 5% to 3.4 m<sup>3</sup>/ha in southern Finland and 8.0 m<sup>3</sup>/ha in northern Finland. More quantified targets included in the Forest Biodiversity Programme for Southern Finland METSO.

**B6. Biodiversity**

Are there any significant changes in main policy objectives since 2011

Yes  No 

If yes, please describe and include reason/s for the changes

Monitoring system of waters (waterways in forest) by forest management measures has been established and taken in use 2014, in order to maintain the good quality of waters.

Are there any specifically stated policy objectives in relation to each policy area:Yes  No If yes, please specify and provide quantified targets, if any:

The quality of water protection in harvesting and soil preparation in regeneration sites is excellent or good in 95% of the area by 2015.

**B7. Protective forests**

Are there any significant changes in main policy objectives since 2011

Yes  No 

If yes, please describe and include reason/s for the changes

Are there any specifically stated policy objectives in relation to each policy area:Yes  No If yes, please specify and provide quantified targets, if any:

Maintaining profits in private forestry at no less than 110 euros/ha. Increasing the value of forest and wood products industry production by 20%. Increasing the value of forest and wood products industry exports by 20%.

**B8. Economic viability**

Are there any significant changes in main policy objectives since 2011

Yes  No 

If yes, please describe and include reason/s for the changes

Are there any specifically stated policy objectives in relation to each policy area:Yes  No If yes, please specify and provide quantified targets, if any:

Finland's National Forest Programme 2015 and the Strategic Programme for the Forest Sector 2009-2011 include numerous objectives for enhancing competitiveness and business expertise of the forest sector companies, which in turn will contribute to maintenance or creation of jobs. E.g. Increasing turnovers and employment within the heating energy sector; Increasing entrepreneurship based on ecotourism and further processing of natural produce as well as the commercialisation of intangible commodities; Increasing market-based pricing and entrepreneurship in forest-services provision.

**B9. Employment (incl. safety and health)**

Are there any significant changes in main policy objectives since 2011

Yes  No 

If yes, please describe and include reason/s for the changes

Are there any specifically stated policy objectives in relation to each policy area:Yes  No If yes, please specify and provide quantified targets, if any:

Are there any significant changes in main policy objectives since 2011

**B10. Public awareness and participation**

Participation is a key value that is involved in both national and regional processes. The NFP was drawn up in a broad-based collaboration with interest groups, under the supervision of the MAF and with the support of the National Forest Council. National Forest Council, its secretariat and working groups involve both administrative representatives and representatives of interest groups. In addition, participatory processes are used in natural resource planning, where the use of the state-owned land and water areas that are under Metsä-hallitus' administration is planned with multiple

goals.

Yes  No

If yes, please describe and include reason/s for the changes

Are there any specifically stated policy objectives in relation to each policy area:

Yes  No

If yes, please specify and provide quantified targets, if any:

**B11. Research, training and education**

Increasing public funding for research and development in the forest sector to 200 million euros per year. Adjusting the number of graduates from all levels of forest, bioenergy, wood, and paper industry education to the sector's needs, and maintaining the total number of graduates at 3,000-3,500 graduates per year.

Are there any significant changes in main policy objectives since 2011

Yes  No

If yes, please describe and include reason/s for the changes

Are there any specifically stated policy objectives in relation to each policy area:

Yes  No

If yes, please specify and provide quantified targets, if any:

**B12. Cultural and spiritual values**

Strengthening the aspects of forests that promote human welfare and culture, and more detailed indicators: Completing inventories on the cultural heritage sites located in State-owned forests, and launching inventories on private forests; Promoting a positive relationship to nature among children and young people as well as educators and teachers, and increasing awareness; Increasing the amount of time that Finns spend outdoors and engaged in different activities; Maintaining a good quality and quantity of public hiking routes.

Are there any significant changes in main policy objectives since 2011

Yes  No

If yes, please describe and include reason/s for the changes

Please explain and provide reference documents where relevant:

**Comments**

The policy objectives and quantified targets are included in the National Forest Programme 2015 and the Forest Biodiversity Programme for Southern Finland METSO. Other national strategies which address forest related issues are: Strategic Programme for the Forest Sector (by the Ministry of Employment and the Economy in 2011), Finland's Bioeconomy Strategy (approved by the Government in May 2014), Government Report to the Parliament on Natural Resources (in 2014).

**Key measures and lessons learnt per policy area**

**Key measures taken on implementing the policy since 2011**

**Key lessons learnt**

**Policy areas**

**If yes, please specify [max. 100 words]**

**Please explain [max. 100 words] and provide reference documents where relevant.**

Key measures taken on implementing the policy since 2011

Yes  No

**B1. Land use and forest area**

**If yes, please specify**

Due to the high forest coverage (73% of the total land area) it has not been considered necessary to set specific measures related to land use and forest area.

**Key lessons learnt. Please explain and provide reference documents where relevant.**

Key measures taken on implementing the policy since 2011

Yes  No

**B2. Carbon balance**

Government subsidies were granted for harvesting of small-diameter wood for energy. Government subsidies were granted for the energy sector for using bioenergy. A new joint research and innovation programme, "ForestEnergy 2020" for 2012-2016 at METLA (Finnish Forest Research Institute) and VTT (VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland) was started. It covers the whole span of forest energy value chain from biomass production, supply chain to conversion plant and end use.

**Key lessons learnt. Please explain and provide reference documents where relevant.**

Research programme "ForestEnergy 2020": <http://www.forestenergy2020.org/>

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Key measures taken on implementing the policy since 2011

Yes  No

**B3. Health and vitality**

A research programme "Functioning of Forest Ecosystems and Use of Forest Resources in Changing Climate" was implemented in 2007-2011 and gave information on adjusting forest management and preventing forest damage in a changing climate. The readiness plan against acute forest damage was prepared for the Finnish Forestry Centre. Forest management recommendations were updated to take better into account the effects of climate change on forest ecosystems.

**Key lessons learnt. Please explain and provide reference documents where relevant.**

Research programme "Functioning of Forest Ecosystems and Use of Forest Resources in Changing Climate": <http://www.metla.fi/ohjelma/mil/index-en.htm>

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Key measures taken on implementing the policy since 2011

Yes  No

**B4. Production and use of wood**

The Strategic Programme for the Forest Sector (MSO) started in 2011 (for more information see the link). Promotion of wood-based energy has been boosted by the research programme "Bio-energy from forests" by Metla (Finnish Forests Research Institute). Roundwood markets have been promoted with the help of a designated committee, by increasing the provision of information about prices and measuring of roundwood and energy wood, by introducing price indexes to balance timber trade, and by launching a first-phase electronic marketplace for timber.

**Key lessons learnt. Please explain and provide reference documents where relevant.**

The Strategic Programme for the Forest Sector:  
[https://www.tem.fi/en/current\\_issues/pending\\_projects/strategic\\_programmes\\_and\\_flagship\\_projects/strategic\\_programme\\_for\\_the\\_forest\\_sector](https://www.tem.fi/en/current_issues/pending_projects/strategic_programmes_and_flagship_projects/strategic_programme_for_the_forest_sector)  
 "Bio-energy from forests" the research programme: <http://www.metla.fi/ohjelma/bio/index-en.htm> A new internet portal MetsäÄän.fi ([www.metsaan.fi](http://www.metsaan.fi)) to provide information and services to forest owners and forest managers was launched.

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Key measures taken on implementing the policy since 2011

Yes  No

**B5. Production and use of non-wood goods and services**

The forest management recommendations were updated to take better into account various ecosystem services. Several actors have promoted the preconditions of ecotourism activities, including the "Wellbeing from forests" research programme by Metla. Training programmes have been conducted to promote entrepreneurship based on ecotourism and processing natural produce. Roundwood markets have been promoted: with the help of designated committee; by increasing the provision of information about prices and measuring of roundwood and energy wood; by introducing price indexes to balance timber trade; by launching an electronic marketplace for timber.

**Key lessons learnt. Please explain and provide reference documents where relevant.**

Research programme "Wellbeing from forests": <http://www.metla.fi/ohjelma/hyv/index-en.htm> A new internet portal MetsäÄän.fi ([www.metsaan.fi](http://www.metsaan.fi)) to provide information and services to forest owners and forest managers was launched.

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Key measures taken on implementing the policy since 2011

Yes  No

**B6. Biodiversity**

New protected areas were established. Implementation of the Forest Biodiversity Action Programme for Southern Finland (METSO) continued (voluntary protection of private forests, restoration activities in public and private forests). The forest management recommendations were updated to take better into account the maintenance and promotion of biodiversity in different forest management practices. An action plan to promote the conditions in threatened habitat types was prepared in 2011.

**Key lessons learnt. Please explain and provide reference documents where relevant.**

METSO-programme: <http://www.metsonpolku.fi/en/index.php>

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Key measures taken on implementing the policy since 2011

Yes  No

**B7. Protective forests**

A project to improve the quality of water protection in forestry and peat production was implemented in 2011-2013 and gave information to guidelines on water protection in forestry.

**Key lessons learnt. Please explain and provide reference documents where relevant.**

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Key measures taken on implementing the policy since 2011

Yes  No

**B8. Economic viability**

One of the objectives of the renewal of the Forest Act (see PART III) was to improve the profitability of forestry. The research programme "Forests and silviculture in the future 2012-2016" by Metla includes tasks related to the profitability of forestry and the competitiveness of wood and biomass production in Finland.

**Key lessons learnt. Please explain and provide reference documents where relevant.**

Research programme "Forests and silviculture in the future 2012-2016": <http://www.metla.fi/ohjelma/002/index-en.htm>

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Key measures taken on implementing the policy since 2011

Yes  No **B9.**  
Employment  
(incl. safety  
and health)

The Strategic Programme for the Forest Sector (MSO) started in 2011 (see above B4). See also key measures in B5.

**Key lessons learnt. Please explain and provide reference documents where relevant.**

Key measures taken on implementing the policy since 2011

Yes  No **B10. Public  
awareness  
and  
participation**

A new Internet portal Metsaan.fi (www.metsaan.fi) to provide information and services to forest owners and forest managers was launched. Finland's main activity during the International Year of Forests 2011 was the launch of the Metsä puhuu project (Forests speak) (www.metsapuhuu.fi), which is targeted especially to the youth and school children. The Pilke Science Centre was opened in Rovaniemi and the Finnish Nature Centre Haltia was opened close to Helsinki. The Forest Policy Report 2050 was prepared in a participatory manner involving regional meetings and an Internet portal, where general public could give their views. (See also PART V).

**Key lessons learnt. Please explain and provide reference documents where relevant.**

www.metsaan.fi www.metsapuhuu.fi

Key measures taken on implementing the policy since 2011

Yes  No **B11.**  
Research,  
training and  
education

Several research programmes have been implemented (see above). A development plan for education and research was approved by the Government for 2011-2016. Based on the development plan the Ministry of Education and Culture started to renew the curricula of professional degrees in 2012.

**Key lessons learnt. Please explain and provide reference documents where relevant.**

Key measures taken on implementing the policy since 2011

Yes  No **B12.**  
Cultural and  
spiritual  
values

An inventory of cultural heritage sites in state-owned forests made by Metsäntalitus is underway.

**Key lessons learnt. Please explain and provide reference documents where relevant.****Comments**

Please explain [max. 100 words] and provide reference documents where relevant:

**PART II: Overall institutional frameworks and by policy area****A2. Institutional frameworks**

| Please specify the type of forest-related institutional arrangements   | Part of Ministry                    | Sub-national ministries or bodies | Other body. Please specify          |
|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| - forest policy administration   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>          | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| - legislative supervision & enforcement  | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| - support to private forest management   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| - management of public forests   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Other. Please specify: The Finnish Forest Centre works on 13 operational regions (legislative supervision & enforcement, support to private management); Metsäntalitus is a state enterprise (management of state-owned production forests and protected areas). |                                     |                                   |                                     |

| Government bodies   | Please specify the level of main responsibility  | Central government   | Subnational governments  | Other. (please specify in comments below) |
|---|--|--|--------------------------|---|
|   | - administering forest policy development and implementation   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>                  |
|   | - legislative supervision & enforcement  | <input type="checkbox"/>   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>       |
|   | - support to private forest management   | <input type="checkbox"/>   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>       |
|   | - management of public forests   | <input type="checkbox"/>   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>       |
|   | Comments [max. 100 words]  |  |                          |   |
|   | The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) steers the policy on sustainable management of natural resources. The organisations under the performance guidance of the MAF are: the Finnish Forest Centre and Metsäntuotohallitus (see above). |  |                          |   |
| <b>Resources and capacity of public organizations related to forests</b>                  | Name or group/type <sup>1</sup> :  | Forest-related staff <sup>2</sup> (2013, Full time equivalent)   |                          |   |
|   | Total [estimate]   |  |                          |   |
|   | ...of which forest administration <sup>3</sup>   | Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry 25 + other ministries approx. 15 + Finnish Forest Centre 50 + Centres for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment approx. 30<br>Metsäntuotohallitus approx. 1800  |                          |   |
|   | ...of which management of public forests   |  |                          |   |
|   | ...of which public forest research, education and training institutions  | Metla (Finnish Forest Research Institute) 650 + Forestry Development Centre Tapio 50 + University of Helsinki 140 + University of Eastern Finland 80 + Aalto University 120 + teachers in polytechnics, vocational schools and adult education - not available   |                          |   |
|   | ... of which others  |  |                          |   |
| <b>Significant changes in the institutional framework, public and private, since 2011</b> | Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/>  |  |                          |   |
|   | If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes [max. 100 words]  | The organizational structure of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry was renewed to emphasize wider and more holistic approach to natural resources management. Forest-related matters are now dealt within the Natural Resources Department of the ministry. The Finnish Forest Centre (FFC) started its operations as a nationwide organisation in the beginning of 2012. The tasks of FFC are promoting forestry and related livelihoods, advising landowners on how to care for and benefit from their forests and the ecosystems therein, collecting and sharing data related to Finland's forests and enforcing forestry legislation. CONTINUES in Comments. |                          |   |
| <b>Comments</b>   | Please explain [max. 100 words] and provide reference documents where relevant.  |  |                          |   |
|   |  | CONTINUES from Significant changes. The Forestry Development Centre Tapio will be developed into a state-owned limited company by the end of 2014. MTT Agrifood Research Finland, the Finnish Forest Research Institute (Metla), the Finnish Game and Fisheries Research Institute (RKTL) and the statistical services of the Information Centre of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (Tike) are to be merged under a new entity called Natural Resources Institute Finland as of 1 January 2015. Restructuring of Metsäntuotohallitus (a state enterprise that administers state-owned land and water areas) is underway.                                      |                          |   |
| <b>Institutional frameworks per policy area</b>   |  |  |                          |   |
| <b>Significant changes in institutional frameworks since 2011</b>                         |  |  |                          |   |
| <b>B1. Land use and forest area</b>   | Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/>   |  |                          |   |
|   | If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes   |  |                          |   |
| <b>B2. Carbon balance</b>   | Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/>   |  |                          |   |
|   | If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes   |  |                          |   |
| <b>B3. Health and vitality</b>  | Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/>   |  |                          |   |
|   | If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes   |  |                          |   |



**B4. Production and use of wood** Yes  No   
If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

**B5. Production and use of non-wood goods and services** Yes  No   
If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

**B6. Biodiversity** Yes  No   
If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

**B7. Protective forests** Yes  No   
If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

**B8. Economic viability** Yes  No   
If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

**B9. Employment (incl. safety and health)** Yes  No   
If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

**B10. Public awareness and participation** Yes  No   
If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

Yes  No   
If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

**B11. Research, training and education** MTT Agrifood Research Finland, the Finnish Forest Research Institute (Metla), the Finnish Game and Fisheries Research Institute (RKTL) and the statistical services of the Information Centre of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (Tike) are to be merged under a new entity called Natural Resources Institute Finland as of 1 January 2015. The rationale for establishing the new Natural Resources Institute Finland is to boost natural resources research which is fundamental for building a future for bioeconomy and welfare.

**B12. Cultural and spiritual values** Yes  No   
If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

**Comments** Please explain [max. 100 words] and provide reference documents where relevant:  
Significant changes in the institutional framework explained above under section A2 also contribute to institutional frameworks per policy area B1-B12.

### PART III: Overall legal/regulatory frameworks and international commitments and by policy area

#### A3. 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]

- in constitution  
 in legislation enacted by parliament  
 in administrative decrees / regulations only

Other:

- at central government level  
 at federal level  
 other

|   |  |                       |                                  |
|---|--|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Main forest and SFM related legal/regulatory act with national scope (e.g. Forest law, act or code)</b>                                    | Name and reference to legal document   |                       |                                  |
|   | Forest Act   |                       |                                  |
|   | Main changes from previous legal act   |                       |                                  |
|   | The amendments to the Forest Act increase the freedom of choice of forest owners in managing their own forest property, improve the profitability of forestry and operating conditions of wood-producing industry, and enhance the biodiversity of forests. One important objective in the reform was to have less detailed regulation on the treatment of forests and to clarify the legislation. The most important changes include allowing uneven-aged forest stands, abolition of age and diameter limits in regeneration, more diverse range of tree species, and increase the spectrum of habitats of special importance.   |                       |                                  |
|   | Date of enactment  |                       |                                  |
|   | 1.1.1997   |                       |                                  |
|   | Date of latest amendment   |                       |                                  |
|   | 20.12.2013   |                       |                                  |
| <b>Are the following FOREST EUROPE instruments explicitly referred to in the [national?] legal/regulatory framework?</b>                      | FOREST EUROPE Definition of SFM  | Yes/fully             | No                               |
|   | FOREST EUROPE C&I for SFM  | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |
|   | Other  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/>            |
| <b>Significant changes in the legal/regulatory framework since 2011</b>   | Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/>  |                       |                                  |
|   | If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes   |                       |                                  |
|   | The new act on the Finnish Forest Centre entered into force in the beginning of 2012. An extensive package of new forest acts and related decrees has entered into force in the beginning of 2014, as an outcome of the most comprehensive reform process for decades. The package comprises amendments to the Forest Act and Forest Management Associations Act, a new Forest Damages Act, Act on the Placing on the Market of Timber and Timber Products, and parts of the Timber Measurement Act concerning the measuring of energy wood. See more at <a href="http://www.mmm.fi/en/index/frontpage/forests/legislation.html">http://www.mmm.fi/en/index/frontpage/forests/legislation.html</a> |                       |                                  |
| <b>Comments</b>   | Please explain and provide reference documents where relevant.   |                       |                                  |
|   | There are several other acts dealing with forests, including the Act on Financing Sustainable Forestry, the Act on Jointly Owned Forests, the Nature Conservation Act and the Land Use Act.  |                       |                                  |
| <b>International commitments</b>  | Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/>  |                       |                                  |
|   | If yes, please specify [max. 100 words]  |                       |                                  |
| <b>Significant initiatives undertaken since 2011 in implementation of international commitments related to forests signed by your country</b> | UNFCCC & Kyoto Protocol: Updating the National Energy and Climate Strategy (approved by the Government in 2013) Preparation of the Climate Change Act in 2014 (underway in 2014). Renewal of Finland's National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change (underway in 2014). CBD: The national strategy and action plan for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, entitled "Saving Nature for People" (approved by the Government in 2012). Government decision of principle on the sustainable and responsible use and protection of peatlands (in 2012). CONTINUES under Comments.  |                       |                                  |
| <b>Comments</b>   | Please explain [max. 100 words] and provide reference documents where relevant:  |                       |                                  |
|   | Significant initiatives CONTINUES: Finland joined the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES). MetsÄhallitus has applied with the Sami Parliament the AkwÄ©Kon Guidelines in accordance with Article 8(j) of the CBD in compiling management and land use plans for national parks and wilderness areas. Extension of the Forest Biodiversity Action Programme for Southern Finland (METSO) till 2025 (approved by the Government in 2014). Supplementation of the mire conservation programme (underway in 2014). Preparation of the national Restoration Prioritisation Framework (underway in 2014).   |                       |                                  |
| <b>Legal/regulatory frameworks per policy area</b>  | <b>Significant changes in institutional frameworks since 2011</b>  |                       |                                  |
| <b>B1. Land use and forest area</b>   | Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/>  |                       |                                  |
|   | If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes   |                       |                                  |

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|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>B2. Carbon balance</b>                                    | Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/><br>If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes<br>Climate Change Act (under preparation).  |
| <b>B3. Health and vitality</b>                               | Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/><br>If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes<br>Forest Damage Act.   |
| <b>B4. Production and use of wood</b>                        | Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/><br>If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes<br>Forest Act.  |
| <b>B5. Production and use of non-wood goods and services</b> | Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/><br>If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes   |
| <b>B6. Biodiversity</b>                                      | Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/><br>If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes<br>Forest Act.  |
| <b>B7. Protective forests</b>                                | Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/><br>If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes   |
| <b>B8. Economic viability</b>                                | Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/><br>If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes<br>Forest Act.  |
| <b>B9. Employment (incl. safety and health)</b>              | Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/><br>If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes   |
| <b>B10. Public awareness and participation</b>               | Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/><br>If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes   |
| <b>B11. Research, training and education</b>                 | Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/><br>If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes<br>Act on Natural Resources Institute Finland (under preparation).  |
| <b>B12. Cultural and spiritual values</b>                    | Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/><br>If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes   |
| <b>Comments</b>  | Please explain and provide reference documents where relevant:<br><br>In addition the significant changes in the legal/regulatory framework and significant initiatives explained above under section A3 contribute to the policy areas B1-B12. |

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## PART IV: Overall financial instruments/economic policy and by policy area

### A4. Financial instruments and economic policy

#### Economic policy

Please specify objectives of main measures taken to address economic aspects of publicly owned forests

#### Main characteristics of economic policy related to forests

MetsÄhallitus is a state enterprise that administers more than 12 million hectares of state-owned land and water areas. The tasks of MetsÄhallitus are defined by the Act on MetsÄhallitus as being sustainable and profitable management, use and protection of natural resources and other property administered by MetsÄhallitus. The conservation of biodiversity should also be taken into consideration alongside the above-mentioned tasks. Performance targets are set for MetsÄhallitus and it contributes an income of approximately 120 million euros per year to the State budget.

Please specify objectives of main measures taken to address economic aspects of privately owned forests or other

The objectives of the Act on Financing Sustainable Forestry are securing sustainable wood production, maintaining forest biological diversity, and promoting forest nature management projects.

#### Significant changes in economic policy related to forests (public and private) since 2011

Yes  No

If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes [max. 100 words]

#### Comments

Please explain [max. 100 words] and provide reference documents where relevant.

The main financial instrument is based on the Act on Financing of Sustainable Forestry. Under the Forest Biodiversity Programme for Southern Finland (METSO) compensation is paid for private forest owners for temporary or permanent conservation of valuable forest habitats. Programmes financed by the MAF with the Ministry of Employment and the Economy have been implemented to support rural viability and enterprise.

#### Financial instruments

Please specify financial arrangements related to state-owned forests and their management [max. 100 words]

#### State/federal forest management, act or code)

- Profit/financially self-sufficient forest management  
 Additional financial support from government to forest management  
 Other. Please specify

#### Government financial instruments: private forest management

Please specify the use of financial instruments for private forests and their management, incl. main objectives [max. 100 words]. *For the EU Member States, please specify apart from the EU Rural Development Programme Funds.*

- Grants/subsidies. Please elaborate:

Grants and subsidies are granted to private forest owners according to the Act on Financing Sustainable Forestry. The objectives of the Act are securing sustainable wood production, maintaining forest biological diversity, promoting forest nature management projects.

- Tax measures. Please elaborate:

- Incentives. Please elaborate:

- Public funds. Please elaborate:

- Investment support. Please elaborate:

- Loans. Please elaborate:

Only marginal amounts of loans are granted to private forest owners according to the Act on Financing Sustainable Forestry. (See the objectives of the Act above.)

- Other. Please specify:

#### Significant changes in financial instruments related to forests since 2011

Yes  No

If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

From the beginning of 2013 no more government subsidies have been granted for chipping of small-diameter energy wood in private forests. Reform of the Act on Financing Sustainable Forestry taking into account the state aid

guidelines by the EU Commission is underway.

| Year:  | Domestic funding (mil€)  | External funding <sup>4</sup> (mil€) | Total (mil€) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Operational expenditure                                  | 123,6  | 4                                    | 127,6        |
| Transfer payments (support to private forest management) | 150,6  | -                                    | 150,6        |
| <b>Total public expenditure</b>                          | <b>274,2</b>   | <b>4</b>                             | <b>278,2</b> |
| <b>Of which...</b>                                       | For forest administration  |                                      | 77,5         |
|  | For management of public forests   |                                      | 33,7         |
|  | For public forest research, education and training institutions                  |                                      | 44,2         |
|  | For other institutions. Please specify:<br>NGOs like Finnish Forest Association. |                                      | 0,8          |

If transfer payments are made for forest management and conservation, indicate for what specific objective(s) - Please tick all that apply.

- Reforestation
- Afforestation
- Forest inventory and/or planning
- Conservation of forest biodiversity
- Protection, of soil and water
- Forest stand improvement
- Establishment or maintenance of protected areas
- Other Forest stand improvement. Establishment and maintenance of protected areas.

| Please specify the allocation of total public expenditures among the six criteria |  | Estimate of resources % |
|---|--|-------------------------|
| C1. Forest resources and carbon   |  | N.A.                    |
| C2. Health and vitality   |  | N.A.                    |
| C3. Productive functions  |  | N.A.                    |
| C4. Biodiversity  |  | N.A.                    |
| C5. Protective functions  |  | N.A.                    |
| C6. Socio-economic functions  |  | N.A.                    |
| <b>Note: the total must be 100 %</b>  |  |                         |

**Comments and lessons learnt** Please explain [max. 100 words] and provide reference documents where relevant:  
The allocation of resources between the six criteria are interlinked and impossible to divide between the criteria.

#### Financial instruments per policy area

##### Significant changes in financial instruments since 2011

#### B1. Land use and forest area

Yes  No

If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

#### B2. Carbon balance

Yes  No

If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

Yes  No

**B3. Health and vitality**

If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

**B4. Production and use of wood**Yes  No 

If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

**B5. Production and use of non-wood goods and services**Yes  No 

If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

**B6. Biodiversity**Yes  No 

If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

**B7. Protective forests**Yes  No 

If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

**B8. Economic viability**Yes  No 

If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

**B9. Employment (incl. safety and health)**Yes  No 

If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

**B10. Public awareness and participation**Yes  No 

If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

**B11. Research, training and education**Yes  No 

If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

**B12. Cultural and spiritual values**Yes  No 

If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

**Comments**

Please explain [max. 100 words] and provide reference documents where relevant:

**PART V: Overall informational means and by policy area****A5. Informational means**

Is there public access to forest inventory data ?

Yes  No 

If yes, please specify:

National Forest Inventory data is publicly available.

#### Main characteristics of informational means

Does a written (governmental) forest-related outreach and communication strategy exist?

Yes  No

If yes, please provide reference: [max. 100 words]

An annual communication plan is prepared as part of the annual action plan for the implementation of the National Forest Programme 2015.

Does a national report on the status of sustainable forest management exist?

Yes  No

If yes, please provide reference/link: [max. 100 words]

State of Finland's Forests 2011 Based on the Criteria and Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management.

[http://www.mmm.fi/attachments/metsat/kv/5zQmmlEkF/State\\_of\\_Finlands\\_Forests\\_2011.pdf](http://www.mmm.fi/attachments/metsat/kv/5zQmmlEkF/State_of_Finlands_Forests_2011.pdf)

#### Significant changes in informational means / forest related communication since 2011

##### Informational means

Yes  No

If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes [max. 100 words]

The forest management recommendations were updated to take better into account various ecosystem services like game, recreation and cultural services. Several new research programmes have been launched (see PART I). A new Internet portal Metsaan.fi ([www.metsaan.fi](http://www.metsaan.fi)) to provide information and services to forest owners and forest managers was launched by the Finnish Forest Centre in 2012. A Forest Sector Foresight project group was established at Metla (Finnish Forest Research Institute) to assess the future trends, threats and opportunities within the sector. Metla has improved information related to wood markets. CONTINUES under Comments.

Forest related communication Yes  No

If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes [max. 100 words]

Finland's main activity during the International Year of Forests 2011 was the launch of the Metsäpuhuu (Forests speak) project ([www.metsapuhuu.fi](http://www.metsapuhuu.fi)), which is targeted especially to the youth and school children. The project continues till the end of 2014. The objective of the project coordinated by the Finnish Forest Association is to get the youth interested in the forest sector in order to have enough employees in the sector in the future. CONTINUES under Comments under per policy area.

#### Comments

Please explain [max. 100 words] and provide reference documents where relevant.

Informational means CONTINUES: The Central Union of Agricultural Producers and Forest Owners (MTK) launched an Internet portal Puumarkkinat.fi ([www.puumarkkinat.fi](http://www.puumarkkinat.fi)) for wood markets where forest owners can inform buyers about the quantity and location of wood they are willing to sell. The forest management requirements for the PEFC certification in Finland have been revised. The FSC certification standard for Finland was approved in 2011. Some 95% of Finland's commercial forests are certified according to the PEFC Finland certification system and some 2% according to the FSC certification system.

#### Financial instruments per policy area

##### Significant changes in informational instruments since 2011

#### B1. Land use and forest area

Yes  No

If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

#### B2. Carbon balance

Yes  No

If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

**B3. Health and vitality**Yes  No 

If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

**B4. Production and use of wood**Yes  No 

If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

**B5. Production and use of non-wood goods and services**Yes  No 

If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

**B6. Biodiversity**Yes  No 

If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

**B7. Protective forests**Yes  No 

If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

**B8. Economic viability**Yes  No 

If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

**B9. Employment (incl. safety and health)**Yes  No 

If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

**B10. Public awareness and participation**Yes  No 

If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

**B11. Research, training and education**Yes  No 

If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

**B12. Cultural and spiritual values**Yes  No 

If yes, please describe and incl. reason/s for the changes

**Comments**

Please explain and provide reference documents where relevant:

Communication CONTINUES: The Pilke Science Centre was opened in Rovaniemi (in Northern Finland) in 2011 teaching the visitors about sustainable use of the northern forests. The Finnish Nature Centre Haltia was opened close to Helsinki (in Southern Finland) in 2013. Haltia is located next to the Nuuksio National Park. The Forest Policy Report 2050 was prepared in a participatory manner involving regional meetings and an Internet portal, where the general public could give their views. The changes explained above under section A5 contribute to the changes in informational instruments per policy areas B1-B12.