



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: Slovak Republic

DATE OF SUBMISSION: / /

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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 of the Slovak Republic
 Internet Link: <http://www.mpsr.sk/sk/index.php?navID=2&navID2=2&sID=37&sID2=38&id=481>

Starting year: 2006

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: Government of Slovak Republic

Yes No

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

Significant changes related to the NFP process or similar since 2011

During June 2014, fulfilment of the measures planned in the Action Plan to National Forest Programme for the period 2009-2013 were evaluated. Based on this evaluation, as well as new forest policy related documents at national and international levels, framework objectives of the Action plan for the period 2014-2020 are nowadays updated. In 2013, the government adopted the Wood Potential Utilization National Programme that is the document closely related to sustainable forestry, particularly to wood production, economic viability and employment.

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:

Key lessons learned on the NFP process or similar

NFP is elaborated in Action Plan of the NFP. It was worked out in cooperation with all the related industries, forest owners and managers, professional forestry organizations, interest organizations and associations. Others forest policy related documents were developed: Prognosis and Visions of Slovak Agriculture, Food, Forestry and Rural Development Forest Development Strategy Rural Development Programme of the Slovak Republic for the period 2014-2020 Conception of the Agriculture Development for the period 2013-2020 - part Forestry

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

Comments on the NFP or similar process

The Ministry of Agriculture of the SR initiate the process of NFP elaboration already in 2004, when was discussed and submitted to the other sectors for further discussions and comments. During the programme elaboration, which was mostly accomplished by National Forest Centre representatives, outcomes of the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe held in Vienna in 2003 was applied. In the course of elaboration of the NFP, forest policy documents at national and international levels, as well as other international commitments of Slovakia, forest-related global processes, international conventions were taken into account.

Main Forest policy document (national forest programme document, forest policy statement, strategy or other)**Existence of forest policy document (other than law)**Yes No **Title of main forest policy document and internet links**

Name: National Forest Programme of the Slovak Republic
 Internet Link: <http://www.mpsr.sk/sk/index.php?navID=2&navID2=2&sID=37&sID2=38&id=481>

Forest policy document development process

- formal NFP process or process explicitly guided by NFP principles
 process similar to NFP or other process

Name of endorsing/authorizing /enacting institution of the main forest policy document

- Parliament
 Council of Ministers or similar
 Minister responsible for forestry
 Forestry Department or similar
 Other. Please specify:
 Prime Minister, Minister of Agriculture

Date of endorsement / authorization / enactment

27 June 2007

Evaluation of policy implementation

- Periodically, pre-specified in the NFP document
 Periodically, but not pre-specified
 Not specified, not planned
 Other Specific measures for policy implementation, responsibilities, deadlines and financial resources needed for their implementation were set up in Action Plan of NFP SR, which is foremost an

indicative plan.

Is there explicit reference to FOREST EUROPE instruments in the forest policy document?

FOREST EUROPE definition of SFM	Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/>
FOREST EUROPE criteria and indicators for SFM	Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/>
FOREST EUROPE guidelines for NFPs	Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/>
FOREST EUROPE Classification of Protected and Protective Forests and Other Wooded Land	Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/>
FOREST EUROPE Pan-European Operational Level Guidelines for Sustainable Forest Management	Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/>
FOREST EUROPE Pan-European Guidelines for Afforestation and Reforestation	Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/>

If the responsibility for forest policy is decentralized:

Existence of formally endorsed subnational forest policy document(s) Yes No

Yes No

Significant changes related to main forest policy document since 2011

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

Ministry of Agriculture of the SR charged National Forest Centre in June 2014 with evaluation of Action Plan of NFP SR for the period 2009-2013 and updating of framework objectives of AP of NFP. New forest policy related documents were elaborated and approved: Rural Development Programme of the Slovak Republic for the period 2014-2020 Conception of the Agriculture Development for the period 2013-2020 - part Forestry

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

Comments on the main forest policy document

NFP SR is a basic document promoting sustainable forest management. It was approved by the Government of the SR on 27 June 2007 and National Council (parliament of the SR) of the SR took note of it on 20 September 2007 and was worked out for the period by 2020 by formulating five strategic goals, 18 priorities and 52 framework objectives, 5 strategic objectives: - support of ecological forest management - improvement and protection of the environment - improving quality of life - increasing long-term competitiveness - strengthening cooperation, coordination and communication

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

- Creation of healthy, ecologically stable and biologically diversified forests as a basic condition of sustainable management and forest land use, under the conditions of synergic effects of injurious agents and expected climate change - To maintain biological sources of forests, their genetic and ecosystems diversity, to use them in a sustainable way - Assuring maximal functional efficiency of forests with prevailing protection functions (ecological and social) by maintaining and enhancing their vitality and stability - Elaborating a programme of afforestation of marginal agricultural lands

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

- to mitigate impacts of climate change and to support adaptation forests to the effects of climate change - to increase the carbon store on forest ecosystems through forestry measures (maintenance, replacement of carbon)

Are there any significant changes in main policy objectives since 2011

Yes No

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

B3. Health and vitality

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:

To increase forest protection effectiveness with help of all possible, environmental friendly and economically viable measures: - creation of an effective system of forest protection with long-term measures (the increase of forest stands stability and revitalization measures), short-term measures (security) and combined measures (prevention, protection and pests regulation) - monitoring of damaging factors particular focusing on invasive species - increase the research intensity regarding measures to reduce the negative effect of damaging factors on forest stands

Are there any significant changes in main policy objectives since 2011

Yes No

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

B4. Production and use of wood

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:

To support the use of wood and another wood products from forests managed in sustainable way - the increase of wood production - provisions for consistent and balanced wood production - the increase of capacity and supplies structure of timber assortments

Are there any significant changes in main policy objectives since 2011

Yes No

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

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

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:

Valuation and marketing of forest non-wood products and services - implementation of method of identification, quantification and assessment of non-wood products and services - gradual achievement of the societal acceptance of ecological and social forest functions - realization of a system for economic assurance of still not traded forest functions and forest services

Are there any significant changes in main policy objectives since 2011

Yes No

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

B6. Biodiversity

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:

To support conservation, improvement and increase of biological diversity of forests - preservation of biological forest sources, their genetic, species and ecosystem diversity as well as their sustainable utilization - creation of legal, technical and economic preconditions for active differentiated care about forest ecosystems in protected territories in dependence on their naturalness - preservation and in reasoned case adequate improvement of biological diversity in commercial forests and in forests with prevailing ecological and social functions

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:

To preserve and improve of protective forest functions - to secure maximal function effectiveness of forests with prevailing protective functions mainly through the maintenance and improvement their vitality and stability - creation of legal, technical and economic preconditions for active differentiated care about forest ecosystems in protected territories in dependence on their naturalness - preservation and in reasoned cases adequate improvement of biological diversity in commercial forests and in forests with prevailing ecological and social functions

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:

To increase long-term competitiveness and economic viability of multifunctional forestry - to increase competitiveness of forestry by utilization of basic production factors - increasing economic effectiveness by optimization of operative, marketing and innovative approaches - improvement and actualization of instruments of forestry policy and economy

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:

Human resources development, improving employability, strengthening social inclusion, building capacities and maintaining of employment

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

To support environmental education and systematic work with public in order to achieve a positive change in perception of forestry by the public - realization of complex strategy and ensuring of adequate institutional conditions for public relations activities - improving coordination and cooperation in public relations among forest and non-forest public influential organizations based in forestry - improving financial and organizational conditions for public relations

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:

To support research and technological development in order to improve competitiveness of the forestry sector -improving economic, legislative, institutional and informational instruments to strengthen forest research, technological development, innovations and faster transfer of results into practice -assuring orientation of forest research to scientific-technical project in the framework of the State Science and Research Programme and international research programmes in the framework of the 7th FP for science and research To improve education in forest sector with regard to requirements of labour market and building knowledge economics

B11. Research, training and education

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:

Support of existing cultural and historical sites associated with forestry and hunting

Are there any significant changes in main policy objectives since 2011

Yes No

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

B12. Cultural and spiritual values

Please explain and provide reference documents where relevant:

Comments

Policy objectives related to particular policy areas are presented especially in two main policy documents: National Forest Programme of SR and Forest Development Strategy, which specifies objectives and priorities of National Forest Programme of SR

Key measures and lessons learnt per policy area

Policy areas	Key measures taken on implementing the policy since 2011	Key lessons learnt
B1. Land use and forest area	<p>If yes, please specify [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Key measures taken on implementing the policy since 2011</p> <p>Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>If yes, please specify</p>	<p>Please explain [max. 100 words] and provide reference documents where relevant.</p> <p>Key lessons learnt. Please explain and provide reference documents where relevant.</p> <p>Afforestation programme was found unnecessary as Slovak forest cover had been increasing regardless measures. Effort should be focused on cadastral mapping of self-sown forests.</p>
B2. Carbon balance	<p>Key measures taken on implementing the policy since 2011</p> <p>Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/></p> <p>- investments to fire prevention, regeneration of forest stands damaged by wind and pests such as bark beetle (124 mil â,¬ in total) - growing stock is continually increasing (partially thanks to legislation and forest management planning - an international cooperation in carbon stock monitoring was continuing</p>	<p>Key lessons learnt. Please explain and provide reference documents where relevant.</p>

Promotion of energy use of forest biomass is declared, but the real support (nor legislative, neither financial) is not sufficient. It is necessary to be more specific as for measures.

B3. Health and vitality

Key measures taken on implementing the policy since 2011

Yes No

- some projects related to forest stand vitality and resistance supported by 10 mil â,- - pests' occurrence and forest health regularly monitored - new pesticides (including biological ones) tested in Forest Protection Service (newly certified)

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

It would be better to concentrate effort to smaller number of priorities, e.g. promotion of close-to-nature forestry, than to promote the same things under measures for different areas (biodiversity, for example)

B4. Production and use of wood

Key measures taken on implementing the policy since 2011

Yes No

Support for wood processing and wood marketing projects (44 projects, 1,2 mil â,-)

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

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

Key measures taken on implementing the policy since 2011

Yes No

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

Non-wood forest products are unimportant in Slovakia. Services still remain unpaid as majority of them cannot be withheld and thus there is no reason to pay. Conservationists would like to earn the same money for themselves.

B6. Biodiversity

Key measures taken on implementing the policy since 2011

Yes No

- some compensations (4.8 mil â,-) paid to the forest owners in Natura 2000 sites, sufficiency is questioned - new guidelines for close-to-nature forestry elaborated - proportion of natural regeneration of forests increased (thanks to economic environment) - negotiation for the integration of forest management plans into management plans of protected areas has started in 2013 (no results yet) - new format of management models for forests in protected areas suggested - national registry of forest genetical resources established - seed material from spruce stands near the upper tree limit collected - mapping of Natura 2000 habitats (unfinished)

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

Creation of financial tools and institutional framework was not accomplished yet, what makes a progress negligible. It will be vital to establish cooperation between foresters and conservationist as present disputes are contradictory.

B7. Protective forests

Key measures taken on implementing the policy since 2011

Yes No

- new categorisation of protective forests (compatible with Forest Europe standards) proposed - system of payments for ecosystem "protective" services (soil, water, infrastructure) - management guidelines of protective forests published (<http://www.nlcsk.sk/files/2231.pdf>) - investments to flood prevention measures (6 mil â,-) - investments to forest regeneration and health that also relates to flood protection

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

Lack of financial resources hampers further progress in the enhancement of protective functions.

Key measures taken on implementing the policy since 2011

Yes No

- investments to forest estates, particularly to machinery and forest roads, (16 mil â,-) from public

B8. Economic viability

resources, the volume is questioned - the assessment of the density and quality of forest road network conducted (including methodology and some research) - improvement of the methods of evaluation of ecosystem services

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

Institutional support and financial tools are needed, but lack of financial resources hampers the progress.

B9. Employment (incl. safety and health)

Key measures taken on implementing the policy since 2011

Yes No

- support from Rural Development Found to education of employees in forestry - legislative support for employment of socially disabled people

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

B10. Public awareness and participation

Key measures taken on implementing the policy since 2011

Yes No

- "argument base" compiling available information on forest functions and services created - forestry GIS website made available for forestry professionals as well as public (different levels of access rights) - some publications for certain target groups (children, "friends of forest") issued

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

Despite some progress, public opinion on forestry remains distorted by unrealistic expectations of "care without exploitation". It means that measures were ineffective.

B11. Research, training and education

Key measures taken on implementing the policy since 2011

Yes No

- promotion of close-to-nature forestry realised (seminars, publications, website, demonstration facilities) - some (insufficient) research projects in the field of economic viability, - research projects on environment-friendly methods of forest protection against pests and quantification of tree damage conducted or started - forest protection counseling supported

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

Sectoral research is gradually declining due to lack of resources. Creation of an effective "counselling system in forestry" was not accomplished for the same reason.

B12. Cultural and spiritual values

Key measures taken on implementing the policy since 2011

Yes No

- some new "Important forestry sites" designated - Forestry Museum has started to be managed by Forests of Slovak Republic Enterprise

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
- support to private forest management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
- management of public forests	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other. Please specify: state agencies			

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	- support to private forest management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	- management of public forests	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Comments [max. 100 words]

State forests are managed by state agencies: The Forests of the Slovak Republic, s.e., Forest-Agricultural Estate UliÄ, s.e. and the State Forests TANAP (all three subjects fall under the Ministry of Agriculture) and the Military Forest and Estates, s.e. PlieÄovce (subordinated to the Ministry of Defence). The Ministry of Agriculture is the supreme national authority regarding forest management, with practical aspects of state supervision carried out via a network of 40 district forest offices. The Military Forest and Estates office is the main authority for forests under the jurisdiction of the Slovak Ministry of Defence.

Name or group/type ¹ :	Forest-related staff ² (2013, Full time equivalent)
Total [estimate]	4610
...of which forest administration ³	220
...of which management of public forests	3990
...of which public forest research, education and training institutions	400
... of which others	

Yes No

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

Significant changes in the institutional framework, public and private, since 2011

As a result of state-driven rationalisation, on January 1, 2013 all 8 regional forest offices were closed and the responsibilities were transferred to the district offices. At the Ministry of Agriculture, the new Section of Forest Management and Wood Processing was constituted, enforcing thus the link between these two areas. According to the Act No. 97/2013 on Land Associations, establishment of land association without legal entity is no longer allowed. Existing land associations without such a status had to be transformed till the end of February 2014.

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

Comments

The activities of non-state forest owners are coordinated by the Council of the Non-state Forest Owners Associations, which represents an informal umbrella body of non-state forest owners defending the interests of four regional associations of non-state owners. The main roles of forest owners associations in Slovakia are to: coordinate activities for ensuring the sustainable management and productivity of forest land; influence the

Institutional frameworks per policy area
Significant changes in institutional frameworks 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

At the Ministry of Agriculture, the new Section of Forest Management and Wood Processing was constituted, enforcing thus the link between these two areas. This change should influence this policy area.

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

At the Ministry of Agriculture, the new Section of Forest Management and Wood Processing was constituted, enforcing thus the link between these two areas. This change should influence this policy area.

B9. Employment (incl. safety and health)

 Yes No

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

B10. Public awareness and participationYes No

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

B11. Research, training and educationYes No

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

The budget of National Forest Centre is gradually decreasing and its structure is changing from direct financing of sectoral projects to various projects financed by Ministry of Education. This trend results in the change of the character of research (the focus on forestry practice is disappearing).

B12. Cultural and spiritual valuesYes 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 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

Main forest and SFM related legal/regulatory act with national scope (e.g. Forest law, act or code)

Name and reference to legal document

Act No 326/2005 of the Coll. on Forests as amended

Main changes from previous legal act

Only minor changes were taken

Date of enactment

Date of adoption: 23 June 2005 Valid from: 22 July 2005 Effective from: 1 September 2005

Date of latest amendment

The last amendment by Act No 182/2014 of the Coll. Date of adoption: 27 May 2014 Effective from: 11 July 2014

Are the following FOREST EUROPE instruments explicitly referred to in the [national?] legal/regulatory framework?

FOREST EUROPE Definition of SFM

Yes/fully

No

FOREST EUROPE C&I for SFM

Other

Yes No

Significant changes in the legal/regulatory framework since 2011

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

Please explain and provide reference documents where relevant.

Comments

Forests Act uses its own definition of SFM, which is derived from that of Forest Europe, but not identical. Forest Europe is not referred in the Act, nor Pan-European C&I. Criteria of SFM are mentioned in the Forest Act, but without the reference to Forest Europe and they are not defined in the Act.

International commitments**Significant initiatives undertaken since 2011 in implementation of international commitments related to forests signed by your country**Yes No

If yes, please specify [max. 100 words]

Protocol on Sustainable Forest Management to the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians

Comments

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

Legal/regulatory frameworks per policy area**Significant changes in institutional frameworks since 2011**Yes No **B1. Land use and forest area**

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

Possibility to convert forest land to agriculture land if long-term agricultural use can be proven (the same with water areas)

B2. Carbon balanceYes No

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

B3. Health and vitalityYes No

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

There were attempts to enforce legislation in this field, however, the consensus with conservationists was not found.

B4. Production and use of woodYes No

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

B5. Production and use of non-wood goods and servicesYes No

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

Yes No **B6. Biodiversity**

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

According to the last amendment by the Act No 454/2007 of the Coll on Nature Protection, there are changes in the compensation mechanisms for profit loss caused by nature conservation.

B7. Protective forestsYes No

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

B8. Economic viabilityYes 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 participationYes No

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

B11. Research, training and educationYes No

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

B12. Cultural and spiritual valuesYes No

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

Comments

Please explain and provide reference documents where relevant:

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

Economic policy of forestry sector is realized on the principles of NFP of SR and CAD for the period 2007-2013 and new CAD for the period 2013-2020 (part Forestry). Main focus is targeted to improve the competitiveness and viability of the forestry and to sustainable forest management.

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

Objectives are the same as in the case of publicly owned forests.

Yes No **Significant changes in economic policy related to forests (public and private) since 2011**

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 issue of increasing competitiveness and economic viability of forestry was addressed within the research project "Research on competitiveness and economic viability of forestry." Based on the results, following measures were recommended: Measures in the area of cross-setoral policy, supportive policy, innovation policy, tax policy, investment policy, support of trade in timber and timber products and other measures. The results were published in publication "Proposed measures, tools, processes and methods for monitoring, evaluation and influencing of competitiveness and economic viability of forest enterprises and forestry."

Financial instruments**State/federal forest management, act or code)**

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

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

Government financial instruments: private forest managementPlease 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:

For supporting private forests subsidies are used as financial instruments. Main measures supported are: forestry treatments, investments and other measures (forest management plans, national parks, forest fire protection, conservation measures against bark beetles etc.).

- Tax measures. Please elaborate:
 Incentives. Please elaborate:
 Public funds. Please elaborate:
 Investment support. Please elaborate:
 Loans. Please elaborate:
 Other. Please specify:

Significant changes in financial instruments related to forests since 2011Yes No

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

Year: 2013

Domestic funding (mil€)

External funding ⁴ (mil€)

Total (mil€)

Operational expenditure

4.8

Transfer payments (support to private forest management) 15.4

Total public expenditure 11.2 9 20.2

For forest administration 2.6

For management of public forests 15.4

Of which...

For public forest research, education and training institutions 2

For other institutions. Please specify: 0.2

Forestry Museum

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

Please specify the allocation of total public expenditures among the six criteria

	Estimate of resources %
C1. Forest resources and carbon	0,5
C2. Health and vitality	10
C3. Productive functions	58
C4. Biodiversity	17,5
C5. Protective functions	9
C6. Socio-economic functions	5

Note: the total must be 100 %

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

Comments and lessons learnt

In some cases it is difficult specify one criterion to which expenditures were allocated. Sometimes the same money can contribute to several criteria. The decision on financing of the Forest Management planning was adopted. FMP's will be financed from Rural Development Programme (since 2015). The decision resulted from problems with current financial model.

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

B3. Health and vitalityYes No

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

B4. Production and use of woodYes No

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

B5. Production and use of non-wood goods and servicesYes No

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

B6. BiodiversityYes No

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

The last amendment to the Act No 454/2007 introduced changes to the mechanisms for compensation of profit loss due to nature conservation. There is a chance to make mechanism fairer, however, the changes applies only to newly designated protected areas.

B7. Protective forestsYes No

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

B8. Economic viabilityYes 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 participationYes No

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

B11. Research, training and educationYes No

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

B12. Cultural and spiritual valuesYes No

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

Comments

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

Lack of financial resources for particular tools is crucial in majority of areas.

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:

In 2008 a new informational web page (<http://www.forestportal.sk>) was launched with the objective of providing information on Slovak forests, forestry and forest management to the general public. The web page is administered by National Forest Centre (NFC). Also several brochures providing basic concept and selected summary information on forest were published by NFC e.g. National Forest Inventory and Monitoring of the Slovak Republic.

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

Yes No

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

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

Yes No

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

1. The status of sustainable forest management is partially presented in the Report on the status of Forestry in the Slovak Republic - Green Report which is published yearly by the Ministry of Agriculture in cooperation with the National Forest Centre. Reports are available at: <http://www.mpsr.sk/sk/index.php?navID=123> 2. publication worked out by NFC: Management in Forests of State Enterprise Forest of the Slovak Republic. Current State and Development according to Sustainable Forest Management Indicators (Moravcik et al. 2008)

Main characteristics of informational means**Informational means**

Yes No

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

As a result of financial cuts, the Green Report extent was reduced, its structure simplified and its print version is no longer issued.

Significant changes in informational means / forest related communication since 2011

Forest related communication Yes No

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

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

Comments

In 2006 Concept of Public Relations - Communication Strategy in Forestry Sector was developed by NFC. The concept became a base for common forestry strategy of communication with various target groups. In 2010 Concept of Forest Pedagogic as a Part of Environmental Education in Slovakia was developed by NFC and approved by MA SR. The concept analyses the current situation, define the further direction and tasks in increasing of public environmental awareness and raising awareness of sustainable forest management.

Financial instruments per policy area**Significant changes in informational instruments since 2011**

Yes No **B1. Land use and forest area**

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

Forestry GIS available (with different rights for different user classes) <http://gis.nlcsk.org/lgis/> Aerial images (from 1950 and present) of the entire territory of Slovakia available at <http://mapy.tuzvo.sk/HOFM/>

Yes No **B2. Carbon balance**

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

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

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

The network of reporting units for forestry statistics was optimised using "registry of forest managers" based on web-application administered by National Forest Centre.

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

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

Yes No **B6. Biodiversity**

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

Yes No **B7. Protective forests**

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

Forestry GIS available (with different rights for different user classes) <http://gis.nlcsk.org/lgis/>

Yes No **B8. Economic viability**

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Yes No

B11. Research, training and education

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:

Principles of informational means are defined in Forestry Development Strategy. All above mentioned policy areas are covered by annual Green Report, however, its content has been reduced due to lack of financial resource (focus on general public disappeared)