



**Meeting on the
Carpathian Convention:
Protocol on Article 7 “Sustainable agriculture and forestry”**

**FAO Sub-regional Office for Central and Eastern Europe
Budapest, 8-9 May 2006**



Structure of policy framework

- **Responsibility of Ministries for**
 - **Forestry (wood production)**
 - **Nature protection**
 - **Others**
- **Management of state owned forests**
 - **Outsourced to commercially acting entities**
 - **In state hands**



Multifunctional forest land use and its policy framework

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Key observations: changing demands

- **Public demand in social and environmental benefits of forests (recreation, nature protection, carbon storage, oxygen production, biodiversity, landscape protection etc.) is increasing**
- **Forestry provides essential services, and contributes to rural development, increasing importance of non-wood products and services**
- **Roundwood production has lost its relative importance as a source of income (20 USD/year/ha), inputs to employment are decreasing**



Key observations: changing demands

- **Public demand has changed differently in the various countries and sub-regions of Europe depending national traditions and the overall policy framework (transition process!!)**
- **Higher focus on forestry and wood production in Eastern Europe (CIS) leading to significant net-exports of forest products**
- **These exports of forest products will impact competitiveness of and income from roundwood production in Western Europe**



Regional differences

Economic

Social
aspects

Environmental

West

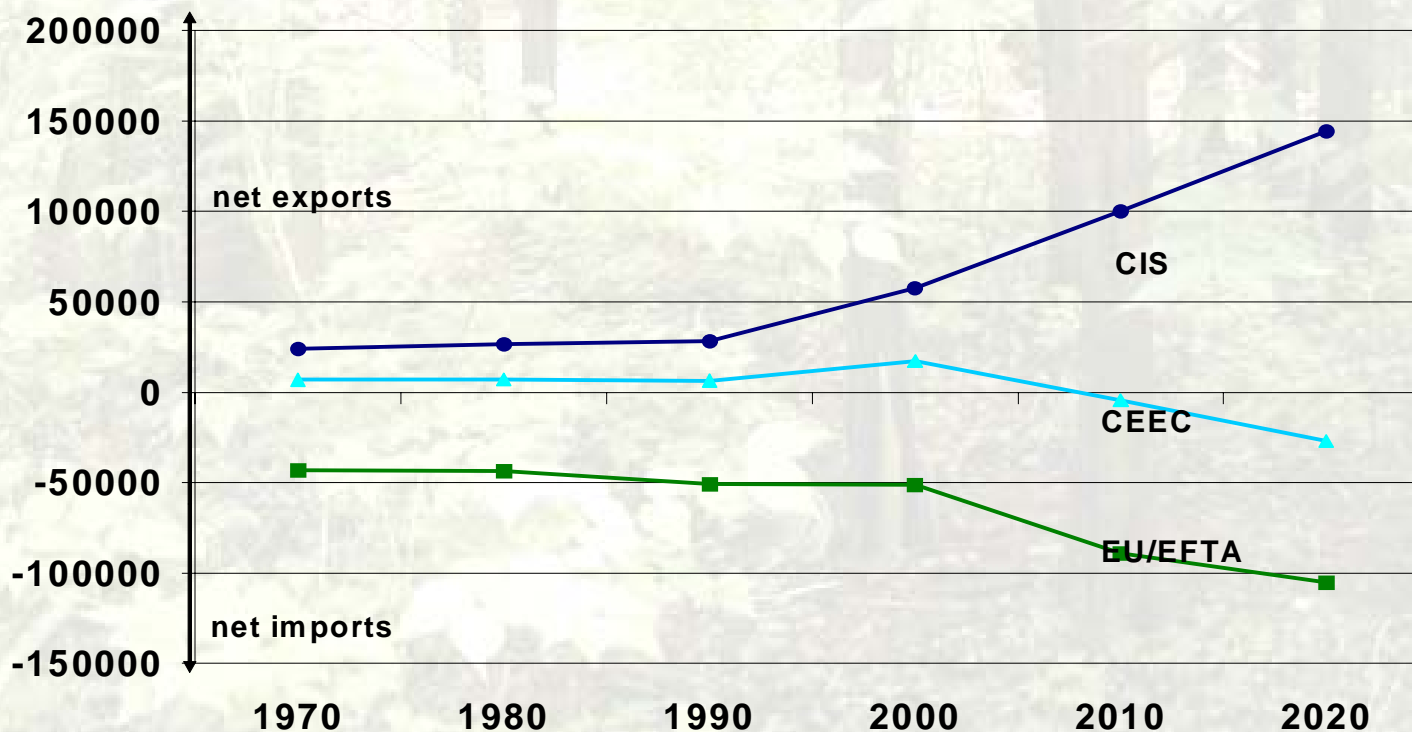


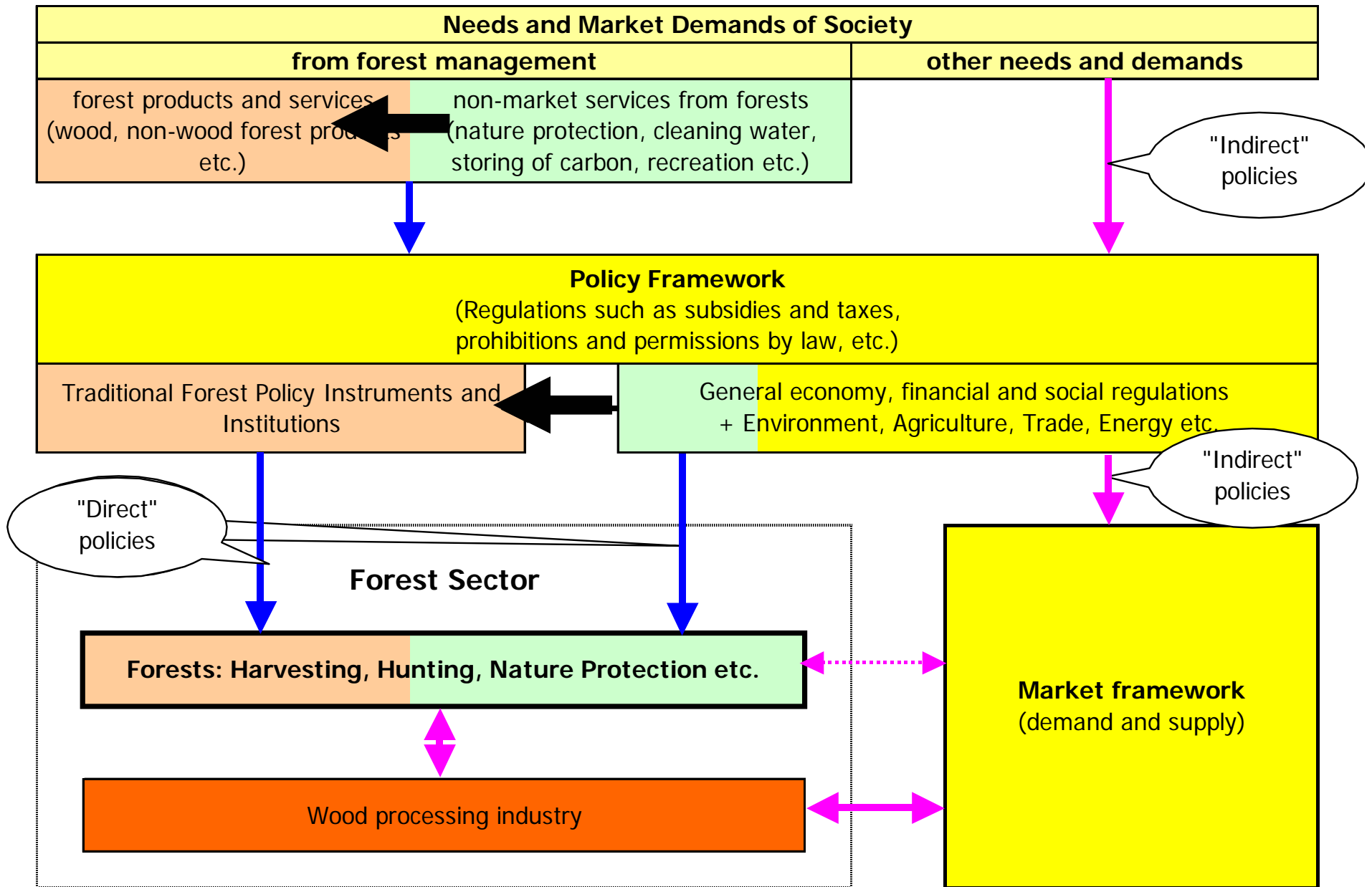
East





Net-trade of forest products (1000 e.m³)







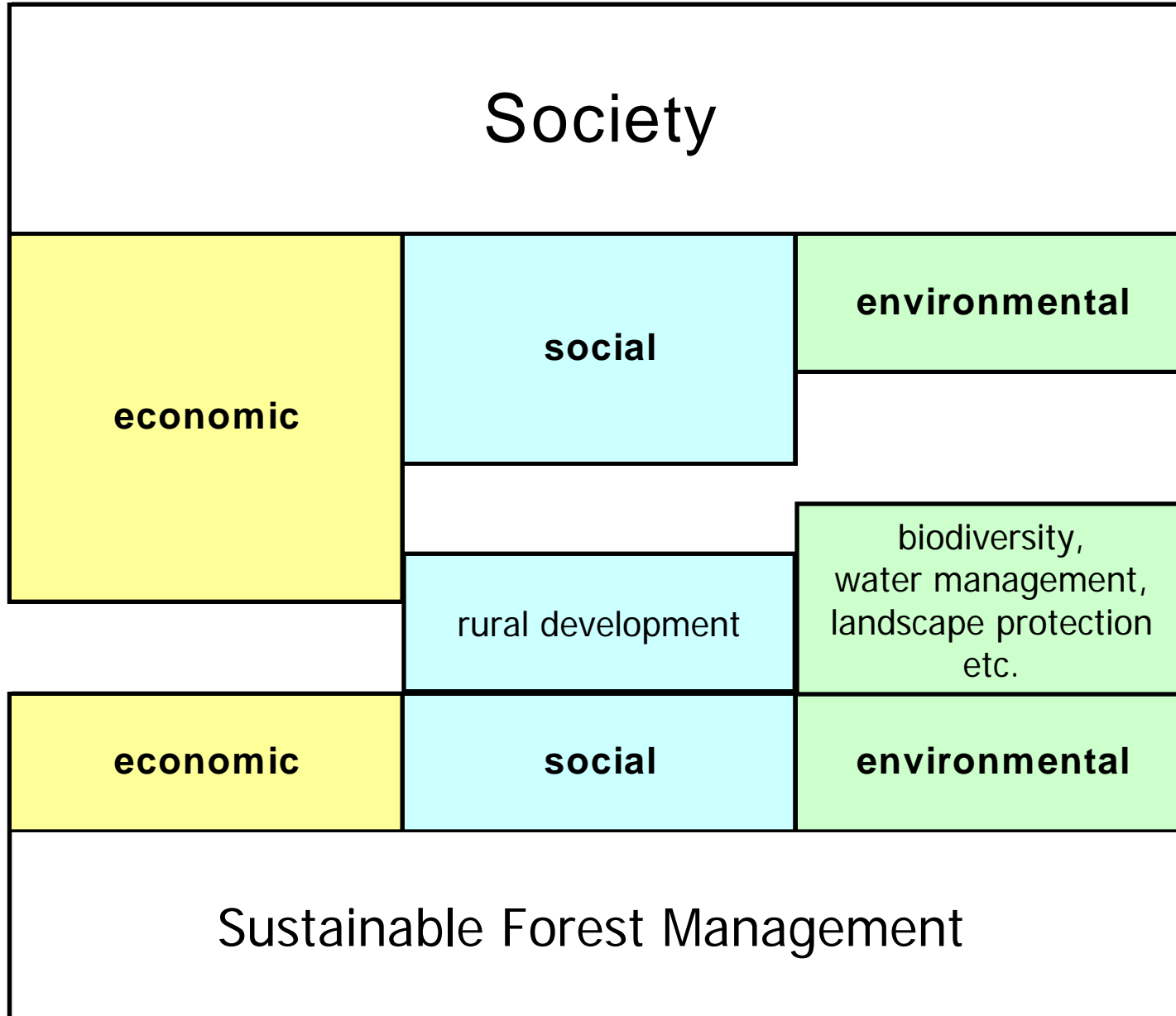
Key observations: lack of coordination of forest land use related policies

- **Traditionally the principle of sustainability was focused on long-term income opportunities from wood production**
- **In the 1990s the principle of Sustainable Development was introduced on the international political arena, with the goal to ensure long-term welfare of modern societies,**
- **emphasizing a balanced development of economic, social and environmental values.**
- **Traditional forestry institutions emphasize “sustainable forest management” as the main policy approach balancing a priori the economic values for society with the social and environmental benefits.**



Key observations: lack of coordination of forest land use related policies

- Society requests specific economic, environmental and social inputs.
- A “policy vacuum” evolved, where environmental stakeholder groups successfully claimed for a specific governance over these forest land use related issues.
- Environmental institutions and instruments that had long time been empowered on the global level became a new cross-sector policy area with rising importance also on national levels.





Key observations: lack of coordination of forest land use related policies

- **International political instruments related to forestry are mainly based on non-legally binding commitments**
- **Other (environmental) policy areas developed strong international commitments and legally binding instruments, dealing with issues related to forestry**
- **The split-up of the policy framework for forest land use and the lack of coordination between the various policy approaches leads to an unsatisfactory contribution of forest land use to an overall sustainable development.**



Key observations: lack of coordination of forest land use related policies

- **Nfpps go in line with the general trend in environmental policy to reach more coordination through integrated approaches and policy strategies.**
- **A special focus has to be put on the development of the forest land use policy framework in CEEC and CIS, where the transition process gives the chance to adapt policies to changing demands in society.**



Key observations: common approaches

Beside structural differences in public demands from forest land use there are common approaches in forestry related legislation in Europe

- **Obligation: Reforestation in order to keep the forest cover**
- **Right: Public access to forests**
- **Right: Public use of non-wood forest products**

(Source: DP 33 UNECE)



Draft conclusions

- (1) Enlarge the focus in Eastern Europe towards social and environmental benefits**
- (2) Bundle forest land use policies institutionally**
- (3) More coordination on forest land use in the EU institutions**
- (4) A Pan-European forest land use instrument**



Ground rules for plenary adoption of a DRFAT

- **Keep or cancel items in general**
- **Provide only proposals with a clear wording**
- **After a certain time of discussion “red flag” will be raised for another 2-3 minutes of discussion to get consensus,**
- **otherwise skip/delete the item and move to the next**