



## EUROPEAN FOREST SECTOR OUTLOOK STUDY

### NATIONAL REPORT-SLOVENIA

#### 1. In what way are the EFSOS 'Conclusions and Policy Recommendations' relevant for Slovenia?

<b><i>Policy Recommendation</i></b>	<b><i>Relevance for Slovenia</i></b>
Need for policies to stimulate the sound use of timber	This policy recommendation is very important to Slovenia. It is one of the priority objectives in the Slovenian Forest Development Programme. Efforts to promote wood timber are equally made at the national and local levels.
Threats to sustainability in south-east Europe and the CIS sub-region	Threats occurring due to increased occurrences of bark beetle, forest fires, and excess numbers of herbivorous wild animals are managed through actions at the local levels.
Need to devote policy attention to the consequences of the dynamic developments in Eastern Europe and the CIS sub-region	This policy recommendation is relevant to Slovenia. We support very intensively the development of forestry and wood processing sectors in South Eastern Europe.
Improve the economic viability of forest management in Europe.	This policy recommendation is of utmost importance to Slovenia. Special care will be paid to this recommendation in the review of the National Forestry Programme, in the preparation of the National Strategy for Rural Development and forestry-related measures within the Rural Development Programme.
Balanced implementation of wood energy policies	This policy recommendation is also of utmost importance to Slovenia. The Resolution on National Energy Programme was adopted by parliament on April 2004. The plan is to increase the share of wood biomass energy by 3.1 Peta Joules by 2010. Measures to support biomass projects are carried out within the Single Programming Document.
Forestry, wood and climate change	Another very important recommendation for Slovenia. Slovenia's Forestry Development Programme includes guidelines for avoiding the consequences of climate change on forests and to assure sustainable forest management. An action plan to reduce <i>greenhouse gas emissions</i> is under implementation
Forest law enforcement and governance	Effective forest law enforcement is in place in Slovenia. The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food is responsible for forestry; the relevant agency is the Inspectorate for Agriculture, Forestry and Food, while the Slovenian Forest Service holds the public authorisations for implementing the Forestry Act.

	Slovenia supports FLEGT processes.
Institutional change in countries in transition	Forestry institutions in Slovenia are organised in a comparable manner to the rest of Europe and operate effectively.
Monitoring environmental and social benefits from forests and forestry.	This policy recommendation is of outmost importance. Slovenia implements basic and high-level monitoring within the EU Forest Focus programme. We collect data on environmental and social benefits from forests and forestry. A research project on the preparation of monitoring methodologies is underway.
Necessity of cross-sector approach	This is a very important policy recommendation. Slovenia has signed the Vienna Declaration and Resolutions. Vienna Resolution no.1 is a basic document for this matter. The Forest Development Programme is prepared and adopted in crosssectoral cooperation. Forestry sector is actively involved in cross-sectoral policy process.
Need to control forest fires	Forest fires endangered forests on the Karst –the plateau above the coastal region of Slovenia. It corresponds with one of the priority objectives in the Forest Development Programme. Protection against forest fires takes place on the local level.
Employment and the work force	This policy recommendation is important for Slovenia in terms of rural development and also in terms of equal opportunities.
Developing the region's comparative advantages	This policy recommendation is of utmost importance to Slovenia. A high level forest coverage and high timber supply related to a tradition of timber processing offers an opportunity to develop high value forest products. The high number of NATURA 2000 sites also offers non-timber goods and services and opportunity to development of eco-tourism.
European forest sector in the global context	This policy recommendation is relevant. Slovenian forests are an indivisible part of global environment, and we are interested in being involved on in the broad processes of sustainable development. Exchanging and sharing responsibilities, information, knowledge and experience is a great advantage of participation in the international forestry regime.

2. ***Which of the policy scenario assumptions made in EFSOS fits best to the situation in your country (see Chapter 3)?***

For the next 15 years we do not expect a trend towards greater emphasis on the environment. Slovenia's legislation and strategy documents are already very much environment-oriented. Besides the ongoing globalisation processes we do not expect significant changes in the market that would lead to changes in forest product prices. Furthermore, we do not expect a sudden increase in research or investment with respect to alternative technologies due to current budget relief programmes.

3. **What kind of significant changes are you expecting with regard to your country's forest sector policy in the next 3 – 5 years as a (direct or indirect) result of the EFSOS analysis, conclusions and recommendations?**

- EFSOS analyses will have a positive effect on designed programming and strategy documents for Slovenian forestry. The important strategy documents include the National Development Programme, the review of the National Forestry Programme, the preparation of the National Rural Development Strategy, the preparation and adoption of the Rural Development Programme, and the Biomass Use Action Plan. EFSOS studies provide a wider context for the development of the forestry policy vision, objectives and actions.
- Slovenia adopted the Forestry Development Programme in 1996. The input of NGOs at the time was relatively weak, as was their contribution to the quality of national dialogue on that programme. Since then there have been two ministerial conferences on protecting forests in Europe. At the EU level, other processes are underway that will affect forest policy. The results of EFSOS studies offer a wider base and far-reaching coordination of proposals, and guidelines for setting objectives within the three pillars of sustainable forest management.
- The participation of Slovenian experts in preparing the EFSOS study contributed to the development of knowledge and awareness of the significance of international and cross-sector cooperation.
- The trend analysis for the Slovenian forest sector is an important tool in creating the Development Vision and forest policy objectives.

**4. Who uses the information, conclusions and recommendations presented in EFSOS in your country? Who else could potentially benefit from EFSOS?**

- *Forest Sector:*
  - ❖ Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food
  - ❖ Slovenia Forest Service, Fund for Agriculture and Forest land
  - ❖ Chamber for Agriculture and Forest Land, Forest and Timber-Related Associations and Chamber of Commerce, Forestry enterprises
  - ❖ Research Institutes, Universities, Technical Colleges
- *Other Sectors:*
  - ❖ Ministry of Environment (in particular the Renewable Energy Section)
  - ❖ Ministry of Transport
  - ❖ Agricultural sector
  - ❖ Tourism

**5. What process is planned to use to make EFSOS known and review it at the national level?**

- **National level:**
  - ❖ A link to EFSOS website will be put on Website of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food, also on the websites of other ministries.
  - ❖ EFSOS is to be discussed at SFC sessions on forests and forestry. A more detailed information session is under discussion.
- **Local level:**
  - ❖ Articles published in the Slovenian Journal of Forestry.
  - ❖ Articles published in other Slovenian journals dealing with forestry, wood processing and agriculture and environment.
  - ❖ Taking part in different broadcast programme
  - ❖ Panel discussion by meetings of the Chamber of Agricultural Land and Forests.

**6. What are significant information/analysis/ideas to national policy debate (inside and outside sector) added by EFSOS?**

- Trends and outlook of forestry sector in the broader context. The basis for discussions in preparation of EU forestry action plan and national forest programme.
- Cross-sector cooperation on EU and national level – is tool for harmonisation of strategy documents and the efficient implementation of international and national commitments and legislation.

- Information on importance of non-wood goods and services for society. It will raise the public awareness of forests.
- Fuel wood – Potential: Forests are source of renewable energy, for it is planned to rise up the share. Debate will continue whether to use the wood for production of fancy wood products and fancy goods, or leave it stay in the forest to sequester carbon.

**7. Do you have any comments on the EFSOS country profile for your country (see attachment)?**

Scenario for the next twenty years time period according our opinion is as follows:

Baseline scenario (million m <sup>3</sup> )		
	Year	
	2000	2010
Forest area	1.1	1.2
Growing stock	292.0	340.0
Increment	6.1	6.7
Fellings	2.3	4.3
		2020
		1.3
		380.0
		7.2
		4.5

**8. What are your suggestions and comments with regard to further UNECE/FAO Forest Sector Outlook activities?**

- Slovenia supports the continuation of the EFSOS Outlook study to provide guidelines, information and analysis for decision makers in the forest sector and other sectors.
- The UNECE/FAO Forest Sector Outlook study should be made in close cooperation with other initiatives and processes on regional and national level.
- With respect to the future direction of regional outlook studies, Slovenia recommends making studies in due time before the preparation period starts for strategic and programming documents for the next financial perspective.

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