

# EUROPEAN FOREST SECTOR OUTLOOK STUDY

## NATIONAL REPORT – ROMANIA

In a period of changes, like Romanian forest sector, a presentation of long term trends for forest sector in Europe is more than useful.

The study answers to many questions of stakeholders.

**1.** Conclusions and recommendations of the study give the possibility to make into consideration some aspects analyzed at national level, but not enough clarified to give the possibility to introduce them in forest strategy or in national forest programme.

Without some priorities, one of them is from general market outlook, the growth rates from 2000 to 2020 in production and consumption of forest products and correlation between them, especially in Eastern Europe. It is a question for the consumers of wood, when the production is less than consumption, even at European level there is more production. The pressure on forests for wood production will be more in countries where is easier to obtain, that mean in Eastern Europe and CIS, so Romania should evaluate the possibility to explore all the factors to respond on market demands, keeping the other forest function.

A special attention for Romania is to developing programmes and policies to expand the use residue and recycling wood.

The policies on renewable energy and its impact on forest (increment of demand for wood) will be in attention of some changes in forest strategy. Beside of roundwood production for wood industry, it will have to reconsider the coppicing system in forest management that is now reduced only for few species.

It is very useful to make into consideration the baseline and conservation comparison scenario, when the environmental policies give more importance to forest conservation.

The alternative ways to increase the economic viability of forests are not so easy to adopt in a country where the private forest owners have all the responsibilities concerning forest management, even they are associated, having revenue only the income from the sale of wood. The income obtained from other non-wood products is not significant. In Romania, the only possibility to make viable the forest sector is the market development of non-market goods and services.

For Romanian forest policy is interesting to analyze how the private forestry co-operative network in Lithuania could be applied in the near future, when it is possible that more than a half of forest land will be in private ownership.

**2.** For Romania, fits the best the baseline scenario, the assumptions made in EFSOS are available.

**3.** In the next future, the main change will be on the status of forest ownership and from this, the objectives of forest management and administration of forests will be changed. The forest law has to be modified and the results of the study are very useful, mainly to avoid the threats to sustainable forest management and relationship between owners and forest.

**4.** The information, conclusions and recommendations presented in EFSOS are submitted already to decision makers in forest policies and to national

administration of forests. It is useful to forest research institute, environment authority and economic forest companies, too.

**5.** Conclusions and recommendations of EFSOS will be presented to the first meeting on forestry at national level. It would be possible next weeks, when we are planned meetings with forestry territorial inspectorates of ministry concerning the procedures for the benefit of SAPARD programme. They are already submitted to commissions in charge with forest legislation elaboration and National Administration of Forests.

**6.** Almost all information is useful, especially in this moment, for Romania. The market outlook of forest products and the economic viability of forests management are very interesting for the private owners and for national administration, too. For the future activities of forest department it is very interesting to analyze how will be possible to make in attention the coppices, to solve some economic and social problems. So far, it is in ministry attention to solve the “challenge” of non-market forest goods and services. The list of threats to sustainable forest management, sorted in the three pillars is very useful to keep “on the table” as an attention in decisions to make in forest sector.

**7.** Concerning the impact and usefulness of EFSOS, the distribution the study is really necessary. Using the secretariat channels, mostly prominence on website, is necessary, perhaps to complete the e-mail address book with some else potential beneficiaries, like forest owners associations, universities, forest research institutes, economic companies.

The three types of work following up EFSOS are very useful. All of them come help the decision makers and the beneficiary from forest in the same importance.

Indeed, the problem of wood energy is not so well understood. This is the reason that gives an opportunity to decision makers in forestry for a deep analyze before decisions.

For an economic viability of forest sector, in Romania is a great need of evaluating the non-market goods and services of forest. Since now, it was not possible to give some “values” for protection functions or social and environmental services. Maybe it is need to have a collaboration with other countries or international organizations, like FAO, UNECE, etc.

The use of wood residues and to adopt a sound use of wood is a problem of public and wood companies’ awareness. Maybe Romania needs some examples in this field.

**8.** About future activities of UNECE/FAO outlook studies, being very short, there is need to maintain expertise in outlook study analytical techniques and complete the study area with non-wood product and services, mainly in the light of economic viability of forest sector.

An outlook study evaluating the forest sector, even at regional level would be very useful.

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