

National Report to the Tenth Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

This streamlined reporting format is prepared in response to the request made in the Resolution on Forests for People, adopted at the ninth session of the Forum in February 2011¹. Accordingly, the Forum requested the UNFF Secretariat (UNFFS) to develop a streamlined reporting format, in consultation with other members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), to ensure simple voluntary national reporting for UNFF 10 focused on the implementation of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests, (hereinafter referred to as the forest instrument)² and a balanced reporting of all its four Global Objectives on Forests (GOFs).

The streamlined reporting format is the result of consultations with the members of the CPF Task Force on Streamlining Forest-Related Reporting. In addition, UNFFS and FAO consulted extensively with government representatives and international experts on this reporting format and its content. These consultations were conducted through five regional capacity-building workshops³ with the participation of UNFF and FRA national focal points. A total of 136 national and international experts from 78 countries and up to five international organizations participated in the workshops. The workshops also benefitted from the four on-going FAO pilot projects in Ghana, Liberia, Nicaragua and the Philippines on the implementation of the forest instrument.

The reporting format is intended to complement ongoing reporting by other processes and focuses on identifying critical gaps in international and national reporting, and on issues that are not sufficiently covered by other reporting processes such as forest financing and forest contributions to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). This will help to better measure the progress achieved across the full scope of the forest instrument and its GOFs.

The streamlined reporting format is prepared in a way that reduces the burden of multiple reporting exercises by countries. In this regard, the reporting format takes into account quantitative and qualitative information already submitted by countries to the FAO *Forest Resource Assessment* (FRA) 2005 and 2010⁴.

¹ United Nations Forum on Forests, Report on the ninth session (1 May 2009 and 24 January to 4 February 2011_E/2011/42_E/CN.18/2011/20, Page 8)

GUIDANCE FOR THE PREPARATION OF NATIONAL REPORTS

This streamlined reporting format is made up of three parts:

- I. The forest instrument
- II. The four Global Objectives on Forests
- III. The contribution of forests to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals

The forest instrument covers a broad spectrum of issues beyond forests. Its implementation requires close cooperation between different authorities. Consequently, the preparation of national reports may require a cooperative exercise among institutions and ministries such as ministries of environment, economic development, finance, agriculture, health and statistics, and in particular with national focal points for FRA, the NFP Facility, the ITTO C&I process and the Rio Processes, where applicable.

For reporting, please note the following:

- The fields with FRA indicators are highlighted in grey. Th

General information

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Person to contact concerning the national report, if other than the UNFF national focal point

Name:	
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Abbreviations in the questionnaire/template:

B.Sc.: Bachelor of Science degree
C & I: Criteria and indicators processes
FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FLEGT: Forest law enforcement, governance and trade
FRA: FAO's global Forest Resources Assessment
GOF: Global Objectives on Forests
ITTO: International Tropical Timber Organization
MDGs: Millennium Development Goals
M.Sc.: Masters of Science degree
NA: Not available
NFP: National forest programme
ODA: Official development assistance
SIDS: Small Island Developing States
SFM: Sustainable forest management
UN: United Nations

UNFF: United Nations Forum on Forests
UNFFS: United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat

PART I: The Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests (forest instrument)⁵

Adoption of the **National Forest Programme and its Action Plan** by the Government of the Slovak Republic.

The National Forest Programme (NFP) was adopted by the Government on 27th June 2007 (resolution No. 549/2007).

The NFP is based on the current relevant forest policy documents, processes and commitments that have been adopted at national and international levels. It updated forest policy priorities and provides a framework for relations and impacts of other

5. Has the forest instrument been translated into your country's official/local language(s)?	Yes	No
	Yes	
Please list the language(s) into which the forest instrument has been translated. Slovak		
1B: Financing sustainable forest management: Assessment of this thematic cluster will be conducted on the basis of data provided under Global Objective on Forests 4 (Q. 43-49).		
1C: Capacity building and technology transfer		
6. Total number of persons employed in forestry (1,000 persons-years); data will be derived by UNFFS from the FRA database (T13 – Employment).		
7. Total number of staff working in public forest institutions; data will be derived by UNFFS from FRA database (T15 – Institutional framework).		
Does your country have adequate capacity and technology to implement sustainable forest management?	Yes	No
	Yes	

If no, please describe the main challenges, including institutional and technical

If yes, is your country a donor or recipient of SFM technology?	
Donor country	Yes
Recipient country	

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1D: Stakeholder participation

10. Does your country have programmes for involving stakeholders in SFM policy formulation, planning and implementation? If yes, please indicate the levels:	Yes	No
	Yes	

National	Yes	
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addressing the issues of marketing forest reproductive material and sustainable forest management).

In the context of the international policy cooperation, the accession of the Slovak Republic into the MCPFE/Forest Europe General Coordinating Committee (coordinating body of the ministerial process) in November 2007 provides a unique opportunity for the Slovak Republic to influence forest related policies and processes at a pan-european level.

12. In which areas would your country like to see more international cooperation:	
Forests and climate change	
Forest biodiversity	
Valuation of ecosystem services provided by forests	Yes
Socio-economic issues, including livelihoods	
Forest degradation and rehabilitation	
Others; please list:	

2A: Forest law enforcement and governance
13.

2B: International trade in forest products				
16. Is your country involved in international forest products trade? If yes, please provide estimated market value (US\$ 1000):	Yes		No	
	Yes			
	Import		Export	
	2007	2011	2007	2011
Timber products	416 000	350 140	628 000	621 600
Fuelwood	816	10 360	5 712	6 160
17. Does your country trade in non-wood forest products? If yes. please list the most important and provide estimated market value:	Yes	Yes	No	
	Import		Export	
	2007	2011	2007	2011
	NA	NA	NA	NA

Describe the recent significant steps taken to enhance international trade in forest products in your country (maximum 250 words).

Note: Estimated figures for timber products (above) include wood based panels and sawn wood.

2C: Protection of forests		
18. Forest area (1000 hectares) conservation of biodiversity; data will be derived by UNFFS from FRA database (T 3 – Forest designation and management).		
19. Forest area (1000 hectares) within protective areas; data will be derived by UNFFS from FRA database (T 3 – Forest designation and management).		
<p>Describe any significant actions related to protection of forests since 2007 (maximum 250 words).</p> <p>Applying the ecosystem approach to the management of all types of forest through forest management planning (principle of differentiated approach in relation to natural conditions is applied).</p> <p>Implementation of Natura 2000 network⁸ on forest land).</p> <p>Forest protection: Implementing the system of forest monitoring and implementing preventive measures against natural hazards and human induced threats, including forest fires, in forests.</p>		
2D: Science and research		
20. How much funding (US\$ 1000) was designated for forest-related research?	2007	2011
	1.621	920
21. Please specify the sources of financing:	2007	2011
Public sector	Yes	Yes
Private ind]TJ3hu-19n 4-oue5.3 .4v		

22. Does your country have an institute(s) promoting the development and application of scientific and technological innovations for SFM?	Yes	No
	Yes	
	Yes	No

25. Has your country implemented actions to increase public awareness of the importance of and the benefits provided by forests and sustainable forest management?	Yes	
If yes, which of the following approaches have been utilized?		
Published materials, such as brochures, pamphlets, leaflets, posters, etc.	Yes	
Meetings with the general public to inform them of the benefits provided by forests to society	Yes	
Meetings with private and public sector stakeholders to inform them of the benefits of sustainable forest management	Yes	
Other; please describe (maximum 100 words).		

Describe these mechanisms and their functions. What specific role do the private sector and industry play in promoting and supporting the forest instrument and sustainable forest management? (maximum 250 words).

45% of forests in the Slovak Republic are managed by non-state entities (private forest owners and managers, municipalities).

The wood industry sector consists of private entities.

The National Forest Programme and its Action Plan are main instruments that aim at:

- support of development and activities of private forest owners associations, voluntary associations of small-sized forest land owners and public-private partnerships with participation of forest-related enterprises (NFP framework objective No. 36),
- promoting importance of certification of forests and wood-based chain of custodies for the society (NFP framework objective No. 53).

The Action Plan was developed in cooperation with other sectors relating to forests (environment, economy, defence, interior, public health, education, regional development, transport, labour, and social affairs) as well as with forest owners and managers,

29. Are local communities and indigenous peoples benefiting from the goods and services produced by forests? ⁹	Yes	No
	Yes	
<p>Describe how this is functioning (maximum 250 words).</p> <p><u>Example:</u> Everyman's right to enter forest land is in place within the entire territory of the Slovak Republic (even on private land). Based on it, many of forests are used for recreational purposes by local people.</p>		
30.	Yes	No

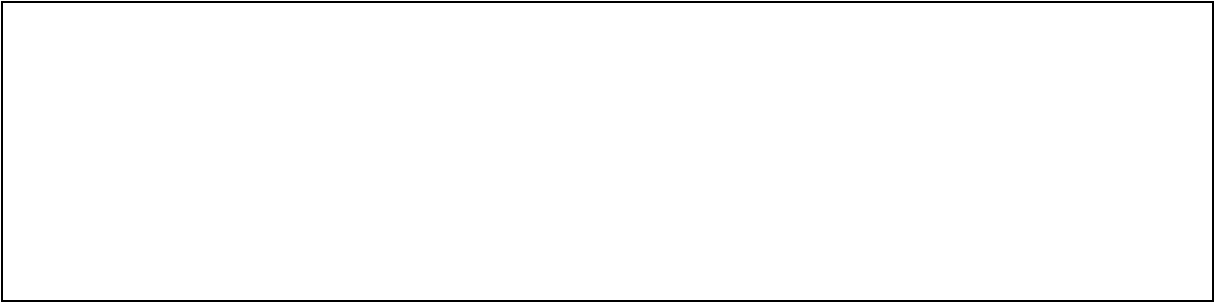
31. Do stakeholder participation mechanisms in support of sustainable forest	Yes	No	

wooded land)		
34.		

37. Has your country established a mechanism(s) for payment of ecosystem services?	Yes	No
	Yes	
If yes, what is the estimated value of the payment of ecosystem services (US\$ 1,000)?	2005	2011
	NA	NA
Please describe how the mechanism(s) function (maximum 250 words). Biodiversity conservation: Forest – environmental payments through the National Rural Development Programme.		
38. What is the number of visitors to national parks and other protected areas in your country?	2005	2011
	NA	NA
39. What is the area of urban parks in your country (1000 ha)?	NA	NA
40.		

Extent of forest with management plans (1000 ha)		
42. Does your country have forests under internationally recognized certification schemes?	Yes	No
	Yes	
If yes, please specify:	Certification Scheme	Area
	PEFC, FSC	1.380.285 hectares (70% of total forest land)
<p>Describe any significant actions related to Global Objective on Forests 3 (maximum 250 words).</p> <p>All forest land in the Slovak Republic is managed under forest management plans. A forest management plan is a tool for implementing sustainable forest management, as defined by the pan-European policy process, on the ground, i.e. at a level of a particular forest stand.</p>		
<p>Global Objective 4: Reverse the decline in official development assistance for sustainable forest management and mobilize significantly increased, new and additional financial resources from all sources for the implementation of sustainable forest management;</p>		
43. Does your country have a government budget specific for forests?	Yes	No
	Yes	
44. What is the total amount of funding in forest management, administration, research and human resource development (US\$ 1,000)?	2007	2011
	NA	NA
45. If the funding for forests is spread among other sectors, please specify the main contributors:		
Agriculture	Yes	
Energy		
Water		
Climate change		
Nature conservation		
Others; please specify:		
46. Has the country been able to mobilize significantly increased financial	Yes	No

resources for the implementation of SFM since 2007? If yes, please specify sources:		No		
Domestic public funding	2007 (US\$)	2011 (US\$)		
Domestic private sector funding	2007 (US\$)	2011 (US\$)		
External private sector funding	2007 (US\$)	2011 (US\$)		
<p>If there has been no increase, please describe the main challenges in mobilizing funds (maximum 250 words). The public financial resources, potentially available for forests, were limited due to budgetary restrictions and general cuts as a reaction to global economic and financial crisis.</p>				
47. Does your country have a National Forests Fund?	Yes	No		
		No		
48. Is your country a donor or recipient of ODA for forestry?	Donor	Recipient		
	Yes			
49. If yes, what has been the net ODA received/donated for forestry (US 1000)?	Donor		Recipient	
	2007	2010	2007	2011
<p>Please use this space to describe any significant actions related to Global Objective on Forests 4 (maximum 250 words). Protection of the environment and land management have been identified as two of the priority sectors of the Slovak official development assistance (National Programme for Official Development Assistance)</p>				



PART III: Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals

Goal 4: Reduce child mortality:		
Does SFM contribute to achieving this goal in your country? If so, do you have specific indicators and data which could be/are being used to assess this contribution?	Yes	No
		NR
Please list the indicators.		

Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases		
Does SFM contribute to achieving this goal in your country? If so, do you have specific indicators and data which could be/are being used to assess this contribution?	Yes	No
		NR
Please list the indicators.		
Please describe how forests contribute to achieving this goal (maximum 250 words).		
Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability		
Does SFM contribute to achieving this goal in your country? If so, do you have specific indicators and data which could be/are being used to assess this contribution?	Yes	No
	Yes	
Please list the indicators. The national criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management which are fully based on the pan-European criteria and indicators, namely those related to environmental pillar of SFM (e. g. biodiversity, climate change).		
Please describe how forests contribute to achieving this goal (maximum 250 words). National measures contributing to achieving this goal:		

- adoption and application of the national criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management (conservation of biological diversity in forest ecosystems as one of the criteria),
- forest genetic resources conservation implemented, in particular, through the Act on Forest Reproductive Material,
- monitoring of invasive forest tree species within the national forest inventory (results available in 2007),
- existence of a national legal framework on forest regeneration limiting a transfer of non-autochthonous forest reproductive material (the Act on Forest Reproductive Material),
- active participation of the Slovak Republic in the European Forest Genetic Resources Programme EUFORGEN (international dimension),
- on-going process of forest certification,
- applying the ecosystem approach to the management of all types of forest through forest management planning (principle of differentiated approach in relation to natural conditions is applied),
- monitoring forest ecosystems through, so called, ecological surveys within the process of forest management plans elaboration,
- implementation of information systems in forestry (data and information concerning, *inter alia*, forest biodiversity are gathered, processed and stored),
- implementation of Natura 2000 network on forest land.

Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development	Yes	No
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Please provide a short description of case studies and success stories on data collection on the contribution of forests to achieve MDGs that could serve as examples of good practice for other countries (maximum 250 words).