



Contribution of Sustainable Forest Management to a Low Emission and Resilient Development in Serbia

the Forest Management Planning perspective

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GEF- Serbia – the tasks of Forest Management Planning

Improved Forest Management Planning on different levels is a key to promote biodiversity and Climate Change mitigation in Serbian forests. In order to achieve this:

1. Existing **Carbon Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV)** Systems have to be adapted to Serbian conditions
2. Forest **strategy and legislation** have to be revised to incorporate biodiversity and Climate Change
3. National standards for **best management practices in non-state forests** have to be developed
4. Improved **sustainable forest management plans** on regional and local level have to be developed
5. Non-state **forest owners** have to be committed to Sustainable Forest Management

1.1.3 Current Carbon Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV)

- In Serbia currently almost no legal framework ensuring proper reporting of Carbon exists
- Very few elements can be found in policy documents such as the Law on Forests
- Several weak points of the current system:
 - low level of detail
 - no dynamic data for forest growth,
 - high uncertainty of the default values
 - low knowledge of the GHG inventory team on forestry dynamics.

GEF/SRB/002/GFF – Project outcome 1.1

Component 1: Build the framework for multifunctional SFM

Project Outputs

- 1.1.3 Existing Carbon Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) Systems reviewed and adapted to Serbian conditions

Weaknesses of current GHG inventory will be addressed through

- adapted NFI design
- Cooperation between Serbian Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) and the Forestry Directorate, in particular through:
 - ✓ Improvements of forest statistics,
 - ✓ Better integration of forest inventory data,
 - ✓ Addition of the Kyoto reporting under LULUCF,
 - ✓ Adding information such as data on forest fertilization, liming; drainage of organic soils,
 - ✓ Capacity building on LULUCF issues.

1.1.4 Current forest strategy and laws in Serbia in light of Biodiversity and Climate Change

- Consideration of climate change mitigation effects of forestry in Serbia is missing
- Systematic adaptation measures to climate change are not implemented
- Major role of forests in terms of biodiversity is partially recognized but not fully implemented
- The Natura 2000 implementation process was started without active participation of the forest sector
- The integration of Natura 2000 in forest planning is not considered so far.

GEF/SRB/002/GFF – Project outcome 1.1

Component 1: Build the framework for multifunctional SFM

Project Outputs

- 1.1.4. Forest development strategy and legislation revised to incorporate biodiversity and Climate Change mitigation concerns
 - ✓ Forest development strategy will be revised to incorporate biodiversity and climate change
 - ✓ Suggestions will be made to revise forest legislation to incorporate biodiversity and Climate Change
 - ✓ Legislation framework will be adapted such that Natura 2000 will be implemented in forest management planning
 - ✓ Legislation framework will be adapted such that Climate Change aspects will be implemented in forest development plans and forest management plans

1.1.5 National SFM standards in non-state forests in Serbia

- Forest management plans in private forests are not existing in practice (except for annual plans – partly)
- If available at all they are largely unenforceable and unusable
- Data of national forest inventories normally not usable for private forest owners
- There are no systematic extension services existing
- No standards for best management practices in non-state forests are existing

GEF/SRB/002/GFF – Project outcome 1.1

Component 1: Build the framework for multifunctional SFM

Project Outputs

- 1.1.5. National guidelines for best management practices in non-state forests developed
- ✓ Concept for silvicultural management guidelines for the main forest types in Serbia developed
- ✓ Associated training needs, taking into account peculiarities of forest management in state and non-state forests defined
- ✓ Steps:
 - 1. “Climate Smart Forestry” and biodiversity integrated into the guidelines
 - 2. Forest management guidelines for the whole country developed
 - 3. Latest results of growth and yield research integrated
 - 4. Demonstration and research plots for typical management measures established
 - 5. Multiplicators (silvicultural instructors and forest planners) trained
 - 6. Regional training modules to be offered to PFOs in pilot areas

2.1.2 Improved SFM plans for forest regions – to be prepared

- Integrated and improved sustainable **forest development plans for forest regions** are not existing so far

GEF/SRB/002/GFF – Project outcome 2.1

Component 2: Multifunctional forest management

Project Outputs

- 2.1.2. Integrated and improved sustainable forest development plans prepared for at least 2 forest regions (covering 80 000 ha)

Steps:

1. Aspects of “Climate Smart Forestry” and biodiversity integrated as new elements in Forest development plans (FDPs)
2. The role of Natura 2000 areas in FDPs is concretized
3. New guidelines in the two regions (e.g. province Vojvodina) are tested
4. Planning teams are trained in the new concept and new datasets like the 2nd NFI and existing information on biodiversity are integrated
5. Forest planners and staff (public enterprises) are trained countrywide

2.1.3 Improved SFM plans for forest management units – to be implemented

- Integrated and improved sustainable **forest management plans for forest management units** are not existing so far
- There is a lack of important components for decision making (e.g. site maps, erosion risk, ...) in forest management planning in Serbia

GEF/SRB/002/GFF – Project outcome 2.1

Component 2: Multifunctional forest management

Project Outputs

- 2.1.3. Forest management plans for forest management units in pilot areas implemented
1. “Climate Smart Forestry” and biodiversity integrated as new elements in forest management plans (FMP)
 2. Guidelines for FMPs are adapted
 3. New components for an improved decision-making in FMPs identified
 - forest site mapping
 - erosion risk assessment
 - landslide cadastre
 - forest function mapping
 - implementation of Natura 2000
 4. Improved FMPs in the regions using all new approaches and methods in 2 to 3 FMUs implemented in each region
 5. Training of the staff (managers and planners)

2.1.4 Incentive mechanisms to commit non-state forest owners to SFM

- Incentive mechanisms for private forest owners in practice mainly exist as grants for forest road building and free plant material
- Level of incentives cannot be compared to those established in Central Europe or in the EU-countries

GEF/SRB/002/GFF – Project outcome 2.1

Component 2: Multifunctional forest management

Project Outputs

- 2.1.4. Non-state forest owners are committed to SFM through incentive mechanism and developed simplified forest management plans, respecting High Conservation Value (HCV) forest areas
- ✓ Options for the institutional framework of an extension service for private forest owners analysed
- ✓ Framework for simplified forest management plans for different categories of non-state forest owners is developed
- ✓ Incentive mechanisms, to enable participation in forest certification schemes identified
- ✓ Sources for potential additional budgets (EU-funding schemes, tax, payments for environmental services,..) screened