

REPUBLIKA SLOVENIJA
**MINISTRSTVO ZA KMETIJSTVO,
GOZDARSTVO IN PREHRANO**

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UN Forum on Forests

New York, 10017 New York,
USA

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Case: Submission of the report on Slovenian progress towards the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, the United Nations forest instrument and voluntary national contributions

Dear Sir/Madame,

On 15th of November, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food send report on progress Slovenia has made towards the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, the United Nations forest instrument and voluntary national contributions.

Best wishes.

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Action: 1.2: Maintained or enhanced carbon stocks and 1.3; implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests (*ongoing process*)

Description of actions:

Forest reserves are, according to the Slovenian legislation, special-purpose forests with emphasized research function. Such forests are, due to their development phase and species composition, of major

According to four shared global objectives on forests of the [UN Forest Instrument](#) from 2015, Slovenia completes on goal 2 entirely and a major part of others through **promoting and supporting** of income from forests through **sustainable, close-to-nature and multiobjective forest management**. Well-being of forest owners, public expectations and wildlife needs (e.g Natura 2000 sites) are established through participatory process of multifunctional forest management and harmonizing ecological demands of forest species with economic aspect of wood as sustainable energy and material source.

Forest cover increased in Slovenia from 37 % (year 1875) to over 57 % to the date. The afforestation processes, mainly originating from the abandonment of agricultural land, stopped in recent years. The main reasons for that are urbanization and transformation of forest back to agricultural use in order to improve national food self-efficiency (the process is distinctive in lowlands). Estimations of the increase of forest cover in Slovenia in the past decades slightly differ also due to the different methodologies applied for monitoring of changes of land use as well as the different definition of forest cover (*Pinus mugo*- forest or not?). Increase in forest area in the future is not expected.

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Action 2.4: The contribution of forest industry to social and economic development (continuous)

Description of actions:

Decree on green public procurement (Official Gazette of RS, No. 51/17) from 2017 and Decree amending the Decree on green public procurement (Official Gazette of RS, No. 64/19) provide actions towards increasing wood consumption as a material: Legislation instructs ordering the goods, services or works which have throughout their lifetime a lower environmental impact than conventional ones, provide saving of natural resources, materials and energy, and have the same or better functionality.

Actions 2.5: The contribution of all forests types to biodiversity conservation is enhanced (continuous)

Description of actions:

Forest areas under Natura 2000 (around 50 % of the entire forest area), ecologically important areas, virgin and other primary forests (altogether more than 9,500 ha), eco-cells, as well as deadwood and habitat trees (as defined in regulations on the forests protection), are by the purpose intended for improving forest biodiversity, preservation of vulnerable forest

Slovenia recognized importance of wood as a material and energy source, setting it as a national strategic source. Improving status of wood supply chains is of great importance for economic status of several forest owners, simultaneously preserving biodiversity through close-to-nature management system and mitigating climate change.

Forests are in majority privately owned and forest use is limited by allowable cut, prescribed in forest management plans. In order to increase amounts of wood, processed in wood industry, and use of wood as a material, tending measures to increase wood quality should b wood

Rural development programme 2014-2020, financially supports measures:

- < restoration of forests, damaged in disturbances (ice storm, wind throw, bark beetle attack), and purchase of saplings; 1.6 M
- < construction and improving of forest roads and skid trail network;1.7 M
- < purchase of forest machinery and equipment; 10 M
- < primary wood industry; 7 M

Action 3.3:

Description of actions: By the adoption of the forest code in 1993, all forests in Slovenia are managed following sustainable, close to nature and multi-functional principles. Forests are also certified by PEFC (private forests) and FSC (state forests). Increase of forest products is possible due to increased harvest, as the result of increasing growing stock, improved wood-based industry and domestic demands and consumption.

List of actions: 3.3, ongoing process.

Description of actions: Use of wood is promoted by joint action between the Ministry of agriculture, forestry and food, and the Ministry of Economic Development and Technology, in the strategic document Wood is beautiful (Les je lep). It covers financial support to forest owners and wood industry to achieve goals on promoting and increase in wood use as material and energy source.

List of actions:

Description of actions:

Aside to Forest fund, which promotes and enables various activities, is

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Cross-sectoral coordination among government agencies is established in the process of participation, where approval of Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature conservation, Ministry for culture, Agency for water, and municipalities is imperative on the drafts of forest management plans.

Also important is the fact, that the members of the Council of the Slovenia Forest Service are the representatives of the ministries, responsible for

- < finance,
- < culture,
- < spatial planning and environment,
- < education, science and sport, and for
- < agriculture, forestry and food,

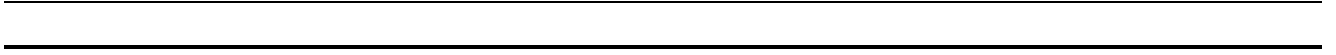
as well as representatives of research institutions; Biotechnical faculty and Slovenian forestry institute.

On a level of the Council of the regional unit of the Slovenia Forest Service, representatives come from, generally speaking: land owners, hunters, farmers, nature protectionist, local society and forest service employee.

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