

**National Report to the Fifth Session of the  
United Nations Forum on Forests**

**Hungary**

**2004**

## **Key Contacts**

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## **Progress and issues related to implementation of IPF/IFF proposals for action**

The New Act on Forests and the Protection of Forests (came into force in 1997) contain the outcomes of the UNCED, CSD and the Ministerial Conferences (Strasbourg and Helsinki) on the protection of forests in Europe.

In Hungary had started in 2000 the process of the National Forest Programme (2006-2015) and in this October the Hungarian Government adopted. The main goals of the NFP were created first of all in the frame of the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (Vienna Resolution 1) and of course followed most of IPF/IFF proposals for action.

### **UNFF2**

#### **IPF/IFF proposals for action related to combating deforestation and forest degradation**

Since 1997 in Hungary the increase of the forest cover annually average 10.000 ha by the afforestation activity. This progress will be promoted in the future by the different arrangements of the National Land Fund.

In the field of reforestation (regeneration) a special financial institution is existing in Hungary (managed by State Forest Service) to promote sustainable forest management: Forest Maintenance Contribution.

#### **IPF/IFF proposals for action related to forest conservation and protection of unique types of forests and fragile ecosystems**

About 20% of Hungarian forests are under different level nature protection. (National Parks, Nature Protection Areas, Local Nature Protection Areas).

Cross-sectoral coordination of policies and programmes are existed by the Ministry of Environment Protection and Water Management and Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

Developing and implementing partnership mechanisms to engage all relevant stakeholders in the planning and management of forest conservation areas, including protected forest areas, as well as supporting training and participatory research involving local communities.

61 forest reserves network was established 10 years ago according to two aspects: the main types of Hungarian forests stands and different ecological sites.

Forest Gene Sources are protected by existing regions of provenance (gene reserves, in situ, ex situ) managed by National Institute for Agricultural Quality Control.

### **IPF/IFF proposals for action related to natural and planted forests**

The key element of the sustainable forest management is the comprehensive and compulsory forest management plans made by State Forest Service and financed by the State Budget.

### **UNFF3**

### **IPF/IFF proposals for action related to economic aspects of forests**

The NFP contains the main principles of the rational development for forest based industries and the main principles of the development for the most important non-wood forest products and services: the sustainable wildlife management.

### **IPF/IFF proposals for action related to forest health and productivity**

Hungary successfully has been participated for twenty years in the International Cooperative Programme on Assessment and Monitoring of Air Pollution Effects on Forests (ICP Forests) in the frame of the UNECE, later as an EU member country, in the future in the frame of EU Forest Focus.

### **IPF/IFF proposals for action related to maintaining forest cover to meet present and future needs.**

The development the green electricity production has begun of during the latest years. That is why between 15-20 percent of the annual Hungarian felling is used for above mentioned purpose like renewable wood energy source.

### **UNFF4**

### **IPF/IFF proposals for action related to social and cultural aspects of forests**

In the frame of developing and implementing programmes for sustainable forest management, support indigenous people and local communities it has established a treaty between the National Land Fund and the Hungarian Forest Association.  
One of the main goals of NFP is the communication focusing people, forests and forestry.

### **IPF/IFF proposals for action related to scientific forest related knowledge**

Started public participation: apply participatory mechanism to involve research into planning process, setting the research priorities and addressing the knowledge gaps.

**IPF/IFF proposals for action related to monitoring, assessment and reporting, and concepts, terminology and definitions**

By the force of the Forest Act the State Forest Service manages to The National Forests Data Base.

Planning control, supervision and information related to the forestry activities shall be performed by using the data of the Data Base.

Based on the data collected the Minister shall publish annually a report about the status of the forest stand of the country.

**IPF/IFF proposals for action related to criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management**

As earlier was mentioned, the key element of the sustainable forest management is the comprehensive and compulsory forest management plan which contain the criteria and indicators of the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (Lisbon, Resolution 2)