

<p><i>NON-LEGALLY BINDING INSTRUMENT ON ALL TYPES OF FORESTS</i></p> <p>VOLUNTARY SHARING OF INFORMATION ON PROGRESS</p> <p><i>Suggested Format</i></p>	Country: Bulgaria	Date:08.10.2008
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A. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NLBI

1. Raising awareness of sustainable management of forests and the NLBI itself is seen as an important component to facilitate implementation. Please provide information on measures taken aimed at introducing the NLBI to professionals and the general public:

- a) Has the NLBI been introduced/recognized through any legal, policy or strategy document? If so, please provide a brief description.

NLBI was shown as one of the major international basis for sustainable forest management in the Bulgarian National Strategy for development of the forest sector 2006-2015 and Strategic plan for development of the forest sector 2007-2011.

- b) Has there been action taken to introduce the NLBI to the general public in the electronic, printed or any other media?

After the last UNFF session there was a message to the public in our official website.

- c) Has the NLBI been translated into the official language(s) of your country? If so we would be grateful for receiving a translated copy.

Not yet.

2. To help achieve its purpose the NLBI identified a range of national policies and measures as well as an array of actions related to international cooperation and means of implementation described in detail in paragraphs 6 and 7 of the NLBI. To facilitate reporting progress these have been amalgamated here into 13 thematic clusters – five of which are cross-cutting and the rest topical thematic clusters.

Cross-cutting Thematic Clusters		
Ref. Number	Cluster	NLBI Element
1A	A. Strengthening Political Commitment for SFM	6a, 6c, 6d, 6k, 6l, 7a, 7c
1B	B. Financing SFM	6h, 6i, 6m, 7a, 7b, 7c, 7d, 7e
1C	C. Capacity Building and Technology Transfer	6e, 6s, 6v, 7f, 7i, 7j, 7k, 7l, 7m
1D	D. Stakeholder Participation	6h, 6m, 6v, 6w, 6x, 6y, 7k
1E	E. Enhanced International Cooperation	7i, 7n, 7q, 7r, 7s
Topical Thematic Clusters		

2A	A. Forest Law Enforcement and Governance	6n, 7h, 7i, 7j
2B	B. International Trade in Forest Products	6j, 6x, 7g, 7h, 7i, 7j,
2C	C. Protection of Forests	6o, 6p, 6q
2D	D. Science and Research	6r, 6s, 7n, 7o, 7p
2E	E. Public Awareness and Education	6t, 6u, 6v, 7j
2F	F. Private Sector and Industry	6e, 6h, 6i, 6m, 6w, 6x, 7a, 7f, 7k, 7m
2G	G. Indigenous and Local Communities	6f, 6h, 6s, 6v, 6y, 7k

CLUSTER:	
1A	A. Strengthening Political Commitment for SFM
Has there been any action taken to implement the tasks identified within this cluster? If the answer is 'yes' please proceed to the next question. If the answer is 'no' please provide reasons.	yes
Please detail action taken including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.	Goals: Close-to-nature, sustainable and effective management of forest resources, game species and protected nature territories. Increase of the forest cover of the country and decrease the area of non-regenerated harvesting sites. Improvement of the ecological functions and biodiversity conservation.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type/source (<i>is it a policy, law, national forest programme, strategy?</i>) 	Program of the SFA for the policy priorities and goals in the forestry and actions for their achievement in 2007 and 2008 Strategic plan for development of the forest sector 2007-2011
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short description of each item 	Adoption of a Strategic plan for development of the forest sector 2007-2011 and priorities under the government program Administrative reform, aiming better forest management and accumulation of resources for regeneration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time frame for implementation 	till 2009 incl. according the Programme for European integration, economic growth and social responsibility till 2011 according to the National Strategy for development of the forest sector 2006-2015
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experiences with implementation (if any) 	Satisfactory implementation

CLUSTER:	
1B	B. Financing SFM
Has there been any action taken to implement the tasks identified within this cluster? If the	yes

answer is 'yes' please proceed to the next question. If the answer is 'no' please provide reasons.	
Please detail action taken including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.	Establishment of National Fund "Bulgarian forest"
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type/source (<i>is it a policy, law, national forest programme, strategy?</i>) 	<p>Forest Act, regulations</p> <p>Program of the SFA for the policy priorities and goals in the forestry and actions for their achievement in 2007 and 2008</p> <p>Strategic plan for development of the forest sector 2007-2011</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short description of each item 	<p>Certain resources depending on the forest management plans are allocated for forest regeneration, plantations, thinnings and tendering, improvement of the forest health state.</p> <p>At the moment the administrative reform is still going on and state forest units are transformed into state enterprises, and National fund "Bulgarian forest" is reestablished which will assure all needed resources for the silvicultural activities and game management. In the framework of the Fund, there are 3 investment programmes developed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - for financing of infrastructure projects in the forest fund - for financing of hunting management activities - for financing of forest regeneration in the forest fund
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time frame for implementation 	2007-2011
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experiences with implementation (if any) 	Due to lack of resources from the budget at the specific time when needed for the execution of silvicultural activities, now is expected these resources to be better secured.

CLUSTER:	
1C	C. Capacity Building and Technology Transfer
Has there been any action taken to implement the tasks identified within this cluster? If the answer is 'yes' please proceed to the next question. If the answer is 'no' please provide reasons.	yes
Please detail action taken including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.	PHARE Twinning project "Strengthening of the Administrative Capacity of the State Forestry Administration" - implemented

	<p>PHARE Twinning Light project “Strengthening of the administrative capacity of the State Forestry Agency in the field of the implementation of the requirements of the Council Resolution of 15 December 1998 on a Forestry Strategy for the EU, EU Forest Action Plan and other relevant legal documents concerning sustainable, multifunctional and close to nature management of state forests” – in a process of contracting.</p> <p>SAF has applied a project fiche under Operational Program Administrative Capacity for “Enhancement of the transparency and reporting of the activities of the State Forestry Agency”.</p> <p>Annual program for training of the SFA personnel.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type/source (<i>is it a policy, law, national forest programme, strategy?</i>) 	EU-projects
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short description of each item 	<p>The implemented already project achieved progress in harmonization of the Bulgarian forest related legislation, enhancement of the capacity of the administration for performing good public functions, able to operate on competitive market.</p> <p>The forthcoming for implementation project foresees enhancement of the capacity for sustainable management of forests, biodiversity conservation and specifically practical implementation of Concept for management of young stands and effective management of forests with high ecological level.</p> <p>Main goal of the applied project fiche is the enhancement of the administrative capacity and professional qualification of the SFA personnel for good and sustainable forest resources management”. Language and other paid by SFA courses executed by private companies or the Institute for public administration and European integration, Sofia.</p> <p>Training pf the regional and local SFA structures in the filed of financial possibilities under the EU structural funds.</p> <p>Different courses and trainings for the non-sate forest owners.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time frame for implementation 	<p>2006-2007</p> <p>2008-2009</p> <p>Annually</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experiences with implementation (if any) 	The implemented project and trainings had positive impact on the knowledge of SFA in different fields of forest governance and management.

CLUSTER:	
ID	D. Stakeholder Participation
Has there been any action taken to implement the tasks identified within this cluster? If the answer is 'yes' please proceed to the next question. If the answer is 'no' please provide reasons.	yes
Please detail action taken including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.	Encouraging the cooperation between the forest owners, branch organization and establishment of associations of forest owners and development of communal forest structures.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type/source (<i>is it a policy, law, national forest programme, strategy?</i>) 	<p>Program of the SFA for the policy priorities and goals in the forestry and actions for their achievement in 2007 and 2008</p> <p>Strategic plan for development of the forest sector 2007-2011</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short description of each item 	Active cooperation with different stakeholders and establishment of working groups with them in order obtaining opinion when amending the legislative base and forming the priorities of the state forest policy. Provision of trainings and seminars.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time frame for implementation 	2007-2011
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experiences with implementation (if any) 	Positive start and development in 2007

CLUSTER:	
1E	E. Enhanced International Cooperation
Has there been any action taken to implement the tasks identified within this cluster? If the answer is 'yes' please proceed to the next question. If the answer is 'no' please provide reasons.	yes
Please detail action taken including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.	Enhancement the activity in the field of international cooperation.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type/source (<i>is it a policy, law, national forest programme, strategy?</i>) 	<p>Program of the SFA for the policy priorities and goals in the forestry and actions for their achievement in 2007 and 2008</p> <p>Strategic plan for development of the forest sector 2007-2011</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short description of each item 	<p>Participation in the work of SFC and WP Forestry, EUSTAFOR.</p> <p>Organizing the 20th session of Silva Mediterranea, April 2008, Sofia.</p> <p>Establishment cooperation with Romania and Socialist Republic Vietnam.</p>

	Participation/application of SFA in several projects as a partner under Operational program for South East Europe: „Climate changes and Impacts on Water Supply”; „Observatory for the Socio-economic impacts of natural hazards in the South East Europe”; „Integrative conservation and management of the biodiversity: the beach habitats as a model”; MONITOR II, Mountain forest network II, „South East European Forestry and Furniture Cluster”; and other for biodiversity conservation and establishment of ecological information centers. SFA is a partner of the Bulgarian Society for Birds protection under the Mechanism for European Economic Area.
• Time frame for implementation	2007-2011
• Experiences with implementation (if any)	positive development in 2007 and 2008

CLUSTER:	
2A	A. Forest Law Enforcement and Governance
Has there been any action taken to implement the tasks identified within this cluster? If the answer is ‘yes’ please proceed to the next question. If the answer is ‘no’ please provide reasons.	yes
Please detail action taken including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.	Enhancement the national cooperation in the field of prevention and control of the forest, game and fish resources.
• Type/source (<i>is it a policy, law, national forest programme, strategy?</i>)	Program of the SFA for the policy priorities and goals in the forestry and actions for their achievement in 2007 and 2008 Strategic plan for development of the forest sector 2007-2011
• Short description of each item	Introduction of video system for observation in the areas with major violence – in the regions of Regional Forestry Directorates Blagoevgrad, Paradjik and Kjustendil Working together will all involved institutions for prevention of violence.
• Time frame for implementation	2007-2011

CLUSTER:	
2B	B. International Trade in Forest Products
Has there been any action taken to implement the tasks identified within this cluster? If the	yes

answer is 'yes' please proceed to the next question. If the answer is 'no' please provide reasons.	
Please detail action taken including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.	Enhancement the range of forest certification
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type/source (<i>is it a policy, law, national forest programme, strategy?</i>) 	<p>Program of the SFA for the policy priorities and goals in the forestry and actions for their achievement in 2007 and 2008</p> <p>Strategic plan for development of the forest sector 2007-2011</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short description of each item 	Before 2007 only 111 000 ha were certified under FSC. There is a trend for expansion of the forests certified.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time frame for implementation 	2007-2011

CLUSTER:	
2C	C. Protection of Forests
Has there been any action taken to implement the tasks identified within this cluster? If the answer is 'yes' please proceed to the next question. If the answer is 'no' please provide reasons.	yes
Please detail action taken including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.	Enlargement of the protected territories area.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type/source (<i>is it a policy, law, national forest programme, strategy?</i>) 	<p>Program of the SFA for the policy priorities and goals in the forestry and actions for their achievement in 2007 and 2008</p> <p>Strategic plan for development of the forest sector 2007-2011</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short description of each item 	Adoption of management plans for 2 of the Nature parks /2 more left/ Development of Natura 2000 network
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time frame for implementation 	2007-2011

CLUSTER:	
2D	D. Science and Research
Has there been any action taken to implement the tasks identified within this cluster? If the answer is 'yes' please proceed to the next question. If the answer is 'no' please provide reasons.	yes

Please detail action taken including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.	Annual allocation of amounts for scientific research and practical implementation performed by the Forestry Institute and Forestry University. Establishment of EFI Project center, working in the field of coppice forest management – ecological, economical and social aspects in Southeast Europe.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type/source (<i>is it a policy, law, national forest programme, strategy?</i>) 	Program of the SFA for the policy priorities and goals in the forestry and actions for their achievement in 2007 and 2008 Strategic plan for development of the forest sector 2007-2011
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short description of each item 	Enlargement the financing of project for the adaptation of the forest species to the climate changes. Establishment of trial plantations for examination of the growth and resistance of perspective species, hybrids and clones for plantation.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time frame for implementation 	2007-2011

CLUSTER:	
2E	E. Public Awareness and Education
Has there been any action taken to implement the tasks identified within this cluster? If the answer is 'yes' please proceed to the next question. If the answer is 'no' please provide reasons.	Yes
Please detail action taken including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.	Celebration of Forestry week Cooperation with GTZ- Bulgaria.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type/source (<i>is it a policy, law, national forest programme, strategy?</i>) 	Program of the SFA for the policy priorities and goals in the forestry and actions for their achievement in 2007 and 2008 Strategic plan for development of the forest sector 2007-2011
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short description of each item 	For 84 years foresters in Bulgaria are celebrating their professional holiday - Forestry week each first week of April. This week is full with visibility events, TV and radio spots, happenings with the youths, and others. The GTZ office in Bulgaria is working together with the state administration in the framework of the project "Encouragement of the forestry structures on Rhodope mountains" for the publication and dissemination of information materials for sustainable management and usage of the forests, incl. promoting

	the biodiversity conservation.
• Time frame for implementation	2007-2011

CLUSTER:	
2F	F. Private Sector and Industry
Has there been any action taken to implement the tasks identified within this cluster? If the answer is 'yes' please proceed to the next question. If the answer is 'no' please provide reasons.	yes
Please detail action taken including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.	Stimulating public-private partnerships in the field of game management. Optimization of the harvesting and transparency of the harvesting possibilities and executed work by the harvesting companies. Equal treating of the harvesting companies.
• Type/source (<i>is it a policy, law, national forest programme, strategy?</i>)	Program of the SFA for the policy priorities and goals in the forestry and actions for their achievement in 2007 and 2008 Strategic plan for development of the forest sector 2007-2011
• Short description of each item	Enlargement the share of selling from warehouses. Improvement of the system for marketing and information provision of the forest resources market. Improvement of the forest infrastructure and encouragement for utilization of closed basins and hard therein. Introduction of legislative base for public-private partnership in the filed of game management.
• Time frame for implementation	2007-2011

CLUSTER:	
2G	G. Indigenous and Local Communities
Has there been any action taken to implement the tasks identified within this cluster? If the answer is 'yes' please proceed to the next question. If the answer is 'no' please provide reasons.	yes
Please detail action taken including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.	Provision of firewood to the local communities.
• Type/source (<i>is it a policy, law, national forest programme, strategy?</i>)	Annually, Forestry Act
• Short description of each item	Social week people and local and forest dependent

	communities are secured with fire wood for the winter.
• Time frame for implementation	Annually

B. PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING GLOBAL OBJECTIVES ON FORESTS

The four Global Objectives are:

Global Objective 1: *Reverse the loss of forest cover worldwide through sustainable forest management, including protection, restoration, afforestation and reforestation, and increase efforts to prevent forest degradation.*

Global Objective 2: *Enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, including by improving the livelihoods of forest dependent people.*

Global Objective 3: *Increase significantly the area of protected forests worldwide and other areas of sustainably managed forests, as well as the proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests.*

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.*

Global Objective 1: <i>Reverse the loss of forest cover worldwide through sustainable forest management, including protection, restoration, afforestation and reforestation, and increase efforts to prevent forest degradation</i>	
Has there been any action taken to implement this objective? If the answer is 'yes' please proceed to the next question. If the answer is 'no' please provide reasons.	yes
Action taken to achieve this objective including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.	Forest protection, restoration and erosion control; construction of erosion control equipments; provision of free of charge seedlings for planting in the communal parks and non-state forests.
• Type/source (<i>is it a policy, law, national forest programme, strategy?</i>)	General obligation of the State Forestry Agency Program of the SFA for the policy priorities and goals in the forestry and actions for their achievement in 2007 and 2008 Strategic plan for development of the forest sector 2007-2011 Rural Development Programme 2007-2013
• Short description of each item (<i>general description, provisions relevant to the objective</i>)	These activities are foreseen in the state forest fund every year under the priorities of our organization. SFA also controls the execution of similar activities in the non-state forest fund.

	In the framework of the Rural Development Programme 2007-2013, SFA and its structures are applying under the forestry measures: 223 „First forestation of non-agricultural lands” и 226 „Restoration of the forest potential and introduction of prevention activities”
• Time frame for implementation	annually
• Experiences with implementation (if any)	Resources for forest protection, restoration and erosion control are subject to budgetary procedures and usually for the planned year, they are sufficient, but also differ every year and depend on the climate conditions and biotic and abiotic factors that have an impact on the health status of the forests and condition of the soils. With the restructuring of the forest administration more resources are foreseen to be at place.
• Any other comments, including lessons learnt and options for the future	

<i>Global Objective 2: Enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, including by improving the livelihoods of forest dependent people</i>	
Has there been any action taken to implement this objective? If the answer is ‘yes’ please proceed to the next question. If the answer is ‘no’ please provide reasons.	yes
Action taken to achieve this objective including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.	Support to the effective network for consulting and methodic assistance to the non-state forest owners. Support to the non-state forest owners when applying with projects under SAPARD program and forestry measures under RDP (2007-2013). Development of financial schemes for ecotourism development with participation of the state forest administration, incl. public-private partnerships. Evaluation of the potential for ecotourism development and identification of possible partners. Establishment and maintenance of specialized infrastructure for the ecotourism purposes.
• Type/source (<i>is it a policy, law, national forest programme, strategy?</i>)	Program of the SFA for the policy priorities and goals in the forestry and actions for their achievement in 2007 and 2008 Strategic plan for development of the forest sector 2007-2011
• Short description of each item (<i>general description, provisions relevant to the objective</i>)	On a national and regional level establishment of administrative units for provision of services to the non-state forest owners.

	Participation in international forums and exchange of views for securing financial scheme for ecotourism. Construction of specialized eco-paths for disabled.
• Time frame for implementation	2007-2011
• Experiences with implementation (if any)	Positive
• Any other comments, including lessons learnt and options for the future	

<i>Global Objective 3: Increase significantly the area of protected forests worldwide and other areas of sustainably managed forests, as well as the proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests</i>	
Has there been any action taken to implement this objective? If the answer is 'yes' please proceed to the next question. If the answer is 'no' please provide reasons.	yes
Action taken to achieve this objective including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.	Development of regimes for management of forests in Natura 2000 of the main types forest habitats. Enlarging the range of forest certification.
• Type/source (<i>is it a policy, law, national forest programme, strategy?</i>)	Program of the SFA for the policy priorities and goals in the forestry and actions for their achievement in 2007 and 2008 Strategic plan for development of the forest sector 2007-2011
• Short description of each item (<i>general description, provisions relevant to the objective</i>)	Pilot training for young stands management. Steps for enlargement of the forest certification.
• Time frame for implementation	2007-2011
• Experiences with implementation (if any)	Development of forest Natura 200 regimes under way. Resources needed for forest certification schemes.
• Any other comments, including lessons learnt and options for the future	
<i>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</i>	
Has there been any action taken to implement this objective? If the answer is 'yes' please proceed to the next question. If the answer is 'no' please provide reasons.	no
Action taken to achieve this objective including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.	Bulgaria is a new donor country; therefore resources for the world SMF are not registered yet.

C. CONCLUSION

In this section, you may wish to provide:

- (a) An overall assessment of implementing the NLBI in your country;

Bulgaria follows the principles of MCPFE for sustainable forest management, and at the moment the scope of the protected forest areas through the ecological network NATURA 2000 is expanding. Commitments in the field of afforestation and forestation, forest protection, forest fire prevention and erosion control, based on a budget line are fulfilled. With the restructuring of the forest administration is foreseen more resources in this regard to be at place. Co-operation development with different stakeholders is widening, support for non-state forest owners envisage in the Rural Development programme

- (b) An analysis of lessons learned regarding implementation, highlighting examples of successful and less successful actions taken;

There is a strong political will for more actions, undertaken in our legislation and strategic framework that to its end maintain stable and sustainable state of the Bulgarian forests.

- (c) A summary of future priorities and any problems that need to be addressed for further national-level implementation of the Instrument;

More work with different stakeholders, better control over the activities in the forest fund, no matter state or non-state; better promoting and supporting forestry in rural areas through European projects and programmes; better PR-activities and political transparency.

- (d) Suggestions for actions that need to be taken to further enhance implementation of the NLBI.

The voluntary nature of the instrument shows that there is no obligation for the countries to follow its goals and use the proposed actions for improvement the state of the world forests. The image of the forests on a global scale should be raised and their role in the framework of global climate changes should be promoted. We believe that the International year of the forests 2011 could serve to this end, but also resources need to be found to support selected problematic regions or countries.

- (e) Any other comments

ANNEX 1

Questions related to UNFF 8 agenda item 5.c: Forests and Biodiversity Conservation, including Protected Areas

UNFF focal points are invited to provide updated information related to issues on forest biodiversity, in accordance with the Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests (NLBI) and the Global Objectives on Forests (GOFs), and to suggest elements for the Forum to consider in relation to UNFF 8 agenda item 5.c on “Forests and Biodiversity Conservation, including Protected Areas”. These questions are intended to offer the UNFF Focal Points an opportunity to express their views on relevant emerging policy issues affecting and affected by the forest sector. Please bear in mind past reports on related topics submitted to other intergovernmental bodies and consider, as appropriate, to build from those reports.

- Please describe any advances and/or promising developments which may contribute to implementation of the Global Objectives on Forests (GOF 1 and 3) and national and international provisions of the NLBI (6b, 6k, 6o, 6p,6q, 6v, 7d) related to forest biodiversity and protection forests?
- Based on information compiled in the reporting framework for FRA 2010, and the 3rd and 4th National Reports to the Convention on Biological Diversity, what are the most significant (including new and emerging) threats to forest biodiversity, and in particular impacting the implementation of Global Objective 1 and 3 in your country?
- In addressing these threats, do the relevant international instruments, in particular the NLBI and the CBD expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity, provide adequate frameworks? If so, please describe how? If not, please explain what is lacking from those frameworks and how can they be improved.
- Which areas of your work require a stronger link to the international level? How and what elements would you view as necessary for enhanced collaboration between the Secretariats of the CBD and UNFF (as called for in decision IX/5 of the CBD at COP-9, 19-30 May 2008), as well as elements for potential joint activities with other CPF members, including targeted support to celebrate the International Year of Forests?

APPENDIX 1

THEMATIC CLUSTERS OF POLICIES AND MEASURES CONTAINED IN THE NLBI

1. Cross-cutting Thematic Clusters

A. Strengthening Political Commitment for SFM

National policies and measures

6 (a) Develop, implement, publish and, as necessary, update national forest programmes or other strategies for sustainable forest management which identify actions needed and contain measures, policies or specific goals, taking into account the relevant Intergovernmental Panel on Forests and Intergovernmental Forum on Forests proposals for action and resolutions of the United Nations Forum on Forests;

6 (b) Consider the seven thematic elements of sustainable forest management,¹ which are drawn from the criteria identified by existing criteria and indicators processes, as a reference framework for sustainable forest management and, in this context, identify, as appropriate, specific environmental and other forest-related aspects within those elements for consideration as criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management;

6 (d) Develop and implement policies which encourage the sustainable management of forests to provide a wide range of goods and services, and which also contribute to poverty reduction and the development of rural communities;

6 (k) Identify and implement measures to enhance cooperation and cross-sectoral policy and programme coordination among sectors affecting and affected by forest policies and management, with a view to integrating the forest sector into national decision-making processes, and promoting sustainable forest management, including *inter alia* addressing the underlying causes of deforestation, forest degradation and promoting forest conservation;

6 (l) Integrate national forest programmes, or other strategies for sustainable forest management, as referred to in paragraph 6 (a) of this instrument into national strategies for sustainable development, relevant national action plans and poverty reduction strategies;

6 (c) Promote the use of management tools to assess impacts on the environment of projects that may significantly affect forests and promote good environmental practices for such projects;

International cooperation and means of implementation

7 (a) Make concerted efforts to secure sustained high-level political commitment to strengthen the means of implementation for sustainable forest management, including financial resources, to provide support, in particular for developing countries as well as countries with economies in

¹ (a) Extent of forest resources, (b) Forest biological diversity, (c) Forest health and vitality, (d) Productive functions of forest resources, (e) Protective functions of forest resources, (f) Socio-economic functions of forests, (g) Legal, policy and institutional framework. Also listed under Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting.

transition, as well as to mobilize and provide significantly increased new and additional financial resources from private, public, domestic and international sources to and within developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition;²

B. Financing SFM

National policies and measures

6 (h) Create enabling environments to encourage private sector investment, as well as investment by and involvement of local and indigenous communities, other forest users and forest owners and other relevant stakeholders, in sustainable forest management, through a framework of policies, incentives and regulations;³

6 (i) Develop financial strategies which outline the short, medium and long term financial planning for achieving sustainable forest management taking into account domestic, private sector and foreign funding sources;⁴

6 (m) Establish or strengthen partnerships, including public-private partnerships, and joint programmes with stakeholders to advance implementation of sustainable forest management;⁵

International cooperation and means of implementation

7 (a) Make concerted efforts to secure sustained high-level political commitment to strengthen the means of implementation for sustainable forest management, including financial resources, to provide support, in particular for developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition, as well as to mobilize and provide significantly increased new and additional financial resources from private, public, domestic and international sources to and within developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition;⁶

7 (b) 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;

7 (c) Take action to raise the priority of sustainable forest management in national development plans and other plans including poverty reduction strategies in order to facilitate increased allocation of official development assistance and financial resources from other sources for sustainable forest management;

7 (d) Develop and establish positive incentives, in particular for developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition, to reduce the loss of forests, to promote reforestation, afforestation, and rehabilitation of degraded forests, to implement sustainable forest management and to increase the area of protected forests;

7 (e) Support the efforts of countries, in particularly in developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition, to develop and implement economically, socially and environmentally sound measures that act as incentives for the sustainable management of forests;

² Also listed under Financing SFM.

³ Also listed under Stakeholder Participation, Private Sector and Industry, and Indigenous and Local Communities.

⁴ Also listed under Private Sector and Industry.

⁵ Also listed under Stakeholder Participation, and Private Sector and Industry.

⁶ Also listed under Private Sector and Industry.

C. Capacity Building and Technology Transfer

National policies and measures

6 (e) Promote efficient production and processing of forest products, *inter alia* with a view to reducing waste and enhancing recycling;⁷

6 (s) Promote the development and application of scientific and technological innovations, including those that can be used by forest owners and local and indigenous communities to advance sustainable forest management;⁸

6 (v) Support education, training and extension programmes involving local and indigenous communities, forest workers and forest owners, in order to develop resource management approaches that will reduce the pressure on forests, particularly fragile ecosystems;⁹

International cooperation and means of implementation

7 (f) Strengthen the capacity of countries, in particular developing countries, to significantly increase the production of forest products from sustainably managed forests;¹⁰

7 (i) Strengthen, through enhanced bilateral, regional and international cooperation, the capacity of countries to effectively combat illicit international trafficking in forest products, including timber, wildlife and other forest biological resources;¹¹

7 (j) Strengthen the capacity of countries to address forest-related illegal practices according to domestic legislation, including wildlife poaching, through enhanced public awareness, education, institutional capacity-building, technological transfer and technical cooperation, law enforcement and information networks;¹²

7 (k) Enhance and facilitate access to, and transfer of, appropriate, environmentally sound and innovative technologies and corresponding know how relevant to sustainable forest management and to efficient value added processing of forest products, in particular to developing countries for the benefit of local and indigenous communities;¹³

7 (l) Strengthen mechanisms that enhance sharing among countries, and use of, best practices in sustainable forest management, including through freeware-based information and communication technologies;

7 (m) Strengthen national and local capacity in keeping with their conditions for the development and adaptation of forest-related technologies, including technologies for the use of fuelwood;¹⁴

⁷ Also listed under Private Sector and Industry.

⁸ Also listed under Science and Research, and Indigenous and Local Communities.

⁹ Also listed under Public Awareness and Education, and Indigenous and Local Communities.

¹⁰ Also listed under Private Sector and Industry.

¹¹ Also listed under Enhanced International Cooperation, Forest Law Enforcement and Governance and International Trade in Forest Products.

¹² Also listed under Forest Law Enforcement and Governance, International Trade in Forest Products, and Public Awareness and Education.

¹³ Also listed under Stakeholder Participation, Private Sector and Industry, and Indigenous and Local Communities.

¹⁴ Also listed under Private Sector and Industry.

D. Stakeholder Participation

V. National policies and measures

6 (h) Create enabling environments to encourage private sector investment, as well as investment by and involvement of local and indigenous communities, other forest users and forest owners and other relevant stakeholders, in sustainable forest management, through a framework of policies, incentives and regulations;¹⁵

6 (m) Establish or strengthen partnerships, including public-private partnerships, and joint programmes with stakeholders to advance implementation of sustainable forest management;¹⁶

6 (w) Promote active and effective participation by major groups, local communities, forest owners and other relevant stakeholders in the development, implementation and assessment of forest-related national policies, measures and programmes;¹⁷

6 (x) Encourage the private sector, civil society organizations and forest owners to develop, promote and implement in a transparent manner voluntary instruments, such as voluntary certification systems or other appropriate mechanisms, to develop and promote forest products from sustainably managed forests harvested according to domestic legislation, and to improve market transparency;¹⁸

6 (y) Enhance access by households, small scale forest owners, forest dependent local and indigenous communities, living in and outside forest areas, to forest resources and relevant markets in order to support livelihoods and income diversification from forest management, consistent with sustainable forest management;¹⁹

VI. International cooperation and means of implementation

7 (k) Enhance and facilitate access to, and transfer of, appropriate, environmentally sound and innovative technologies and corresponding know how relevant to sustainable forest management and to efficient value added processing of forest products, in particular to developing countries for the benefit of local and indigenous communities;²⁰

E. Enhanced International Cooperation

International cooperation and means of implementation

7 (i) Strengthen, through enhanced bilateral, regional and international cooperation, the capacity of countries to effectively combat illicit international trafficking in forest products, including timber, wildlife and other forest biological resources;²¹

¹⁵ Also listed under Financing SFM, Private Sector and Industry, and Indigenous and Local Communities.

¹⁶ Also listed under Financing SFM, and Private Sector and Industry.

¹⁷ Also listed under Private sector and Industry.

¹⁸ Also listed under International Trade in Forest Products, and Private Sector and Industry.

¹⁹ Also listed under Indigenous and Local Communities.

²⁰ Also listed under Capacity Building and Technology Transfer, Private Sector and Industry, and Indigenous and Local Communities.

²¹ Also listed under Capacity Building and Technology Transfer, Forest Law Enforcement and Governance and International Trade in Forest Products.

7 (n) Promote international technical and scientific cooperation, including South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation in the field of sustainable forest management, through the appropriate international, regional and national institutions and processes;

7 (q) Strengthen cooperation and partnerships at the regional and subregional levels to promote sustainable forest management;

7 (r) As members of the governing bodies of the organisations that form the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, help ensure that the forest-related priorities and programmes of members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests are integrated and mutually supportive, consistent with their mandates, taking into account relevant policy recommendations of the United Nations Forum on Forests;

7 (s) Support the efforts of the CPF to develop and implement joint initiatives;

2. Topical Thematic Clusters

A. Forest Law Enforcement and Governance

National policies and measures

6 (n) Review, and as needed, improve forest-related legislation, strengthen forest law enforcement, and promote good governance at all levels in order to support sustainable forest management, to create an enabling environment for forest investment and to combat and eradicate illegal practices according to national legislation, in the forest and other related sectors;

International cooperation and means of implementation

7 (h) Enhance bilateral, regional and international cooperation to address illicit international trafficking in forest products through the promotion of forest law enforcement and good governance at all levels;²²

7 (i) Strengthen, through enhanced bilateral, regional and international cooperation, the capacity of countries to effectively combat illicit international trafficking in forest products, including timber, wildlife and other forest biological resources;²³

7 (j) Strengthen the capacity of countries to address forest-related illegal practices according to domestic legislation, including wildlife poaching, through enhanced public awareness, education, institutional capacity-building, technological transfer and technical cooperation, law enforcement and information networks;²⁴

B. International Trade in Forest Products

²² Also listed under International Trade in Forest Products.

²³ Also listed under Capacity Building and Technology Transfer, Enhanced International Cooperation and International Trade in Forest Products.

²⁴ Also listed under Capacity Building and Technology Transfer, International Trade in Forest Products, and Public Awareness and Education.

National policies and measures

6 (j) Encourage recognition of the range of values derived from goods and services provided by all types of forests and trees outside forests, as well as ways to reflect such values in the marketplace, consistent with relevant national legislation and policies;

6 (x) Encourage the private sector, civil society organizations and forest owners to develop, promote and implement in a transparent manner voluntary instruments, such as voluntary certification systems or other appropriate mechanisms, to develop and promote forest products from sustainably managed forests harvested according to domestic legislation, and to improve market transparency;²⁵

International cooperation and means of implementation

7 (g) Enhance bilateral, regional and international cooperation, with a view to promoting international trade in forest products from sustainably managed forests harvested according to domestic legislation;

7 (h) Enhance bilateral, regional and international cooperation to address illicit international trafficking in forest products through the promotion of forest law enforcement and good governance at all levels;²⁶

7 (j) Strengthen the capacity of countries to address forest-related illegal practices according to domestic legislation, including wildlife poaching, through enhanced public awareness, education, institutional capacity-building, technological transfer and technical cooperation, law enforcement and information networks;²⁷

7 (i) Strengthen, through enhanced bilateral, regional and international cooperation, the capacity of countries to effectively combat illicit international trafficking in forest products, including timber, wildlife and other forest biological resources;²⁸

C. Protection of Forests

National policies and measures

6 (o) Analyze the causes of, and address threats to, forest health and vitality from natural disasters and human activities, including threats from fire, pollution, pests, diseases and invasive alien species;

²⁵ Also listed under Stakeholder Participation, and Private Sector and Industry.

²⁶ Also listed under Forest Law Enforcement and Governance.

²⁷ Also listed under Capacity Building and Technology Transfer, Forest Law Enforcement and Governance, and Public Awareness and Education.

²⁸ Also listed under Capacity Building and Technology Transfer, Enhanced International Cooperation and Forest Law Enforcement and Governance.

6 (p) Create, develop or expand, and maintain networks of protected forest areas, taking into account the importance of conserving representative forests, through a range of conservation mechanisms, applied within and outside protected forest areas;

6 (q) Assess the conditions and management effectiveness of existing protected forest areas with a view to identifying improvements needed;

D. Science and Research

National policies and measures

6 (r) Strengthen the contribution of science and research in advancing sustainable forest management by incorporating scientific expertise into forest policies and programmes;

6 (s) Promote the development and application of scientific and technological innovations, including those that can be used by forest owners and local and indigenous communities to advance sustainable forest management;²⁹

International cooperation and means of implementation

7 (n) Promote international technical and scientific cooperation, including South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation in the field of sustainable forest management, through the appropriate international, regional and national institutions and processes;

7 (o) Enhance the research and scientific forest-related capacities of developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition, particularly the capacity of research organizations to generate and access forest-related data and information, and promote and support integrated and interdisciplinary research on forest-related issues, and disseminate research results;

7 (p) Strengthen forestry research and development in all regions, particularly in developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition, through relevant organizations, institutions and centres of excellence, as well as through global, regional and subregional networks;

E. Public Awareness and Education

National policies and measures

6 (t) Promote and strengthen public understanding of the importance of and the benefits provided by forests and sustainable forest management, including through public awareness programmes and education;

6 (u) Promote and encourage access to formal and informal education, extension and training programmes on the implementation of sustainable forest management;

²⁹ Also listed under Capacity Building and Technology Transfer, and Indigenous and Local Communities.

6 (v) Support education, training and extension programmes involving local and indigenous communities, forest workers and forest owners, in order to develop resource management approaches that will reduce the pressure on forests, particularly fragile ecosystems;³⁰

International cooperation and means of implementation

7 (j) Strengthen the capacity of countries to address forest-related illegal practices according to domestic legislation, including wildlife poaching, through enhanced public awareness, education, institutional capacity-building, technological transfer and technical cooperation, law enforcement and information networks;³¹

F. Private Sector and Industry

National policies and measures

6 (e) Promote efficient production and processing of forest products, *inter alia* with a view to reducing waste and enhancing recycling;³²

6 (h) Create enabling environments to encourage private sector investment, as well as investment by and involvement of local and indigenous communities, other forest users and forest owners and other relevant stakeholders, in sustainable forest management, through a framework of policies, incentives and regulations;³³

6 (i) Develop financial strategies which outline the short, medium and long term financial planning for achieving sustainable forest management taking into account domestic, private sector and foreign funding sources;³⁴

6 (m) Establish or strengthen partnerships, including public-private partnerships, and joint programmes with stakeholders to advance implementation of sustainable forest management;³⁵

6 (w) Promote active and effective participation by major groups, local communities, forest owners and other relevant stakeholders in the development, implementation and assessment of forest-related national policies, measures and programmes;³⁶

6 (x) Encourage the private sector, civil society organizations and forest owners to develop, promote and implement in a transparent manner voluntary instruments, such as voluntary certification systems or other appropriate mechanisms, to develop and promote forest products from sustainably managed forests harvested according to domestic legislation, and to improve market transparency;³⁷

³⁰ Also listed under Stakeholder Participation, and Indigenous and Local Communities.

³¹ Also listed under Capacity Building and Technology Transfer, Forest Law Enforcement and Governance, and International Trade in Forest Products.

³² Also listed under Capacity Building and Technology Transfer.

³³ Also listed under Financing SFM, Stakeholder Participation, and Indigenous and Local Communities.

³⁴ Also listed under Financing SFM.

³⁵ Also listed under Financing SFM and Stakeholder Participation.

³⁶ Also listed under Stakeholder Participation.

³⁷ Also listed under International Trade in Forest Products, and Stakeholder Participation.

International cooperation and means of implementation

- 7 (a) Make concerted efforts to secure sustained high-level political commitment to strengthen the means of implementation for sustainable forest management, including financial resources, to provide support, in particular for developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition, as well as to mobilize and provide significantly increased new and additional financial resources from private, public, domestic and international sources to and within developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition;³⁸
- 7 (f) Strengthen the capacity of countries, in particular developing countries, to significantly increase the production of forest products from sustainably managed forests;³⁹
- 7 (k) Enhance and facilitate access to, and transfer of, appropriate, environmentally sound and innovative technologies and corresponding know how relevant to sustainable forest management and to efficient value added processing of forest products, in particular to developing countries for the benefit of local and indigenous communities;⁴⁰
- 7 (m) Strengthen national and local capacity in keeping with their conditions for the development and adaptation of forest-related technologies, including technologies for the use of fuelwood;⁴¹

G. Indigenous and Local Communities

National policies and measures:

- 6 (f) Support the protection and use of traditional forest-related knowledge and practices in sustainable forest management with the approval and the involvement of the holders of such knowledge and promote fair and equitable sharing of benefits out of their utilization, according to national legislation and relevant international agreements;
- 6 (h) Create enabling environments to encourage private sector investment, as well as investment by and involvement of local and indigenous communities, other forest users and forest owners and other relevant stakeholders, in sustainable forest management, through a framework of policies, incentives and regulations;⁴²
- 6 (s) Promote the development and application of scientific and technological innovations, including those that can be used by forest owners and local and indigenous communities to advance sustainable forest management;⁴³

³⁸ Also listed under Financing SFM.

³⁹ Also listed under Capacity Building and Technology Transfer.

⁴⁰ Also listed under Capacity Building and Technology Transfer, Stakeholder Participation, and Indigenous and Local Communities.

⁴¹ Also listed under Capacity Building and Technology Transfer.

⁴² Also listed under Financing SFM, Stakeholder Participation, and Private Sector and Industry.

⁴³ Also listed under Capacity Building and Technology Transfer, and Science and Research.

6 (v) Support education, training and extension programmes involving local and indigenous communities, forest workers and forest owners, in order to develop resource management approaches that will reduce the pressure on forests, particularly fragile ecosystems;⁴⁴

6 (y) Enhance access by households, small scale forest owners, forest dependent local and indigenous communities, living in and outside forests, to forest resources and relevant markets in order to support livelihoods and income diversification from forest management, consistent with sustainable forest management.⁴⁵

International cooperation and means of implementation

7 (k) Enhance and facilitate access to, and transfer of, appropriate, environmentally sound and innovative technologies and corresponding know how relevant to sustainable forest management and to efficient value added processing of forest products, in particular to developing countries for the benefit of local and indigenous communities;⁴⁶

⁴⁴ Also listed under Public Awareness and Education, and Stakeholder Participation.

⁴⁵ Also listed under Stakeholder Participation.

⁴⁶ Also listed under Capacity Building and Technology Transfer, Stakeholder Participation, and Private Sector and Industry.

H. Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting

National policies and measures

6 (b) Consider the seven thematic elements of sustainable forest management,⁴⁷ which are drawn from the criteria identified by existing criteria and indicators processes, as a reference framework for sustainable forest management and, in this context, identify, as appropriate, specific environmental and other forest-related aspects within those elements for consideration as criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management;

6 (g) Further develop and implement criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management, consistent with national priorities and conditions;

8. Member States should monitor and assess progress towards achieving the purpose of this instrument;

9. Member States should submit, on a voluntary basis, taking into account availability of resources and the requirements and conditions for the preparation of reports for other bodies or instruments, national progress reports as part of their regular reporting to the United Nations Forum on Forests;

⁴⁷ (a) Extent of forest resources, (b) Forest biological diversity, (c) Forest health and vitality, (d) Productive functions of forest resources, (e) Protective functions of forest resources, (f) Socio-economic functions of forests, (g) Legal, policy and institutional framework