



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

DIREKTORAT ZA GOZDARSTVO, LOVSTVO IN RIBIŠTVO

Dunajska cesta 22, 1000 Ljubljana

T: 01 478 91 44

F: 01 436 20 48

E: gp.mkgp@gov.si

www.mkgp.gov.si

UN Forum on Forests

New York, 10017 New York,  
USA

Number: 340-3/2019/9

Date: 15. 11. 2019

**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 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

Prepared by:  
Simon Poljanšek  
undersecretary



Msc. Robert Režonja  
director general

Send in electronic version to: [unff@un.org](mailto:unff@un.org)



<b>Country:</b>	<b>SLOVENIA</b>
<b>Date of submission:</b>	

**Format for reporting on progress towards the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, the United Nations forest instrument and voluntary national contributions<sup>1</sup>**

1. The format is structured around the global forest goals and targets of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 and builds on the format previously used for reporting to the United Nations Forum on Forests at its eleventh session. It is largely narrative, reflecting the qualitative nature of many of the targets.

2. Only information that is not currently provided to the member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests or that is not in other international databases is requested. The information submitted will be supplemented with quantitative data, among other things, from the following international data providers:

(a) Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Global Forest Resources Assessment/collaborative forest resources questionnaires, Forest Europe, Economic Commission for Europe, International Tropical Timber Organization, Montreal Process and Observatory for the Forests of Central Africa;

(b) Reports on the state of the world’s forests, produced every two years by FAO;

(c) Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat;

(d) Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development;

(e) Other data sources, including the Forest Stewardship Council and the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification.

3. Members are kindly requested:

(a) To submit their completed national reports electronically (in Microsoft Word format) in English, French or Spanish to [unff@un.org](mailto:unff@un.org) by mid-November 2019, bearing in mind that early submissions will greatly facilitate the secretariat’s preparation of the report on progress towards the goals and targets of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 [title and focus to be determined] to be presented to the Forum in 2021 [to be confirmed];

(b) To submit, in a separate electronic file, a scanned version of the official signed letter conveying their submission from the respective ministry, or a note verbale from their permanent mission to the United Nations in New York;

*Please submit the completed format to: [unff@un.org](mailto:unff@un.org) by 15 November 2019.*

<sup>1</sup> Detailed guidelines will be prepared and discussed and will, among other things, state the purpose of reporting and how the data will be used. References to voluntary national contributions will be harmonized with the process to be put in place for announcing voluntary national contributions.

(c) In view of the cross-cutting nature of issues relating to forests and sustainable forest management, to consult experts from relevant national ministries, such as those of the environment, economic development, finance and agriculture, in completing the reporting format and to consult the national focal points for the forest resources assessments, the Rio Conventions secretariats, other member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, criteria and indicators processes, and relevant stakeholders, where applicable. Members may also wish to consult stakeholders when preparing their report.

4. The year 2015 is used as a baseline.
5. Where possible, all terms used herein are consistent with the terms and definitions used by the FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment.
6. Wherever possible, please indicate the source of information or provide a weblink.

## General information

### National focal point

Name:	Mag. Robert Režonja
Title:	General director
Address:	Dunajska cesta 22, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia
Organization:	Ministry for agriculture, forestry and food; Forestry and Hunting Directorate
Telephone:	
Email:	<a href="mailto:robert.rezonja@gov.si">robert.rezonja@gov.si</a>

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

Name:	Dr. Simon Poljanšek
Title:	Undersecretary
Address:	Dunajska cesta 22, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia
Organization:	Ministry for agriculture, forestry and food; Forestry and Hunting Directorate; Forestry Division
Telephone:	
Email:	<a href="mailto:simon.poljansek@gov.si">simon.poljansek@gov.si</a>

### Institutions involved in the preparation of the national report

Institution:	Ministry for agriculture, forestry and food
Address:	Dunajska cesta 22, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia
Email:	<a href="mailto:gp.mkgp@gov.si">gp.mkgp@gov.si</a>

Institution:	Slovenia Forest Service
Address:	Večna pot 2, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia
Email:	zgs.tajnistvo@zgs.si

## Global forest goal 1 and associated targets<sup>2</sup>

**Reverse the loss of forest cover worldwide through sustainable forest management, including protection, restoration, afforestation and reforestation, and increase efforts to prevent forest degradation and contribute to the global effort of addressing climate change**

### *Associated targets*

- 1.1 Forest area is increased by 3 per cent worldwide<sup>3</sup>
- 1.2 The world's forest carbon stocks are maintained or enhanced
- 1.3 By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally
- 1.4 The resilience and adaptive capacity of all types of forests to natural disasters and the impact of climate change is significantly strengthened worldwide

### **Questions on goal 1**

1. (a) Since 2015,<sup>4</sup> what types of action have been taken (by the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of targets 1.1–1.4?

*Please indicate to which targets the actions relate and briefly describe the results to date (in a maximum of 250 words). For each action, please indicate whether it is continuous, planned, in progress or completed.*

- (i) Legislative and policy actions

*List of actions:*

Goal 1.3: Forest management practise (continuous)

*Description of actions:*

Supported by the Forest code (1993), all forests in Slovenia are managed in a sustainable manner, based on three levels of forest management plans, with close-to nature silviculture system. Support comes from forest monitoring from permanent sample plots, general rule of harvesting less than increment, and implication of forest growth models, controlled by gained knowledge from numerous forest reserves and virgin forests in different forest types (all together more than 9,500 ha). In the year 2018, realization of management plans was at 89 %, or long term (10 year period) 80 %.

---

<sup>2</sup> Goal 1 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, targets 6.6, 12.2, 13.1, 13.3, 14.2, 15.1–15.4 and 15.8 of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Targets 5, 7, 9, 11, 14 and 15, and are supported by paragraphs 6 (o) and 7 (d) and (e) of the United Nations forest instrument.

<sup>3</sup> Based on the Global Forest Resources Assessment 2015.

<sup>4</sup> Or earlier, where relevant to capturing important action. The same applies hereafter.

(ii) Institutional actions

*Action 1.3:* Continuation of the sustainable management implementation in all types of forests (continuous)

*Description of actions:*

Promoting sustainability of wood and forest functions through Ministerial action "Carefully with forest" and FSC and PEFC certification of Slovenian forests. Certificates promote sustainable forest management practises and legal harvesting framework, while action "Carefully with forest" promotes forests as a valuable national resource of social functions, as well as wood and non-wood products. Both recognise importance of forests, water, animals and their role in our culture, encouraging forest owners for sustainable use and forest visitors on coexistence of different interests in the forests. In addition, products with such certificates can achieve higher price or access greater, wider wood market.

(iii) Financial actions

*Action 1.2:* Financial support from [Rural development fund 2014-2020](#) (Measure 8) for reforestation of forest areas (tree saplings), disturbed in ice break, wind throw and bark beetle attack.

*Description of actions:*

The Rural development fund provides financial framework to support updating forest equipment (to help realize allowed cut) and primary wood industry, forest silviculture work to maintain permanent forest stand cover (trees planting, saplings purchase), and optimization of skid trail and forest roads network (building new and reconstruction of old) in private forests. This is particularly important as in Slovenia 2/3 of forest land is managed by more than 460.000 private forest owners.

However, when catastrophic events (ice-break, forest fire, wind throw) damage greater forest areas and when natural regeneration is not able to restore forest cover on affected forest land in a sufficient time, reforestation with prescribed tree species is implemented with goal to established forest cover as fast and as possible to prevent soil erosion on bare ground and to safeguard forest soil productivity. Measure is in alignment with the species diversity tendency as a precautionary measure against future threats and disturbances caused by climate changes.

(iv) Technical and scientific actions

*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 importance for research, study and monitoring of the natural forest stand dynamics, biodiversity and protection of natural and cultural heritage. Forest service uses experiences gathered by studying natural forest stands and relevant ecological processes in numerous forest reserves of various forest types. Bringing into use knowledge from forest reserves into managed forest, maintaining high carbon stocks and implementing sustainability, naturalness, forest resilience and vitality are the main characteristics of forest management practice in Slovenia.

*Goal 1.4: The resilience and adaptive capacity of all forest types to natural disasters and the impact of climate change (in progress, ongoing)*

Research programmes at the Biotechnical faculty and the Slovenian Forestry Institute, with collaboration of Slovenia Forest Service and foreign research institutions, focus on forests' resilience to climate change on genetic, forest stand and species level. The **LIFEGENMON** (LIFE project for European Forest Genetic Monitoring System), **FRAXBACK** (Cost action: Fraxinus dieback in Europe: elaborating guidelines and strategies for sustainable management), **FOREXCLIM** (project on Climate Change and Forest Mitigation and Adaptation in a Polluted Environment), are some of the most important ongoing international projects. Also targeted research projects are ongoing process, how to proper and better manage our forests in the light of close-to-nature way. For this reason, research takes place in protected forests and state owned forests, to investigate natural processes (disturbances and forest stand renovation) and to mimic those processes in managed forests.

(b) How do the actions listed above support the implementation of the United Nations forest instrument?

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.

(c) What are the main challenges in achieving goal 1 in your country?

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.

(d) If your Government has announced a voluntary national contribution or contributions relating to goal 1, please provide brief information, including target dates and the progress made thus far.

Since 2014, more than half of Slovenian forests were damaged in ice storm, wind throw or bark beetle attacks. On more than 33,000 ha, reforestation is prescribed; mainly through natural regeneration and on more than 1,700 ha combined natural with artificial afforestation using more than 30, site adopted tree species. From 2014 on, 600 ha out of 1,700 ha were regenerated with more than 1,5 M saplings of 20 different trees species. Action was financed through the Rural development fund 2014-2020.

(e) Any additional comments on goal 1:

In recent decades, natural regeneration was most important, with over 95 % of forests being regenerated through the management practise. However, in the recent years, disturbances created great bare areas, on which success of natural regeneration is questionable. After long period of promoting natural regeneration, few operating nurseries struggle with disposal of great amount of saplings of various tree species. Question is also on genetic source, as in Slovenia origin of the seeds, and site or region suitability for individual sapling, are controlled.

## **Global forest goal 2 and associated targets<sup>5</sup>**

### **Enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, including by improving the livelihoods of forest-dependent people**

#### *Associated targets*

- 2.1 Extreme poverty for all forest-dependent people is eradicated
- 2.2 Increase the access of small-scale forest enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets
- 2.3 The contribution of forests and trees to food security is significantly increased
- 2.4 The contribution of forest industry, other forest-based enterprises and forest ecosystem services to social, economic and environmental development, among other things, is significantly increased
- 2.5 The contribution of all types of forests to biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation is enhanced, taking into account the mandates and ongoing work of relevant conventions and instruments

#### **Questions on goal 2**

2. (a) Since 2015, what types of action have been taken (by the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of targets 2.1–2.5?

---

<sup>5</sup> Goal 2 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, targets 1.1, 1.4, 2.4, 4.4, 5.a, 6.6, 8.3, 9.3, 12.2, 12.5, 15.6 and 15.c of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Targets 4, 14 and 18, and are supported by paragraphs 6 (d)–(f), (h), (j), (p), (q), (t)–(v) and (y) and 7 (k) of the United Nations forest instrument.



Please indicate to which targets the actions relate and briefly describe the results to date (in a maximum of 250 words). For each action, please indicate whether it is continuous, planned, in progress or completed.

(i) Legislative and policy actions

<p><i>Action 2.4:</i> The contribution of forest industry to social and economic development (continuous)</p> <p><i>Description of actions:</i></p> <p>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.</p> <p><i>Actions 2.5:</i> The contribution of all forests types to biodiversity conservation is enhanced (continuous)</p> <p><i>Description of actions:</i></p> <p>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 species and improving habitat suitability for rare and protected species (bird species, endangered plant and animal species, large carnivores). Legal backgrounds for this actions from 2015 onwards are: Regulation of protective forests and forests with special purpose (Official Gazette of RS, 39/15), Rules on financing and co-financing investments in forests (OG of RS, 86/16), and Regulations on the Protection of Forests (OG of RS, No. 114/09 and 31/16).</p>
--

(ii) Institutional actions

<p><i>Action 2.4:</i> The contribution of forest industry, other forest-based enterprises and forest ecosystem services to social, economic and environmental development is significantly increased (in progress)</p> <p><i>Description of actions:</i></p> <p>Action plan “Les je lep” (in translation: Wood is beautiful) is a strategic document elaborated as a joint effort of the Ministry for agriculture, forestry and food, Ministry for economic development and technology, as well as other departments and stakeholders from the forestry-wood chain, which covers financial support to forest owners and wood industry to achieve goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• creation of wood, wood products and services market;</li><li>• increase in forest felling and care, prescribed by the forest management plans;</li><li>• increasing the quantity and processing of timber on the higher difficulty levels with new technologies, and;</li><li>• create new jobs and growth in value added per employee in the wood processing industry.</li></ul>
---

(iii) Financial actions

*Action 2.2:* Increase the access of small-scale forest enterprises to financial services (in progress)

*Description of actions:*

From 2007 onwards, Rural Development Plan financially supports private forest owners in various ways, currently in updating forest and primary wood industry equipment, and in investments in building new and renovation of old skid trails and forest roads. Actions help private owners to increase allowable cut, prescribed by the forest management plans, to achieve higher efficiency and work safety in the forest, access higher prices in wood market and to improve profit from their forest. In combination with support to farm owners from mountainous country areas, this measure is affective in rural areas, fulfilling its purpose of remote rural areas development.

*Action 2.5:* The contribution of all types of forests to biodiversity conservation (continuous)

*Description of actions:*

Compensations, direct payments or cross-compliances are available when measures for strengthening ecological functions (mostly biodiversity), defined by the regulations and prescribed in the forest management plans, limit forest owners from benefiting of natural resources (wood production function), or when wildlife causes damages in forest stands, road surfaces or agricultural land. Compensations to private forest owners are also paid for biodiversity function, for example, preserving deadwood amount in the forest stand up to 10 m<sup>3</sup>/ha at value up to 25 €/m<sup>3</sup>. In the areas of higher level of social and ecological demands, according to the forest function map, the higher subsidies for supported measures are available.

(iv) Technical and scientific actions

*Action 2.4:* The contribution of forest industry and other forest-based enterprises to social and economic development (continuous).

*Description of actions:*

Numerous research and applicative projects on wood primary industry, provided by the Slovenian Forestry Institute, help promote wood as material and energy source, and share knowledge for efficient management of private forests (Net4Forest- project in progress).

Bright example is also auction of the most valuable timber assortments organized by the Association of Forest Owners of the Mislinja Valley and the Association of Forest Owners of Slovenia, in cooperation with the Slovenia Forest Service. Goal is to increase income from the limited amount of the harvested trees through promotion of tending practises. Private forest owners from across the country participate with their individually selected logs of various tree species for which, in the case of outstanding quality, high prices are reached and sold mostly abroad.

(b) What other action is being taken (by the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) in your country in support of the achievement of goal 2?

The **Union of Forest Owners Associations**, founded back in 2006, represents 29 local forest owners' associations and about 4,000 forest owners. The Union supports activities to improve forest owners' economy and management, as well as the implementation of forest and hunting legislation. Some of their tasks include help with forest certification, organisation of common sales of timber, trainings and education workshops, as well as cooperative purchase of tools, machinery and safety work equipment.

(c) How does the action listed above support the implementation of the United Nations forest instrument?

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.

(d) What are the main challenges in achieving goal 2 in your country?

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 be improved through intensive activities. Difficulties represent inactive forest owners.

(e) If your Government has announced a voluntary national contribution or contributions relating to goal 2, please provide brief information, including target dates and the progress made thus far.

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 €.

(f) Any additional comments on goal 2:

According to the market situation, reflected in the low profit at the expense of the low wood prices and costly forest work, many of forest land owners, not strictly dependent on income from the forest, are not willing to actively and regularly manage forest. This is the main reason why prescribed allowable cut is not realized and why silviculture measures (which are not obligatory) remain unrealised in greater extend. For majority of more than 460,000 owners, forest is used as a fire wood source and only occasionally for construction wood.

## Global forest goal 3 and associated targets<sup>6</sup>

**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**

### *Associated targets*

- 3.1 The area of forests worldwide designated as protected areas or conserved through other effective area-based conservation measures is significantly increased
- 3.2 The area of forests under long-term forest management plans is significantly increased
- 3.3 The proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests is significantly increased

### **Questions on goal 3**

3. (a) Since 2015, what types of action have been taken (by the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of targets 3.1–3.3?

*Please indicate to which targets the actions relate and briefly describe the results to date (in a maximum of 250 words). For each action, please indicate whether it is continuous, planned, in progress or completed.*

- (i) Legislative and policy actions

*Action 3.1:* Increase the area of forests designated as protected areas or conserved through other effective area-based conservation measures

*Description of actions:* In Slovenia protective and protected forest areas cover 198.220 ha. Area slightly changed in the recent years due to the definition of forest in the mountains (*Pinus mugo* question) and due to the agricultural land abandonment in hilly parts of the country. Just recently, the decree on protective forests and forests with special purpose without intervention (forest reserves) is in the process of renewing. Last time it was changed in 2015. Process with protective forests is continuous, with renovation every few years. On the other side, process with protected area is more or less completed, although new protected forest areas can always be adopted based on the agreement between forest owner and state or municipality, which provide the subsidies.

*Action 3.2:* The area of forests under long-term forest management plans is significantly increased

*Description of actions:* In Slovenia, 10-year management plans continue to cover all forests for more than 50 years. Each year, in the process of the forest management planning, 1/10 of area in Slovenia is renewed. Increase of such area is therefore not possible, process is completed.

---

<sup>6</sup> Goal 3 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, targets 7.2, 12.2, 12.6, 12.7, 14.2, 14.5, 15.2 and 15.4 of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Targets 7, 11, 12 and 16, and are supported by paragraphs 6 (p), (q) and (x) and 7 (f) and (g) of the United Nations forest instrument.

(ii) Institutional actions

*Action 3.3:* The proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests is significantly increased (ongoing process)

*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.

(iii) Financial actions

*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.

(iv) Technical and scientific actions

*List of actions:*

*Description of actions:*

(b) What other action is being taken (by the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) in your country in support of the achievement of goal 3?

(c) How does the action listed above support the implementation of the United Nations forest instrument?

(d) What are the main challenges in achieving goal 3 in your country?

Further development of sustainable and close to nature forest management is needed in the light of climate changes. Prescribed measures and forest management itself try to increase forest resilience to disturbances; however situation shows that climate change influence is stronger and faster than forest ecosystem ability to adapt. Problem is also with urbanization, spreading in the lowland and causing pressure on certain forest types (mainly oak forests).

(e) If your Government has announced a voluntary national contribution or contributions relating to goal 3, please provide brief information, including target dates and the progress made thus far.

(f) Any additional comments on goal 3:

### **Global forest goal 4 and associated targets<sup>7</sup>**

**Mobilize significantly increased, new and additional financial resources from all sources for the implementation of sustainable forest management and strengthen scientific and technical cooperation and partnerships**

*Associated targets*

4.1 Mobilize significant resources from all sources and at all levels to finance sustainable forest management and provide adequate incentives to developing countries to advance such management, including for conservation and reforestation

4.2 Forest-related financing from all sources at all levels, including public (national, bilateral, multilateral and triangular), private and philanthropic financing, is significantly increased

4.3 North-South, South-South, North-North and triangular cooperation and public-private partnerships on science, technology and innovation in the forest sector are significantly enhanced and increased

4.4 The number of countries that have developed and implemented forest financing strategies and have access to financing from all sources is significantly increased

---

<sup>7</sup> Goal 4 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, targets 12.a, 15.7, 15.a, 15.b, 17.1–17.3, 17.6, 17.7 and 17.16–17.19 of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Target 19, and are supported by paragraphs 6 (h), (i), (m), (r) and (s) and 7 (a)–(c) and (l)–(q) of the United Nations forest instrument.

4.5 The collection, availability and accessibility of forest-related information is improved through, for example, multidisciplinary scientific assessments

#### Questions on goal 4

4. (a) Please describe major actions taken in your country to move towards goal 4 and its associated targets. More detailed information on actions for each target may be supplied below.

4.1: In Slovenia, public forest service provides educational and forestry extension for forest owners on technology, silviculture and forest protection measures, and encourages common purchase of tools, machinery and safety equipment. Good practices and experiences are presented by the forest service to other countries in the form of representing forest management practises through formal visits of policy makers and workshops with forest service's experts.

4.2: Financing of forest-related projects is based on state budget, Rural development plan 2014-2021, European funds and Pahernik foundation.

4.5: Slovenia Forest Service Viewer, also in English version ([link](#)) is a web-based GIS application establishing link between the knowledge stored in the FIS and the stakeholders. It enables forest owners and general public to view and to search information on state of the forest (e.g. development stage, growing stock, tree species composition), prescribed measures (e.g. allowable cut) and restrictions (e.g. in the case of protective forests). It also allows stakeholders to identify priority areas for the exploitation of non-wood goods and services such as chestnut picking, water and recreation areas, and to search for forest functions or forest categories (e.g. protection forests, forest reserves). The SFS Viewer was developed within the *SylvaMed* project.

(b) If your Government has announced a voluntary national contribution or contributions relating to goal 4, please provide brief information, including target dates and the progress made thus far.

#### Progress towards targets 4.1 and 4.2

(c) Since 2015, has your country (the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) been able to mobilize significantly increased financial resources for the implementation of sustainable forest management?

Yes       No

If yes, please specify the sources:

- Public domestic funding** (Forest fund, based on The law on forest owned by the Republic of Slovenia (Official Gazette of RS, no. 9/16 ))
- Private domestic funding
- Public international funding, including official development assistance
- Private international funding
- Blended financing

Please describe the main challenges in mobilizing funds in a maximum of 250 words:

Aside to Forest fund, which promotes and enables various activities, is implementation of sustainable forest management covered through public forest service and willingness or ability of forest owners to execute prescribed measures. Financial support comes mainly directly from the state budget, Rural development fund and other resources. Thus, funding is linked to country's GDP and assets in the state budget.

### **Progress towards target 4.3**

(d) Is your country (the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) engaged in international cooperation to promote sustainable forest management?

Yes       No

If yes, please specify the entity or entities with which your country is cooperating:

- Governments**
- Intergovernmental organizations/processes; Integrate network (Informar project).**
- Private sector
- Non-governmental organizations**
- Other: Biotechnical faculty, Forestry middle schools.

Types of cooperation:

- North-South
- South-South
- North-North
- Triangular (public, forest service, policy and research)**
- Technical**
- Financial
- Other (please specify): workshops, trainings, educational visits,...

Areas of cooperation:

- Forests and climate change**
- Forest biodiversity**
- Valuation of the ecosystem services provided by forests (project Eco Karst)**
- Socioeconomic issues, including livelihoods
- Forest degradation and rehabilitation
- Scientific cooperation**
- Forest monitoring/data collection**



**Technology transfer and capacity development**

- Production of timber or non-timber products
- Other (please specify):

**Progress towards target 4.4**

(e) Since 2015, has your Government developed or implemented financing strategies to achieve sustainable forest management and to implement the United Nations forest instrument?

- Yes       **No**

If yes, what is the time frame for these strategies (multiple answers possible, if there is more than one strategy)?

- 2–5 years
- 5–10 years
- 10–20 years
- More than 20 years

**Global forest goal 5 and associated targets<sup>8</sup>**

**Promote governance frameworks to implement sustainable forest management, including through the United Nations forest instrument, and enhance the contribution of forests to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

*Associated targets*

5.1 Number of countries that have integrated forests into their national sustainable development plans and/or poverty reduction strategies is significantly increased

5.2 Forest law enforcement and governance are enhanced, including through significantly strengthening national and subnational forest authorities, and illegal logging and associated trade are significantly reduced worldwide

5.3 National and subnational forest-related policies and programmes are coherent, coordinated and complementary across ministries, departments and authorities, consistent with national laws, and engage relevant stakeholders, local communities and indigenous peoples, fully recognizing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

5.4 Forest-related issues and the forest sector are fully integrated into decision-making processes concerning land use planning and development

**Questions on goal 5**

5. (a) Please describe major actions taken in your country to move towards goal 5 and its associated targets. More detailed information on actions for each target may be supplied below.

---

<sup>8</sup> Goal 5 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement, among other things, of targets 1.4, 2.4, 5.a, 15.9, 15.c, 16.3, 16.5–16.7, 16.10 and 17.14 of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Targets 2 and 3, and are supported by paragraphs 6 (a), (c), (k), (l), (n) and (w) and 7 (c) and (h)–(j) of the United Nations forest instrument.

5.1. Forest and renewable forest sources have been included in National energy climate plans (NECP) and in the renewable sources action plan for the period 2010-2020 aimed to support low carbon footprint of Slovenian society.

5.2. With the latest amendments in 2016 Forest law was renewed for preventing import and transport of wood from illegal logging.

5.3. Wood is beautiful „Les je lep” and National forest program are National programs, promoting use of wood. Stakeholders, local communities, governmental organizations and NGO’s are included in forest management plans in the process of participation (urgent opinion is given by the Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature conservation, Ministry for culture, Agency for water, and municipalities)

5.4. Forest sector is fully integrated into process of National forest program, forest management planning, spatial municipality’s plans, land use supervision and management, National spatial planning, National energy climate plan and emission accounting (LULUCF).

(b) If your Government has announced a voluntary national contribution or contributions relating to goal 5, please provide brief information, including target dates and the progress made thus far.

**Progress towards target 5.1**

(c) In your country, have forests been integrated into national sustainable development plans and/or poverty reduction strategies?

**Yes**       No

If yes, please specify if integrated into:

**National sustainable development plans and/or: Strategy of the development of Republic of Slovenia till 2030, strategija obnovljivih virov**

Poverty reduction strategies

**Progress towards target 5.2**

(d) Since 2015, has your Government taken steps to prevent and reduce illegal international trafficking in forest products, wildlife and other biological resources?

**Yes**       No

If yes, please specify the type of action:

New legislation

**Improved enforcement of existing legislation; Forest law in 2016.**

Export controls

Import controls

Bilateral agreements between exporting/importing countries

Other action, for example, public procurement policies and public-private partnerships. Please list below:

**Progress towards target 5.3**

(e) Are mechanisms in place to ensure cross-sectoral coordination among government agencies?

**Yes**       No

If yes, please specify in a maximum of 250 words:

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.

(f) What types of mechanism are in place to involve stakeholders in forest/ sustainable forest management policy formulation, planning and implementation?

Stakeholders are included in management planning through accepting their comments on past forest management and suggestions for the future, comments on draft management plan, and being given ability to participate on a public introduction of draft management plans.

Please specify in a maximum of 250 words:

#### **Progress towards target 5.4**

(g) Are mechanisms in place to involve the forest sector in cross-sectoral coordination among government agencies in charge of land use planning and development?

**Yes**       No

If yes, please specify in a maximum of 250 words:

On both levels; state and municipality, gives public forest service opinion on plans for current and future land use, that is, where to obtain or preserve forest land cover and where is option to change forest land to other use (agronomy or urbanization) without influence on remaining surrounding forest ecosystem.

## **Global forest goal 6 and associated targets<sup>9</sup>**

**Enhance cooperation, coordination, coherence and synergies on forest-related issues at all levels, including within the United Nations system and across member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, as well as across sectors and relevant stakeholders**

*Note: targets 6.1 and 6.2 are not included in this section of the reporting format as they address actions taken by the international community, and not those taken at the national level*

### *Associated targets*

6.3 Cross-sectoral coordination and cooperation to promote sustainable forest management and halt deforestation and forest degradation are significantly enhanced at all levels

6.4 A greater common understanding of the concept of sustainable forest management is achieved and an associated set of indicators is identified

6.5 The input and involvement of major groups and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the strategic plan and in the work of the Forum, including intersessional work, is strengthened

---

<sup>9</sup> Goal 6 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, target 17.14 of the Sustainable Development Goals and are supported by paragraphs 6 (b), (c), (g), (m) and (w) and 7 (r) and (s) of the United Nations forest instrument.

### Questions on goal 6

6. (a) Please describe major actions taken in your country to move towards goal 6 and its associated targets. More detailed information on actions for each target may be supplied below.

6.4.: Pro Silva, founded in Slovenia in 1989, recognises and values close-to-nature forest management principles and promotes sharing knowledge with forest owners, foresters, forestry students and others. Important is also promoting sustainable forestry in communication with China through 17+1 initiative, under One Belt One Road initiative.

Slovenia was also very active in Forestry extension activities covering different fields of close to nature forest management in several countries (for example: Kosovo, Georgia, Guyana, Ukraine, and Bhutan).

(b) If your Government has announced a voluntary national contribution or contributions relating to goal 6, please provide brief information, including target dates and the progress made thus far.

### Progress towards target 6.4 (criteria and indicators)

(c) Are criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management used in your country?

**Yes**       No

If yes, please specify which sets are used:

- National** or subnational
- Regional or **international**<sup>10</sup>
- Other (please specify):

For which of the following purposes are they used? (Multiple answers possible)

- To generate information for national reports on forest conditions and management**
- To monitor and assess forest conditions and management**
- To review and develop national forest policies and tools for sustainable forest management**
- To communicate with society and carry out dialogue with stakeholders**
- To report on forests to regional and international organizations (please specify):** **FAO (FRA), Forest Europe (State of European forests), certification schemes.**

---

<sup>10</sup> For instance, those used by the International Tropical Timber Organization, Forest Europe, the Montreal Process and the Tarapoto Proposal on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainability of Amazonian Forests.

**Progress towards target 6.4 (communication and awareness)**

(d) Since 2015, have actions been taken (by the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) in your country to communicate and promote a greater understanding and awareness of sustainable forest management?

- Yes       No

If yes, please specify in a maximum of 250 words:

Promotion is realized through events, connected to Pro Silva, “Forest week” (an annual event, connecting forestry institutions and broader society; [link](#)), international day on forests, annual fair on Nature and health, and forest renovation by the state-owned company, just to name some.

**Progress towards target 6.5**

(e) Have actions been taken by your Government to involve major groups and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030?

- Yes       No

If yes, please specify in a maximum of 250 words:

**Other questions**

7. (a) Since 2015, has your country taken action to promote gender equality in the forest sector?

- Yes**       No

If yes, please indicate action taken with regard to the following:

- Women’s effective access to the control and use of forest resources
- Women’s effective participation in decision-making at the household and community levels
- Women’s effective participation and representation in forest management institutions
- Other

On the international day of forest, gender equality in access to knowledge on forests was promoted and stressed out the importance of women presence in forest management.

Please provide a brief description:

(b) What action has been taken (by the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) in your country in observance of the International Day of Forests?

- Cultural activities (for example, art, music, film and theatre)
- Educational activities** (for example, workshops and symposiums)
- Media activities** (for example, newspapers, magazines, television and radio)
- Social media activities
- Other

Please provide two to three examples and, if possible, a weblink or weblinks to relevant documentation:

On the event, organized by the forest service, forestry institute, ministry of forestry and Celje municipality, were scholars, experts and media represented with the practical presentation of Slovenian forestry, and explained the importance of forests and knowledge for our future- [link](#) from forest service, [link](#) from forestry institute and [link](#) from forest of experiment.

### Success stories

8. Do you have any success stories relating to the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 in your country? If so, please provide a brief description, with references (such as weblinks, publications and articles), showing how the action contributed to achieving the goals and targets and specifying which goals and targets are relevant. Please provide a maximum of three success stories.

**Success story 1:** Anniversaries; 30<sup>th</sup> of Pro Silva, 25<sup>th</sup> of public Forest Service and 70<sup>th</sup> of Biotechnical faculty (including forestry department) promote decades of close to nature forest management in Slovenia. Action taken: Informing broader society through mass media and promoting several forest services.

Goals and targets addressed: Increase public awareness of forestry in Slovenia, endorse ecosystem services and benefits originating from forests, expand knowledge from research and promote work opportunities.

Outcome and results achieved: Common outcome of all events was public confirmation on the efforts from the past, current challenges in forestry and forest connecting systems, and future goals of forest management in the light of climate change.

How did this action contribute to the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030? Promoting application of scientific innovations and not only sustainable forest management, but above all close-to-nature practises.

References: <https://www.prosilva.org/activities/annual-meetings/annual-meeting-2019/>

[http://www.zgs.si/aktualno/novice/news\\_article/srecanje\\_gozdarjev\\_ob\\_25\\_letnici\\_delovanja\\_javne\\_gozdarske\\_sluzbe\\_567/index.html](http://www.zgs.si/aktualno/novice/news_article/srecanje_gozdarjev_ob_25_letnici_delovanja_javne_gozdarske_sluzbe_567/index.html)



## Annex II

### Draft global core set of forest-related indicators

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Thematic element</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Tiera</i>	<i>Data supplier</i>	<i>Linkages to globally agreed goals and targets</i>
1. <b>Forest area as a proportion of total land area</b>	1. Extent of forest resources	Percentage	1	FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment	Measures progress towards target 15.1 of the Sustainable Development Goals and global forest goal 1. Sustainable Development Goal indicator 15.1.1
2. <b>Forest area annual net change rate</b>	1. Extent of forest resources	Percentage	1	FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment	Measures progress towards target 15.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals and target 1.1 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030. Subindicator of Sustainable Development Goal indicator 15.2.1
3. <b>Net greenhouse gas emissions (source)/removals (sink) of forests, and carbon balance of harvested wood products</b>	1. Extent of forest resources 4. Productive functions of forest resources	Kilotons of carbon dioxide emissions per year	2	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change secretariat	Measures progress towards targets 1.2 and 2.5 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030. Linkages with Sustainable Development Goal 13 and measuring, reporting and verifying requirements under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
4. <b>Proportion of forest area located within legally established protected areas</b>	2. Forest biological diversity	Percentage	1	FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment	Measures progress towards target 15.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals, targets 2.5 and 3.1 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 and Aichi Biodiversity Target 11. Subindicator of Sustainable Development Goal indicator 15.2.1
5. <b>Change in area of primary forests</b>	2. Forest biological diversity	Hectares	1	FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment	Measures progress towards target 1.3 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 and Aichi Biodiversity Target 5. Linkages with Sustainable Development Goal 15
6. <b>Proportion of forest area disturbed</b>	3. Forest health and vitality	Percentage of forest area	2	FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment	Measures progress towards target 1.4 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030
7. <b>Area of</b>	3. Forest health and vitality	Hectares	3	FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment	Measures progress towards target 1.3 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Thematic element</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Tiera</i>	<i>Data supplier</i>	<i>Linkages to globally agreed goals and targets</i>
<b>degraded forest vitality</b>				Resources Assessment	plan for forests 2017–2030. Linkages with target 15.3 of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Target 15. Linkages to strategic objective 1 of the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa (2008–2018), and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
8. <b>Above-ground biomass stock in forest</b>	4. Productive function of forest resources	Tons per hectare	1	FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment	Measures progress towards target 15.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets 1.2 and 2.5 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Target 7. Subindicator of Sustainable Development Goal indicator 15.2.1
9. <b>Volume of wood removals</b>	4. Productive function of forest resources	Cubic metres	1	ECE/FAO/International Tropical Timber Organization/Eurostat joint forest sector questionnaire	Measures progress towards target 2.4 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030
10. <b>Wood-based energy share of total final energy consumption</b>	4. Productive function of forest resources	Percentage	2	ECE and FAO	Linked to target 7.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals
11. <b>Forest area with a designated management objective to maintain and enhance its protective functions</b>	5. Protective function of forest resources	Hectares	1	FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment	Linked to target 1.4 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030
12. <b>Employment related to the</b>	6. Socioeconomic functions of forest	Number of full-time	2	FAO Global Forest	Measures progress towards target 2.4 of the United Nations strategic

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Thematic element</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Tiera</i>	<i>Data supplier</i>	<i>Linkages to globally agreed goals and targets</i>
<b>forest sector</b>	resources	equivalents		Resources Assessment	plan for forests 2017–2030
13. <b>Number of forest-dependent people in extreme poverty</b>	6. Socioeconomic functions of forest resources	Number	3	FAO and United Nations Forum on Forests	Measures progress towards global forest goal 2 and target 2.1 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030
14. <b>Contribution of forests to food security</b>	6. Socioeconomic functions of forest resources	To be decided	3	FAO and United Nations Forum on Forests	Measures progress towards global forest goal 2 and target 2.3 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030
15. <b>Financial resources from all sources for the implementation of sustainable forest management</b>	6. Socioeconomic functions of forest resources	United States dollars	3	OECD, World Bank	Measures progress towards global forest goal 4 and targets 4.1 and 4.2 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030. Linkages with targets 15.a and 15.b of the Sustainable Development Goals
16. <b>Existence of national or subnational policies, strategies, legislation, regulations and institutions that explicitly encourage sustainable forest management</b>	7. Legal, policy and institutional framework	References	1	FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment	Measures progress towards global forest goal 5 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030
17. <b>Existence of national or subnational forest assessment process</b>	7. Legal, policy and institutional framework	References	1	FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment	Measures progress towards target 4.5 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030
18. <b>Existence of national or subnational stakeholder platform for participation in forest policy development</b>	7. Legal, policy and institutional framework	References	1	FAO Global Forest Resources Assessments	Measures progress towards target 4.5 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Thematic element</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Tiera</i>	<i>Data supplier</i>	<i>Linkages to globally agreed goals and targets</i>
19. <b>Proportion of forest area under a long-term forest management plan</b>	7. Legal, policy and institutional framework	Percentage	1	FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment	Measures progress towards target 15.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals, targets 1.3 and 3.2 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 and Aichi Biodiversity Target 7. Subindicator of Sustainable Development Goal indicator 15.2.1
20. <b>Forest area under an independently verified forest management certification scheme</b>	7. Legal, policy and institutional framework	Hectares	1	FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment	Measures progress towards target 15.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets 1.3 and 3.3 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030. Subindicator of Sustainable Development Goal indicator 15.2.1
21. <b>Existence of traceability system(s) for wood products</b>	7. Legal, policy and institutional framework	References	2	FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment	Measures progress towards targets 3.3 and 5.2 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030

*Abbreviations:* ECE, Economic Commission for Europe; FAO, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; OECD, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

<sup>a</sup> Tier 1: methodology and data in place. Tier 2: methodology in place, data challenges. Tier 3: methodology and data both present challenges.