



**Enquiry on the
Implementation of MCPFE commitments
2007
and
Reporting on the
MCPFE Qualitative Indicators
for Sustainable Forest Management**

COUNTRY:**ITALY**

Date of submission:

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Abbreviations

CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
C&I	Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FTE	Full Time Equivalent
GCC	General Co-ordinating Committee
ha	Hectares
MCPFE	Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe
NGO	Non-governmental organization
SFM	Sustainable Forest Management
VD	Vienna Declaration
V1-5	Vienna Resolutions 1 to 5
L1-2	Lisbon Resolutions 1 and 2
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFF	United Nations Forum on Forests
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

1. Background

In preparation for the Fifth Ministerial Conference (Warsaw, Poland, 5-7 November 2007), the MCPFE decided to review and report on progress in implementing the commitments made at the Fourth Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe in Vienna (2003). Also, further progress made since 2003 in implementing commitments made at the Ministerial Conferences in Lisbon (1998), Helsinki (1993), and in Strasbourg (1990) should be reported through this enquiry.

In addition, it was decided to report on the MCPFE qualitative indicators on sustainable forest management (SFM). The reporting format for the improved qualitative Pan-European Indicators for SFM addresses policies, institutions and instruments in general as well as more specifically by policy areas. The improved qualitative indicators comprise a reporting format, which is grouped into:

- A) Overall policies, institutions and instruments for sustainable forest management,
- B) Policies, institutions and instruments by policy area.

The ministers gathered in Vienna reaffirmed that the criteria and indicators for SFM were a tool for monitoring, assessing and reporting progress on sustainable forest management. In consequence, the enquiry should collect the relevant data and information for reporting on the qualitative Pan-European Indicators for SFM in the context of the MCPFE report on the "State of Forests and Sustainable Forest Management in Europe 2007" to be presented at the forthcoming Fifth Ministerial Conference.

The next Ministerial Conference will also provide an opportunity to assess the implementation of the political commitments on forests made by the European Ministers in Vienna. In order to answer this question and to understand the lessons learned from the work conducted so far, it was decided that the implementation report of the MCPFE commitments for the upcoming Ministerial Conference will be based on the replies by signatory states and the European Commission to the enquiry questions contained in this document and the related evaluation. This will form a part of the report on the implementation of MCPFE commitments to be presented at the forthcoming Fifth Ministerial Conference.

The General Coordinating Committee (GCC) of the MCPFE recommended that one enquiry would cover the MCPFE qualitative indicators as well as the MCPFE commitments. It was further recommended by the Advisory Group on the reporting on the "State of Forests and Sustainable Forest Management in Europe 2007" to include the enquiry on the quantitative indicator 6.4 "Expenditure for Services" in this enquiry, as the MCPFE country representatives are deemed to be the most appropriate respondents to this particular indicator.

2. General guidance on reporting

This enquiry on the implementation of the MCPFE commitments and on the MCPFE qualitative indicators for SFM should enable responding countries to provide the best possible information for two reports:

1. "State of Forests and Sustainable Forest Management in Europe 2007"
2. "Implementation of the MCPFE Commitments – pan-European and national Activities 2003-2007".

The main focus of the enquiry is on assessing and reporting the progress on SFM in European forests as well as the progress in the implementation of commitments the signatory states and the European Community made at the Fourth Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (Vienna, Austria, 2003). The enquiry should also gather the information on the main changes or further developments in the implementation of the Helsinki, Strasbourg and Lisbon Resolutions since 2003.

The enquiry consists of the following parts:

Part A: "Overall policies, institutions and instruments for SFM" is structured according to the MCPFE qualitative indicators Part A. It comprises:

Section 1: MCPFE qualitative indicators Part A: Overall policies, institutions and instruments for SFM. These five indicators aim to describe overall policy approaches for a sustainable forest management. Additionally, significant changes since the last Ministerial Conference

should be reported. This part will be used for the report on the *State of Forests and Sustainable Forest Management in Europe 2007*.

Section 2: MCPFE commitments of the Fourth Ministerial Conference 2003 (Vienna Declaration, Vienna Resolutions V1-5 as well as clearly related MCPFE commitments of the Third Ministerial Conference 1998 (Lisbon Resolution L-2). This part will be used for the *Report on the National Implementation of MCPFE Commitments*.

Section 3: Further measures taken related to the qualitative indicators and comments provide the opportunity to report on further measures under a specific qualitative indicator and to provide data specifications or explanations.

Part B: "Policies, institutions and instruments by policy area" is structured according to the MCPFE qualitative indicators Part B. It comprises:

Section 1: MCPFE qualitative indicators Part B: Policies, institutions and instruments by policy area. Twelve indicators under Part B aim to provide information on specific policies for certain policy areas in addition to the information provided in Part A. This concerns the most specific policy objectives, the main institutions relevant to achieve the objective as well as the main policy instruments used. Additionally, significant changes since the last Ministerial Conference in 2003 should be reported.

Section 2: MCPFE commitments of the Fourth Ministerial Conference 2003 (Vienna Declaration, Vienna Resolutions V1-5) as well as clearly related MCPFE commitments of the Third Ministerial Conference 1998 (Lisbon Resolution L-2)

Section 3: Further measures taken related to the qualitative indicator and comments provide the opportunity to report on further measures under a specific qualitative indicator.

Part C: General reporting on Lisbon, Helsinki and Strasbourg Resolutions

Part D: Enquiry on the quantitative indicator 6.4 "Expenditure for Services"

While the enquiry to signatory states and the European Commission requests reporting on MCPFE qualitative indicators and on MCPFE commitment implementation in an integrated format, both the analysis of responses and of the reporting will be separate. As specified in the previous chapter, this enquiry will result in two separate reports:

1. *"State of Forests and Sustainable Forest Management in Europe 2007"*
2. *"Implementation of MCPFE commitments 2003-2007"*

For reporting, please note the following:

1. In the tables all requests for responses are marked by [], visible on computer screens (not necessarily on print-outs). All requests for responses are limited to approx. 100 words or 650 letters (incl. blank spaces) automatically.
2. The sum of texts provided per indicator in Parts A and B should not exceed 2 pages, and be around 1 page, if possible.
3. *Section 2 in Parts A and B presents an abbreviated summary of the original commitment text. This should facilitate identifying topics addressed, but not replace the original commitment. Please read the original commitments as specified in the reference numbers. These specify the document as well as the commitment number as numbered in the original commitment. (e.g. VD/7 = Vienna Declaration, para7, V1/9,12 = Vienna Resolution 1, paras 9 and 12) V=Vienna, L=Lisbon*
4. The requests in Section 2 of Parts A and B on the implementation of MCPFE commitments specify to report "**measures**", i.e. forest policy actions set to implement a commitment. *The responses should, as far as possible, be made in a form that allows identifying the type and magnitude of efforts undertaken.* In the responses, "Measures" should be classified or classifiable into the following categories:

Classes of “magnitude” for measures	Examples of documents related to “measures”
large measures: e.g. major programme	public programme document and/or related lists of projects
medium-size measure: individual projects	list of projects funded
small measures: e.g. individual actions	workshops organized, etc.

Degree of implementation of a reported measure
No measure taken (or blank space)
Measure in planning stage
Measure in implementation
Measure concluded

Degree of fulfillment of commitment through the measure reported
fully
partly
not or rather minor

Each of the responses in Section 2 of Parts A and B will be classified and analysed in these three dimensions.

5. In Part B please concentrate in particular on those indicators that are linked to the Vienna resolutions: B2 (carbon balance), B6 (biodiversity), B8 (economic viability) and B12 (cultural and spiritual values).
6. Please report on “measures” taken in the period 2003-2007 by the main body (Ministry) responsible for forestry, or where this main body played a key role. Countries with a federal structure are requested to focus first on major initiatives on the national level and to provide information on major federal measures, identifying the federal state in which the measure was taken.
7. Reporting on significant changes since 2003 will be analysed systematically, first by determining whether or not such changes were reported. No information is interpreted as “no significant change”.
8. Please provide further information on the measures taken, as deemed relevant, e.g. major partners in implementation, time period, budget involved, experiences made (lessons learned, obstacles encountered, solutions).
9. Please provide the latest information available unless otherwise requested.
10. Please specify reference documents as follows: - Author or institution. Year of publication (if published). Title. Reference Number. Publisher.
11. Information provided on the implementation of MCPFE commitment will be analysed quantitatively across countries according to the specifications as in paras 4 and 7, in addition to the substantive analysis.
12. The report *Implementation of the MCPFE Commitments – pan-European and national Activities 2003-2007* is foreseen to consist of a section on international implementation of the MCPFE commitments (the MCPFE Work Programme 2003-2007) as well as a summary analysis for each of the Parts A and B Section 2 as well as Part C of this enquiry.

A. Overall policies, institutions and instruments for SFM

A.1 National forest programmes or similar				
Main characteristics of nfp or similar	general characteristics, incl. significant changes related to nfps since 2003 [max. 100 words] The forthcoming compilation of a National Forest Programme (already provided by the Decree n. 227, mentioned below) has been approved in December 2006 by the national law specified in the box "Reference document". Therefore there is no national programme in force yet and the following questions in this page will not be answered. Anyway the main aim of the forest programme to come will be the harmonization of the international forest regulations and commitments (e.g. EU Forest Action Plan) with the existing Regional Forest Programmes in order to encourage the sustainable forest management and the enhancement of the multi-functionality of the forest resources. It will be also prepared according to the guidelines of the Decree of the Ministry of Environment below mentioned.			
Reference document: - Decree of Government n. 227 of 18 th May 2001 on modernization of the Forest Sector. - Law n. 296, 27/12/2006 (National Financial Law 2007 – paragraphs 1082 and 1084). .- Decree 16/06/2005 of the Ministry of Environment on guidelines on forest programme.				
Status	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> programme in development	<input type="checkbox"/> programme in implementation	<input type="checkbox"/> programme in review	<input type="checkbox"/> continuous process or other
Further information:				
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to A.1: Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:				
a) develop and apply nfps ¹ in line with the MCPFE approach to nfps? (Ref.: V1/ 7)	Please specify whether and in which form they were applied, and whether there is any important lesson for the MCPFE (usefulness, development needs,..) [max. 100 words]			
b) identify and address key cross-sectoral dimensions in the context of nfps? (Ref.: VD/13,14; V1/ 5, 8)	Please specify whether or not, main dimensions identified, and what major explicit measures were taken. [max. 100 words]			
c) use the nfp process as a platform for cross-sectoral coordination, and to feed results into other policies? (Ref.: VD/ 16,19; V1/ 9,10,11)	Please specify whether or not, and if yes, how nfp is used as a platform or initiator of a mechanism; who is involved; and in what specific other policies nfp results were explicitly included. [max. 100 words]			
d) Does the nfp address - socio-cultural, - biodiversity, - carbon & climate issues (Ref.: V3/5; V5/ 5; V6/ 6)	Please specify for each, if yes, specify main explicit targets and measures taken. [max. 100 words]			
e) promote participation of stakeholders in forest policy & program development? (Ref.:L1/2)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]			
Further measures taken related to A.1 and comments:				

¹ nfp = national forest programme

Reporting notes:

1. „nfp“ is understood to comprise both nfps or similar documents or processes. If nfps exist, please use this as main reference. If similar documents are used for answering, please specify the document (or process) under “Reference document”.
2. Reporting on general characteristics could include formal status of the document, validity period of current document, duration of process, range of stakeholders involved, major results or key lessons.

A.2 Institutional frameworks			
Main characteristics of institutional framework	<p>general characteristics, incl. significant changes related to institutional frameworks since 2003 [max. 100 words]</p> <p>The Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forest Policies(MiPAF) and the Ministry for the Environment Land and Sea (MATM) will propose a draft of the NFP to the Permanent Conference for the relations among the State and the Regions (21 local Administrations). Since 2001, due to a modification of the Italian Constitutional Law, these local Administrations have been the unique responsible for Forest Management. In the field of forestry, the main role of national State Administrations, such as the two Ministries above, consists in the co-ordination of regional policies with agreements and commitments taken at international level.</p>		
Main <i>public</i> organizations forest policy: - forest administration	Name (full formal name)	Forest-related staff (2005, FTE)	Administrative budget (mil€,2005)
	Regional Forest Offices	n.a.	n.a.
- public forest agencies (national level)	Biodiversity Office of the National Forest Corps (CFS) - Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forest Policies (MiPAF)).	600	2
- research, education and training institutions	CRA (Council for Research in Agriculture)	n.a.	n.a.
	CNR (National Research Council)	n.a.	n.a.
- other (please specify)	Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forest policies	n.a.	n.a.
	Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea .	n.a.	n.a.
	National Council of Economy and Labour (CNEL)	n.a.	n.a.
Main <i>private</i> organizations relevant for forest policy: (interest groups and associations)	FEDERLEGNO(Association of forest industries)		
	FEDERFORESTE (Association of forest owners)		
	ASSOBOSCHI (National Forest Association)		
other organizations relevant for forest policy (e.g. private-public bodies)	ANARF (Association of regional forest managers)		
Main forest policy co-ordination mechanisms	<p>Please describe the main formal mechanisms of policy co-ordination between the organizations above, if any. Please specify the year of establishment and major experiences, as appropriate (see reporting note) [max. 100 words] The Permanent Conference for the relations among the State and the Regions evaluates the proposals of national regulations concerning the forest sector. CNEL contributes on the basis of its legal mandate to devise socio-economic regulations. Since April 2003 CNEL has hosted a specific advisory board (Osservatorio Nazionale del Mercato dei Prodotti e dei Servizi Forestali), with the main goal of promoting actions for the development of forest products and services market. This objectives should be achieved strengthening the links between public institutions and the private sector and launching specific projects aimed at increasing the importance of the forest resources.</p>		
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to A.2			
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:			

a) support the establishment of associations of private forest owners and forest entrepreneurs? (Ref.: VD/12; V2/18, 19)	Please specify whether or not, if yes, in what form, and results so far. [max. 100 words]
b) establish or improve intersectoral co-ordination or communication mechanisms? (Ref.: VD/15, 18; V1/ 6)	Please specify whether or not, and if yes, which major measures were taken [max. 100 words]
Further measures taken related to A.2 and comments:	

Reporting notes:

1. Institutional framework is understood to refer mainly to the organizational set-up of forest policy in the country. It further comprises formal co-ordinating mechanisms between these (incl. e.g. nfp).
2. Please describe federal structures and further sub-national level organizational structures under “main characteristics”.
3. Please list organizations with a mandate to develop or implement forest policy on the national level only. Note that all major organizations listed in Part B should also be listed here. Interest groups and associations include e.g. private forest owners, environmental NGOs.
4. In case of public organizations, please specify forest-related staff (number, in full-time equivalent) and budget only. Use the “comments” section for further specification, if needed.
5. Note that mechanisms referred to in A.2 a) and A.2 b) include nfps – please do not repeat from A1 (text there will be taken into account). It also includes public-private partnership initiatives.

A.3 Legal/regulatory frameworks and international commitments			
Main characteristics of legal/regulatory framework	<p>general characteristics, incl. significant changes related to legal/regulatory frameworks since 2003 [max. 100 words]</p> <p>No significant changes have incurred after the previous MCPFE report as the UN Conventions more closely related to forestry (UNFCCC, CBD and CCD) have been already ratified by national laws before 2003.</p> <p>Concerning the EU Habitats Directive, some operational changes have been introduced by the Decree of the President n.120 of 13 march 2003 (published on the Official Journal n.124 of 30 may 2003) modifying the previous Decree n. 357 of 8 september 1997 on the implementation of the Directive 92/43/CEE related to the conservation of natural and seminatural habitats and of wild fauna and flora in the European Community.</p>		
Main forest and SFM related legal/regulatory act	<p>Please list the main legal act related to forests and SFM (see also Part B)</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%;">Forest law, act or code</td> <td>Name: National law n.227 of 18 May 2001 on modernization of the Forest Sector is still the main forest basic act in force in Italy. It clearly recalls, for instance, the need to implement the resolutions signed along the MCPFE process. Date of adoption: 18 May 2001 Main changes from previous legal act: none</td> </tr> </table>	Forest law, act or code	Name: National law n.227 of 18 May 2001 on modernization of the Forest Sector is still the main forest basic act in force in Italy. It clearly recalls, for instance, the need to implement the resolutions signed along the MCPFE process. Date of adoption: 18 May 2001 Main changes from previous legal act: none
Forest law, act or code	Name: National law n.227 of 18 May 2001 on modernization of the Forest Sector is still the main forest basic act in force in Italy. It clearly recalls, for instance, the need to implement the resolutions signed along the MCPFE process. Date of adoption: 18 May 2001 Main changes from previous legal act: none		
Main priorities and measures in <i>international</i> forest related commitments	<p>Please describe, incl. significant changes related to international characteristics since 2003 [max. 100 words]</p> <p>A new priority is contained inside the National Financial Act 2007 (n. 296 of 27 december 2006): it states the need to harmonise the forest policies according to the EU Forest Action Plan, foreseen by the Communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament on an EU Forest Action Plan of 15 June 2006.</p> <p>According to the national forest law above mentioned, the Ministry of Environment Land and Sea published on 16 June 2005 a Decree containing the forest national guidelines related to biodiversity, clearly recalling all the international forest commitments taken by Italy.</p>		
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to A.3:			
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:			
a) improve security of property rights (Ref.: V3/7)	Please specify whether or not, and if yes, which issue was addressed and how. [max. 100 words]		
b) address forest law enforcement (Ref.: VD/20; V4/6, 7)	Please specify whether or not, and if yes, which issue was addressed and how. [max. 100 words]		
c) support enabling environments for SFM and investment (Ref.: V2/7)	Please specify whether or not, and if yes, which issue was addressed and how. [max. 100 words]		
d) support international processes, commitments and their implementation in - UNFF, CPF, IPF/IFF proposals for action, - CBD, - UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol (Ref.: VD/23, 24; V4/4,	<p>Please specify whether or not, and if yes, which, separately for the different commitments [max. 100 words]</p> <p>UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol, CBD and CCD have been already ratified by national laws before 2003 and reported to MCPFE during 2002. In any case see some details on the ratification laws reported below.</p> <p>The National Forest Corps, together with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, contributed from the origin to the formulation of the IPF/IFF proposals for action. It is currently contributing to the work currently developed by the UNFF process, in particular to the negotiates and the preparation of the new non-legally binding instrument (NLBI) on all types of forests, to be</p>		

14, V5/6, 10)	approved during UNFF7 (April 2007)
Further measures taken related to A.3 and comments:	
<p>(incl. e.g. on UNCCD) UNFCCC: ratified by the National Law 15th January 1994, n. 65 , while the Kyoto Protocol has been ratified by National Law 1st June 2002, n. 120. UNCBD: ratified by the National Law 14th February 1994, n.124. UNCCD: ratified by the National Law 4th June 1997, n. 170. ITTA (International Tropical Timber Agreement): the process of ratification of the newest version signed on 2006 is still ongoing. CITES (Convention on the International Trade of species of wild fauna and flora): ratified by the National Law n.874 of 19th December 1975. Ramsar Convention: Ratified by the Decree of the President n. 448 of 13/03/1976 Berna Convention: Ratified by the National law n.503 of 5th August 1981.</p>	

Reporting notes:

1. Commitments, signature and ratification of major international commitments will be collected from the relevant conventions (UNFF, CBD, UNFCCC, CCD, ITTO, CITES, Ramsar, etc.).
2. Under "Main characteristics" please describe situation of legal frameworks with respect to distribution of responsibilities in general (central or federal, the diversity of key legal acts) as well as significant changes related to legal/regulatory frameworks and international characteristics since 2003.

A.4 Financial instruments/economic policy	
Main characteristics of forest-related economic policy	Please describe, incl. significant changes related to economic policy since 2003 [max. 100 words] - The national level carries out only some co-ordination activities (National Forest corps, Ministry of Agriculture food and Forest Policies and Ministry of Environmental Land and Sea); - Starting from the Seventies, forest management is mainly under regional responsibility in a sort of "forest federalism"; - More than 60% of the Italian forests are private and do not receive direct incentives from the State or the Regions.
Main characteristics of financial instruments	Please describe characteristics of main financial instruments, incl. significant changes in financial instruments since 2003 [max. 100 words] - National law 27th december 2006, n.296 (Financial Act 2007) providing some national funds for a National Forest Plan; - 21 Regional Rural Development Programmes, drafted according to the Regulation (EC) n. 1698/2005 and 1974/2006 (currently under negotiations); - regional forest programmes and funds; - private investments.
Main budget line / programme	Name: National law 27th december 2006, n.296 Target/objective: implementation of the EU Forest Action Plan and SFM enforcement. Forest-related budget: 110 mil € for period 2007-2009
Main budget line / programme	Name: Regional Rural Development Programmes Target/objective: contribution of forestry to the rural development according to the three axes of the Rural Development Regulation Forest-related budget: n.a. mil € for period 2007-2013
Main budget line / programme	Name: Regional Forest Programmes and Funds Target/objective: sustainable forest management Forest-related budget: n.a. mil € for period n.a.
Main reference document(s): (please list documents with reference numbers) - Legislative Decree 18/05/2001, n. 227 on modernization of forest sector. - Decree of the MATTM 16/06/2005 on forest guidelines. - National law 27th December 2006, n.296 - National Financial Act 2007; - National law 6 th February 2004, n.36 on Reorganisation of the National Forest Service - Regulation (EC) n. 1698/2005 and 1974/2006 on the Rural Development.	
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to A.4:	
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) set incentives for investment, including innovative economic instruments (Ref.: V2/7, 17)	Please specify whether or not. If yes, describe measures, what they aim to address, dimension, and effects so far. [max. 100 words] Yes. Measures to be channeled through the new National Forest Plan mentioned above (providing national guidance and funds to be integrated at regional/local level)
Further measures taken related to A.4 and comments:	

Reporting notes:

1. Main budget lines/programmes: please list the top three governmental funding programmes related to forestry, incl. governmental (public) programmes or budget lines with a relevant or significant forestry component. Target group of these budget lines include not only forest owners or state forest enterprises but also research and education institutions.

A.5 Informational means	
Main characteristics of informational policies	Please describe main characteristics and programmes, incl. significant changes in informational means since 2003. [max. 100 words] There is no informational policy in the strict sense of the word, concerning the Forest Sector. Nevertheless there are several informational means available on the internet and on the specialised press.
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to A.5: Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) develop and use national level criteria and indicators for SFM, incl. in nfps? (Ref.: VD/25, L2/1)	Please specify whether or not. If yes, please describe measures. [max. 100 words]
b) improve data-collection on SFM and monitoring of - biodiversity - carbon stock and climate impact? (Ref.: V4/9, 13; V5/7,9,10; L2/2, 4, 6)	Please specify whether or not. If yes, describe measures and what they aim to address. [max. 100 words] In 2003 the National Forest Corps started the second National Forest Inventory. The methodological design has been conceived in order to provide the information required to compile the quantitative MCPFE Indicators of SFM and to assess forest carbon stock.
c) use C&I in assessment, evaluation and reporting? (Ref.: VD/25, L2/3, 4)	Please specify whether or not. If yes, describe measures and what they aim to address. [max. 100 words] A national report based on MCPFE SFM indicators was issued in 2000.
Further measures taken related to A.5 and comments:	
The main informational means available at national level are listed below: - www.corpoforestale.it /Site of CFS, the National Forest Corps (Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry Policies) responsible for the federal control of the forest resources and the rural territory and for those activities not transferred to regional administrations, such as relations with international forest Institutions and processes. CFS has adopted as communicational tools also a newsletter (available for Italian interest groups) and two technical reviews called as "Il Forestale" and "Sylvae". - http://www.minambiente.it /Site of the Ministry for the Environment Land and the Sea. It contains information on several relevant matters concerning the forest sector such as protected areas, conservation of biodiversity, Kyoto Protocol and related aspects. - http://www.federforeste.org /Internet site of "Federforeste", the national federation of collective public and private forest owners syndicates. - http://www.sisef.it /Site of the Italian Society of Sylviculture and Forest Ecology (SISEF), promoting research activities in the field of sustainable forest management and conservation of forest biodiversity. SISEF is the manager of the on line journal Forest@ available on the mentioned internet site.	

Reporting note:

1. A.5. a): this includes the use of the MCPFE Assessment guidelines

B. Policies, institutions and instruments by policy area

B.1: Land use and forest area and OWL	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: Council Regulations (EC) No 1698/2005 ; National Law No 267/1923; regional provisions Date of issuance: 20 September 2005; 30 December 1923 Formal status: in implementation (by Regional Administrations)
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] In the broad context of Rural Development, regional plans usually provide the afforestation of ex-agricultural land also by means of specialized productive plantations (e.g. short rotation stands). From 1923 onwards, the forest resources have been legally bound and forest land cannot change use. Only exception made for productive plantations, such as poplar stands managed according to intensive silvicultural techniques.
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Regional Forest Administrations are responsible for forest management and planning and CFS is responsible for the surveillance of forest resources and the control on the observance of national and regional Law.
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Public incentives given to land owners, according to Rural Development Plans are the main instrument to increase forest area.
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.1:	
Were measures taken in 2003-2007?	
Please describe	
Further measures taken related to B.1 and comments:	
In 2003 National Forest Corps started the second National Forest Inventory to update <i>inter-alia</i> the knowledge on the current extent of forest land use.	

Reporting note:

1. Under "Main characteristics" please also describe whether land use and ownership rights are an issue in specific areas and whether policies exist to increase (or decrease) forest area (or, specifically, forested land, including short rotation forests).

B.2: Carbon balance	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: "National Plan for reducing greenhouse gasses emissions" adopted by the Deliberation of the National Council for Economic Planning" n.123/2002 Date of issuance: 2002 Formal status: in force
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] It aims at reducing the greenhouse gasses emissions by source and enhancing the carbon removal by sinks in all sectors of the national economy including Land Use Change and Forestry.
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea (MATTM) Department for Environmental Research and Development (DG RD)
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] According to the financial plan reported in the CIPE's (Inter-ministerial Committee for Economic Planning) deliberation n.123/2002, incentives are aimed at establishing new Kyoto forests (afforestation, reforestation) and to promote forest management practices enhancing the carbon sink. A national authority called the "Registry of LULUCF carbon pools" will be put in force with the aim of managing incentives and controlling the conformity of the practices applied.
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.2:	
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) promote the SFM concept in the Kyoto Protocol context, particularly on afforestation? (Ref.:VD/21, V5/6)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] Decree of the MATTM n.02/05 (Official Journal n.164 of the 16/07/2005) "Implementation of the afforestation and reforestation master plans as under the provisions of the law 120/02, art.2.1": co-financing of the afforestation projects adopting sustainable techniques up to a maximum of 5,25 Meuro (single project cap of 1,5 Meuro and 0.5 Meuro for public administrations and private companies, respectively). The Decree has not been implemented yet.
b) promote substitution of non-renewables, particularly bio-energy (see also B.4)? (Ref.: V5/5,6)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] The G8 Leaders in Gleneagles Communiqué endorsed the launch of a Global BioEnergy Partnership (GBEP) to support wider, cost effective biomass and biofuels deployment, particularly in developing countries. Italian Ministry of Environment is leading the implementation of the GBEP together with FAO. The Ministry has endorsed the Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign 2005-2008, launched by the EU DG TREN in order to encourage the sustainable energy production and use in the Member States. In this context it is currently activating partnership programmes with local authorities.
Further measures taken related to B.2 and comments:	
In 2003 National Forest Corps started the second National Forest Inventory to update <i>inter-alia</i> the knowledge on the current forest Carbon sinks.	

B.3: Health and vitality	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: Regulation (EC) No 2152/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 November 2003 concerning monitoring of forests and environmental interactions in the Community (Forest Focus) Date of issuance: 11 th December 2003 Formal status: EU Regulation (mandatory at national level and not needing a national law for its implementation)
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] As a follow-up of the former EU measures implemented according to the Regulation (EEC) N. 3528/86 and Regulation (EC) n. 2158/1992, protection and monitoring of the health of Community forests in relation to the damages from atmospheric pollution and forest fires
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] The Italian Forest Service is coordinating at national level the implementation of the activities and the different structures, in particular: - permanent network of level I (265 plots); - permanent network of level II (31 plots); - collection of data (forest fires occurrence), development of studies, awareness-raising campaigns, pilot projects, training; - organization of meetings and media events to inform the public about the most relevant developments of the matter.
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] - some of the work is directly carried out by the local staff of the Italian Forest Service (present on almost all the national territory); - special agreements with Universities, Research centres and Regions.
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.3: Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) strengthen research, monitoring and impact assessment of climate change and carbon stocks? (Ref.: V5/6)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] Under the main responsibility of the Ministry of Environment, a National Register of Carbon sinks will be established (see B.2)
b) strengthen adaptability of forests to climate change? (Ref.: V5/7)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]
Further measures taken related to B.3 and comments:	
(e.g. further measures to address health and vitality) Several research at different levels are ongoing, both in the framework of Forest Focus and outside.	

B.4: Production and use of wood	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: Decree of the Government No 227/2001 on modernization of the Forest Sector. Decree of the MATTM concerning guidelines for Forest Programming Decree of the Government No 79/1999 (and further modifications); National Financial Act 2006 and 2007 Date of issuance: 16/03/1999; 23/12/2005 and 27/12/2006 Formal status: In force
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancement of the productive role of the forest resources in the frame of SFM; • Encourage diversification of forest products and services • Enhancement of forest infrastructures (roads, etc.), in order to facilitate the exploitation of forest products and other services • Encourage forest certification as a tool to increase the value of forest products • Promote the use of wood as a renewable energy source especially in mountainous areas. • Support the diffusion of new techniques for wood processing and new market channels. <p>The Decree No 79/1999, amended by further regulations, promotes the use of energy from renewable sources including wood fuel and establishes the use of "green certificates" as tradable commodities.</p> <p>The National Financial Act 2006 compares the production of energy and green certificates from biomass to agricultural income.</p> <p>The National Financial Act 2007 provides local districts for the production of agro-forestry energy encouraging the use of biomass among other renewable sources. Furthermore this law allocates funds for the National Plan for Green Public Procurement.</p>
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Regions; Ministry for Economic Development
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Regional Forest Programmes
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.4:	
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) promote the sound use of wood? (Ref.: VD/9, V2/8, V5/5, L1/7)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]
b) promote the use of wood from sustainable sources? (Ref.: V2/8)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]
Further measures taken related to B.4 and comments:	
(e.g. policies addressing the use of wood as energy source or for construction purposes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A National Bio-fuel Programme called PROBIO has been launched in 1999 by The Ministry of Agricultural and Forest Policies. • In 1998 "RILEGNO" a Consortium among producers and users of packaging materials was established in order to recycle wood waste as defined by the national decree on waste management (No 22 issued on the 5th of February 1997). In 2004 thanks to this initiative 	

about 60% of wood packaging used in Italy has been recycled.

- Since 1985 an independent association called ITABIA promotes the use, the transformation and recycling of biomass, including wood.
- The Italian Association for wood energy (AIEL) hosts several activities to enhance the use of woody biomass for energy production.

B.5 Production and use of non-wood goods and services, especially provision of recreation	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: National law n.352 (Framework rules on collection and trade of fresh and dried mushrooms) and National Law 17 th May 1991, n.162 (Framework rules on collection, cultivation and trade of fresh and dried truffles) + regional laws on mushrooms, truffles, berries and other products of the underwood Date of issuance: 23 rd August 1993 Formal status: In force
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Sustainable use and regulation of ownership and trade of mushrooms and truffles
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Under a general, legislative national framework the responsibilities are at local level (Regions, Provinces, Mountain communities, municipalities and bodies for the management of protected areas)
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Regional legislation and permits issued by the local authorities managing the forest
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.5:	
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) improve enabling conditions for the market-based provision for non-wood goods? (Ref.: V2/9)	Please describe measures, which non-wood goods they address, the characteristics of these measures and effects, if any [max. 100 words] Protected Designation of Origin (PDO), Protected Geographical Indication (PGI) and Traditional Speciality Guaranteed (TSG) are geographical indications (GIs) defined in European Union Law to protect the names of regional foods and that are often used to support and trade local forest products (e.g. PGI chestnut from Borgotaro)
b) improve enabling conditions for the market-based provision of services, esp. recreational services? (Ref.: V2/9)	Please describe measures, which services they try to promote, the characteristics of these measures and effects, if any, particularly for recreational services [max. 100 words] National legislation only imposes constraints on all forests from the hydrogeological and landscape point of view and in order to limit their damage and exploitation (e.g. forest law of 1923). Lot of local initiatives to support the recreational services, especially inside forest protected areas - see on http://www.parks.it/Eindex.html
Further measures taken related to B.5 and comments:	

B.6 Biodiversity		
Ecosystem / habitat / protected areas / landscape patterns	Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: L 394/1991 (National Law on Protected Areas); DPR 357/97 (National enforcement of Directive 92/43/CEE – on Conservation of habitats, flora e fauna) and further amendments; Decree of the Government n. 227 on modernisation of the Forest Sector, Decree of the MATTM concerning guidelines for Forest Programming Date of issuance: 6/12/1991; 8/09/1997; 12/03/2003; 18/05/2001; 16/06/2005 Formal status: In force
	Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Institution and management of protected areas. Completion and enhancement of <i>Natura 2000</i> network in Italy subdivided into three different bio-geographical regions. Institution of three national centers for conservation of forest biodiversity (CNCBF).
	Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Ministry for the Environment Land and Sea. 21 Administrative Regions and Autonomous Provinces, Management Offices of Protected areas (National Parks, National Forest Corps, Environmental Associations and NGOs). National centers for conservation of forest biodiversity
	Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] National Strategic Plan for “ Biodiversity conservation and protection of agricultural and forest ecosystems of high naturalistic value” provided by EU Structural Funds and Rural Development programmes. EU Life projects. Management plans of protected areas and Natura 2000 sites. Management actions financed by national and regional budget.
Species diversity, incl. tree species composition and threatened forest species	Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: DPR 357/97 (National enforcement of Directive 92/43/CEE – on Conservation of habitats, flora e fauna) and further amendments. Regional legislation. Date of issuance: 8/09/1997 Formal status: In force
	Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Conservation of protected and threatened forest flora and fauna.
	Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Ministry for the Environment Land and Sea. 21 Administrative Regions and Autonomous Provinces, Management Offices of Protected areas (National Parks, National Forest Corps, Environmental Associations and NGOs).
	Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] National Strategic Plan for “ Biodiversity conservation and protection of agricultural and forest ecosystems of high naturalistic value” provided by EU Structural Funds and Rural Development programmes. EU Life projects. Management actions financed by national and regional budget.

Genetic diversity, incl. in situ and ex situ gene conservation and seed production	Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: L 394/1991 (National Law on Protected Areas); Decree of the Government n. 227 on "Modernisation of the Forest Sector"; Decree of the MATTM concerning guidelines for forest programming; Decree of the Government n.386 concerning the enforcement of the Directive 1999/105/CE on the marketing of forest reproductive material. Date of issuance: 6/12/1991; 8/09/1997; 10/11/2003 Formal status: In force
	Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Genetic diversity conservation
	Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] MATTM, National Forest Corps, Regions, National centers for conservation of forest biodiversity.
	Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Management of forest bio-genetic reserves. Revision and completion of the national list of selected forest stands for seed collection. In 2005, the "Italian seed bank network for ex-situ conservation of spontaneous flora" was established. It is called RIBES and it is a scientific association among local authorities, public institutions and private companies.
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.6: Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:		
a) promote biodiversity strategy development and planning? (Ref.: VD/8,22; V4/6,14,15)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] Already mentioned legislation billed in the period.	
b) improve impact assessments and monitoring of biodiversity? (Ref.: V4/6,13)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] In 2003 the National Forest Corps started the second National Forest Inventory which will <i>inter-alia</i> update the knowledge of forest species extent and distribution. In the frame of the national enforcement of the EU Regulation 2152/2003 "Forest Focus", since 2006 CFS has been collecting data on forest structure, vegetation and deadwood on the 260 sampling points of the ICP monitoring level 1 network. A parallel research project has been launched to study the relationships between biodiversity and chemical characteristics (changes) of forest soils. A fourth national center for the conservation of forest biodiversity has been established in Southern Italy. The decree of the President of the Italian Republic n. 120 billed on 12/03/2003 provides that every kind of territorial planning must comply with the objectives of the mentioned Habitat Directive.	
c) further develop protected forest networks or similar? (Ref.: V4/10,15,16)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]	
d) prevent loss and fragmentation and to restore degraded forests? (Ref.: V4/11,12)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] Renaturalization of forest plantations and degraded coppices; interventions in burned forest areas by means of regional funds and EU incentives for Rural Development	
Further measures taken related to B.6 and comments: (incl. e.g. on dead wood, regeneration and naturalness in multi-functional forests)		

B.7 Protective services	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: National Law No 267, several regional laws and decrees; Date of issuance: 30 December 1923 Formal status: In force
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] The national policy aims at the hydro-geological protection of mountainsides in order to prevent landslides, erosion and similar hazards. For this reasons about the 90% forest land has been legally bound and cannot change use. Furthermore about 500.000 ha of forest resources have been specially bound by means of regional laws and other provisions such as watershed management plans.
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Regional Forest Administrations are responsible for forest management and planning and National Forest Corps is responsible for the surveillance of forest resources and the control on the observance of national and regional law.
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Regional Forest Plans provide measures (afforestation, re-afforestation and reclamation of degraded forest) aimed at enhancing the protective role of forest areas recognized of high importance for their protective role.
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.7:	
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) strengthen protective services? (Ref.: VD/10)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]
b) contribute to reduce the impact of climate-related disasters? (Ref.: V5/7)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]
Further measures taken related to B.7 and comments:	

Reporting note:

1. Protective services cover services as specified in MCPFE indicators 5.1 "Protective forests – soil, water and other ecosystem functions" and 5.2 "Protective forests – infrastructure and managed natural resources"

B.8 Economic viability	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: Decree of the Government No 227/2001 on modernization of the Forest Sector. Decree of the Ministry of Environment concerning "Guidelines for Forest Programming" Regional Laws and decrees. Date of issuance: 18/05/2001; 16/06/2005 Formal status: In force
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancement of the productive role of the forest resources in the frame of SFM; • Encourage diversification of forest products and services • Enhancement of forest infrastructures (roads, etc.), in order to facilitate the exploitation of forest products and other services • Encourage forest certification as a tool to increase the value of forest products • Promote the use of wood as a renewable energy source especially in mountainous areas. • Support the diffusion of new techniques for wood processing and new market channels.
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Regions are responsible for the enforcement of the objectives listed above Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forest Policies.
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Regional Forest Programmes
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.8:	
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) promote innovation, entrepreneurship and to encourage investment in the context of SFM? (Ref.: V2/7,11)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]
b) include economic viability and livelihood issues in rural development policy? (Ref.: VD/7, V2/16)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]
c) promote the voluntary cooperation of forest owners and addressed economic viability challenges? (Ref.: VD/12, V2/15,17)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]
d) promote the valuation of full range of forest goods & services, incorporate results into accounting systems (Ref.: V2/10, L1/9, 10)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]
Further measures taken related to B.8 and comments:	

B.9 Employment (incl. safety and health)	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: Decree of the Government No 227/2001 on "Modernization of the Forest Sector"; Decree of the Ministry of Environment concerning guidelines for Forest Programming. National Collective Agreements of forest, wood and paper industry workers Date of issuance: 18/05/2001; 16/06/2005; 2/08/2006; 9/06/2006; 25/01/2006 Formal status: In force
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Improving the working conditions and the employment rate in the forest sector, also by promoting the safeguard and the sustainable management of the territory.
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Regions. Ministry of Work and Social Security. Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forest Policies.
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Regional forest programmes.
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.9:	
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) enhance workforce safety and improve work environment? (Ref.: V2/14, L1/8)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] In March 2007, the Ministry of work and social security and the National Forestry Corps, have signed a formal agreement to fight irregular work in forestry, strengthening the system of controls and inspections in the field.
Further measures taken related to B.9 and comments:	

B.10 Public awareness	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: Legislative Decree 18th May 2001, n.227 on modernization of Forest Sector Date of issuance: 18/05/2001 Formal status: National forest law
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] article 12.5 (Research, training and information): Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environment and Regions must cooperate in promoting activities of information and education about meaning and importance of forests and on its externalities, also using the network for the environmental education established by the MATTM
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Ministry of Agriculture Food and Forest Policies (MiPAF) – National Forest Corps(CFS) Ministry of Environment and and Sea (MATTM) Regions
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] In relation to the forest law above the National Forest Corps is continuously stimulating public awareness on the importance of forests by organising public workshops, exhibitions, events, campaigns (e.g. the TV yearly summer campaign against forest fires), etc. For instance on 16 th January 2007 CFS supported a workshop on the EU Forestry Action Plan organised in Rome by the Italian Academy of Forests Sciences and addressed to University forest graduated. Several thematic gadgets (posters, maps, cards, calendars, shirts, etc) are constantly produced and distributed to the public during the biggest events.
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation to B.10:	
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) develop dialogue with the public, incl. through awareness raising programmes? (Ref.: L1/1)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] In addition to the measures described above the Italian Forest Service uses some permanent tools to give information to the general public: - CFS website www.corpoforestale.it ; - CFS magazine "Il Forestale"; - CFS specialised magazine "Silva".
Further measures taken related to B.10 and comments:	
Several campaigns, events and activities are carried out at local level by the Regions, although due to their different organisations, nature and aims it is not possible to summarize them (e.g. on 9 February Regione Lombardia organised in Cremona a big green fair known as "Vegetalia", and during that event organised round tables forest meetings and presented the first version of the National white book on poplars silviculture.	

B.11 Research, training and education	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: As for forest topics, the Legislative Decree 18th May 2001, n.227 - National forest law on modernization of Forest Sector. Date of issuance: 18 th May 2001 Formal status: National forest law
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] - Article 12.1 The Ministry of Agriculture promotes and supports the development of forest research also involving the forest scientific institutions; - Article 12.2 The Regions take care of the professional training of their staff.
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] - Ministry of University, Scientific and Technologic Research (MURST); - Ministry of Agriculture Food and Foret Policies (MiPAF) – National Forest Corps (CFS); - Regions; - Ministry of Environment Land and Sea (MATTM); - National Council of Research (CNR).
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Main bodies dealing with projects on forest research: - the National Council of Research (CNR) http://www.cnr.it/sitocnr/home.html - the Italian Academy of Forest Sciences (AISF) http://www.aisf.it also by the magazine "L'Italia Forestale e Montana"; - the Italian Society of Silviculture and Forest Ecology (SISEF) - http://www.sisef.it/sisef/ , also by an on-line forest magazine "Forest@" http://www.sisef.it/forest@/ . Main bodies carrying out specialised training: - several Universities (more than 10) offering different degrees in forestry; - the central school of the Italian Forest Service for the specialized training of staff, located in Cittaducale (Rieti).
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.11:	
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) strengthen research, increase interdisciplinary and multi-disciplinary research? (Ref.: VD/17, V3/ 11, V4/17, V5/ 6,7)	Please describe measures, including in forest biodiversity and carbon-related issues, and socio-cultural aspects, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] In the framework of the forest law above, interdisciplinary coordination at policy level is currently carried on between the most important bodies, i.e. MiPAF/CFS, MATTM and Regions on certain topics. For instance, a specific policy coordination between MATTM and CFS on forest biodiversity has been launched in relation to the EU network GreenForce and in the framework of the CBD expanded work programme on forests.

<p>b) enhance the quality of education, training and extension and other forms of knowledge dissemination? (Ref.: V2/12,13, V3/6, L1/4,6)</p>	<p>Please describe measures , including on socio-cultural aspects as well as on promoting new opportunities and trechniques, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]</p> <p>MURST is also coordinating Forest Faculties; the Forest School of Cittaducale is the most active body of National Forest Corps wich provides specialised training to the new forest guards and also to other staff such as regional personnel. The quality of the education provided by this school is continuously enhanced according to new needs and emerging topics (e.g. environmental police, forest fires prevention and detection, forest inventories, Kyoto Protocol enforcement, etc)</p>
<p>Further measures taken related to B.11 and comments:</p>	
<p>Regions carry on courses and activities at local level. Some of them have their own training centers, often in cooperation with the local forest Universities and co-financed in the framework of the Rural Development Regulation.</p>	

B.12 Cultural and spiritual values	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: Decree of the Ministry of Environment concerning guidelines for forest programming; Decree of the Government n. 42 "Code of cultural goods and landscape" revising previous legislation; Regional Laws and decrees. Date of issuance: 16/06/2005; 22/01/2004 Formal status: In force
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] As forests have always been part of human history and due to their high cultural value, all the competent administrations are committed to preserve forest resources adopting appropriate policies and actions.
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Ministry of Cultural Goods and Cultural activities; Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forest Policies; Ministry for the Environment Land and the Sea; Regions.
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Regional Forest Programmes. National and regional Lists of "Natural monuments" and "Monumental trees".
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.12:	
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) reflect the socio-cultural dimensions in policies? (Ref.: VD/11, V3/5,6,8)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]
b) enhance the landscape attractiveness and their protection, including of traditional knowledge and practices? (V3/9)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]
c) conserve and manage significant historical and cultural objects? (V3/10)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]
Further measures taken related to B.12 and comments:	
In 2006 the Italian Academy of Forest Sciences organized in Florence the International Conference: "Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Forest Management – the role of traditional knowledge"	

Part C: General reporting on Lisbon, Helsinki and Strasbourg Resolutions

a) Lisbon Resolutions L1-L2

Please report on only measures which were not described in the previous parts of this enquiry. For measures that address implementation of Lisbon Resolutions but were described in the previous parts, please refer to the related sections

Lisbon Resolution L1: People, Forests and Forestry - Enhancement of Socio-Economic Aspects of Sustainable Forest Management	
Further measures taken to implement Lisbon Resolution L1	Please describe measures not described in previous chapters, if any [max. 100 words]
Lisbon Resolution L1 commitment implementation: aspects not covered in Parts A and B	
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) encourage studies on gender aspects of forest policy & practices? (Ref.: L1/5)	Please describe measures, if any [max. 100 words]
b) evaluate the potential impacts of forest certification systems? (Ref.: L1/11)	Please describe measures, if any [max. 100 words]

Lisbon Resolution L2: Pan-European Criteria, Indicators and Operational Level Guidelines for Sustainable Forest Management	
Further measures taken to implement Lisbon Resolution L2	Please describe measures not described in previous chapters: [max. 100 words]
Lisbon Resolution L2 commitment implementation: aspects not covered in Parts A and B	
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) promote national adaptation and use of the PEOLGs ² ? (Ref.: L2/7, 8)	Please describe measures, if any [max. 100 words]

² PEOLG = Pan-European Operational Level Guidelines

b) Helsinki Resolutions H1-H4

Please report on only measures which were not described in the previous parts of this enquiry. For measures that address implementation of Lisbon Resolutions but were described in the previous parts, please refer to the related sections

Helsinki Resolution H1: General Guidelines for the Sustainable Management of Forests in Europe	
Further measures taken to implement Helsinki Resolution H1	Please describe measures not described in previous chapters: [max. 100 words]
Helsinki Resolution H2: General Guidelines for the Conservation of the Biodiversity of European Forests	
Further measures taken to implement Helsinki Resolution H2	Please describe measures not described in previous chapters: [max. 100 words]
Helsinki Resolution H3: Forestry Cooperation with Countries in Transition	
Further measures taken to implement Helsinki Resolution H3	Please describe measures not described in previous chapters: [max. 100 words]
Helsinki Resolution H4: Strategies for a Process of Long-term Adaptation of Forests in Europe to Climate Change	
Further measures taken to implement Helsinki Resolution H4	Please describe measures not described in previous chapters: [max. 100 words]

c) Strasbourg Resolutions S1-S6

Please report on only measures which were not described in the previous parts of this enquiry. For measures that address implementation of Lisbon Resolutions but were described in the previous parts, please refer to the related sections

Strasbourg Resolution S1: European Network of Permanent Sample Plots for Monitoring of Forest Ecosystems	
Further measures taken to implement Strasbourg Resolution S1	Please describe measures, not described in previous chapters, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]
Strasbourg Resolution S2: Conservation of Forest Genetic Resources	
Further measures taken to implement Strasbourg Resolution S2	Please describe measures, not described in previous chapters, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]
Strasbourg Resolution S3: Decentralized European Data Bank on Forest Fires	
Further measures taken to implement Strasbourg Resolution S3	Please describe measures, not described in previous chapters, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]
Strasbourg Resolution S4: Adapting the Management of Mountain Forests to New Environmental Conditions	
Further measures taken to implement Strasbourg Resolution S4	Please describe measures, not described in previous chapters, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]
Strasbourg Resolution S5: Expansion of the EUROSILVA Network of Research on Tree Physiology	
Further measures taken to implement Strasbourg Resolution S5	Please describe measures, not described in previous chapters, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]
Strasbourg Resolution S6: European Network for Research into Forest Ecosystems	
Further measures taken to implement Strasbourg Resolution S6	Please describe measures, not described in previous chapters, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]

Part D: MCPFE quantitative indicator 6.4 “Expenditure for Services”

Forest owners, public and private, foundations, and public administrations incur additional expenditures for producing a range of services that are demanded by the public free of cost. These are, for instance, expenditures to maintain protective forests against natural hazards, for preventing soil erosion or for protecting water quality as well as social services. These services are an important contribution to the quality of life and safety of humankind. It is essential to ensure that these services are maintained and that adequate public funding is provided to cover the necessary related expenditures. The total national expenditures for services from the forests should provide quantitative information on the efforts of countries to provide such forest services.

Currently, information on expenditure for services is weak and data collection mechanisms have not yet been established. The MCPFE background documents on the pan-European criteria and indicators specifies that this indicator needs to be further elaborated before its full implementation. The current assessment has pilot character and intends to provide a first and preliminary overview on national expenditures for services. The results of the enquiry will be utilized to further develop this indicator. In line with the pilot character of the assessment, clear information on expenditures was not included in the enquiry on quantitative indicators, which was focusing on indicators, for which operational assessment schemes have already been implemented at the national level.

As in most countries no mechanisms have been established for collecting information on expenditures for services realised by a wide scope of funding sources, the current assessment is limited to ***expenditures from official administrative budgets.***

Reporting Form A1: Expenditures for services

MCPFE indicator 6.4 Total expenditures for long-term sustainable services from forests

Rational: Information is requested for expenditures for services from official administrative budgets

Table 8: Non-wood Goods:

Code	Expenditures for Services	Ref. year	Value (1000 [national currency])	Data Quality Value (1000 [national currency])	
				From	To
A1.1	Recreational services	2005	27815	27000	40000
		2000	2352	2000	4000
		1990	n.a.		
A1.2	Environmental services	2005	58186	58000	80000
		2000	51110	51000	65000
		1990	n.a.		
A1.3	Protective services	2005	155495	155000	180000
		2000	240210	240000	280000
		1990	n.a.		
A1.4	Other services	2005	18017	18000	30000
		2000	26800	26000	40000
		1990	n.a.		

Data sources:

For each service reported: For recreational, environmental and other services, data refers to the public expense in pursuance of Regional Programmes for Rural Development co-financed by EU FEOGA fund.

For protective services, data refer to the mentioned Rural Development Programmes and the estimated expense for forest fire fighting and prevention.

Country specifications:

For each service reported, as necessary: All data in euro

Country comments:

1. Recreational services comprise: environmental education initiatives and investments to enhance the social value of forest resources. (If this kind of activities are not deemed relevant for this class, please sum the relative figures in the "other services " and report n.a. for all the three reference years.)
2. Environmental services comprise: initiatives to ameliorate the ecological conditions of protected areas, forest landscape, re-naturalization of degraded sites through forest tree planting, local initiatives to promote sustainable management of forest resources.
3. Protective services comprise: control of hydro-geological instability and control of erosion in forest areas, fighting and prevention of forest fires, afforestation and reforestation projects.
4. Other service comprise: Initiatives to improve the economic value of forest resources and related products, constitution of forest owners associations.

Reporting notes:

1. The total expenditures for services from the forests should confine to expenditures from official administrative budgets and present quantitative information on the efforts of countries to provide such forest services.
2. Reference area for reporting is "Total FOWL", not further divided into sub-classes "Forest" and "Other wooded land". If data is available for sub-class "Forest" only, please report on this sub-class and provide note under "Country comments".
3. If data is available only for certain forest areas or ownership classes (e.g. state forests), but not for others, data should be reported with explicit indication of area (ha) and/or reference to the ownership class under "Country comments".
4. The class "Recreational Services" includes, for instance, expenditures such as hunting licences, fishing licences, managed outdoor recreation areas or trails for mountain biking, horse riding, skiing and other recreational activities
5. The class "Environmental Services" includes, for instance, expenditures for maintaining and enhancing of the natural habitat and biological diversity and contracts for conservation.
6. The class "Protective Services" includes, for instance, expenditures to maintain protective forests against natural hazards, for preventing soil erosion or for protecting water quality.
7. Please report in the country specifications the currency for which values have been provided.
8. Data Quality: please specify the likely range of values specified in column 4 "value".

Definitions of "forest" and "other wooded land":

Forest	<p>Land with tree crown cover (or equivalent stocking level) of more than 10 percent and area of more than 0.5 ha. The trees should be able to reach a minimum height of 5 m at maturity <i>in situ</i>. May consist <u>either</u> of closed forest formations where trees of various storeys and undergrowth cover a high proportion of the ground; <u>or</u> of open forest formations with a continuous vegetation cover in which tree crown cover exceeds 10 percent. Young natural stands and all plantations established for forestry purposes, which have yet to reach a crown density of 10 percent or tree height of 5m, are included under forest, as are areas normally forming part of the forest area, which are temporarily unstocked as a result of human intervention or natural causes but which are expected to revert to forest.</p> <p><u>Includes:</u> Forest nurseries and seed orchards that constitute an integral part of the forest; forest roads, cleared tracts, firebreaks and other small open areas within the forest; forest in national parks, nature reserves and other protected areas such as those of special environmental, scientific, historical, cultural or spiritual interest; windbreaks and shelterbelts of trees with an area of more than 0.5 ha and a width of more than 20 m. Rubberwood plantations and cork oak stands are included.</p> <p><u>Excludes:</u> Land predominantly used for agricultural practices.</p>
Other wooded land	<p>Land either with a tree crown cover (or equivalent stocking level) of 5-10 percent of trees able to reach a height of 5 m at maturity <i>in situ</i>; or a crown cover (or equivalent stocking level) of more than 10 percent of trees not able to reach a height of 5 m at maturity <i>in situ</i> (e.g. dwarf or stunted trees) and shrub or bush cover.</p> <p><u>Excludes:</u> Areas having the tree, shrub or bush cover specified above but of less than 0.5 ha and width of 20 m, which are classed under "other land"; Land predominantly used for agricultural practices.</p>

ANNEX

(see file Enquiry_MCPFE_qualitative_Annexes.doc)

Annex 1: MCPFE commitments Vienna 2003

Annex 2: MCPFE qualitative indicators

Annex 3: Reference matrix of coverage of commitments through the structure provided by the MCPFE qualitative indicators

For MCPFE Resolutions and other documents please also refer to:

<http://www.mcpfe.org/resolutions/>