



Enquiry on the Implementation of MCPFE commitments 2007

and

Reporting on the MCPFE Qualitative Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management

COUNTRY:

Lithuania

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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] Lithuanian Forestry Policy and its implementation Strategy (hereafter - NFP) has been formulated on the basis of thorough analysis of the forestry sector in a form of SWOT and in the view of main principles and directions set prior the formulation process. The main objective of the NFP is to define the major instruments for the implementation of the forestry policy for the period until the year of 2015. The Plan of Actions and Measures for period 2003-2006 has been approved and implemented by now.			
Reference document: Policy of the Lithuanian Forestry and its Implementation Strategy approved by the Minister of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania Order of September 17, 2002, No. 484				
Status	<input type="checkbox"/> programme in development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> programme in implementation	<input type="checkbox"/> programme in review	<input type="checkbox"/> continuous process or other
Further information: The Plan of Actions and Measures for Policy of the Lithuanian Forestry and its Implementation Strategy 2007-2010 has been approved by the Minister of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania Order of December 29, 2006, No. D1-627. The review of program implementation and through evaluation report is foreseen to be conducted in 2010.				
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] It has to be noted that Lithuanian NFP development process took place before MCPFE Approach to National Forest Programmes in Europe has been adopted and mainly corresponded to the principles agreed at IPF, which are consistent to those of MCPFE. Judging from the outputs of NFP process after Action Plan for NFP 2003-2006 has been completed and new one for 2007-2010 adopted, participatory as well as inter-sectoral approach could be regarded as most significant inputs, as have been newly introduced. These principles have been further developed and integrated into decision making processes. <i>Measure can be qualified as large, concluded, fully fulfilling V1/ 7.</i>			
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] Within NFP many forestry objectives such as afforestation, wood fuel use promotion, and biodiversity conservation have tight linkages with other sectors. Overall benefits to society and economic contribution of forests are part of the national economy and sustainable development. Therefore for achieving coherent policy solutions, cooperation and policy coordination with other institutions responsible for formulation and implementation policies on rural development, energy, environment protection, economy, etc. have been developed in a form of joint meetings, workshops, inter-institutional cooperation. <i>Measure can be qualified medium, concluded, partly fulfilling VD/13,14; V1/ 5, 8.</i>			

¹ nfp = national forest programme

<p>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)</p>	<p>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]</p> <p>Inter-sectoral policy coordination and collaboration is mainly carried out through implementation of common cross-sectoral measures which are included into Government Action Programme, Lithuanian Forestry and Forestry-Based Industry Development Programme, National Biodiversity Protection Strategy, Rural Development Plan and other cross-sectoral programmes. <i>Measure can be qualified as concluded, partially fulfilling VD/ 16,19; V1/ 9,10,11.</i></p>
<p>d) Does the nfp address - socio-cultural, - biodiversity, - carbon & climate issues (Ref.: V3/5; V5/ 5; V6/ 6)</p>	<p>Please specify for each, if yes, specify main explicit targets and measures taken. [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Within NFP the role of forests in preserving the stability of the landscape and environment quality, conserving biodiversity, absorbing and storing the carbon dioxide, meeting of the general forest-related social needs of the society (recreation, cultural), is addressed by setting the objectives to ensure and strengthen this role. Concrete actions for achieving it have been included into Action Plan on Lithuanian Forestry Policy and Its Implementation Strategy 2003-2006 as well Action Plan 2007-2010 (29 December 2006, D1-627). <i>Measure can be qualified as large, concluded, fully fulfilling V3/5; V5/ 5; V6/ 6.</i></p>
<p>e) promote participation of stakeholders in forest policy & program development? (Ref.:L1/2)</p>	<p>Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Participation of the stakeholders in the solution of the major forestry issues is one of the objectives of National Forestry Policy. The mechanism of interests coordination <i>has been elaborated during the NFP formulation process and</i> has been brought into the process of development of regulatory documents.</p> <p>The provisions and concepts of regulatory acts being drafted are thoroughly discussed with all interested parties (NGO's, private organisations, research, etc.).</p> <p>There has been also made changes to legislation due to which participation of society through public hearings has become integral part of forest management plans preparation process. <i>Measure can be qualified as large/medium-size, concluded, fully fulfilling L1/2.</i></p>
<p>Further measures taken related to A.1 and comments:</p>	

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>Ministry of Environment is responsible for formulation of forestry policy. Forestry policy is implemented by subordinated to the Ministry institutions listed in the section below. The Directorate organises and coordinates the activities of 42 State Forest Enterprises, which carry out commercial activities in state forests. Since 2003 with a view to ensure uniform system of control over use of nature resources, Forest Control Divisions have been incorporated into Regional Environmental Protection Departments, which carry out overall supervision of environment protection and use of natural resources.</p>		
Main <i>public</i> organizations forest policy:	Name (full formal name)	Forest-related staff (2005, FTE)	Administrative budget (mil€,2005)
- forest administration	Department of Forests	18	0,264
- public forest agencies (national level)	State Forest Survey Service	39	0,548
	Service of Sanitary Forest Protection	8	0,117
	Forest Genetic Resources, Seed and Plant Service	18	0,241
	Directorate General of State Forests	35	0,569
- research, education and training institutions	Lithuanian University of Agriculture	50	0,251
	Lithuanian Forest Research Institute	77	0,174
	Kaunas College of Forestry and Environmental Engineering	56	-
- other (please specify)	Regional Environmental Protection Departments (Forests Control Divisions) (8) carrying out forest law enforcement supervision function	116	1,060
Main <i>private</i> organizations relevant for forest policy: (interest groups and associations)	Lithuanian Forest Owners Association		
	Private Forest Owners Association		
	Association "Lietuvos mediena" uniting producers and traders of wood products		
	Association of Wood Export and Wood Processing Companies of West Lithuania		
other organizations relevant for forest policy (e.g. private-public bodies)	State Enterprise "Institute of Forest Management Planning"		
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]</p> <p>In 31 March 2003 Advisory Council on Forestry has been established, which involves representatives of all main forestry related organizations,</p>		

	including public, private, research, educational, NGO's etc. The Council activities are organized by the Forests Department, which convenes Council meetings at least 4 times a year to discuss main forestry issues.
a) support the establishment of associations of private forest owners and forest entrepreneurs? (Ref.: VD/12; V2/18, 19)	<p>Please specify whether or not, if yes, in what form, and results so far. [max. 100 words]</p> <p>The Law on Forests Article 5 establishes state support for private forestry development, private forest owners, self-governing organizations which provide consulting and economic activities for private forest owners. During period 2003-2006 for establishment of forest owners association total amount of 298 thousand EUR have been allocated with approx. 75 thousand EUR in average annually. Support to forest associations has been being increasing during last years and aimed rather on providing training and consultation to private forest owners through associations than to establishing associations as organizational structures of forest owners associations have been considerably well developed.</p> <p><i>Measure can be qualified as large, concluded, fully fulfilling VD/12; V2/18, 19</i></p>
b) establish or improve intersectoral co-ordination or communication mechanisms? (Ref.: VD/15, 18; V1/ 6)	<p>Please specify whether or not, and if yes, which major measures were taken [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Inter-sectoral policy coordination and collaboration has been mainly carried out through implementation of common cross-sectoral measures which are included into Government Action Programme and other cross-sectoral programmes, such as National Strategy on Energy (government Decision on 18 January 2007 No. X-1046), Strategy on Sustainable Development (Government Decision of 11 September 2003, No. 1160), Afforestation Programme adopted by the Order of Minister of Environment as well of Minister of Agriculture (2 December 2002, No. 616/471).</p> <p><i>Measure can be qualified as medium, concluded, partly fulfilling VD/15, 18; V1/ 6</i></p>
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>The Law on Forests is a main legal act, which lays down the requirements for reforestation, protection and use of forests of all ownership forms. Lithuanian Forestry Policy and its Implementation Strategy define main forestry policy principles, directions and objectives up 2015. The Action plan for definite period specifies actions and measures needed to implement those objectives.</p> <p>The mentioned above legal documents are complemented by a range of legal acts of regulatory nature which set the specific requirements ensuring the performance of economic, social and ecological forest functions.</p> <p>The whole set of legislation regulating land restitution process is very closely linked to forestry policy.</p> <p>During period 2003-2007 direction of legislation simplification has been taken with a view to move towards legislation providing legal guidance rather than setting very detailed requirements.</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%; vertical-align: top;">Forest law, act or code</td> <td> <p>Name: Law on Forests Date of adoption: November 22, 1994, No.I-671 The new edition of 10 April 2001 No. IX-240 valid since 1 July 2001</p> <p>One of the most important changes to the Forest Law since 2003 was introduced in December 2003 by adopting amendment allowing for juridical (legal) persons to obtain property rights to private forests. By the same amendment institutional structure of forest law enforcement (forest law supervision) was rearranged. In 2005 by the new amendment, in a view of strengthening forest law enforcement, the duties of state forest officers were more explicitly defined and rights secured.</p> </td> </tr> </table>	Forest law, act or code	<p>Name: Law on Forests Date of adoption: November 22, 1994, No.I-671 The new edition of 10 April 2001 No. IX-240 valid since 1 July 2001</p> <p>One of the most important changes to the Forest Law since 2003 was introduced in December 2003 by adopting amendment allowing for juridical (legal) persons to obtain property rights to private forests. By the same amendment institutional structure of forest law enforcement (forest law supervision) was rearranged. In 2005 by the new amendment, in a view of strengthening forest law enforcement, the duties of state forest officers were more explicitly defined and rights secured.</p>
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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>Main forestry measures which are carried out in order to comply with international commitments encompass those implementing objectives of biodiversity conservation, environment protection, mitigation of climate change.</p> <p>With a view to contribute to the efforts to comply with commitments to the UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol National Forestry Policy has set an objective to increase forest cover through afforestation of non - forest land as well increase utilization of wood for energy production. Biodiversity conservation measures encompass measures of establishment protected areas within forests namely Natura 2000 network as well as introduce into conventional forestry silviculture operations enhancing biodiversity.</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)	<p>Please specify whether or not, and if yes, which issue was addressed and how. [max. 100 words]</p> <p>The protection of ownership rights in Lithuania is explicitly established by the main legal act – the Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania, Article 23 according to which property shall be inviolable and the rights of ownership shall be protected by laws. According to the Article 4 of the Law on Forests of the Republic of Lithuania (Forest Law) forests can belong by the right of ownership to the State or private and legal persons as well as</p>		

	<p>organizations established in foreign countries and having no legal person status but possessing legal capacity in accordance to laws of those countries.</p>
<p>b) address forest law enforcement</p> <p>(Ref.: VD/20; V4/6, 7)</p>	<p>Please specify whether or not, and if yes, which issue was addressed and how . [max. 100 words]</p> <p>In order to ensure forest law enforcement, functions of Regional Environment Protection Departments (REPD), which carry out supervision and control over forest management and use, have been strengthened through changes to Regulations on REPD (24 December 2003, No. 717). One of the main issues addressed has been the insurance of forest regeneration after fellings, which has been considered as potentially problematic in private forests. Provisions aiming to ensure that the requirements on forest regeneration would be fully followed has been introduced by amendments to Regulations on Forest Regeneration and Afforestation (18 December 2003, No. 659). It should be noted that illegal logging has not been a matter of greater concern due to timely actions taken up to 2003.</p> <p><i>Measures can be qualified as medium, concluded, fully fulfilling VD/20; V4/6, 7</i></p>
<p>c) support enabling environments for SFM and investment</p> <p>(Ref.: V2/7)</p>	<p>Please specify whether or not, and if yes, which issue was addressed and how. [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Overall forestry policy implemented through regulatory acts is oriented towards creating enabling conditions for sound economic forestry activities, especially in private forests.</p> <p>EU support has been important factor encouraging private forest owners to invest. Under EU Single Programming Document approx. 50 % of investment for improvement and rationalization of forest cutting, other forest logging operations has been compensated as well as 75 % of investments for increasing forest economical, ecological and social value has been provided.</p> <p>Under the Rural Development Plan 2004-2006 afforestation of agricultural land has been compensated by 100 % and for afforestation of abandoned private land which was not included into EU support scheme, has been fully compensated by the state.</p> <p><i>Measures can be qualified as large, concluded, fully fulfilling V2/7</i></p>
<p>d) support international processes, commitments and their implementation in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNFF, CPF, IPF/IFF proposals for action, - CBD, - UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol <p>(Ref.: VD/23, 24; V4/4, 14, V5/6, 10)</p>	<p>Please specify whether or not, and if yes, which, separately for the different commitments [max. 100 words]</p> <p>One of the main principles of NFP has been its compliance with international commitments. Process of NFP preparation itself has corresponded to the IPF and IFF outputs regarding concept of NFP.</p> <p>Apart from other measures (Part B.6.), the most recent publication Recommendations on Conservation of Biodiversity in Forests has been prepared in a view of implementation commitments to CBD, Bern Convention.</p> <p>Afforestation Programmes, promotion of wood fuel use (Part B.2) as well as forest management aimed at increased selective cuttings instead of clear-cuts have been important measures towards fulfillment of commitments to Kyoto Protocol and UNFCCC.</p> <p><i>Measures can be qualified as large, concluded, fully fulfilling VD/23, 24; V4/4, 14, V5/6, 10</i></p>
<p>Further measures taken related to A.3 and comments:</p>	
<p>(incl. e.g. on UNCCD)</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	<p>Please describe, incl. significant changes related to economic policy since 2003 [max. 100 words]</p> <p>According to the principles set out in the NFP, by a rational, even and continuous use of the forest resources, increasing economic efficiency and forest productivity, forestry is to be economically viable, self financing branch of the economy. Only few non-profit oriented activities have been financed from state budget.</p> <p>EU support to forestry has had significant importance for development of forestry, especially private.</p> <p>It should be noted that in Lithuania the land tax is not imposed on forest land neither on private nor on state owned. This exception is legitimated in the Law on Land Tax.</p>						
Main characteristics of financial instruments	<p>Please describe characteristics of main financial instruments, incl. significant changes in financial instruments since 2003 [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Main financial instrument for forestry is state budget Special Forestry Financing Programme to which obligatory 5 per cent deductions are to be transferred from State Forest Enterprises revenues gained for roundwood and stumpage sales. This Programme covers financing of forest inventory, preparation of state forest management plans, organizing and maintenance of state fire-emergency system, liquidation of natural calamity damages or pest source liquidation, consultation and training of private forest owners, etc.</p> <p>State Forest Enterprises are self - financing organisations and cover themselves all activities including non-profit oriented activities (fire prevention, sanitary protection, environment protection), in case of fire prevention and partly sanitary protection - not only in state, but also in private forests.</p> <p>EU financial support for afforestation and for other forestry activities, amounting to 33,3 mill. EUR (Including Lithuanian public funds), has been main instrument enhancing investments in SFM.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%; vertical-align: top;">Main budget line / programme</td> <td>Name: the Special Single Forestry Needs Financing Programme Target/objective: Forest-related budget: 4-5 mil € (<u>annually</u>) for period 2003-2006</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;">Main budget line / programme</td> <td>Name: Target/objective: Forest-related budget: mil € for period</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;">Main budget line / programme</td> <td>Name: Target/objective: Forest-related budget: mil € for period</td> </tr> </table>	Main budget line / programme	Name: the Special Single Forestry Needs Financing Programme Target/objective: Forest-related budget: 4-5 mil € (<u>annually</u>) for period 2003-2006	Main budget line / programme	Name: Target/objective: Forest-related budget: mil € for period	Main budget line / programme	Name: Target/objective: Forest-related budget: mil € for period
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Main reference document(s): (please list documents with reference numbers)							
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)	<p>Please specify whether or not. If yes, describe measures, what they aim to address, dimension, and effects so far. [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Overall forestry policy implemented through regulatory acts is oriented towards creating enabling conditions for sound economic forestry activities,</p>						

	<p>especially in private forests. EU support has been important factor encouraging private forest owners to invest. Under EU Single Programming Document approx. 50 % of investment for improvement and rationalization of forest cutting, other forest logging operations has been compensated as well as 75 % of investments for increasing forest economical, ecological and social value has been provided.</p> <p><i>Measures can be qualified as large, concluded, fully fulfilling V2/7, 17</i></p>
<p>Further measures taken related to A.4 and comments:</p>	
<p>Under Lithuanian RDP 2007-2013 has been foreseen support to private forest owners for investments in forest harvesting, logging and wood fuel producing technologies (machinery, equipment).</p>	

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	<p>Please describe main characteristics and programmes, incl. significant changes in informational means since 2003. [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Main objectives and principles of National Forest Assessment are defined in the Law on Forests, Article 14. Main task of forest inventory and forest data register is to evaluate the forest resources, their quality, and disseminate information about the natural and economic condition of forests to the society.</p> <p>National Forest Inventory (NFI), which is supplemented with standwise inventory in providing data on forests, is the main informational tool for strategic planning of the forest sector on state level. Information enabling assessment and control of status as well as conditions of forests in the country is obtained through continuous forest condition (defoliation, discoloration, mortality, etc.) monitoring.</p> <p>There has been improved availability of information on forests to the society by its easy access through internet website managed by State Forest Survey Service.</p>
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)	<p>Please specify whether or not. If yes, please describe measures. [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Lithuania has not developed its own national criteria, the MCPFE Pan-European Indicators for SFM have been directly applied with slight modifications for evaluating and reporting on status of SFM in the country by annually published Statistical Yearbook of Forestry and annual Forest Assessment Report, prepared by State Forest Survey Service. <i>Measures can be qualified as large concluded, fully fulfilling VD/25, L2/1</i></p>
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)	<p>Please specify whether or not. If yes, describe measures and what they aim to address. [max. 100 words]</p> <p>One of the objectives of National Forest Inventory (NFI) defined in Regulations on NFI (Order of Minister of Environment No. D1-570 of 8 November 2004) is assessment of the dynamics of forest ecosystems conditions, their health, damages and biodiversity.</p> <p>In 2006 a soil condition survey was carried out together with the assessment of certain biodiversity indicators, under the BioSoil demonstration project carried out Europe-wide. Collected data on forest litter and surface layer will be valuable input in assessment of carbon stock evaluation. As methodologies on carbon stock assessment are still to be further developed in order to improve better reporting there have been research study carried out on Study on Methods of The Estimation of Carbon Stock in Forest Litter and Surface Layer of Different Mineral and Organic Soils in Scotch Pine Stands Growing in Different Forest Sites. <i>Measures can be qualified as medium, in implementation stage, partly fulfilling V4/9, 13; V5/7,9,10; L2/2, 4, 6</i></p>
c) use C&I in assessment, evaluation and reporting? (Ref.: VD/25, L2/3, 4)	<p>Please specify whether or not. If yes, describe measures and what they aim to address. [max. 100 words]</p> <p>The quantitative indicators have been directly and indirectly used for assessment and evaluation of status and conditions of forests, and reporting in the Lithuanian Statistical Yearbook of Forestry and Forest</p>

	Assessment Report, as well as for international reporting to the UN-ECE/FAO Forest Resources Assessment (FRA). <i>Measures can be qualified as small, in implementation stage, partly fulfilling VD/25, L2/3, 4.</i>
Further measures taken related to A.5 and comments:	

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):	<p>Name: Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania Date of issuance: 25 October 1992 Formal status: Adopted by citizens of the Republic of Lithuania in the Referendum</p> <p>Name: Law on Forests Date of adoption: November 22, 1994, No.I-671, the new edition of 10 April 2001 No. IX-240 valid since 1 July 2001 and amendments Formal status: adopted by Parliament</p> <p>Name: Law on Protected Territories Date of issuance: 3 November 1993, No. I-301 and amendments New edition of 4 December 2001 No. IX-628 valid since 28 December 2001 Formal status: adopted by Parliament</p> <p>Name: Law on Territorial Planning Date of issuance: 12 December 1995 No. I-1120 and amendments Formal status: adopted by Parliament</p> <p>Name: Law on Land Date of issuance: 26 April 1994 (new edition since 21 February 2004) and amendments Formal status: adopted by Parliament</p> <p>Name: Law on Land Reform Date of issuance: 25 July 1991 No. I-1607; new edition since 23 July 1997 No. VIII-370 and amendments Formal status: adopted by Parliament</p> <p>Name: Law on Restoration of Ownership to the Existing Real Property Rights of the Citizens of the Republic of Lithuania Date of issuance: 1 December 2001 and amendments Formal status: adopted by Parliament</p>
Main objective	<p>Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words]</p> <p>One of the most important objectives of National Forestry Policy (NFP) is to ensure responsibility of forest owners, forest governors and users to maintain forest resources and manage forests in a sustainable way. The policy on forest land use has not changed since 2003. Main policy objectives is increasing of forest cover through implementation of Afforestation Programme and ensuring forest land use according its purpose.</p>
Most relevant institutions	<p>Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Ministry of Environment formulates policy on territorial planning and partially on land use (including forest use). State Forest Survey Service carries out inventory and provides inventory and register data as well as manages and maintains the cadastre of forests.</p> <p>Ministry of Agriculture formulates policy on land use and land reform process.</p> <p>State Service of Protected Areas implements policy on protected areas, and biodiversity conservation.</p>

Main instruments used	<p>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]</p> <p>Land use is determined by the documents of territorial planning at different levels (comprehensive plans, special plans, detailed plans), which are prepared in accordance to the Law on Territorial planning. Territorial planning documents regulating land use, forest conversion to other land uses, afforestation activities also fall into the same category of documents. Forest Management Scheme being one of the documents of this kind is main instrument to achieve sustainable forest management in the long-term perspective of at least 20 years. Forest Management Schemes prepared for the regions are special territorial planning documents which are basis for taking decisions related to use, management and protection of forests on national and regional levels. Preparation of Forest Management Schemes is financed by state budget.</p> <p>Regional Forest Distribution and Land-use Planning Schemes, which are being finalized at the moment, is another important planning tool foreseen in the Afforestation Programme and Law on Territorial Planning, which ensures that afforestation activities would be carried out taking into consideration environmental, social, and economical aspects. The mentioned above Afforestation Programme sets the target to increase forest cover through afforestation of non - forest land by 3 % by 2020.</p>
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.1: Were measures taken in 2003-2007?	
Please describe	<p>There has been adopted amendment to the Government Decision on Forest Land Conversion to Other Uses, which limited already previously rather restricted possibilities of forest land conversion to other uses to exceptional cases there forest land conversion is necessary for development of infrastructure or it has been included into Single Territorial Planning Plans of Municipalities.</p>
Further measures taken related to B.1 and comments:	

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):	<p>Name: Afforestation Programme Date of issuance: 2 December 2002, No. 616/471 Formal status: Order of the Minister of Environment and Minister of Agriculture</p> <p>Name: Lithuanian Forestry Policy and Its Implementation Strategy Date of issuance: 29 December 2006 No. D1-627 Formal status: Order of the Minister of Environment</p> <p>Name: regulations on Final Fellings Date of issuance: of 31 March 1999, No 73 and amendments Formal status: order of Minister of Environment</p>
Main objective	<p>Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words]</p> <p>In order to increase use of wood as renewable energy resource, National Forestry Policy sets the objective to increase a rational use of small-sized wood and felling residues for energy production. Since 2002 the growth in use of wood energy was significant especially in district heating therefore in order to support this progress there have been legislative and informational instruments developed.</p> <p>With a view to contribute to the efforts to comply with commitments to the UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol National Forestry Policy has set an objective to increase forest cover through afforestation of non - forest land.</p>
Most relevant institutions	<p>Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words]</p> <p>State Forest Survey Service is the main institution which carries out assessment of wood available for energy production. Ministry of Environment is responsible for policy formulation on utilization of forest resources and coordinating implementation of Afforestation Programme. Directorate General of State Forests under MoE is organizing and coordinating activities related to integration of use of forest residues into conventional forestry.</p>
Main instruments used	<p>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]</p> <p>In order to increase utilization of forest residues there have been several measures implemented. First, technological requirements for forest felling have been reviewed and necessary changes introduced. Secondly, Recommendations on compensated fertilization by wood have been prepared and published. Recommendations On Establishment, Managing And Use Of Forest (Energy) Plantations have been adopted.</p> <p>Lithuania by ratifying the Kyoto Protocol to the UNCCC committed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, notably from fossil fuels. Afforestation Programme (2 December 2002, No. 616/471) is important measure for carbon sequestration. In addition to that forest management practices such as one of the most important measures to keep forest land continuously</p>

	<p>covered is increased selective cuttings therefore Rules on Final Fellings sets the priority for non-clear cuttings in protective forests. In state forests non-clear cuttings are especially encouraged seeking that these cuttings in protective forests would comprise not less than 50 % and in commercial forests not less than 20 % from total final fellings.</p> <p>The Afforestation Programme has been being implemented using the funds as follows: EU Structural funds according to RDP 2004-2006 measure "Afforestation of agricultural land", own financial recourses of state forest enterprises and budget allocation.</p>
<p>MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.2: Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:</p>	
<p>a) promote the SFM concept in the Kyoto Protocol context, particularly on afforestation? (Ref.:VD/21, V5/6)</p>	<p>Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Afforestation Programme has been adopted with a view of implementation one of the main objectives of National Forestry Policy to increase forest cover through afforestation of non - forest land by 3 % by 2020, in order to reach the target to that approx. 6-7 thousand of forests should be afforested.</p> <p>Taking into account possible climate change impact on forests, as one of the measures to enhance forest stands stability has been introduced new provision to the Afforestation and Regeneration Regulations giving priority to reforestation and afforestation with mixed broadleaves – coniferous, which are more resistant to storms and pest damages, especially in soils of high humidity.</p> <p><i>Measures can be qualified as large, concluded, fully fulfilling VD/21, V5/6</i></p>
<p>b) promote substitution of non-renewables, particularly bio-energy (see also B.4)? (Ref.: V5/5,6)</p>	<p>Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]</p> <p>In order to promote use of wood from forests there have been reviewed legislation regulating production of wood in order to streamline requirements on forest use extraction and transportation. In order to increase of residues there have been prepared and issued recommendations of compensated fertilization by wood ash;</p> <p>In order to increase use of low-quality wood, procedure of issuing permissions for fellings of grey alder, aspen stands, which are significantly abundant in private forests, have been simplified by leaving only notification requirement.</p> <p>There have been put efforts to promote increased establishment of short-rotation plantations for energy by private forest owners using EU support according to RDP 2004-2006.</p> <p><i>Measures can be qualified as large, concluded, fully fulfilling V5/5,6</i></p>
<p>Further measures taken related to B.2 and comments:</p>	

B.3: Health and vitality	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: National Forest Sanitary Protection Programme Date of issuance: 25 February 2002 No. 74 and amendments Formal status: Order of Minister of Environment
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Principle tasks in regard to maintenance of forests health and vitality has been continuous monitoring of forest condition and application of forest protection means. Objectives of forest protection against damages induced by pests, fungi, protection against forest fires, natural disturbances, damages to forest soil and forest trees and vegetation are defined in the Law on Forests, Article 17. National Forestry Policy sets the objective to improve maintenance and protection of forest health on the national level taking into consideration the abundance of small-sized private forest holdings.
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Ministry of Environment prepares and coordinates implementation of National Forest Protection Programme; Directorate General of State Forests organizes and Stet Forest Enterprises implement the single state fire-emergency and sanitary forest protection system; State Forest Sanitary Service is main institution responsible for assessment and prognosis of damages induced by abiotic and biotic agents; planning supervision and control of use of preventive and disinfecting forest sanitary protection means; State Forest Survey Service carries out forest condition monitoring.
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 accordance to the Law on Forests, responsibility of forest protection against pests and diseases lies on forest managers and owners. With a view to develop forests protection system ensuring good forests condition in forests of all ownership forms there has been adopted National Forests Sanitary Protection Programme, which includes assessment, evaluation, protection measures to be undertaken, as well dissemination of information and education to specialists as well as training for private forest owners. In order to increase competence of state forest specialists Training Programme on Sanitary Forest Protection has been adopted and being implemented. Forest condition (defoliation, mortality, etc.) has been monitored, thus information enabling control of forests conditions in the country is obtained.
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] Results obtained by extensive (Level I) monitoring of forests condition and studying of cause-effect relationships by intensive (Level II) monitoring is important means in analyzing factors, especially climate change, impacting forest health. In regard to carbon stock assessment important information has been obtained by soil survey carried out in 2006 under the

	<p>BioSoil demonstration project. For improved assessment of carbon stock, The Study on Methods of Estimation of Carbon Stock in Forest Litter in Scotch Pine Stands has been carried out in 2006.</p> <p><i>Measures can be qualified as large, in implementation stage, partly fulfilling V5/6</i></p>
<p>b) strengthen adaptability of forests to climate change? (Ref.: V5/7)</p>	<p>Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Taking into account possible climate change impact on forests, as one of the measures to enhance forest stands stability has been introduced new provision to the Afforestation and Regeneration Regulations giving priority to reforestation and afforestation with mixed broadleaves – coniferous, which are more resistant to storms and pest damages, especially in soils of high humidity.</p> <p>Another important aspect of forests adaptation to climate change is research and conservation of forest genetic resources and tree breeding orientated towards better adaptation of forests to climate change. In a view to develop related research Programme on Forest Genetic Resources Conservation and Tree Breeding Development has been adopted (7 March 2003, NO. 110).</p> <p><i>Measures can be qualified as medium, in implementation stage, fully fulfilling V5/7</i></p>
<p>Further measures taken related to B.3 and comments:</p>	
<p>(e.g. further measures to address health and vitality)</p>	

B.4: Production and use of wood	
Main legal or reference document(s):	<p>Name: Law on Forests Date of issue: November 22, 1994, No.I-671, the new edition of 10 April 2001 No. IX-240 valid since 1 July 2001 and amendments Formal status: adopted by Parliament</p> <p>Name: Regulations on Management and Use of Private Forests Date of issuance: 24 July 1997; Formal status: the Decision of Government No. 799 and amendments</p>
Main objective	<p>Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words]</p> <p>In accordance to the Law on Forests, forests of all ownership forms have to be managed upon the principle of sustainable use ensuring a continuous supply of timber and other forest resources and preserving annual or periodical balance between the timber growth and its use volume.</p>
Most relevant institutions	<p>Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words]</p> <p>The Government by its decisions approves the volume of removals from state forests by final and intermediate forest fellings for five years period, and with a view not to exceed this amount, it endorses specified harvesting level each year. Ministry of Environment drafts legislation related to forest use, organizes preparation of forest resource use related programmes and co-ordinates implementation. Directorate General of State Forests is coordinating forest resources use in state forests; State Forest Survey Service carries out forest resources inventory.</p>
Main instruments used	<p>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]</p> <p>The forestry policy ensures the responsibility of forest owners, forest managers and users for sustainable use of resources and their restoration. According to the Law on Forests all forests have to be managed, harvested and reforested according to the forest management plan. Forest management plans are to be prepared for forest estates of all ownership forms. Final felling, forest regeneration and environmental requirements are obligatory parts of Forest Management Plans. Forest management planning is oriented towards ensuring sound use of wood. During last years not only timber use is defined in the plans but also availability and guidance on use of forest felling residues.</p>
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)	<p>Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]</p> <p>During 2003-2006 there have been efforts made to increase use of wood for energy production. All related actions have been focused on creating enabling conditions for increased utilization of forest residues. Firstly, after intensive consultations with researchers and forest practitioners, as well as at Advisory Council on Forestry there have been reviewed legislative</p>

	<p>requirements on technological requirements on forest fellings and changes made. In order to increase use of low-quality wood, procedure of issuing permissions for fellings of grey alder, aspen stands, which are significantly abundant in private forests, have been simplified by leaving only notification requirement.</p> <p><i>Measures can be qualified as medium, concluded, fully fulfilling VD/9, V2/8, V5/5, L1/7</i></p>
<p>b) promote the use of wood from sustainable sources? (Ref.: V2/8)</p>	<p>Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Use of wood from sustainable sources is ensured by the Law on Forests and legal acts implementing the Law. Regulatory acts define explicitly fellings allowed, harvesting volume, regeneration within three years, and set the duty to forest owners and managers to protect forests against violations of forest use.</p> <p>During recent years forestry measures enhancing biodiversity have been introduced into conventional forestry by adopting amendments to Regulations on Final Fellings (of 31 March 1999, No 73).</p> <p>Due to timely actions taken up to 2003 illegal logging has never been a matter of greater concern.</p> <p><i>Measures can be qualified as medium, concluded, fully fulfilling V2/8</i></p>
<p>Further measures taken related to B.4 and comments:</p>	
<p>(e.g. policies addressing the use of wood as energy source or for construction purposes)</p>	

B.5 Production and use of non-wood goods and services, especially provision of recreation	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: Law on Forests Date of adoption: November 22, 1994, No.I-671, the new edition of 10 April 2001 No. IX-240 valid since 1 July 2001 and amendments Formal status: adopted by Parliament
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] According to the assessment carried out by State Forest Survey Service, non-wood forest products comprise about 5 % from total value of wood. Forest services such as biodiversity protection, forest esthetical, recreational, environmental, protective functions have not been evaluated yet, therefore there has been growing need for developing methodologies for assessment of total value of products and services provided by forest.
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Protection and forest resource use is organized and coordinated by the General State Forest Enterprise under the Ministry of Environment. State Forest Enterprises manage forests in a view to maintain ecological and social functions of forests. State Forest Survey Service carries out forest resources inventory and works towards improved assessment of non-wood products and forest services.
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 precondition for use of non-wood goods is stated in the Law on Forests which ensures free access to forests of all ownership forms and free right to gather medical herbs, nuts, berries, mushrooms or any other non-wood products. During 2003-2007 value of recreational services has been significantly increased by developing recreational infrastructure in forests. In 2005 General Directorate has launched a project on Adjusting Recreational Facilities to the Needs of Disabled (250 objects) in collaboration with State Service of Protected Areas, Service on Needs of Disabled. Programme on Development and Management of Recreational Infrastructure in State Forests for 2006-2008 has been adopted which set the objective to strengthen recreational functions of forests by establishing infrastructure improving conditions for tourism, education, exploring cultural heritage objects.
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] In some regions of Lithuania, especially in the south and southeast, due to increased exports, use of mushrooms and berries have increased rather significantly and by expert evaluation, revenues gained might comprise approx. 10 % from total revenues gained for forest products, including timber. Around half of the amount collected is used for personal use.

	<p>During period 2003-2006 no measures have been taken in this regard. The Law on Forest guarantees free access in forests of all ownership forms and there are no legislative or other impediments limiting use non-wood products in existence.</p>
<p>b) improve enabling conditions for the market-based provision of services, esp. recreational services? (Ref.: V2/9)</p>	<p>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]</p> <p>So far forests providing non-wood services, such as protective, environmental, recreational have been mainly maintained by State Forest Enterprises for use and benefit of whole society. In regard to recreation supply, it might develop in the future into commercial activity provided by private forest owners. Proposal to Government Decision on Leasing of State Forest Land, currently being under preparation, will set the procedures upon which state forest land will be able to be leased for recreation, or other purposes (except timber production) which might enhance development and use of recreational facilities.</p> <p><i>Measures can be qualified as medium, in planning stage, fully fulfilling V2/9</i></p>
<p>Further measures taken related to B.5 and comments:</p>	
<p>Actions Plan on Implementation of National Forestry Policy foresees two important measures in relation to use of non-wood products for period 2007-2008: to adopt and implement Programme on Development and Management of Recreational Infrastructure in State Forests and to carry out valuation of economic value of ecological and social forest functions.</p>	

B.6 Biodiversity		
Ecosystem / habitat / protected areas / landscape patterns	Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: Plan of Actions for Lithuanian Forestry Policy and Its Implementation Strategy (Nfp) Date of issuance: 31 December 2002, No. 687 Formal status: Approved by the Order of Minister of Environment
	Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] The Natura 2000 network comprising of Proposed Sites of Community Importance (pSCI), established in forests under implementation of EU Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 <i>on the conservation of natural habitats</i> , has been considered as a major means of addressing preservation of valuable habitats. During 2003-2007 protection of biodiversity in forests which are not under any protection regime/ <i>are outside the forests, which are already under certain protection regime</i> , has been given high priority.
	Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Directorate General of State Forests coordinate organizes and coordinate restoration, maintenance, protection of forests and forest resources. State Forest Enterprises manage state forests in compliance to requirement regarding biodiversity conservation. State Service of Protected Territories implements strategy on protected areas, organizes their protection and management safeguarding 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] Woodland Key Habitats (WKH) inventory has been completed and guidelines for management of WKH have been prepared. In 2005 Recommendations on Biological Diversity Protection in Forest Management have been adopted. It provides guidelines on silviculture measures promoting biodiversity on habitat level (as well as on species and genetic level). In 2005 Recommendations on Application Close to Nature Forest Management Principles in Ecosystem Protection Forests.
Species diversity, incl. tree species composition and threatened forest species	Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: Plan of Actions for Lithuanian Forestry Policy and Its Implementation Strategy (Nfp) Date of issuance: 31 December 2002, No. 687 Formal status: Approved by the Order of Minister of Environment
	Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] One of the strategic objectives of Lithuanian Forestry Policy and Its Implementation Strategy is reforestation and forest planting upon the ecological-genetic basis, planting more of mixed plantations, hard deciduous, combining afforestation with the natural regeneration.

	Most relevant institutions	<p>Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Directorate General of State Forests coordinate organizes and coordinate restoration, maintenance, protection of forests and forest resources. State Forest Enterprises manage state forests in compliance to requirement regarding biodiversity conservation.</p> <p>State Service of Protected Territories implements strategy on protected areas, organizes their protection and management safeguarding biodiversity.</p>
	Main instruments used	<p>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]</p> <p>Programme on Oak Regeneration in State Forests 2006-2021 have been adopted (Order of Minister of 16 September 2005, No. D1-447) with a view to increase oak stands important for species biodiversity of forests.</p> <p>In 2005 Recommendations on Biological Diversity Protection in Forest Management have been adopted. It provides guidelines on silviculture measures promoting biodiversity on species level (as well as on genetic and ecosystem level).</p> <p>Amendments on Regulations on Afforestation and Reforestation, 2000 have been adopted with a view to increase natural regeneration, to promote reforestation with mixed broadleaves – coniferous, using more broadleaves, especially birch and oak.</p>
Genetic diversity, incl. in situ and ex situ gene conservation and seed production	Main legal or reference document(s):	<p>Name: Programme on Forest Genetic Resources Conservation and Tree Breeding Development</p> <p>Date of issuance: 7 March 2003, No. 110 and amendments</p> <p>Formal status: Order of the Minister of Environment</p>
	Main objective	<p>Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Main objectives of genetic diversity conservation policy have been the following: developing more coherent and systematic approach to genetic resources conservation and seed production, continuing research, inventorying of forest genetic resources, monitoring of status, management of forest gene conservation and tree breeding units, controlling the origin of forest reproductive material.</p> <p>Since 2003 integrating the gene conservation principles into regular, sustainable forestry has been given much higher priority than before. Considering implementation of Afforestation Programme, special emphasis was laid on conservation methods and measures of genetic resources of broadleaf tree species, especially those that are less abundant or rear.</p>
	Most relevant institutions	<p>Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Ministry of Environment organizes programme preparation and coordinates its implementation; Forest genetic Resources Seed and Plant Service; Lithuanian Forest Research Institute; State Forest Enterprises; Directorate General of State Forests; State Service of Protected Territories; etc.</p>

	Main instruments used	<p>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]</p> <p>In 2003, the Programme on Forest Genetic Resources Conservation and Tree Breeding was adopted for period 2004-2014. The Programme sets the measures, actors, responsible for their implementation, and budget required. Most of measures are financed from funds allocated to Genetic Resources, Seed and Plant Service and partly from Special Forestry Financing Programme.</p> <p>In 2005 Recommendations on Biological Diversity Protection in Forest Management have been adopted. It provides guidelines on silviculture measures promoting biodiversity on genetic level in sustainable forest management.</p> <p>Since 2003 conservation methods and measures of genetic resources of less abundant broadleaf tree species or rear broadleaf and conifer tree species have been developed considering the fact that genetic biodiversity of such species needs increased conservation efforts.</p>
<p>MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.6: Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:</p>		
<p>a) promote biodiversity strategy development and planning? (Ref.: VD/8,22; V4/6,14,15)</p>	<p>Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]</p> <p>There has been created legal basis for compensation mechanism of losses due restrictions on forest management activities in private forests (Government Decision of 3 December 2004, No. 1578). Practical implementation of the established mechanism is under development. <i>Measure can be qualified as large, concluded, fully fulfilling VD/8).</i></p> <p>In 2003, the Programme on Forest Genetic Resources Conservation and Tree Breeding was adopted for the 10 year period (2004-2014) (see under Section 1). <i>Measure can be qualified as large, concluded, fully fulfilling VD/22)</i></p> <p>In 2005 there have been prepared and published by the Ministry of Environment jointly with Forest Research Institute Recommendations on Biological Diversity Protection in Forests, which provides guidance for forest management planners and private and state forest managers on silviculture measures promoting biodiversity. <i>Measure can be qualified as large, concluded, fully fulfilling V4/15).</i></p>	
<p>b) improve impact assessments and monitoring of biodiversity? (Ref.: V4/6,13)</p>	<p>Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Biodiversity monitoring is one of the future objectives of National Forest Inventory. In 2006 <i>first</i> biodiversity assessment have been carried out under BioSoil demonstration project. During this initiative an inventory of components of forest biodiversity such as forest structure and species diversity has been conducted. <i>Measures can be qualified as medium, in implementation stage, fully fulfilling V4/6,13</i></p>	
<p>c) further develop protected forest networks or similar? (Ref.: V4/10,15,16)</p>	<p>Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]</p> <p>The network of protected areas was further developed mainly by establishing the Natura 2000 network comprising of Proposed Sites of</p>	

	<p>Community Importance (pSCI), established in forests under implementation of EU Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and Special Protected Areas (SPA) for protection of birds under implementation of Council Directive 79/409/EEC of 2 April 1979 on the conservation of wild birds.</p> <p><i>Measure can be qualified as large, concluded, fully fulfilling V4/10,15,16</i></p>
<p>d) prevent loss and fragmentation and to restore degraded forests? (Ref.: V4/11,12)</p>	<p>Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Forests degradation has never been problem of greater concern. Forest fragmentation is avoided by provision set in the Forest Law Article 4 which does not allow splitting forest holdings into smaller than 5 ha.</p> <p>In order to avoid loss of forest land there has been adopted amendment to the Government Decision on Forest Land Conversion to Other Uses, which limited already previously rather restricted possibilities of forest land conversion to other uses to exceptional cases there forest land conversion is necessary for development of infrastructure or it has been included into Single Territorial Planning Plans of Municipalities.</p>
<p>Further measures taken related to B.6 and comments:</p>	
<p>(incl. e.g. on dead wood, regeneration and naturalness in multi-functional forests)</p> <p>All state forests have been certified under FSC scheme. In accordance to the certification standards certain amount of deadwood after fellings has to be left in the forest after fellings.</p> <p>Natural regeneration as well as combination of natural regeneration and planting has been given priority in the Regulations on Forest Regeneration and Afforestation due to which natural regeneration increased significantly and by 2006 reached 30 % of forest regenerated.</p> <p>There has been introduced provision in Rules on Final Fellings setting the priority for non-clear cuttings and stating that in protective forests non-clear cuttings should comprise not less than 50 % and in commercial forests not less than 20 % from total final fellings.</p>	

B.7 Protective services	
Main legal or reference document(s): Class3 (MCPFE Assessment Guidelines for Protected and Protective Forest (...) 5.1 and 5.2 indicators)	Name: Law on Forests Date of issuance: Formal status: Name: Special Requirements for Land and Forest Use Date of issuance: 12 May 1992 and amendments Formal status: Government decision No. 343
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Role of protective functions has been recognized in the Law on forests and National Forestry Policy and main emphasis have been laid on management of protective forests with a view to strengthen their functions as well as to increase forest cover and afforestation areas sensitive to erosion or important for water protection.
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Regional Environment Protection Departments which carries out forest law enforcement supervision and specifically controls that forest management activities would be in compliance with forest management plans, which includes management requirements for protective forests.
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] Legal basis for maintenance of protective forest functions as main management objective is Law on Forests, which divides forests into groups. Protective functions as main are of protective forests (group III) designated to protect water and infrastructure and ecosystem protection forests (group II) which involves forests for protection against soil erosion. The Law on Forests and regulatory acts set special management requirements for maintenance protective functions of forests. These requirements are included into forest management plans. Taking into account that all forests play an important role in protection of ecosystems, while implementing Afforestation Programme (2 December 2002, No. 616/471) to consider distribution of forests and give priority in afforestation planning for areas sensitive to erosion, around water courses.
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] In order to maintain continuous cover of forests and strengthen role forests in protecting soil and water, reduce nutrients leaching, there has been introduced provision in Rules on Final Fellings (No 73 of 31 March 1999; amended in) setting the priority for non-clear cuttings and stating that in protective forests non-clear cuttings should comprise not less than 50 % and in commercial forests not less than 20 % from total final fellings. Another important aspect of strengthening protective functions would be overall evaluation of protective services, therefore Action Plan 2007-2010 includes this measure, yet so far under agreement between Ministry of

	<p>environment and Lithuanian Research Institute have been study conducted on Methodologies for Evaluation of Social Functions of Forest (2006), which include protective functions as well.</p> <p><i>Measure can be qualified as medium, concluded, fully fulfilling VD/10</i></p>
<p>b) contribute to reduce the impact of climate-related disasters? (Ref.: V5/7)</p>	<p>Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Regulations on Afforestation and Reforestation have been revised promoting reforestation of broadleaves, especially birch and oak, reforestation with mixed broadleaves – coniferous, which are more resistant to storms and pest damages which can be predicted to be more frequent due to changing environmental conditions.</p> <p><i>Measure can be qualified as medium, concluded, fully fulfilling V5/7</i></p>
<p>Further measures taken related to B.7 and comments:</p>	

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: Law on Forests Date of adoption: November 22, 1994, No.I-671, the new edition of 10 April 2001 No. IX-240 valid since 1 July 2001 and amendments Formal status: adopted by Parliament
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Overall forestry policy, especially concerning management of private forests as newly emerged and developing, is oriented towards creating enabling conditions for sound economic forestry activities. National Forest Programme includes range of objectives aiming at strengthening economic viability such as optimizing management of state forest system and increase efficiency of enterprises implementing commercial forest activities, development of technologies of forest logging operations, increase of a rational use of small-sized wood and felling residues as an alternative forestry activity, creation of legal and economic preconditions promoting merging of small-sized forest holdings, association and co-operation of the forest owners.
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words]
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] Besides favorable legal regulations enabling to sustain economic viability in state and private forests, several financial instruments are used. Non-commercial activities are partly financed from state budget, such as forest inventory, applied forest research projects, consultation and training of forest owners, support to private forest owners organizational structures, public awareness raising on forestry issues, etc. EU financial support for certain non-commercial or commercial-related activities (afforestation and for other forestry activities), amounting to 33,3 mill. EUR (including Lithuanian public funds), has been main instrument enhancing investments in SFM during 2004-2006. It should be noted that in Lithuania the land tax is not imposed on forest land neither on private nor on state owned. This exception is legitimated in the Law on Land Tax.
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] As an alternative business operation, utilization of wood for energy has been promoted. By amendments to legislation, requirements impeding forest residues extraction and transportation have been streamlined. Recommendations on Establishment of Plantations of Fast-Growing Tree Species have been prepared as well information provided during training courses and through media aimed at private forest owners. After progress in utilization of wood fuel in district heating, for increasing investments in wood fuel development under Lithuanian RDP 2007-2013 has been foreseen support to private forest owners for investments in forest

	<p>harvesting, logging and wood fuel producing technologies (machinery, equipment).</p> <p><i>Measure can be qualified as medium in planning stage, fully fulfilling V2/7,11</i></p>
<p>b) include economic viability and livelihood issues in rural development policy? (Ref.: VD/7, V2/16)</p>	<p>Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Under structural support to rural development in Single Programming Document (SPD) in 2004-2006 a total amount of 6,5 mill EUR have been allocated to forestry measures (3,7 % of structural support to rural development in SPD). A bulk of measures supported such as strengthening overall quality of forest stands, improvement of forest infrastructure, development of technologies of forest logging operations as well as prevention means and reconstruction of damaged forests after natural disaster and fires have contributed to the increasing of overall forest socio-economic value and rural development. Under RDP 2004-2006 support amounting to 326,5 thousand € for establishment of short rotation plantations have been provided.</p> <p><i>Measures can be qualified as large, concluded, fully fulfilling VD/7, V2/16</i></p>
<p>c) promote the voluntary cooperation of forest owners and addressed economic viability challenges? (Ref.: VD/12, V2/15,17)</p>	<p>Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]</p> <p>. The Law on Forests Article 5 foresees state support for private forestry development, private forest owners self-governing organizations which provide consulting and economic activities for private forest owners. During period 2003-2006 for establishment of forest owners association total amount of 298 thousand EUR have been allocated with approx. 75 thousand EUR in average annually. Support to forest associations has been being increasing during last years and aimed rather on providing training and consultation to private forest owners through associations than to establishing associations as organizational structures of forest owners associations have been considerably well developed.</p> <p><i>Measures can be qualified as large, concluded, fully fulfilling VD/12, V2/15,17</i></p>
<p>d) promote the valuation of full range of forest goods & services, incorporate results into accounting systems (Ref.: V2/10, L1/9, 10)</p>	<p>Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]</p> <p>So far here have been few attempts to assess full economic value of non wood forest goods and services. Only assumptions could have been done on considerably high economic value of recreational, protective, environmental services and non-wood products. Most recent initiative has been Action Plan for the Implementation of the Lithuanian Forestry and Its Implementation Strategy (Order of Minister of Environment of 29 December 2006 No. D1-627) which foresees overall economic evaluation of ecological and social forest functions in 2009. <i>Measure can be qualified as large, in planning stage, partly fulfilling V2/10, L1/9, 10).</i></p>
<p>Further measures taken related to B.8 and comments:</p>	
<p>In accordance to Action Plan on NFP by 2010 Strategic Plan is to be adopted with a view to set actions for improvement of state forests organizational, economic regulation system; with a view to develop rational use of wood as energy source, assessment of availability of wood and consumption in households will be carried out. Options for use of more economically efficient forest technologies will be analysed for implications in practice.</p> <p>Under RDP for period 2007-2010, improvement of economic value of forests, Improvement of rural infrastructure, Vocational training and information actions, Use of advisory services will be supported.</p>	

B.9 Employment (incl. safety and health)	
Main legal or reference document(s):	<p>Name: Law on Work Safety and Health Date of issuance: 1 July 2003 No. IX – 1672 and amendments Formal status: Government Decision No. 730</p> <p>Name: Labor Code Date of issuance: 4 June 2002 and amendments Formal status: adopted by Parliament</p> <p>Name: Law on Forests Date of adoption: November 22, 1994, No.I-671 The new edition of 10 April 2001 No. IX-240 valid since 1 July 2001 and amendments</p>
Main objective	<p>Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words]</p> <p>During 2003-2007 number of employees working in forestry sector has been constantly decreasing, while share of forest operations carried out by contractors has been increasing. The National Forestry policy is emphasizing the need to improve social guarantees, work safety, provide opportunities for raising qualification in order to create favorable working environment in forests sector.</p> <p>One of the objectives has been actualisation of the university, high-school non-university and professional training school programmes in order to react to changing demands and to include market economy basics, sustainable forest management principles, application of modern technologies and use of machinery, and other urgent forest education areas.</p>
Most relevant institutions	<p>Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Directorate General of State Forests is responsible for organizing and coordinating training and education of forest specialists as well coordinating efforts in ensuring work safety and good working conditions in State Forest Enterprises.</p> <p>State Forest Enterprises are also engaged in continuous training and education of their employees under guidance of Directorate General of State Forests as well as implementing programmes based on demand.</p> <p>Information Center at Kaunas Forestry and Environment engineering College provides training to state forest specialists working in State Forest Enterprises as well provides vocational training and education of forest owners and forest workers which obtain certificates proving their skills.</p>
Main instruments used	<p>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]</p> <p>Work safety and health is ensured by national legal acts, notably Code of Labour and Law on Work Safety and Health and legislation implementing the Law, applicable to employees working in all sectors, including forestry. In accordance to the unified contracts between State Forest Enterprises and contracting companies, contractors are obliged to ensure that forestry operations would be carried out in accordance to Regulations on Forests Works Safety (Order of Minister of Forestry of 25 November 1996, No.</p>

	208). Directorate General prepares and organises implementation of Training and Education Programmes for Forest Specialists Working in Forest State Enterprises annually as well coordinates efforts in ensuring work safety and good working conditions in State Forest Enterprises.
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] By the amendment to Law on Forests of 15 February 2005 No. X-119 forest state officers, working under contracts in State Forest Enterprises are provided with supplementary health and life insurance in cases which are not covered by the generally applicable provisions of Law on Accidents at Work and Social Insurance on Professional Illnesses. <i>Measure can be qualified as medium, concluded, fully fulfilling V2/14, L1/8</i>
Further measures taken related to B.9 and comments:	
Within Lithuanian Rural Development Programme 2007-2013 among forestry measures to be supported by EU Funds there have been foreseen measure on Modernization of forests harvesting, logging and wood fuel producing technologies, which is very much oriented towards work safety improvement in forests by supporting forest owners and small forest contracting companies acquiring safety equipment.	

B.10 Public awareness	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: Public Awareness and Forest Specialists Qualification Raising Programme Date of issuance: 21 June 2006 and amendments Formal status: Order of Minister of Environment No. D1-307
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Informing the society about the forests of the country, their condition and management is one of the strategic objectives of National Forestry Policy. For improved understanding of role of forests in sustainable development, environmental aspects of SFM, emphasis has been laid, firstly, on systematic presentation of information by the means of official periodical publications, mass media, special statistical publications and guaranteeing public access to information, secondly, by carrying out programmes on education on forests for school children, which has long traditions now.
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Ministry of Environment prepares programmes on public awareness raising and coordinates implementation. The Directorate General of State Forests implements and coordinates public awareness activities, carried out by State Forest Enterprises. State Forest Survey Service collects and presents statistical data on forests for society by publishing and providing full access on its website. Young Forest Friends Organization carries out forest educational activities for school children. Forestry Informational Center at Kaunas College of Forestry and Environmental Engineering among other tasks related to private forest owners training and education, implements activities aimed at public awareness raising on SFM.
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 Awareness Programme, which is financed from Forestry Financing Programme, is coordinated by Ministry of Environment and implemented by Directorate General of State Forests as well as Young Forest Friends Organization. The Programme during 2003-2007 to large extent has evolved measures related to education to school children, also there have been issued publications, films on forestry, which have been introduced to society through mass media. State Forest Survey Service is annually issuing Lithuanian Statistical Yearbook of Forestry, containing official statistical data on Lithuanian Forest sector. Full electronic data is available on Service's website.
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] With a view to find out real perception of society about state of forests and forestry in 2003 and in 2005 Survey on Public Opinion has been carried

	<p>out. The results of the first survey were presented to the society of foresters through media and during the conference “Forest Use – Perspectives and Problems” held in 6 October 2005.</p> <p>Based on the results of launched surveys, in 2003 and 2006 Programmes on Raising Public Awareness has been adopted.</p> <p><i>Measure can be qualified as large, concluded, fully fulfilling L1/1</i></p>
<p>Further measures taken related to B.10 and comments:</p>	

B.11 Research, training and education	
Main legal or reference document(s):	<p>Name: Private Forest Owners Training Programme Date of issuance:16 May 2006 Formal status: Order of Minister of Environment No. D1-226</p> <p>Name: Public Awareness and Forest Specialists Qualification Raising Programme Date of issuance:21 June 2006 Formal status: Order of Minister of Environment No. D1-307</p>
Main objective	<p>Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Implementation and development of research by ensuring the maintenance of the existing forest research potential and its rational application is one of strategic objectives of Lithuanian Forestry Policy and Its Implementation Strategy (NFP). The Plan on Actions and Measures on NFP 2003-2006 was aimed to develop the fundamental and applied scientific research priorities for forestry, programmes on forest specialists qualification improvement and better orientation towards forest sector demands.</p>
Most relevant institutions	<p>Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Lithuanian University of Agriculture (University) and Kaunas Forestry and Environment Engineering College (Kaunas College) provide forestry education and their activities are only partly coordinated by the Ministry of Education, as they are entitled to autonomy. Main forest research organization is Lithuanian Research Institute. Ministry of Environment is coordinating private forest owners training. Information Center at Kaunas College provides training courses to private forest owners as well as provide training to forest workers proved by the skills certificate. Education of school children is carried out by Young Forest Friends Organization partly together with Kaunas College.</p>
Main instruments used	<p>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]</p> <p>In accordance to Law on Forests research and training is financed from Special Forestry Financing Programme on the basis of Private Forest Owners Training Programme, Forest Education for School Children Programme and allocating financing for applied forest research studies.</p> <p>Applied forest research projects are partly financed if they are agreed by the Experts Commission, consisting of representatives of different forest related institutions, selecting research studies from proposed by the state institutions and non governmental organizations.</p>
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)	<p>Please describe measures, including in forest biodiversity and carbon-related issues, and socio-cultural aspects, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]</p> <p>From Special Forestry Financing Programme during 2003-2006 there have been allocated annually 170-200 thousand EUR for conducting forest</p>

	<p>research studies. Forest research on new and improved forest silviculture technologies and innovations as well as forestry economic aspects has been priority fields in 2006. Such issues as environmental effects of forestry practices, biodiversity preservation comprise majority of research studies conducted during period 2003-2006. Research conducted with a view to provide knowledge based policy solutions is given high priority. <i>Measure can be qualified as large, concluded, fully fulfilling VD/17, V3/ 11, V4/17, V5/ 6,7</i></p>
<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 techniques, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]</p> <p>In 2004 there has been carried out Survey and Analysis on Demand of Forest Specialists in Forestry Sector conducted by Lithuanian University of Agriculture with a view to provide recommendations on educational programmes at the University and the College.</p> <p>Private Forest Owners Training Programme prepared cooperating with private forest owners' organizations (total budget in average 60 thousand € annually), Forest Education for School Children carried out by Young Forest Friends Organisation (total budget 40 thousand € during 2003-2006) and Forest Specialists Training and Qualification Raising Programme (total budget € during 2003-2006) are main tools ensuring continuous and coherent education and training activities. For better information and knowledge dissemination Ministry of Environment has financed publishing/ <i>has published</i> over 60 publications (recommendations, training material, informational publications on forestry) allocating 200 thousand € in total during 2003-2006. <i>Measure can be qualified as large, concluded, fully fulfilling V2/12,13, V3/6, L1/4,6</i></p>
<p>Further measures taken related to B.11 and comments:</p>	
<p>Action plan on Lithuanian Forestry Policy and Its Implementation Strategy 2007-2010 foresees to carry out survey and analysis on private forest owners training demands. Other actions and measures related to private forest owners foreseen for period 2007-2010 are as follows: organization of training courses (50 courses with 40 hours duration); organization of Forest Days dedicated to discuss with private forest owners main forest management issues and cooperation possibilities; publishing and dissemination of informational ant training material; preparation of Private forest owners Training Programmes; establish websites for consultation and information of private forest owners.</p>	

B.12 Cultural and spiritual values	
Main legal or reference document(s):	<p>Name: Law on Protection of Immovable Cultural Properties Date of issuance: 22 December 1994 and amendments Formal status: adopted by Parliament of Republic of Lithuania</p> <p>Name: Law on Protected Territories Date of issuance: 3 November 1993, No. I-301 and amendments New edition of 4 December 2001 No. IX-628 valid since 28 December 2001 Formal status: adopted by Parliament</p>
Main objective	<p>Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Ensuring the preservation of the cultural heritage objects in state-owned and private forests taking a special regard to the specifics of small-sized forest holdings is one of the objectives of National Forestry Policy. Current legal framework is giving basis for integrating protection of cultural sites within forests into forest management planning and ensuring forestry practices preserving values of cultural sites.</p> <p>During period 2003-2007, one of the most important aspects of cultural heritage preservation has been efforts, especially by the State Forest Enterprises, to draw attention and interest of society in cultural heritage and historical aspects of forestry.</p>
Most relevant institutions	<p>Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Department of Cultural Heritage Protection under the Ministry of Culture is main institution which is responsible for registration of cultural objects into Cultural Heritage Register and supervision of their protection. State Service of Protected Territories is responsible for organizing and coordinating activities in nature and cultural heritage preservation territories by preparation of special territorial planning documents, supervision over these territories, research and public awareness raising. Directorate General of State Forests is responsible for coordinating activities of State Forest Enterprises which manage forests considering protection requirements of nature and culture protection territories and objects.</p>
Main instruments used	<p>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]</p> <p>All cultural heritage objects are included into Cultural Heritage Register as well as nature heritage objects (unique trees, features of landscapes, etc.) into Nature Heritage Register. Requirements for maintenance and protection of cultural heritage sites are defined in the individual or standard protection regulations. These requirements are included into forest management plans and have to be followed by forest owners and managers. For protection of cultural heritage sites there are designated two types of protection zones around them: a physical protection zone, preventing from harmful activities for the site, and visual protection zone, preventing changes in the landscape and viewing of surroundings.</p>
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.12: Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	

<p>a) reflect the socio-cultural dimensions in policies? (Ref.: VD/11, V3/5,6,8)</p>	<p>Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Issues on cultural and social dimensions have been included in the National Forestry Policy and its implementation Action Plans. Network of protected areas such as cultural reserves for preservation of sites with high archeological, historical, ethnocultural values, cultural heritage objects as well as nature heritage objects is well developed and protected in accordance to regulatory acts. The importance of cultural and spiritual values and the demand of society for their enhancement has been shown by the public opinion polls carried out in 2003 and 2005. Therefore special emphasis has been laid on introducing all cultural values to society by informational means.</p> <p>Organization of Young Friends of Forests which carries out educational programmes for school children has given high priority to these features of SFM. <i>Measures can be qualified as medium, concluded, fully fulfilling VD/11, V3/5,6,8</i></p>
<p>b) enhance the landscape attractiveness and their protection, including of traditional knowledge and practices? (V3/9)</p>	<p>Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Landscape Preservation Policy Directions for 2004-2020 (Government Decision of 1 Dec 2004, No. 1526) and Measures of Its Implementation (Government Decision 23 Aug 2005, No. 909) have been approved in order to ensure enhanced preservation of landscapes with unique cultural features. Measures foreseen such as preparation of national special plan on landscapes, plans on management with special guidelines on forest management and land use, landscape monitoring, public awareness raising, etc., enables coherent approach of landscapes further formation and preservation taking into account social, economical, biodiversity preservation aspects (<i>Measure can be qualified as large, concluded, fully fulfilling V3/9</i>).</p>
<p>c) conserve and manage significant historical and cultural objects? (V3/10)</p>	<p>Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Most significant historical and cultural objects are given status of nature and culture monuments of national importance, which ensures high protection of such objects. The monument status for nature objects is approved by the Government upon Recommendation of Ministry of Environment, in case of historical, archeological and other cultural objects; monument status is approved by the Parliament. <i>Measure can be qualified, concluded, fully fulfilling V3/10</i>).</p>
<p>Further measures taken related to B.12 and comments:</p>	

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] All state forests have been certified according to FSC certification system. Judging from the management changes, there can be drawn out conclusions that certification had a positive effect on SFM. This impact has been most significant in regard to environmental and social aspects of forest management as more of biodiversity conservation measures has been started to be applied as well as communication on forests to the society has improved, work safety standards has been raised.

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] PEOLG has been adapted in the forest management earlier; in the period 2003-2007 additional measures have not been undertaken.

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] There has been cooperation carried out in a form of common meetings and experience exchange in accordance to the cooperation agreements signed with Belarus and Ukraine in order to support efforts to enhance SFM in these countries.
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	<p>Please describe measures, not described in previous chapters, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]</p> <p>The integral and efficient state system of forest fire prevention, surveillance, and fire extinguishing measures is applied within all forest territories despite their form of ownership. The measures are carried out by the General Forest Enterprise under the Ministry of Environment, state forest enterprises together with fire protection services and financed jointly by state budget and funds of State Forest Enterprises.</p> <p>There is created the Data Base within which detailed information on forest fires and causes of their occurrence is collected and compiled.</p>
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 [na])	Data Quality Value (1000 [national currency])	
				From	To
A1.1	Recreational services	2005	3782		
		2000	-		
		1990	n.a.		
A1.2	Environmental services	2005	n.a.		
		2000	n.a.		
		1990	n.a.		
A1.3	Protective services	2005	n.a.		
		2000	n.a.		
		1990	n.a.		
A1.4	Other services	2005	n.a.		
		2000			
		1990			
		2000			
		1990			

Data sources:

For each service reported: Indicators for State Forest Enterprises 2005. Vilnius, 2006

Country specifications:

For each service reported, as necessary:

Data on expenditures on protective services is not available as they are included into expenditures for all forest management activities.

Country comments:

Provision of recreational, environmental and protective services is covered from revenues of State Forest Enterprises, which are self - financing organisations and cover themselves all activities including non-profit oriented activities such as mentioned above, also fire prevention, sanitary protection. The latter activities are carried out by State Forest Enterprises not only in state, but also in private forests. Data on expenditures on protective and environmental services is not available as measures maintaining environmental and protective functions is integral part of forests management and corresponding expenditures are included within overall expenditures. For assessment of such expenditures it would be necessary to develop a special assessment methodology.

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/>