“Turkish Forest Sector in the context of Green Economy”

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Forests of Turkey

- Total forests 21,6 million ha. (%27,7 of Total Country Area)
- 99% of the forests are state-owned & managed by the Government
- Growing stock 1,43 billion m3, Annual increment 42 million m3 and Annual cut 19 million m3
- 78% of the domestic demand is provided by the state forests
Main forestry units of the Ministry

**General Directorate of Forestry** is responsible for protecting forestry and forestry resources against danger of all sorts; developing them in a nature-friendly approach and managing forestry resources within the integrity of ecosystem.

**General Directorate of Nature Protection and National Parks** is in charge of planning, arranging and improving national parks, natural parks, natural monuments, protected wildlife reserves and recreation spots.

**General Directorate of Combating Desertification and Erosion** is responsible for creating and monitoring plans and projects of combating desertification and erosion.
Green Economy in the national context

• The Ministry of Development (NFP)

• 2023 Green Growth vision of Turkey; “SD Report of Turkey – Embracing the Future, 2012”, Rio+20

• The role of the Ministry; “Managing the forest and water resources, nature conservation, erosion control and combatting desertification”

• Forestry Targets; increasing wealth of forest villagers, forest certification, industrial plantations, forest products & services income and promoting wood
Milestones between 2011 - 2012

• During “ORMAN 2011” held in Antalya, all green economy documents were translated and disseminated to the national participants (academicians, NGOs, private sector, high level government managers)

• The Ministry put great effort on mentioning the role of forestry during Rio+20 process and forestry is defined as a key sector in “Turkey’s Sustainable Development Report” for Rio+20 in 2012

• The Minister presented Turkish priorities for the forest sector in a green economy, UNECE/FAO Side Event in Rio+20
Milestones between 2013 - 2014

• “Forestry and Water Council”, Decision 17, 21-23 March 2013


• After “METSA 2013”, “Rovaniemi Action Plan” is translated into Turkish and the first draft of “National Action Plan for Forest Sector in a Green Economy” was prepared, 2014
The five pillars of “Rovaniemi Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy”

**Pillar A.** Sustainable production & consumption of forest products

**Pillar B.** A low-carbon forest sector

**Pillar C.** Decent green jobs in the forest sector

**Pillar D.** Long term provision of Forest Ecosystem Services

**Pillar E.** Policy development & monitoring of the forest sector in relation to a green economy
“National Action Plan for Forest Sector in a Green Economy”

• The Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs
• General Directorate of Forestry (GDF) as the coordinator
• Responsible Departments for each goal:

**Pillar A** - Harvesting & Marketing, Foreign Relations, Training & Research **Departments of GDF**

**Pillar B** - Harvesting & Marketing, Foreign Relations Training & Research, Forest Management & Planning, Afforestation, Nursery & Seed, Combating Forest Pests, Forest Fire Combating **Departments of GDF, GD of Combating Desertification and Erosion**

**Pillar C** - Harvesting & Marketing, Forest-Village Relations, Foreign Relations Training & Research, Silviculture, Non-wood Products & Services **Departments of GDF**

**Pillar D** - Non-wood Products & Services, Foreign Relations Training & Research **Departments of GDF, GD of Nature Protection and National Parks**

**Pillar E** – Strategy Development, Foreign Relations Training & Research, Forest Management & Planning **Departments of GDF**
A. Sustainable production & consumption of forest products

• Harvesting & Marketing Department and Foreign Relations Training & Research Departments of GDF
• “Young Stands Maintainence Mobilisation Action Plan”
• “Good practice guidance on sustainable mobilisation of wood in Europe”
• Research Institutes of GDF
A. Sustainable production & consumption of forest products

- Sertification targets; 3,2 million ha. forests in 2015 (15%)
- Developing “National Forest Standards”
- Preperations of “National Green Building Standards”
B. A low carbon forest sector

• Harvesting & Marketing, Foreign Relations Training & Research, Forest Management & Planning, Afforestation, Nursery & Seed, Combating Forest Pests, Forest Fire Combating Departments of GDF and GD of Combating Desertification and Erosion

B. A low carbon forest sector

- Wood energy for electric energy is promoted by law
- Balancing the policies for wood demand
- Establishing energy forests
C. Decent green jobs in the forest sector

- Reforestation & afforestation projects, agroforestry, SFM & certification schemes, halting deforestation have positive long term impacts on green employment
- In the long term forestry sector is estimated to offer from good to excellent green job potential
- So far translation into reality of this potential is limited

C. Decent green jobs in the forest sector

- Harvesting & Marketing, Forest-Village Relations, Foreign Relations, Training & Research, Silviculture, Non-wood Products & Services

**Departments of GDF**

- 7 million “Forest Villagers” have privileges by law and 500,000 families are employed annually

- Translating “Safety and health in forestry work” (ILO, 2008)

- Setting forestry professional standards
D. Long term provision of Forest Ecosystem Services

- Non-wood Products & Services, Foreign Relations Training & Research Departments of GDF, GD of Nature Protection and National Parks
- Valuation and payment of Forest Ecosystem Services
D. Long term provision of Forest Ecosystem Services

- “Integration of Nature Conservation into Economical System”
- Mapping ecosystem services and bio-valuation studies
- 40-82 % of income acquired by hunting tourism is shared with village legal entities
E. Policy development & monitoring of the forest sector in relation to a green economy

- Strategy Development, Foreign Relations Training & Research, Forest Management & Planning Departments of GDF
- The Ministry and the General Directorate of Forestry initiated the process itself
- Forestry will be the “FIRST” sector having an Action Plan on Green Economy!
- Harmonizing the “Rovaniemi Action Plan” with the national context
- Assigning the responsible forestry departments and of the Ministry and possible actors for each objective
- Organizing a workshop in 2015 with all stakeholders to get their support & participation, to determine the time period & resources and to finalize the Action Plan
- Disseminating the final Action Plan and Monitoring
Recommendations

✓ Commitment of the Minister and other top managers
✓ Communicating actively with the national green economy focal point
✓ Translating green economy documents related to forestry
✓ Organizing meetings (national or international)
✓ Setting targets for green economy in policy documents related to forestry
✓ Making use of “Rovaniemi Action Plan”
✓ Establishing a drafting committee & determining responsible departments
✓ Finalizing the National Action Plan with the participation of all stakeholders
Thank you – Teşekkürler - спасибо