

Rovaniemi Action Plan for a Green Economy – Mid-term review Examples of work undertaken in the UK

Information submitted by the United Kingdom on 29 September 2017

The Rovaniemi Action Plan (RAP) is very relevant to work undertaken in the United Kingdom (UK). A selection of tasks across the 5 pillars of the RAP are set out in the table below, but this will exclude many other areas of work. This table is illustrative of how the UK is addressing objectives set out in the RAP rather than an assessment of the extent to which we are meeting its objectives.

RAP Goal	Location	Task	Results	Lessons learnt
Pillar A. Sustainable production and consumption of forest products	UK	Certification of timber is actively encouraged (see https://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/HCOU-4U4JGL)	All Forestry Commission is certified under FCS/PEFC, and over 20% of privately-owned woodland.	
Pillar B. A low carbon forest sector	UK	Ongoing development and promotion of the Woodland Carbon Code (see www.forestry.gov.uk/carboncode)	Over 16000 hectares of woodland planting has been registered, due to deliver over 6MtCO ₂ .	Working in partnership, and need for wider help for promotion.
	England	Implementing a Climate Change Accord (see https://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/bee-h-9ylghy), bringing together different stakeholders to improve forest resilience	Work ongoing	Flexible approach required. Numerous partners involved.
	Scotland	Climate Change Programme which sets out actions to support the Scottish Government's Adaptation Programme http://scotland.forestry.gov.uk/images/corporate/pdf/climate-change-programme.pdf		

	Scotland	Latest Scotland Climate Change Plan under preparation – will contain targets for woodland creation	Draft plan at present	The value of integrating forestry into wider cross-sectoral plans to tackle climate change
	UK	Climate Change Risk Assessment to assess risks to forests	Required under the UK Climate Change Act (2008) See https://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infid-8sekpy	
	UK	Assessment of the feasibility of including the carbon benefits of harvested wood products in the Woodland Carbon Code	Future amendments to the Woodland Carbon Code are under consideration. Would help to incentivise productive forestry	Complex area – carbon accounting rules under Paris Agreement may determine outcome
Pillar C. Decent green jobs in the forest sector	UK	Different forms of apprenticeships in Scotland and England for people over the age of 16, to encourage the development of a skilled and adaptable workforce for the future https://www.forestry.gov.uk/apprenticeships	Being piloted at the moment - positive feedback to date	
	UK	Forestry Commission offers a wide range of training to improve staff development and capacity.	Ongoing	
Pillar D. Long-term provision of forest ecosystem services	UK	Exploring the development of new financial mechanisms to attract investment into forestry	Ongoing task – reports published (https://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infid-8rcella)	Need for financial expertise and innovation from outside the forest sector

	UK	Forestry Commission offers advice online e.g. https://www.forestry.gov.uk/climatechangeengland	Ongoing	The need for accessibility of information and advice
	UK	Research to assess the cost-effectiveness of woodland creation in abating CO2 emissions (see https://www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/CJC_cost_effectiveness_15.pdf/\$FILE/CJC_cost_effectiveness_15.pdf)	Woodland planting is by and large a cost-effective mechanism.	Such information needs to be promoted
	UK	Valuation of forest ecosystem services – ongoing research programme to fill evidence gaps.	Recent reports published: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - review of knowledge in valuing forest ecosystem services (https://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-8rck8m) - case study on assessing the value of woodland planting in flood alleviation (https://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-8rck8m) - estimates produced on the value of woodlands in removing air pollution (https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/environmentalaccounts/articles/developingestimatesforthevaluationofairpollutioninecosystemaccounts/2017-07-25) - woodlands and water research collaboration across Europe (see https://www.forestry.gov.uk/fr/b/eeh-afwkqq) 	The need for economists and scientists to work together, cross-sectoral approach

	UK	Delivering forest ecosystem services – innovative approaches	A notable example is the “Slowing the Flow” project in North Yorkshire (see https://www.forestry.gov.uk/fr/slowingtheflow) and there are other projects in other areas of the UK.	
	UK	Supporting the use of wood fuel	Provision of advice, financial support and information – see https://www.forestry.gov.uk/woodfuel and https://www.forestry.gov.uk/communitybiomass	
Pillar E. Policy development and monitoring of the forest sector in relation to a green economy	England	Accounting for forest ecosystem services	Publication of corporate natural capital accounts for Forest Enterprise England, the first of its type (that we are aware of) globally (see https://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/bee-h-aptcas)	
	UK	Updating of the UK Forestry Standard which is the UK Government’s benchmark for Sustainable Forest Management – includes rules and guidance on climate change, water, people, soils, landscape and biodiversity (https://www.forestry.gov.uk/ukfs)	Revised standard launched in summer 2017. Continues to play an essential role in achieving sustainable forest management in the UK.	Multi-disciplinary approach needed