

Pan-European Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management

The development of Criteria and Indicators (C&I) for Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) was a process, which has been a response to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) of Rio 1992, as Chapter 11 of the Agenda 21 called for the formulation of scientifically sound criteria and guidelines for the management and sustainable development of all types of forests. Several differ-

ent international processes and initiatives emerged developing criteria and indicators as a common policy instrument to evaluate and report progress towards SFM. In the pan-European context this is formulated by the **FOREST EUROPE** process.

The pan-European C&I set, adopted by the MCPFE Expert Level Meeting in Vienna 2002, consists of **6 criteria** and **35 quantitative indicators** as well as ad-

ditional **qualitative (policy) indicators**. The pan-European C&I for SFM are an internationally agreed policy instrument for evaluating and reporting on SFM at the pan-European and national levels. They serve as the basis for assessment of the “State of Europe’s Forests” (2003, 2007 and 2011) and provide the basis for regional and national policy, analysis and monitoring.



Criteria 1. Forest resources & Carbon

- 1.1 Forest area
- 1.2 Growing stock
- 1.3 Age structure and/or diameter distribution
- 1.4 Carbon stock



Criteria 4. Biodiversity

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|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 4.1 Tree species composition | 4.6 Genetic resources |
| 4.2 Regeneration | 4.7 Landscape pattern |
| 4.3 Naturalness | 4.8 Threatened forest species |
| 4.4 Introduced tree species | 4.9 Protected forests |
| 4.5 Deadwood | |



Criteria 2. Health & Vitality

- 2.1 Deposition of air pollutants
- 2.2 Soil condition
- 2.3 Defoliation
- 2.4 Forest damage



Criteria 5. Protective functions

- 5.1 Protective forests-soil, water and other ecosystem functions
- 5.2 Protective forests-infrastructure and managed natural resources



Criteria 3. Productive functions

- 3.1 Increment and fellings
- 3.2 Roundwood
- 3.3 Non-wood goods
- 3.4 Services
- 3.5 Forests under management plans



Criteria 6. Socio-economic functions

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|--|------------------------------------|
| 6.1 Forest holdings | 6.6 Occupational safety and health |
| 6.2 Contribution of forest sector to GDP | 6.7 Wood consumption |
| 6.3 Net revenue | 6.8 Trade in wood |
| 6.4 Expenditures for services | 6.9 Energy from wood resources |
| 6.5 Forest sector workforce | 6.10 Accessibility for recreation |
| | 6.11 Cultural and spiritual values |



A. Overall policies, institutions and instruments for Sustainable Forest Management

- A1. National forest programmes or similar
- A2. Institutional frameworks
- A3. Legal/regulatory frameworks and international commitments
- A4. Financial instruments/economic policy
- A5. Informational means

B. Policies, institutions and instruments by policy area

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| B1. Land use and forest area | B8. Economic viability |
| B2. Carbon balance | B9. Employment (incl. safety and health) |
| B3. Health and vitality | B10. Public awareness and participation |
| B4. Production and use of wood | B11. Research, training and education |
| B5. Production and use of non-wood goods and services | B12. Cultural and spiritual values |
| B6. Biodiversity | |
| B7. Protective forests | |

More information

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