

Forestry and related policies – connection to climate change

Country: Republic of Serbia

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Policy documents related to Forestry and Climate change

❖ Existing policy

- Forestry Development Strategy (2006)
- Law on Forests (2010)
- Bylaw on Forest Management Planning
- Law on Climate Change (2021)
- Low Carbon Development Strategy (2023)
- Program for Adaptation to Changed Climate Conditions with Action Plan for period 2023-2030 (2023)
- Law on Agricultural Land (2015)

❖ Policy in preparation

- Environmental Protection Strategy (2025)
- Program of Forestry Development (future NFP - 2025)



Forestry Development Strategy (2006)

- Defines the irreplaceable role of the forests in the mitigation of climate change and enhancing of the capacity of forests for this purpose
- Measures related to CC:
 - ✓ increase of the area under forest cover - afforestation
 - ✓ Conversion of coppice to high forests
 - ✓ Sustainable management of forests to secure their vitality and health health
 - ✓ Protection of forest from abiotic and biotic factors that have negative impact on forests
- State commitment – provision of financial and legal assistance
- FDP – operational document for implementation of FDS*

*Prepared in 2011 – never adopted



Law on Forests (2010)

- § 6 - "multiple-use forest functions"
 - ✓ "mitigation of harmful impacts of greenhouse effect by carbon sequestration, oxygen release and biomass production",
 - ✓ "favorable effect on the climate and agro-economic activities".
- § 3 - support for increase of forest area in Serbia,
- § 4 - forbids the permanent reduction in an area covered by forest
- § 9 - prohibits forest devastation and clearing, as well as clear-cutting which is not authorized as the regular form of forest regeneration.
- § 11 and § 12 - for change in land-use form of forests and forestlands shall be paid compensation
- ❖ Fund for development and improvement of forestry – supports implementation of measures: afforestation, conversion of coppice forests, protection of forests – app. 7 mio EUR annually

Bylaw

2024)



← → ↺ upravazasume.gov.rs

RedBr Atributa	Naziv atributa (lat)	Naziv atributa (ćir)	SIFRA	Ime šifre (lat)
1	Republika	Република	1	Srbija
2	Autonomna pokrajina	Аутономна покрајина	1	Vojvodina
3	Sistem Uredjivanja	Систем Уређивања	1	klasičan način
3	Sistem Uredjivanja	Систем Уређивања	2	tipološki način
4	Vlasnistvo	Власништво	1	državno - organizacija koja gazduje šumama
4	Vlasnistvo	Власништво	2	državno - drugih organizacija
4	Vlasnistvo	Власништво	3	privatno
4	Vlasnistvo	Власништво	4	zauzeće
4	Vlasnistvo	Власништво	5	Društvena preduzeća
4	Vlasnistvo	Власништво	6	zemljište uzeto u zakup
4	Vlasnistvo	Власништво	7	crkveno
4	Vlasnistvo	Власништво	8	Preduzeća sa većinskim udelom privatne svojine
5	šumska oblast	шумска област	1	Bačka (Severnobačko i Južnobačko ŠP)
5	šumska oblast	шумска област	2	Beogradska (Sremsko, Banatsko i Posavsko- Podunavsko ŠP)
5	šumska oblast	шумска област	3	Istočna Srbija (Timočko, Severnokučajsko i Južnokučajsko ŠP)
5	šumska oblast	шумска област	4	Jugoistočna Srbija (Južnomoravsko, Jablaničko, Nišavsko, Topličko i Moravsko ŠP)
5	šumska oblast	шумска област	5	Centralna Srbija (Rasinsko, Donjeibarsko, Gornjeibarsko, Ibarsko i Šumadijsko ŠP)
5	šumska oblast	шумска област	6	Zapadna Srbija (Tarsko-Zlatiborsko, Limsko, Podrinjsko-kolubarsko i Goljijsko ŠP)
5	šumska oblast	шумска област	7	Kosmet (Nerodimsko-Lepenačko, Šarsko-Podrimsko, Pomoravsko, Kosovsko i Prokletijsko -Bistričko ŠP)
6	Šumsko područje	Шумско подручје	1	Južnomoravsko
6	Šumsko područje	Шумско подручје	2	Jablaničko
6	Šumsko područje	Шумско подручје	3	Nišavsko

Steps (GIS and
ies marking

❖ Provides clea

daptive method



Download

- [Bylaw on Forest Management Planning](#)
- [Guidelines for forest management in Serbia](#)
- [Guidelines for forest management planning – working steps](#)
- [Catalogue of Codes](#)



Law on climate change (2021)

- ❖ Forestry and related sectors not tackled
- ❖ Defines preparation and adoption of sectoral documents:
 - ✓ Low Carbon Development Strategy and its content
 - ✓ Action Plan for implementation of Low Carbon Development Strategy
 - ✓ Program of adaptation to changed climatic conditions and its content
- ❖ Defines establishment of MRV system

Low Carbon Development Strategy (2023) 1/2

- ❖ Low Carbon Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia for the period 2023- 2030 with projections until 2050:
 - Forestry, agriculture and water management defined as sectors **particularly vulnerable to climate change**
 - At the same time – **priority sectors for mitigation**
 - Based on forestry - *Specific objective 3: Increase the carbon sink in forests by 17% until 2030 and between 22% and 132% by 2050, compared to 2010*
 - **Forestry = biomass supply**

Low Carbon Development Strategy (2023) 2/2

❖ Adaptation measures for forestry sector*

- 1) Afforestation of new land (using site mapping and use of climate change adapted tree species),
- 2) Close to Nature Forest Management and Climate Smart Approach to Forestry
- 3) Conversion of coppices into high forests
- 4) Establishment of Short Rotation Plantations (SRP)
- 5) Regeneration of over mature stands (beech)
- 6) Definition of guidelines for the reduction of negative biotic and abiotic factors
- 7) Research, training and awareness raising program for the enhancement of the carbon sink and the resilience of Serbian forests to climate change

*defined in close collaboration with forestry administration



Program for Adaptation to Changed Climate Conditions with Action Plan for period 2023-2030

- Assessment of vulnerability and risks for forestry sector done
- Main influences to forestry sector and following consequences defined
- Forest sector evaluated within biodiversity as well
- Defined measures:
 - ✓ Strengthening the capacities to achieve resilience of forest ecosystems to changing climate conditions
 - ✓ Improving knowledge and information for assessing the development of different forest types in future climate conditions
 - ✓ Amendment of the regulatory framework for forest planning and management with regard to adaptation to changing climate conditions - DONE

Law on Agricultural Land (2015)

- ❖ Mainly in favor of mitigation of climate change
- ❖ Defines fee for change of purpose of land use
- ❖ Exemptions from paying the fee:
 - Afforestation of arable agricultural land of the 6, 7, 8 cadastral classes in the case when it is determined by the agricultural basis or the re-cultivation project that this land will be used more rationally if it is settled,
 - Establishing of nurseries for the production of reproductive material of fruit-vine and woody species;
 - Establishing of shelterbelts;
- ❖ Prohibits felling of forests and forest plantations above parcels endangered from erosion
- ❖ Administrative barriers as problem for afforestation

POLICY IN PREPARATION

Environmental Protection Strategy (2025?)

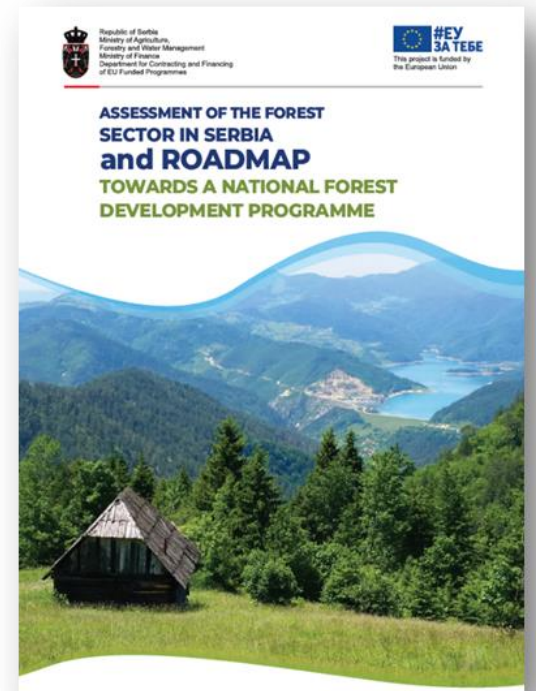
- ❖ Environmental protection strategy – Green agenda for the Republic of Serbia for the period 2024 – 2033*
 - Forestry as a part of biodiversity sector
 - Importance of forestry to mitigation of climate change – well recognized
- ❖ General objective 4: Improving nature protection, biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of natural resources
 - Specific objective 4.2: Sustainable management of forests, wildlife and fish stocks
- ❖ Measures:
 - ✓ Measure 1.1.10. Increasing carbon sinks to mitigate climate change – **through afforestation**
 - ✓ Measure 4.2.1. Implementation of the close-to-nature forest management concept in the forestry sector

*consultation process still ongoing



Program of Forestry Development (future NFP) (2025?)

- ❖ Roadmap towards a National Forest Development Program (2023 – result of Twinning project and consultation process)
 - Roadmap operationalized through elements of a forest strategy document and process
- ❖ The main strategic objective and specific objectives drafted
- ❖ One of the specific objectives related to climate change mitigation and adaptation of forests to changed climate conditions



Next steps for improvement

- Adaptation of the new Forest Strategy with Action Plan and updating existing Forest Law
- Better understanding of close to nature implementation in praxis
 - More intensive use of Chamber of Forest Engineers
 - Training of trainers
- Monitoring system should be more in real use for getting clear conclusion for better adaptation of the goals and measures in future
- Improving biodiversity guidelines
- Research capacity should be raised
 - International cooperation
 - Exchange data and praxis using international or regional platform
 - Invest in research capacity
 - Demonstration and research plots should be in focus
- Active participation of the forest sector in creating CC policies in other sectors

THANK YOU FOR ATTENTION!

