

PEFC

Italy

Re-

Endorsement 2016-2021

Application presented in May 2016

Annex 3 ITA 1001-2: COMPLEMENTARY CRITERIA AND INDICATORS FOR SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT ON A TERRITORIAL GROUP LEVEL

**Rev 6. Document approved by the PEFC Italy BoD after
the public consultation (28/10/2015)**

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REGIONAL INDICATORS AND THRESHOLDS

Introduction

On the basis of the PEFC standard, the evaluation of sustainable forest management (SFM) is based on the criteria (C), the indicators (I) and the operative guidelines (LG) developed at the Ministerial conferences in Helsinki and Lisbon, during the so-called “Pan European Process” for the protection of European forests.

This document is structured so as to maintain the subdivision of the six defined criteria for sustainable forest management at a Pan European level, with the aim of using them at a national level for the certification of the forest (woods) sector (not for arboriculture of wood).

Rules for use of this document

Each of the criterion is numbered from 1-6 and can include the **guidelines** for planning of forest management and for the practice of forest management.

The **guidelines** are normative requirements, whenever they are specified, and must be observed, even beyond the field of action of the indicators indicated by the guidelines.

The **indicators** can be normative or descriptive.

“DESCRIPTIVE” indicators are given in order to improve information and communication between the various subjects involved in sustainable forest management

“NORMATIVE” indicators concern the forest system and forest management and provide the basis required to verify the certification criteria and indicators.

Each indicator includes:

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS: measurable sizes or elements whose presence can be demonstrated

CRITICAL THRESHOLDS (for the NORMATIVE indicators): necessary requirement(s)

AREA OF IMPROVEMENT: main themes proposed for improving services

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING: examples of tools to be used to gather information

The precise data can be extrapolated from particular sampling areas based on local, regional or national programmes, which are clearly identified and validated by public authorities.

The data to be reported in this standard must only regard the members of the RA.

Note: Compliance with the law is a Normative prerequisite, and is therefore not expressed in the individual indicators.

The evaluation of the certification criteria and indicators defined on a territorial group level must be inherent to the whole region which must be certified.

Only those adhering to territorial group level forest certification will be considered certified; only their forest area will be considered certified and only the forest material from this area will, therefore, be considered certified.

CRITERION 1

MAINTENANCE AND APPROPRIATE ENHANCEMENT OF FOREST RESOURCES AND THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO GLOBAL CARBON CYCLES

Indicator 1.1 a Legal-political-administrative framework regarding conservation and enhancement of forest resources (particularly concerning woodland areas and wood mass)

NORMATIVE INDICATOR

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:

Availability of documents relating to:

National and/or regional regulatory framework

Regional forestry planning

Financial and technical instruments to support integration between forestry planning and other land-use planning

Adequate financial and technical instruments to assist in achieving sufficient wood mass levels for the efficient functioning of forest systems.

Methods of authorization or prescriptions for forest management

AREAS OF IMPROVEMENT:

Improvement in the compatibility of legislation with the principles of ecological, economic and social sustainability of forest management.

CRITICAL THRESHOLD: Presence of measurement parameters

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Laws or specific legislative tools.

Regional Forestry Program or Plan, Rural Development Plan according to EC Reg. 1257/99.

Specific allocation of funds from the regional or national level, and from appropriate EU funding directives.

Indicator 1.1 b Areas of forest, other woodlands and changes in area (classified, if appropriate, according to forest and vegetation types, ownership structure, age classes, forest origin).

NORMATIVE INDICATOR

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:

Forest cover in ha. _____

Variation ____ % in a period of ____ years.

Management regime ____% high forest; ____% coppice; ____% mixed.

CRITICAL THRESHOLD

A reduction in forest cover is not permitted (except for documented cases resulting from management and planning policies and instances where compensation is required according to the law).

Forest cover variation percentage greater than or equal to zero.

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:

Initiation of the coppice conversion process where ecologically, economically and socially possible or appropriate.

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

National and/or regional forest inventories, forest and soil-use maps, aerial photographs, satellite images, land register, forest management plans.

Indicator 1.2 a Availability of forest inventory, archives, mapping, topographic and thematic maps, programmes for monitoring and describing forest resources

DESCRIPTIVE INDICATOR

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:

Availability of maps and/or inventory records

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:

Increase in and development of inventory, monitoring and mapping instruments according to national and European standards.

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Mapping, forest inventory, specific research

- GL 1.3** **(a) Management plans or their equivalent, appropriate to the size and use of the forest area, must be written and periodically updated. They should be based on current legislation as well as existing land use plans, and sufficiently cover the forest resource.**
(b) Monitoring of the forest resource and evaluation of its management must be periodically undertaken, with the results being fed back into the planning process; the results must contribute (retroactively) to the planning process.

Indicator 1.3 a Area subjected to forest planning or similar.
(see also Indicator 3.1 b)

DESCRIPTIVE INDICATOR

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:

Percentage of area subjected to planning compared to total forest cover (if necessary divided into ownership types).

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Forest management plans or equivalent

Indicator 1.3 b Knowledge of the wood mass (also approximately and temporarily used as an indicator of total carbon storage), of forest areas (classified, if appropriate, according to the various vegetation zones or classes), of age classes or appropriate diameter distribution classes.

NORMATIVE INDICATOR

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:

Currently available data

CRITICAL THRESHOLD

Presence of data

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:

Improvement in information quality

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

National forest inventory, regional forest inventory, management plans or equivalent, regional forest statistics.

CRITERION 2

MAINTENANCE OF THE HEALTH AND VITALITY OF FOREST ECOSYSTEMS

Indicator 2.1.a: Legal, political and administrative framework for the maintenance of the health and vitality of the forest ecosystem.

DESCRIPTIVE INDICATOR

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:

Regulatory framework aimed at promoting forest health and vitality.

Programmes to control and monitor the presence of damaging agents or the existence of serious epidemics.

Technical and financial instruments suitable for the prevention of severe disruption of ecological processes.

Supplementary information sources for monitoring forest health status and soil acidification.

Forest management plans, or their equivalent, which explicitly detail methods to minimise the risks of decay and damage to forest ecosystems.

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Laws or specific normative instruments, international protocols.

National forestry programme, regional forestry programme or plan

Rural Development Plan according to EC Reg. 1257/99, other EU financial-support directives, specific allocation of funds from the regional or national level;

Specific studies carried out on a national/regional scale, forest fire protection plan, soil mapping, inventories.

Forest management plans or their equivalents, technical provisions, local forest prescriptions, forest regulations.

Indicator 2.2.a: Total deposition and/or exposure to air pollutants in forests and other wooded areas.

DESCRIPTIVE INDICATOR

Notes:

1. *Deposition is defined as the "total chemical input" in forest ecosystems and it is calculated by summing the values of throughfall and stemflow corrected for leaf and needle adsorption or release;*
2. *Exposition, defined through the AOT40, can be calculated based on data derived from passive sampling through specific models. These models must be explicit;*
3. *Data assessment on the basis of critical thresholds presents an opportunity for the expression of the significance and implications of change. Applied models, based on available data, should be explicit.*

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:

Chemical characteristics of the deposition in the atmosphere of gaseous pollutants.

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:

Promotion and implementation of monitoring and environmental control programmes. Such data can be gradually taken into account when these programmes become effective.

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

The monitoring of the deposition of air pollutants on forest ecosystems is undertaken within national programmes. Locally, regional or individual research institutes may co-exist.

Indicator 2.2.b: Crown condition and changes in defoliation of forests and wooded areas, in one or more of the principal tree species.

DESCRIPTIVE INDICATOR

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:

Percentage of defoliated trees divided into damage-rate classes and into species; statistical parameters of defoliation.

Change in defoliation.

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:

Standardisation of the criteria for data collecting and data representation throughout the different regions.

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Information sources principally supplied by the national network of First level. Regional surveys shall be made available on a local level.

Indicator 2.2.c: Forests and other wooded areas with damage present caused by (1) abiotic, (2) biotic, (3) human induced agents and (4) by unknown causes, divided when possible into the main forest types.

DESCRIPTIVE INDICATOR

Notes:

1. *Abiotic damage includes forest fires, wind, snow and storm damage, landslides and avalanches. Specify when possible.*
2. *Biotic damage includes: insects, fungi, grazing, wildlife. Specify when possible.*
3. *Human induced damage includes mechanical damage, due to extraction and other forest operations. Specify when possible.*

Where several types of damage exist, the most prevalent category should be reported.

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:

Presence of surveys and/or surveying systems for the assessment of biotic damage (fungi, insects, grazing, wildlife) and abiotic damage (forest fires, wind, snow and storm damage, landslide and avalanches)

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:

When not sufficient, implementation and improvement of surveying systems must be undertaken.

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Surveys on the First Level network; forest inventory, aerial photographs, satellite images, forest management plans, technical hunting plans, forest fire protection plans, regional forest disease monitoring networks.

Indicator 2.2.d: Condition of the soil chemical properties of forests and other wooded areas.

DESCRIPTIVE INDICATOR

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:

pH value; Exchange cationic Capacity; inorganic C/N.

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:

Monitoring of change.

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Monitoring of soil conditions in forest ecosystems is carried out within national programmes.

On a local level, regional initiatives or initiatives of individual research institutes may coexist. Availability of soil maps at a national or regional scale.

CRITERION 3

MAINTENANCE AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE PRODUCTIVE FUNCTIONS OF FORESTS (TIMBER OR NON-TIMBER PRODUCTS)

Indicator 3.1.a: Percentage of wooded area managed according to forest management plans or equivalent planning tools according to a regional set of rules in force or those undergoing revision (Forest management plans, economic management plan, summary forest management plans, forest reorganisation plans, silvicultural operation plans, silvicultural improvement plans, long term harvesting plans, Integrated detailed plans, forest forms, etc.)

DESCRIPTIVE INDICATOR

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:

Percentage of wooded area managed according to forest management plans: _____%

Percentage of wooded area managed according to equivalent planning tools: _____%

Percent change in wooded area managed according to forest management plans or equivalent planning tools, related to the last no. _____ years: _____.

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:

The percentage of wooded area managed according to forest management plans or equivalent planning tools should tend to increase over time.

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Forest inventories, regional statistics, regional administrative archives.

Indicator 3.1.b: Quantity of forest products

DESCRIPTIVE INDICATOR

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:

List of forest products (e.g. wood, game, chestnuts, truffles, berries, medicinal plants, cork, mushrooms): _____.

Annual average quantity of timber production, divided into product types (sawlogs, firewood), over the last no. _____ years: _____

Number of annually issued picking/harvesting licences/permits for (indicate the applicable non-timber product) _____, over the last no. _____ years: _____.

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:

Production of timber and non-timber goods should not decrease over time, if compatible with the socio-economic and environmental protection conditions.

Gathering of data on forest products in inventory documentation, planning and forest administration at a regional level should be enhanced.

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Forest inventories, ISTAT (statistics institute) yearbooks, regional statistics, specific studies, documents issued by the regional forest services, regional administrative archives.

Indicator 3.1.c: Legal, political and administrative framework regarding planning and forest management supporting the production of goods and services.

NORMATIVE INDICATOR

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:

A regulatory framework and specific financial instruments aimed at assisting forest management planning and the related implementing methods, in order to:

- Maintain and/or increase the forest's potential to provide a sustainable output of goods and services, as diverse as possible;
- Maintain efficiency and improve economic performance of the forest market and promote integration among managers and/or producers and/or end-users in a broad sense;
- Maintain and/or increase the forest's potential for timber production without initiating processes of decay or degradation of ecosystems and by ensuring a timely prevention against forest fires.

A regulatory framework and specific financial instruments able to encourage and regulate proper management practices regarding recreation activities, other services and picking /harvesting of products as listed in 3.1.b.

A regulatory framework and specific financial instruments able to encourage and regulate planning, designing, construction and maintenance of infrastructures used for forest patrolling supporting, forest fire prevention and fighting, management and exploitation of forest resources and minimizing negative impact on hydro-geological, landscape, plant health and wildlife aspects.

CRITICAL THRESHOLD

Presence of measurement parameters

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:

Improvement of all insufficient measuring parameters

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Laws or specific regional and national measures; forest programmes or regional forestry plans or, when these are absent, the National Forestry Plan; development plans for Comunità Montane (Mountain Communities); specific allocation of funds from a regional and/or national level; EC financial-support directives; Rural development plans; Regional plans for forest fire fighting; contractual agreements.

CRITERION 4: MAINTANANCE, CONSERVATION AND APPROPRIATE ENHANCEMENT OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY IN FOREST ECOSYSTEMS

Indicator 4.1.a: Legal, political and administrative framework concerning the potential for maintaining, preserving and enhancing biological diversity.

DESCRIPTIVE INDICATOR

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:

Legal and regulatory context, consistent with state and EC laws, aimed at guaranteeing a sustainable forest management.

Potential to maintain and/or increase forest ecosystem biodiversity ensuring the multiple functionality of the forest.

Economical and political context able to enhance the knowledge of habitats by giving computerized and inventorial support instruments.

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:

Presence of all measurements parameters.

Assessment on the efficiency of the parameters.

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Forest laws, measures or rules at a local or regional level aimed at guaranteeing a sustainable forest management.

Forest laws, measures or rules at a local or regional level (forest management plans, local forest prescription -PMPF-, Environmental plans for natural park etc.) able to guarantee the potential to maintain and/or enhance biodiversity in forest ecosystems, ensuring the multiple functions of forest.

Specifically allocated funds from a regional or local level. EC financial-support directives.

Inventories, forest management plans at an enterprise, inter-enterprise or a district level.

Indicator 4.2.a: Legal, political and administrative framework on representative, rare and vulnerable forest ecosystems.

DESCRIPTIVE INDICATOR

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:

Regulatory framework able to guarantee the protection of representative, rare and vulnerable forest ecosystems

Financial instruments to be used for enhancing and maintaining forest land in protected areas.

Informative instruments of an inventorial nature and which support actions aimed at sustaining forest biodiversity and protection.

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:

Presence of all measurements parameters.

Assessment on parameter's efficiency.

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Forest laws or measures at a national and/or regional scale, environmental plans for natural parks or forest management plans.

Specifically allocated funds from a regional or local level, EC financial-support directives.

Inventory, forest management plans at an enterprise, inter enterprise or district level, environmental plans for natural parks, Thematic maps at a national and/or regional scale;

The Habitat Directive and Sites of European Importance;
Official national and regional lists of protected areas.

Indicator 4.2.b: Forest surface area in protected areas.

NORMATIVE INDICATOR

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:

Forest surface areas in protected areas _____ ha. and type of protection according to national, regional rules and IUCN _____;
Change in area of protected forest _____% in a period of _____ no. years.

CRITICAL THRESHOLD

Change in area of protected forest: greater than or equal to zero

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Forest laws, measures or rules at a local and regional or national level establishing protected areas. Environmental plans for national and regional natural parks, regional planning tools (PTRC, Area plans), etc.

Indicator 4.3.a: Legal, political and administrative framework concerning the implementation and promotion of a wildlife census and management actions, particularly for those species which may have a negative impact on forest regeneration, growth rate and biodiversity.

DESCRIPTIVE INDICATOR

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:

Legal, regulatory and administrative framework aimed at undertaking censuses and wildlife plans.

Economical/political and financial framework able to outline and frame guidelines to be used in wildlife census taking and management.

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:

Presence of measuring parameters.

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Laws, measures or rules at a local and regional level aimed at ensuring the understanding and knowledge of wildlife.

Specifically allocated funds from a regional or local level, EC financial-support directives. Wildlife censuses, wildlife plans.

Indicator 4.3.b: Pressures of animal population and grazing in the forest.

DESCRIPTIVE INDICATOR

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:

Presence of a set of rules and/or financial instruments able to rationalize the pressure of animal populations and grazing in the forest.

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:

Presence of measurement parameters.

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Forest laws, measures or rules at a national and/or regional scale, environmental plans for natural parks, forest management plans.

Specifically allocated funds from a regional or local level, EC financial-support directives.

Indicator 4.3.c: Presence of a legal regulatory framework aimed at the protection of threatened plant and wildlife species.

DESCRIPTIVE INDICATOR

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:

Set of rules aimed at the protection of threatened species.

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Laws or specific measures at a national, regional and/or local scale (Environmental plans for natural parks, specific laws establishment protected areas, red data book lists);

Indicator 4.4.a: Legal, political and administrative framework regarding the promotion and support of traditional systems for the sustainable utilization of the forest resource.

DESCRIPTIVE INDICATOR

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:

Presence of a set of rules and/or financial instruments aimed at the protection and promotion of traditional systems for forest resource management.

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Laws or specific measures at a local and regional scale.

Specifically allocated funds from a regional or local level, EC financial-support directives.

Indicator 4.5.a: Legal, political and administrative framework aimed at the preservation of dead, old, monumental or rare tree species.

DESCRIPTIVE INDICATOR

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:

Legal, political and administrative framework able to guarantee the preservation of dead, old, monumental or rare tree species.

Presence of informative instruments of a management nature and supporting actions aimed at protecting dead, old, monumental or rare tree species.

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Laws or measures at a regional and/or local scale.

Specifically allocated funds from a regional level, EC financial-support directives.

Inventories, forest management plans at an enterprise, inter-enterprise or district level, environmental plans for natural parks, monumental tree inventories.

CRITERION 5

MAINTENANCE AND APPROPRIATE ENHANCEMENT OF PROTECTIVE FUNCTIONS IN FOREST MANAGEMENT (PARTICULARLY CONCERNING SOIL PROTECTION AND WATER MANAGEMENT)

Indicator 5.1.a: Legal, political and administrative framework regarding the potential for initiating and maintaining forest protective functions (soil protection, water regulation and possible direct protection of infrastructures).

Indicator 5.2.a: Legal, political and administrative framework regarding the potential for implementing and supporting activities of inventory and forest land management which take into account the principal forest functions, particularly those of protection.

NORMATIVE INDICATOR

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:

1. Legal, regulatory and administrative framework able to outline and structure guidelines for forest management planning in order to achieve protection objectives.
2. Economic/political and financial framework able to outline and structure guidelines for forest management planning in order to achieve protection objectives.
3. Informative instruments of an inventory and cartographic nature, planning tools and research supporting silvicultural operations aimed at enhancing and/or maintaining protective functions of forests.

CRITICAL THRESHOLD

Presence of measurement parameters.

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:

Implementation of studies and research aimed at framing measures and rules able to optimise protective functions of forests. Rationalization and computerization of inventory and mapping instruments for the planning of areas which perform a protective function.

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Forest laws, measures or rules at a local and regional scale aimed at supporting and directing forest management of areas which perform a protective function.

Forest laws, measures or rules at a local and regional level (forest development plans, local forest prescriptions (PMPF), environmental plans for natural parks, etc.) which define management guidelines or directions with a protection objective.

Inventories and/or planning documents at different levels, also of a cartographic nature, able to define and frame management guidelines with protection as an objective.

Studies and research initiatives in support of silvicultural practices aimed at enhancing protective functions of forests and soil protection.

Indicator 5.2.b: Availability of thematic maps or other suitable documentation that highlights the main function of wooded areas, particularly their protective roles.

NORMATIVE INDICATOR

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:

Maps at a scale suitable for planning and managing purposes, which illustrate the wooded areas that have a special role for soil and water resource protection, and/or are important for the direct protection of infrastructures.

CRITICAL THRESHOLD

Presence of hydro-geological.- restriction map. All of the managed wooded areas must be covered by mapping or other appropriate documentation.

EXAMPLE OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Maps for forest management plans, at an enterprise and inter-enterprise level, forest inventories, soil thematic maps, maps showing hydro-geological damage, watershed plans, forest forms, etc.

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:

Computerization and distribution of maps and, to a lesser degree, widening of the surveyed area included within forest management plans or equivalent tools.

Indicator 5.2.c: Amount of forest area managed for protective purposes, namely for hydrogeological control, for the quality of the water resource, and for infrastructure protection.

DESCRIPTIVE INDICATOR

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:

Forest surface area subjected to restrictions due to protection purposes _____ ha, its percentage regarding the total forest area _____ %

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:

Presence of monitoring plans.

Implementation of monitoring and control instruments for the protective function of forests.

EXAMPLE OF SOURCES OF DATA AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Forest laws, measures or rules at a national and local scale, regional and local programming and planning (environmental plans for national and regional parks, inventories, area plans, plans and management instruments at an enterprise and inter-enterprise level) or equivalent tools;

Hydro-geological.- restriction map, Hydro-geological - degradation map and other thematic maps at a local, regional level, watershed plans, and etc.

CRITERION 6

MAINTENANCE OF OTHER SOCIO - ECONOMIC FUNCTIONS AND CONDITIONS

GL6.1 Forest management planning must aim to respect the multiple functions of forests to society, have due regard to the role of forestry in rural development, and in particular consider new opportunities for employment in connection with the forest's socio-economic functions.

The following phrase is included only in the Italian document: All year round employment of the forest workers must be aimed for, or if the laying off of workers, or reduction in employment time are necessary they must be carried out in a socially compatible manner.

Indicator 6.1.a Forestry Employees

DESCRIPTIVE INDICATOR

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:

Total number of forestry employees _____

Change in total number of employees in forestry during the last no. _____ of years
_____ %

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:

Understanding and monitoring of the employment market, separating data for the forestry sector.

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Statistical sources (ISTAT-statistics institute, Chambers of Commerce, etc.)

Forest plans/programmes, rural development plans.

Indicator 6.1.b Legal, political and administrative framework regarding employment measures.

NORMATIVE INDICATOR

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:

1. Legal and regulatory frameworks regarding direct and indirect employment measures.
2. Economical/political and financial context able to support the growth of the forestry sector and the integration between forestry and rural sectors.

CRITICAL THRESHOLD

Presence of measurement parameters

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:

Improving work organization through greater specialization, qualification of workers with an increased regard for safety.

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Forest laws, measures or rules at a national and/or regional scale;

Forest Plans/Programmes.

Indicator 6.2.a Contribution of the forest sector to the Gross National Product (GNP) or other macroeconomic indicators.

DESCRIPTIVE INDICATOR**MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:**

Percentage of the chosen indicator regarding the forest sector compared with the corresponding value for the total primary sector of the region.

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:

It is desirable that the information is spread and that the indicators in the forestry sector increase.

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Official national statistics.

Indicator 6.2.b Legal - political - administrative framework regarding the potential to promote forestry development.

DESCRIPTIVE INDICATOR**MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:**

Legal and regulatory framework to promote the development of the forest sector
Economical/political and financial framework able to define, structure and support programmes in order to foster the development of the forest sector.
Information providing instruments aimed at promoting the enhancement of the forest sector.

EXAMPLE OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Programmes and documentation at a local and regional scale aimed at promoting the enhancement of the forest sector.

Indicator 6.2.c Monitoring of management effects.

DESCRIPTIVE INDICATOR**MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:**

Instruments to monitor the effects of public benefits and services related to forest management activities.

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Specific studies, regional plans, monitoring of the conditions before and after the implementation of rural development plans;

Indicator 6.3.a Legal - political - administrative framework over rights of ownership.

NORMATIVE INDICATOR**MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:**

Legal and regulatory framework for ownership rights, possession agreements, customary rights and established community rights and practices related to use-regulations.

CRITICAL THRESHOLD

Presence of measurement parameters

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Forest laws and measures at a national and/or regional scale;
Forest plans/ programmes

Indicator 6.4.a Public access in the forest

NORMATIVE INDICATOR

Note: All Italian forests have public access, except for those on private estates.

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:

Legal and regulatory framework that allows public access, except regulated specific cases (e.g. private estates, reserves, and other specific cases).

Presence of use regulations related to different possible user groups, particularly concerning access methods for hunters.

Economic/political and financial framework able to define programmes aimed at encouraging tourism, recreational areas and activities.

Information divulging instruments aimed at the promotion of recreational services.

CRITICAL THRESHOLD

Presence of measurement parameters

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:

Taking into account the fact that forests are, in most cases, accessible to public, improvements must include signage, access facilities, promotion and divulgence of information. Medium - long term projects are desirable in order to improve public access. Recreation aspects must be taken into consideration when management plans are written.

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Forest management plans, Integrated and detailed plans or equivalent planning tools, Environmental plans for natural parks.

Forest laws or measures at a national and regional scale. Hunting plans

Indicator 6.5.a Forests with historical, cultural and spiritual significance.

DESCRIPTIVE INDICATOR

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:

Lists and verification of forests with historical, cultural and spiritual significance.

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Regional forest programme

Inventories, specific research, land register, etc.

Indicator 6.5.b: Legal - political - administrative framework regarding forests with historical, cultural and spiritual significance.

NORMATIVE INDICATOR

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:

Legal and regulatory framework in order to protect forests with historical, cultural and spiritual significance.

CRITICAL THRESHOLD

Presence of measurement parameters

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Forest laws or measures at a national and/or regional scale;

National and/or regional Forestry Plan, Regional forestry Program; Environmental plans, Environmental plans for natural parks, Forest management plans, town and country planning, Landscape plans, etc.

GL 6.6 Forest managers, contractors, employees and forest owners must be provided with sufficient information and encouraged to keep up to date through continuous training in relation to sustainable forest management. Particular attention must be paid to the training, professional training, updating, information and other social services for the workers and the local community.

Indicator 6.6.a: Legal, political and administrative framework regarding vocational training.

NORMATIVE INDICATOR

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:

Legal, regulatory and planning framework in order to promote training and devolve knowledge in forestry.

CRITICAL THRESHOLD

Presence of measurement parameter

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:

Special attention should be dedicated to training, professional updating, information and other social services addressed to workers and local communities.

EXAMPLE OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Forest laws and measures at a national and/or regional scale;

National and/or regional forestry plan, regional forest programme

Rural development plan (EC Reg. 1257/99);

Regional or provincial programmes or initiatives regarding training and diffusion of knowledge in forest areas.

Indicator 6.7.a: Legal, political and administrative framework regarding workers health and safety, and social security

NORMATIVE INDICATOR

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:

Legal and regulatory framework regarding workers health and safety, and social security.

CRITICAL THRESHOLD

Presence of measurement parameter

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Forest laws and measures at a national and/or regional scale;

National and/or regional forestry plan, regional forest programme.

Indicator 6.7.b: Accident statistics.

NORMATIVE INDICATOR

MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS:

Annual number of accidents in the forestry sector and the percent of variation during the last no. _____ years

EXAMPLES OF DATA SOURCES AND INFORMATION GATHERING:

Official statistics, specific studies and research (Local sanitary establishment, data from INAIL-institute of accidents; data from Inspectorates of work, etc.).