
Criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management



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FOREWORD

The document "Criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management" had been developed within the standard revision process by the Technical Committee of the PEFC Slovakia with the participation of the main stakeholder groups.

This document was submitted to the national governing body of the Slovak Forest Certification System for formal adoption. The document was adopted as TD SFCS 1003:2014 on 12.12.2014.

PEFC Slovakia is the national governing body of the Slovak Forest Certification System and incorporates representatives of forestry, wood processing industry and other stakeholder groups.

This document replaces technical document TD SFCS 1003:2009 Criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management.

INTRODUCTION

The criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management in Slovakia are an inseparable part of the SFCS documentation and are valid for the entire territory of the Slovak Republic. The criteria and indicators represent a set of standards for qualified, independent and objective assessment of the level of forest management. Meeting the criteria is an inevitable precondition for the issuance of certificate confirming that the forests are managed in compliance with the principles of sustainable forest management.

1 SCOPE

This document is based on the PEFC international standard – PEFC ST 1003:2010 Sustainable Forest Management - Requirements. The document consists of sets of criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management for the assessment at regional level and at level of individual forest managers. Each criterion consists of its objective, assessment indicators, sources of information, legislative framework, and explanatory notes if appropriate.

The objectives of the document “Criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management, are as follows:

- a) to specify the basic requirement for the forest management system in order to ensure fulfilment of all ecological, economic and social functions of forests, regardless of their category, form and method of management,
- b) to create an outline for the clarification, unification and harmonisation of activities of independent certification bodies for the assessment of state of forestry, definition of the objectives and scope of audits, and the assessment of the conformity or nonconformity of forest management of an audited entity with the specified regional certification requirements,
- c) to establish a frame of reference for forest owners/managers when deciding for certification and commitment for sustainable forest management.

Certification criteria and indicators included in this document have been elaborated for the purposes of forest certification on the territory of the Slovak Republic.

Certification criteria and indicators have been prepared and approved following the principles of consensus and transparency with the participation of main stakeholder groups. The General Assembly of the PEFC Slovakia is the approval body. The content of this document is regularly revised and amended.

2 NORMATIVE REFERENCES

The provisions of the following referenced documents are the part of this document. Based on the scientific knowledge and practical experience and due to the continual improvement of the entire certification system all documents and standards are subject to revisions, which take place at least every 5 years. The national governing body of the Slovak Forest Certification System is the body responsible for the form and content of the revision. Therefore, the latest editions of the referenced documents apply for all participants entering into agreements on the basis of this document.

PEFC ST 1003:2010 Sustainable Forest Management - Requirements

TD SFCS 1001:2014 Slovak Forest Certification System - description

TD SFCS 1002:2014 Rules for certification of forest management

TD SFCS 1005:2014 Requirements for certification bodies operating forest management certification

STN EN ISO/IEC 17021 Conformity assessment. Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems

3 TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in TD SFCS 1001:2014 Slovak Forest Certification System – description apply.

4 SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT

Sustainable forest management as defined by the Resolution H1 adopted at the Second Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (Helsinki, 1993) represents "the stewardship and use of forests and forest lands in a way, and at a rate, that maintains their biodiversity, productivity, regeneration capacity, vitality and their potential to fulfil, now and in the future, relevant ecological, economic and social functions, at local, national, and global levels, and that does not cause damage to other ecosystems."

The main criteria of sustainable forest management are:

- 1) Maintenance and appropriate enhancement of forest resources and their contribution to global carbon cycles
- 2) Maintenance of forest ecosystem health and vitality
- 3) Maintenance and encouragement of productive functions of forests (wood and non-wood)
- 4) Maintenance, conservation and appropriate enhancement of biological diversity in forest ecosystems
- 5) Maintenance and appropriate enhancement of protective functions in forest management (notably soil and water)
- 6) Maintenance of other socio-economic functions and conditions

5 COLLECTION OF INFORMATION AND DATA AND THEIR RESOURCES

In order to eliminate the costs of certification process, the already existing information about the state of forest ecosystems and their management shall be used at maximal rate for conformity assessment of the applied forest management system with the criteria of sustainable forest management. Data and information included in databases of the forestry information system governed by the National Forest Centre, forest record, Forest Protection Service, national forest inventory and forest state inventory, Green Report, State Nature Conservancy of the SR on protected areas and their conditions, state administration bodies and other institutions, professional organisations and non-government organisations with activities related to forests and their management are used.

6 NATIONAL CRITERIA OF SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT

The formulation of national criteria is in accordance with the relevant sections (heads) of the applicable legislation and substantively equivalent to long-established practice of forestry.

They are structured according to generally accepted principles (I - VI) for sustainable forest management adopted under the Pan-European process for protection of forests in Europe (Helsinki 1993, Lisbon 1998, Vienna 2004).

The criteria are structured as follows::

- a) **Criterion:** describes the subject of sub-processes and stages of sustainable forest management, provides essential tools and defines indicators to ensure the improvement of practices and methods for sustainable forest management.
- b) **Criterion objective:** defines an expected result when the indicator is met.
- c) **Legislative framework:** contains references to valid legislation norms incorporating or relating to the respective issue.
- d) **Assessment indicators:** quantitative or qualitative parameters that objectively and clearly describe the subject matter of the criterion and that are evaluated in relation to the criterion. They are divided into:
 - i. **Indicators for regional level assessment** – define political tools or development trends creating conditions for or characterising the development of SFM; they refer to the entire certified area of the respective region.
 - ii. **Indicators for individual level assessment** – define threshold requirements for ensuring sustainable forest management; refer to any individual forest manager participating in the certification through regional certification.
- e) **Source of information:** specifies a source of information for the assessment of the state of performance of criteria indicators

Overview of principles, criteria and indicators: 7 international principles, 32 national criteria, 59 regional indicators (R) and 110 individual indicators (I)

No.	International principles	National criterion	No. of indicators R/I
1	MAINTENANCE AND ADEQUATE DEVELOPMENT OF FOREST RESOURCES AND THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO GLOBAL CARBON CYCLE	1.1 PROTECTION OF FOREST LAND	2/4
		1.2 MULTIFUNCTION USE OF FOREST RESOURCES	6/1
		1.3 FOREST MANAGEMENT PLANS AND FOREST LAND PROJECTS	5/5
		1.4 AFFORESTATION OF NON-FOREST LAND	0/2
2	PRESERVATION OF THE HEALTH AND VITALITY OF FOREST ECOSYSTEMS	2.1 INTEGRATED FOREST PROTECTION AND REVITALISATION OF DAMAGED FOREST ECOSYSTEMS	1/3
		2.2 MONITORING OF FOREST HEALTH AND FOREST PROTECTION MEASURES	3/4
		2.3 TECHNOLOGICAL PROCESSES	1/6
		2.4 PESTICIDES APPLICATION	1/6
		2.5 FIRE PROTECTION	2/4
3	PRESERVATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF WOOD-PRODUCING FOREST FUNCTION (WOOD AND NON-WOOD PRODUCTS)	3.1 SUSTAINABILITY AND CONTINUITY OF HARVESTING	3/4
		3.2 ROUNDWOOD	1/5
		3.3 NON-WOOD FOREST PRODUCTS AND SERVICES	1/2
		3.4 FOREST ROAD NETWORK	2/3
4	PRESERVATION, PROTECTION AND ADEQUATE ENHANCEMENT OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY OF FOREST ECOSYSTEMS	4.1 FOREST REGENERATION	2/7
		4.2 STRUCTURE AND NATURAL CHARACTER OF FORESTS	2/3
		4.3 GENETIC RESOURCES	2/2
		4.4 NON-NATIVE TREE SPECIES	1/2
		4.5 LEAVING STANDING WOOD	0/2
		4.6 FORESTS OF HIGH ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES	4/4
		4.7 PROTECTED AND ENDANGERED PLANT AND ANIMAL SPECIES	1/3
5	PRESERVATION AND ADEQUATE DEVELOPMENT OF PROTECTIVE FOREST FUNCTIONS (MAINLY SOIL PROTECTIVE AND WATER PROTECTIVE)	5.1 SOIL PROTECTION	1/2
		5.2 PROTECTION OF WATER RESOURCES	2/2
		5.3 WATER RETENTION REGIME IN THE LANDSCAPE	1/4
6	PRESERVATION OF OTHER SOCIO-ECONOMIC FUNCTIONS AND CONDITIONS	6.1 OWNERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT OF FOREST LAND	2/5
		6.2 WORKFORCE IN FORESTRY SECTOR	2/5
		6.3 LABOUR SAFETY AND HEALTH PROTECTION AT WORK	3/5
		6.4 PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	2/5
		6.5 ACCESSIBILITY OF FORESTS FOR RECREATION	1/2
		6.6 CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL VALUES IN FORESTS	1/2
		6.7 AWARENESS AND OPENNESS	2/4
7	COMPLIANCE WITH LEGAL REQUIREMENTS	7.1 APPLICABLE LEGISLATION	1/1
		7.2 PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES	1/1

1 MAINTENANCE AND ADEQUATE DEVELOPMENT OF FOREST RESOURCES AND THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO GLOBAL CARBON CYCLE	
Criterion No.	1.1
Criterion title	PROTECTION OF FOREST LAND
Full wording of criterion	The exclusion of forest land from fulfilling the functions of forests, or to limit their use, including the conversion of natural forests to plantations can occur only in necessary and justified cases, particularly where the role of social and economic development cannot be provided otherwise. The decision to exclude the land shall be issued by authorities of the state forestry administration prior to the opinions of the affected state administration bodies of nature conservation, forest owners and other interested parties.
Criterion objective	Maintaining or increasing the existing forest area
Legislative framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Act NR SR 326/2005 Coll. on forests as amended - Act NR SR 220/2004 Coll. on the protection and use of agricultural land and on changes of the Act 245/2003 Coll. on integrated pollution prevention and control of environmental pollution and on amending certain acts as amended - Decree MP SR 12/2009 Coll. on the protection of forest land in land-use planning activities and in their exclusion and restrictions on fulfilment of forest functions as amended - Working procedures for forest management no. A/2008/1611
Regional indicators	<p>1.1.1 Existence of legal and management framework for the protection of forest land (yes/no)</p> <p>1.1.2 Development of forest area, forest stands (ha) and forest cover (%)</p>
Individual indicators	<p>1.1.3 When granting permission for permanent exclusion of forest land from fulfilling functions of the forest:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) forest lands particularly in protective forests and special purpose forests shall be protected, b) only strictly necessary area of forest shall be used and distortion of integrity of the forest shall be limited, c) use of functions of the surrounding forest shall not be limited. <p>1.1.4 Non-forest land covered with forest, in resolving discrepancies between the evidence in the land register and the situation observed in the field, shall be declared to be forest land. This land shall be managed using the forest land projects.</p> <p>1.1.5 Implementation of projects of biological and technical rehabilitation of forest land temporarily exempted from fulfilling forest functions shall be continuously monitored</p> <p>1.1.6 Forest lands are stabilized by clear boundaries in the terrain</p>
Sources of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - information of ŠS LH - databases of IS LH NLC - decisions on exclusion and decisions issued in doubt - documentation of forest manager - inspection in forest

1 MAINTENANCE AND ADEQUATE DEVELOPMENT OF FOREST RESOURCES AND THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO GLOBAL CARBON CYCLE	
Criterion No.	1.2
Criterion title	MULTIFUNCTION USE OF FOREST RESOURCES
Full wording of criterion	Methods and procedures of forest management planning ensures the maintenance and improvement of the state and vitality of forest resources in order to fulfil the required functions while maintaining and enhancing long-term competitiveness and viability of forestry.
Criterion objective	Increasing the use of economic, environmental, cultural and social values of forest resources in the development of rural areas
Legislative framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Act NR SR 326/2005 Coll. on forests as amended - Act NR SR 543/2002 Coll. on nature and landscape protection as amended - Act 215/1995 Coll. on Z. z. on geodesy and cartography (second part, the State administration for geodesy and cartography, section 4, para. 7), as amended - Decree MP SR 453/2006 Coll. on forest management and forest protection as amended
Regional indicators	<p>1.2.1 Forest management planning shall be based on the principles of differentiated forest management purposefully promoting the use of a wide range of functions, ensuring the development of rural areas. It shall apply to all lands declared as forest, taking into account the diverse nature, forest stand, management, economic, landscape and social conditions and requirements of nature protection</p> <p>1.2.2 Forest management planning shall comprise the cycle of inventory, impact assessment of the applied management operations, goal setting and forest management planning so that when reconciling the interests of owners, forest managers and the public the ability of forests to produce the full range of wood but also non-wood forest products and services on a sustainable basis shall be secured</p> <p>1.2.3 Forest mapping system shall cover the whole territory, contain a detailed topographical situation of forest land and include the natural, technical and economic characteristics of forest ecosystems</p> <p>1.2.4 Development of the area of forest stands by functions</p> <p>1.2.5 Development of total standing volume and standing volume per ha – coniferous, broadleaved, total (m³)</p> <p>1.2.6 Development of the area of forest stands by age classes</p>
Individual indicators	1.2.7 Provision of synergy in the elaboration of proposals for the proclamation of protective forests and forests filling specific ecological, social and cultural functions
Sources of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Working procedures for forest management no. A/2008/1611 - Standard of digital map series containing forestry approved by MPSR no. 652/2008-710 of 17.1. 2008 - thematic state map series with the forestry thematic content - databases of IS LH NLC - FMP and LHE of forest manager

1 MAINTENANCE AND ADEQUATE DEVELOPMENT OF FOREST RESOURCES AND THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO GLOBAL CARBON CYCLE	
Criterion No.	1.3
Criterion title	FOREST MANAGEMENT PLANS AND FOREST LAND PROJECTS
Full wording of criterion	All forests shall be managed according to regularly updated forest management plans or forest land projects. These plans and projects shall be in accordance with the applicable national legislation and existing territorial development plans
Criterion objective	FMP provide a set of information and recommendations regarding SFM
Legislative framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Act NR SR 326/2005 Coll. on forests as amended - Act NR SR 543/2002 Coll. on nature and landscape protection as amended - Decree MP SR 453/2006 Coll. on forest management and forest protection as amended - Decree MPRV SR 297/2011 Z. z. on forest management records - Governmental Ordinance no. 7 of 8 January 2014 on the details of the content of the request for payment of financial compensation for the restriction of the current land management
Regional indicators	<p>1.3.1 FMPs shall be elaborated by a qualified person in accordance with the working procedures of forest management approved by the relevant ministry</p> <p>1.3.2 The basis for the elaboration of FMPs shall be the results of regular monitoring of the state and development of forests and terrestrial inventory of spatial distribution of forest sections</p> <p>1.3.3 Models and principles of forest management shall consider socially desirable and by the owner confirmed uses of forest functions specific to the respective forest section</p> <p>1.3.4 FMP elaboration processes shall be publicly available. Requirements and practical experience of interested parties shall be subject to their assessment</p> <p>1.3.5 The proportion of forests managed according to valid FMPs or forest land projects (ha,%)</p>
Individual indicators	<p>1.3.6 FMP of forest manager shall consist minimally of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) decision of ŠS LH on the FMP approval with defined amount of harvesting b) forest management models c) forest stand description d) plan of management operations e) relief and stand map <p>1.3.7 Changes in planned management operations shall be carried out on the basis of an on-site assessment in favour of improving environmental functions and state of forest stands; they shall always be justified and properly registered either as an adjustment or change in FMP</p> <p>1.3.8 Keeping of forest management records and their submission to forestry state administration</p> <p>1.3.9 Professional forest management shall be carried out by OLH registered in the register of professional forest managers</p> <p>1.3.10 The boundaries of units of spatial forest distribution are properly maintained</p>
Sources of information	- databases of frame models of forest management of the forest

	<p>management institute of NLC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- ŠS LH documentation of procedures for the FMP completion- FMP and LHE of forest manager- forest land projects- register of OLH- inspection in forest
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1 MAINTENANCE AND ADEQUATE DEVELOPMENT OF FOREST RESOURCES AND THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO GLOBAL CARBON CYCLE	
Criterion No.	1.4
Criterion title	AFFORESTATION OF NON-FOREST LAND
Full wording of criterion	Abandoned and unused agricultural land and other treeless areas are the opportunities for expansion of forest area whenever they can add to increasing of the economic, ecological, social and cultural potential of the country
Criterion objective	Purposeful afforestation of abandoned agricultural land, non-forest land and other unused forest land
Legislative framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Act NR SR 326/2005 Coll. on forests as amended - Act NR SR 543/2002 Coll. on nature and landscape protection as amended - Act NR SR 220/2004 Coll. on the protection and use of agricultural land and on changes of the Act 245/2003 Coll. on integrated pollution prevention and control of environmental pollution and on amending certain acts as amended - Act 330/1991 Coll. on land consolidation, land ownership, land offices, land fund and land communities as amended
Regional indicators	Bez indikátorov
Individual indicators	<p>1.4.1 Forest manager demonstrably makes effort to harmonize the type of land kept in the land register to the state of the observed in the field</p> <p>1.4.2 Afforestation of land declared by a decision of competent state authority as forest land according to the forest land project</p>
Sources of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - land consolidation projects - decisions on change of land to forest land - FMP and forest land projects - inspection in forest

2 PRESERVATION OF THE HEALTH AND VITALITY OF FOREST ECOSYSTEMS	
Criterion No.	2.1
Criterion title	INTEGRATED FOREST PROTECTION AND REVITALISATION OF DAMAGED FOREST ECOSYSTEMS
Full wording of criterion	Integrated forest protection shall be focused on effective, systematically applied prevention and environmentally sound suppression of effects of biotic pests. It shall use the utmost management and silvicultural measures promoting natural structures and processes as well as preventive biological and amelioration measures enhancing natural regulatory mechanisms and ecologisation of forestry operations.
Criterion objective	FMPs include measures leading to the maintenance and improvement of stability, vitality and resistance potential of forests
Legislative framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Act NR SR 326/2005 Coll. on forests as amended - Act NR SR 543/2002 Coll. on nature and landscape protection as amended - Decree MP SR 453/2006 Coll. on forest management and forest protection as amended - Decree MPRV SR 297/2011 Z. z. on forest management records
Regional indicators	2.1.1 Models and principles of forest management shall be adapted to the current health of forest stands in order to ensure an increase in stability, vitality and resistance potential of forests
Individual indicators	2.1.2 Regeneration and reconstruction of significantly damaged forest stands in accordance with special projects providing maintaining or regeneration of genetic, species and structural diversity of the respective HSLT 2.1.3 Curative measures to enhance the vitality and stability of degraded forest ecosystems with the prevailing measures of biological nature 2.1.4 Improving the quality of forest soil by fertilization and liming shall be carried out in justified cases and in the amounts recommended by the results of soil analysis
Sources of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - databases of frame models of forest management of the forest management institute of NLC - authorised procedures for forest reconstruction - forest amelioration projects - FMP and LHE of forest manager - databases of IS LH NLC - inspection in forest

2 PRESERVATION OF THE HEALTH AND VITALITY OF FOREST ECOSYSTEMS	
Criterion No.	2.2
Criterion title	MONITORING OF FOREST HEALTH AND FOREST PROTECTION MEASURES
Full wording of criterion	Systematic monitoring of forest health shall be focused on key harmful factors that have potential, when outbreaks, negatively affect the health and vitality of forest ecosystems. Planning and implementation of measures to protect forests shall be, considering the state and development of pest abundance, focused on prevention, protection and defence, and limiting the consequences.
Criterion objective	Ensuring the preservation and improvement of health and vitality of forests
Legislative framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Act NR SR 326/2005 Coll. on forests as amended - Act NR SR 543/2002 Coll. on nature and landscape protection as amended - Decree MP SR 453/2006 Coll. on forest management and forest protection as amended - Decree MPRV SR 297/2011 Z. z. on forest management records
Regional indicators	<p>2.2.1 Central monitoring of forest health, developing forecasts of harmful agents and the issuance of signalling messages in case of an expected breakouts of harmful agents by an independent professional body</p> <p>2.2.2 The extent and development of accidental felling caused by biotic, abiotic and anthropogenic harmful factors (m³,%)</p> <p>2.2.3 The extent of repeated afforestation caused by biotic, abiotic and anthropogenic harmful factors</p>
Individual indicators	<p>2.2.4 Monitoring of the state and development of damage of forest stands by biotic, abiotic and anthropogenic harmful factors</p> <p>2.2.5 Implementation of corrective and preventive protective and defensive measures at all stages of forest development (use of biological and biotechnological products)</p> <p>2.2.6 Development and state of processing of accidental felling, including of implementation of approved schedules</p> <p>2.2.7 Continuous records keeping on forest protection</p>
Sources of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - elaborations of occurrence of harmful agents in the forests of Slovakia and their prognosis - databases of IS LH NLC - authorised schedules for processing of accidental felling - LHE of forest manager - results of state supervision - inspection in forest

2 PRESERVATION OF THE HEALTH AND VITALITY OF FOREST ECOSYSTEMS	
Criterion No.	2.3
Criterion title	TECHNOLOGICAL PROCESSES
Full wording of criterion	Technological preparation and implementation of harvesting and transport processes shall corresponds to the real production and current weather conditions considering the existing supply at the contractors market
Criterion objective	Reducing the environmental load on forest resources
Legislative framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Act NR SR 364/2004 Coll. on waters as amended - Act NR SR 326/2005 Coll. on forests as amended - Act NR SR 543/2002 Coll. on nature and landscape protection as amended - Act 223/2001 Coll. on waste as amended - Decree MDPaT 464/2009 Coll. laying down the obligations of the operation of vehicles in road traffic as amended
Regional indicators	2.3.1. The existence of guidelines for selection of optimal harvesting and transport technologies (yes / no)
Individual indicators	<p>2.3.2. Assessment of the risks and impacts of harvesting and transport processes on forest ecosystems shall be carried out prior to the use of friendly technologies that are appropriate for the respective production conditions</p> <p>2.3.3. Compliance with the maximum allowable levels of damage caused by felling and transportation of wood to the terrain, soil, forest roads, forest stands and trees</p> <p>2.3.4. Post-harvesting rehabilitation of tracks and scratches caused by moving machinery and transportation, treatment of damaged trees</p> <p>2.3.5. Technical condition of machines shall not be a source of danger to the safety of production process, environment, public health, or a source of pollution or damage to the road</p> <p>2.3.6. Adherence to the procedures preventing soil pollution by oil products - compliance with regulations for handling, equipment of timber harvesting and transport machines by oil absorbents, use of biodegradable lubricating oils and hydraulic fluids</p> <p>2.3.7. Monitoring of wastes on forest land and their controlled removal, cooperation in removing illegal dumps</p>
Sources of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - documentation of regional applicant - contracts for the performance of forestry operations - documentation of the assignment and receipt of work and workplaces - evidence of waste management - information of ŠS LH, ŠS ŽP, ŠOP SR, SAŽP, SVP, SRZ, SIŽP - inspection in forest

2 PRESERVATION OF THE HEALTH AND VITALITY OF FOREST ECOSYSTEMS	
Criterion No.	2.4
Criterion title	PESTICIDES APPLICATION
Full wording of criterion	Pesticides (herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, rodenticides) shall only be used in a limited extent and, where possible, their use shall be replaced by the appropriate silvicultural and biological measures. It is not allowed to use pesticides banned by international conventions. All the used chemical agents must comply with hygiene, toxicological and ecological limits and with the requirements for nature protection.
Criterion objective	Minimizing the use of authorized pesticides and herbicides
Legislative framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Act 405/2011 Coll. on plant health care as amended - Act 67/2010 Coll. on the conditions of placing chemical substances and mixtures on the market as amended - Act NR SR 543/2002 Coll. on nature and landscape protection as amended - Decree 488/2011 Coll. laying down the details of the principles and measures to protect public health, drinking water, bees, birds, water and other non-target organisms, the environment and specific areas for use of plant protection products as amended
Regional indicators	2.4.1 List of products meeting the conditions set out in EU legislation in the field of chemical substances and mixtures (REACH, CLP) authorized for placing to the market and for the use in the Slovak Republic
Individual indicators	2.4.2 The WHO Type 1A and 1B pesticides and other highly toxic pesticides shall be prohibited 2.4.3 The use of pesticides defined in Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutant and in Rotterdam Convention shall be prohibited 2.4.4 The use of pesticides shall be preceded by an adequate assessment of the reasons for their use (environmental and economic impacts) 2.4.5 Users of pesticides shall hold a certificate of professional competence in the field of plant protection products 2.4.6 Compliance with the manufacturer's documented procedures for handling the pesticides, their residues and packaging 2.4.7 Users of pesticides shall maintain records on consumption of pesticide products for plant protection including auxiliaries in accordance with the valid legislation
Sources of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The list of authorised plant protection products and other products - Material Safety Data Sheets - certificate of proficiency in the field of plant protection products - permission for the use of chemicals - information of ŠS ŽP, SIŽP, ŠOP SR, SAŽP, SVP, SRZ and managers of water resources - LHE of forest manager - inspection in forest

2 PRESERVATION OF THE HEALTH AND VITALITY OF FOREST ECOSYSTEMS	
Criterion No.	2.5
Criterion title	FIRE PROTECTION
Full wording of criterion	The principles of fire prevention shall be respected and adequate capacity for monitoring and fighting fires shall be systematically built. Fire shall be only permitted in limited cases if that is necessary for the achievement of the management goals.
Criterion objective	Minimising the risk of damage to forest by fires
Legislative framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Act NR SR 326/2005 Coll. on forests as amended - Decree MV SR 121/2002 Coll. on fire prevention as amended
Regional indicators	2.5.1 The existence of legal and governance framework for forest protection against fire 2.5.2 The extent and development of damage to forest by fires (ha)
Individual indicators	2.5.3 Fire protection maps and documents shall be regularly updated and shall contain all relevant information regarding fire protection 2.5.4 Fire patrol activities shall be carried out at least in times of increased fire danger on the basis of a timetable of patrol activities 2.5.5 Burning of harvesting residues shall be carried out after the approval of HaZZ and in accordance with the written procedure for burning of combustible materials to ensure fire protection 2.5.6 Machines used for work in the forest shall be equipped by a suitable fire extinguisher with a minimum of 5 kg content
Sources of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - documentation of fire protection - documentation on ensuring fire safety during combustion of flammable substances in open space - information of ŠS on fire protection - inspection in forest

3 PRESERVATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF WOOD-PRODUCING FOREST FUNCTION (WOOD AND NON-WOOD PRODUCTS)	
Criterion No.	3.1
Criterion title	SUSTAINABILITY AND CONTINUITY OF HARVESTING
Full wording of criterion	The volume of timber for harvesting shall be determined differently according to the categories of the forest in order to ensure optimum utilization of the productive potential of forests and maintain sustainable fulfilment of the functions of the forest
Criterion objective	Uniform use of standing volume up to the objectively determined harvesting indicator level
Legislative framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Act NR SR 326/2005 Coll. on forests as amended - Decree MP SR 453/2006 Coll. on forest management and forest protection as amended - Decree MPRV SR 297/2011 Z. z. on forest management records
Regional indicators	<p>3.1.1 The existence of mechanisms for a long-term determining of sustainable harvesting, use of forests and their functions (yes / no)</p> <p>3.1.2 Comparison of the total current increment and timber harvesting (m³)</p> <p>3.1.3 Comparison of allowable cut and timber harvesting (m³)</p>
Individual indicators	<p>3.1.4 Compliance with legislative principles for timber harvesting</p> <p>3.1.5 The total volume of timber harvesting prescribed in FMP shall not be exceeded</p> <p>3.1.6 The annual volume of harvesting during the validity of the FMP under the proper forest management shall be in the range between 70% to 130% of the 1/10 of the FMP prescription (valid for entities over 1000 ha)</p> <p>3.1.7 The volume of intentionally harvested timber by species shall equal (+/- 15%) to data on volume obtained from trees marking and recorded in the harvesting permit.</p>
Explanatory note	Proper forest management: the total volume of accidental felling shall not exceed 36% of the total harvesting prescribed by FMP for forest of ownership unit
Sources of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - databases of IS LH NLC - FMP and LHE of forest manager - permission for timber harvesting - results of state supervision - inspection in forest

3 PRESERVATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF WOOD-PRODUCING FOREST FUNCTION (WOOD AND NON-WOOD PRODUCTS)	
Criterion No.	3.2
Criterion title	ROUNDWOOD
Full wording of criterion	Timber from sustainably managed resources is placed on the market in the assortment structure enabling to achieve acceptable economic performance
Criterion objective	Ensuring resources needed for responsible forest management
Legislative framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Act NR SR 326/2005 Coll. on forests as amended - STN 48 0050 Roundwood - STN 48 0055 Qualitative classification of softwood round timber - STN 48 0056 Qualitative classification of hardwood round timber
Regional indicators	3.2.1. Comparison of the volume of timber placed on the market, divided into coniferous and non-coniferous (m ³ ,%)
Individual indicators	3.2.2. Volume of timber placed on the market, divided into coniferous and non-coniferous, corresponds to the volume of harvested timber (m ³) 3.2.3. Evidence of timber origin and movement 3.2.4. Exercising of due diligence system for placing timber on the market 3.2.5. Trade documentation for timber from certified forests shall include minimally the number of confirmation and the claim on certified timber origin 3.2.6. Timber originating from non-forest land or purchased timber shall be separated and sold as uncertified.
Sources of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Forestry market information system of NLC - FMP and LHE of forest manager - proof of the timber origin - trade documentation - due diligence system of operator placing timber on the market - inspection in forest

3 PRESERVATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF WOOD-PRODUCING FOREST FUNCTION (WOOD AND NON-WOOD PRODUCTS)	
Criterion No.	3.3
Criterion title	NON-WOOD FOREST PRODUCTS AND SERVICES
Full wording of criterion	Forest management planning shall respect the requirements of forest manager to customize the way of forest management for the production of non-wood forest products and services
Criterion objective	The production of other products and services does not decrease the quality and condition of forest resources
Legislative framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Act NR SR 326/2005 Coll. on forests as amended - Act NR SR 543/2002 Coll. on nature and landscape protection as amended - Act NR SR 274/2009 Coll. on game management as amended
Regional indicators	3.3.1 The existence of regulatory instruments for the utilisation of important non-wood forest products - control of collection and harvesting of non-wood products, hunting wild game and fishing (yes / no)
Individual indicators	<p>3.3.2 Exploiting the potential supply of non- wood products and services shall be in line with the fulfilment of other functions of the forests in favour of maintaining their rational and long-term use</p> <p>3.3.3 Game management shall be organized in such a way that it does not undermine the stability of forest stands and fulfilment of other functions of the forests.</p>
Sources of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - information of ŠS LH, ŠS ŽP, SIŽP, ŠOP SR, SAŽP - game management and hunting plans - statistical reports - documentation of forest manager

3 PRESERVATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF WOOD-PRODUCING FOREST FUNCTION (WOOD AND NON-WOOD PRODUCTS)	
Criterion No.	3.4
Criterion title	FOREST ROAD NETWORK
Full wording of criterion	Development of transport infrastructure (roads, skid tracks, bridges, outlets, drainages etc.) shall be planned; each construction shall be established and maintained to ensure efficient delivery of goods and services while minimising negative impacts of individual components on the environment.
Criterion objective	Optimizing the road access to the forest stands and improvement of road infrastructure
Legislative framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Act NR SR 326/2005 Coll. on forests as amended - Act NR SR 543/2002 Coll. on nature and landscape protection as amended - Act FZ ČSSR 50/1976 Coll. on territorial planning and building order (building act) as amended - Act 24/2006 Coll. on environmental impact assessment as amended - STN 73 6108 Forest road network
Regional indicators	3.4.1 Density of forest road network (m/ha) 3.4.2 Assessment of the impacts of prepared construction of forest roads on forest ecosystems by an independent body in accordance with the national legislation (yes/no)
Individual indicators	3.4.3 The actual state of forest roads and bridges, including drainage facilities and their wear, failures and faults shall be continuously monitored and reflected in the plan of maintenance and repairs of forest road network 3.4.4 Performance of maintenance of forest road network and ensuring the functionality of bridges and transverse and longitudinal drainage equipment on forest roads 3.4.5 Monitoring of adherence to project documentation in the construction of transport infrastructure, especially in rare and sensitive ecosystems
Explanatory note	Construction of infrastructure in the habitats of endangered species shall be prohibited
Sources of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - project documentation for the construction of forest road network - passport of forest road network - plan of maintenance and repairs - information of building supervision - information of ŠS LH, ŠS ŽP, SIŽP, ŠOP SR - inspection in forest

4 PRESERVATION, PROTECTION AND ADEQUATE ENHANCEMENT OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY OF FOREST ECOSYSTEMS	
Criterion No.	4.1
Criterion title	FOREST REGENERATION
Full wording of criterion	Forest regeneration shall be carried out using the management methods ensuring the achievement of the provenance suitable natural regeneration contributing to maintaining the diversity of genotypes, natural species composition, structure and ecological stability of forest ecosystems
Criterion objective	Healthy and well developed young forest stands consisting of trees corresponding to site conditions
Legislative framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Act NR SR 326/2005 Coll. on forests as amended - Act NR SR 543/2002 Coll. on nature and landscape protection as amended - Act NR SR 138/2010 Coll. on forest reproduction material as amended - Act NR SR 274/2009 Coll. on game management as amended - Decree MP SR 453/2006 Coll. on forest management and forest protection as amended - Decree MPRV SR 297/2011 Z. z. on forest management records - Decree MŽP SR 24/2003 Coll. implementing the Act 543/2002 Coll. on nature and landscape protection as amended
Regional indicators	<p>4.1.1 The existence of a binding framework for the representation of site suitable tree species in forest regeneration (yes / no)</p> <p>4.1.2 The total area of regenerated areas and the proportion of artificial and natural regeneration (ha,%)</p>
Individual indicators	<p>4.1.3 Provenance suitable natural regeneration shall be preferred to artificial afforestation</p> <p>4.1.4 Reforestation shall be carried out within the statutory period and in appropriate agro-technical dates</p> <p>4.1.5 Places with site suitable tree species composition shall be used for the establishment of initial regeneration points</p> <p>4.1.6 Securing of forest stands within the period specified by FMP; at least 50% of the regenerated area shall consist of target tree species composition, out of which minimally 30% are represented in the respective forest management model</p> <p>4.1.7 Secured forest stand shall consist of trees without significant damage, which are well adapted to the site conditions and have an evident height increment, and where no supplementary planting is required</p> <p>4.1.8 Keeping of particular records on the status and respecting of deadlines for securing forest stands</p> <p>4.1.9 Young forest stands shall be protected or the number of game shall be controlled so that there is no destruction or devastation of the stands</p>
Sources of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - models of forest management - project of forest regeneration - decisions of ŠS LH on prolonging period for forest regeneration at a clearing site and for securing forest stand - agreement on the manner and form of minimizing the damage caused by animals and birds - FMP and LHE of forest manager - results of state supervision - inspection in forest

4 PRESERVATION, PROTECTION AND ADEQUATE ENHANCEMENT OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY OF FOREST ECOSYSTEMS	
Criterion No.	4.2
Criterion title	STRUCTURE AND NATURAL CHARACTER OF FORESTS
Full wording of criterion	Applied forest management measures shall support nature friendly internal arrangement, construction and composition of forest stands corresponding to the typical character and diversity of the landscape
Criterion objective	Promoting tree species, age and vertical diversity of forest stands by using appropriate silvicultural measures
Legislative framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Act NR SR 326/2005 Coll. on forests as amended - Decree MP SR 453/2006 Coll. on forest management and forest protection as amended - Decree MPRV SR 297/2011 Z. z. on forest management records
Regional indicators	<p>4.2.1 Development of the area of mixed stands consisting of two or more tree species (ha)</p> <p>4.2.2 Development of the area of multi-storey stands (ha)</p>
Individual indicators	<p>4.2.3 Tending and regeneration operations shall correspond to the growth phase and maturity of forest stands and shall be implemented on time and in favour of improving the structure and standing volume of stands</p> <p>4.2.4 Intensity of clearings and thinning up to 50 years recommended by FMPs shall be mandatory*</p> <p>4.2.5 Stocking of forest stand shall not be reduced by intentional harvesting below 7/10 of full stocking</p>
Explanatory note	* justified corrections in FMPs done by OLH are accepted
Sources of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - models of forest management - databases of IS LH NLC - FMP and LHE of forest manager - results of state supervision - inspection in forest

4 PRESERVATION, PROTECTION AND ADEQUATE ENHANCEMENT OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY OF FOREST ECOSYSTEMS	
Criterion No.	4.3
Criterion title	GENETIC RESOURCES
Full wording of criterion	Maintaining biological resources of forests, their genetic, species and ecosystem diversity as well as their sustainable use for the establishment of new forest stands
Criterion objective	Ensuring of optimal area of genetic resources and their best use for the purposes of forest regeneration
Legislative framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Act NR SR 326/2005 Coll. on forests as amended - Act NR SR 138/2010 Coll. on forest reproduction material as amended - Decree MP SR 453/2006 Coll. on forest management and forest protection as amended - Decree MPRV SR 297/2011 Z. z. on forest management records
Regional indicators	<p>4.3.1 Genetically modified tree species shall not be a part of the legal and governance framework for the recognition of resources of reproduction material (yes / no)</p> <p>4.3.2 Development of the area of gene bases of forest trees and forest stands used for seed production - approved stands, seed orchards, seed stands, clonal archives (ha)</p>
Individual indicators	<p>4.3.3 Adherence to the principles of the use of reproduction material for reforestation and afforestation originating from approved reproduction resources, keeping records of the origin of reproduction material for reforestation</p> <p>4.3.4 Compliance with the recognised specific procedures in the management of reproduction material resources</p>
Sources of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - recognition letters of sources of forest reproductive material - project of management of gene basis - certificate on origin or cover letter of forest reproductive material - card of stand origin - FMP and LHE of forest manager - results of state supervision - inspection in forest

4 PRESERVATION, PROTECTION AND ADEQUATE ENHANCEMENT OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY OF FOREST ECOSYSTEMS	
Criterion No.	4.4
Criterion title	NON-NATIVE TREE SPECIES
Full wording of criterion	Only those non-native tree species, provenances or varieties shall be used, whose impact on the ecosystem and the genetic integrity of native species and local provenances has been assessed and evaluated, and if they pose no or only limited risk to native tree species
Criterion objective	Controlling and mitigation of artificial bringing of non-native tree species or foreign provenances and forms of forest tree species into forest stands outside their current area
Legislative framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Act NR SR 543/2002 Coll. on nature and landscape protection as amended - Act NR SR 138/2010 Coll. on forest reproduction material as amended - Decree MŽP SR 24/2003 Coll. implementing the Act 543/2002 Coll. on nature and landscape protection as amended
Regional indicators	4.4.1 Share of introduced tree species on total stand area (ha,%)
Individual indicators	4.4.2 Adherence to the principles of artificial expansion of non-native tree species 4.4.3 Removal of invasive plant species on forest land applying the procedures defined by FMP
Sources of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annex 1 of Act 138/2010 Coll. "List of forest tree species and their hybrids intended for artificial reforestation and afforestation and other forestry purposes, their Latin names abbreviations and botanical name in Slovak language" - Annex 2 to Decree 24/2003 Coll. "List of invasive plant species and methods for their removal" - Annex 3 to Decree 24/2003 Coll. "List of non-native species of plants that can be planted or grown outside the urban zone" - FMP and LHE of forest manager - information of ŠOP - decisions of ŠS in the area of environment and landscape protection - inspection in forest

4 PRESERVATION, PROTECTION AND ADEQUATE ENHANCEMENT OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY OF FOREST ECOSYSTEMS	
Criterion No.	4.5
Criterion title	LEAVING STANDING WOOD
Full wording of criterion	Standing trees and dead wood shall be left in such quantities and distribution so that the existing biodiversity is maintained. Dead wood and left standing trees shall neither threaten forest visitors or the health and stability of standing forests and surrounding ecosystems.
Criterion objective	Providing the necessary volume of dead wood in the full diversity of tree species and degrees of degradation and standing trees, taking into account their possible negative impact on the surrounding stands.
Legislative framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Act NR SR 326/2005 Coll. on forests as amended - Decree MP SR 453/2006 Coll. on forest management and forest protection as amended
Regional indicators	No indicators
Individual indicators	<p>4.5.1 Number of left standing trees after the regeneration shall be in general 5 suitable individuals of old stand per 1 ha of stand area</p> <p>4.5.2 Targeted keeping of dead wood and biomass after tending and harvesting operations (up to 20 m³ per ha)</p>
Explanatory note	Mainly hollow trees, nest trees and trees with the occurrence of protected animal species shall be left
Sources of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - information of ŠOP SR - information of forest manager - inspection in forest

4 PRESERVATION, PROTECTION AND ADEQUATE ENHANCEMENT OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY OF FOREST ECOSYSTEMS	
Criterion No.	4.6
Criterion title	FORESTS OF HIGH ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES
Full wording of criterion	Forests that provide protection of forest ecosystems of high environmental values shall be managed by traditional methods, which led to their creation, or in accordance with special regulations
Criterion objective	Ensuring of specialised care for forest ecosystems in protected areas and in the individual elements of the territorial system of ecological stability defined outside the protected areas, depending on their natural character and conservation
Legislative framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Act NR SR 543/2002 Coll. on nature and landscape protection as amended - Decree MŽP SR 24/2003 Coll. implementing the Act 543/2002 Coll. on nature and landscape protection as amended - Act NR SR 326/2005 Coll. on forests as amended - Decree MP SR 453/2006 Coll. on forest management and forest protection as amended
Regional indicators	<p>4.6.1 Ecologically important forest habitats that are identified, declared protected areas, and/or committed as ÚSES elements shall be regularly terrestrially assessed and mapped</p> <p>4.6.2 FMP shall be adapted to the purpose of forests in protected areas and ÚSES elements</p> <p>4.6.3 Development of the area of forest stands according to the territorial nature protection - protected areas, NATURA 2000 areas (ha)</p> <p>4.6.4 Development of the forest area in individual levels of protection and area of specially protected forests - without active intervention (ha)</p>
Individual indicators	<p>4.6.5 Keeping of written and graphical (mapping) documentation on protected areas and identified elements of ÚSES</p> <p>4.6.6 Respecting the measures of nature protection in forest management, in particular conservation programs or plans of protected areas and eco-stabilization and management measures for ÚSES elements and cooperation with nature protection organizations in their implementation</p> <p>4.6.7 Conservation of parts of forests with functioning self-regulatory processes in non-intervention regime</p> <p>4.6.8 Utilisation of traditional management practices for the care of forest stand with rare habitats of natural coppice forests, spring areas, wetlands, rock formations and gorges</p>
Explanatory note	Requirements concerning USES apply if they are part of land-use planning documentation or consolidation projects and are reflected in the forest management plan
Sources of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - valid legislation on the declaration of the protected area - protected area management plan - thematic maps - information of ŠOP SR - FMP and records of forest manager - inspection in forest

4 PRESERVATION, PROTECTION AND ADEQUATE ENHANCEMENT OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY OF FOREST ECOSYSTEMS	
Criterion No.	4.7
Criterion title	PROTECTED AND ENDANGERED PLANT AND ANIMAL SPECIES
Full wording of criterion	Habitats of protected and endangered plants and animals shall be managed in a manner corresponding the ecological requirements of the protected species; their possible use for commercial purposes is governed by international law
Criterion objective	Maintaining areas of habitat of endangered and threatened plant and animal species in good condition
Legislative framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Act NR SR 543/2002 Coll. on nature and landscape protection as amended - Act 15/2005 Coll. on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein as amended - Decree MŽP SR 24/2003 Coll. implementing the Act 543/2002 Coll. on nature and landscape protection as amended - Act NR SR 326/2005 Coll. on forests as amended - Decree MP SR 453/2006 Coll. on forest management and forest protection as amended
Regional indicators	4.7.1 Publicly accessible list of endangered and protected species of flora and fauna
Individual indicators	4.7.2 Keeping of documentation on the occurrence of endangered and protected species of flora and fauna 4.7.3 Applied forest management measures shall not threaten the existence of habitats of protected species in the broader temporal and spatial frameworks 4.7.4 Compliance with approved management plans for species of European importance and species of national importance in the forests, including their habitats
Sources of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - information of ŠOP SR - documentation of endangered and protected species of flora and fauna - care program for species of European importance and for species of national importance - thematic maps - FMP and records of forest manager - inspection in forest

5 PRESERVATION AND ADEQUATE DEVELOPMENT OF PROTECTIVE FOREST FUNCTIONS (MAINLY SOIL PROTECTIVE AND WATER PROTECTIVE)	
Criterion No.	5.1
Criterion title	SOIL PROTECTION
Full wording of criterion	Implementation of timely and intensity appropriate management measures to maintain the functionality and resistance of forests protecting soil
Criterion objective	Protection of forest land and soil from external destructive processes
Legislative framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Act NR SR 326/2005 Coll. on forests as amended - Decree MP SR 453/2006 Coll. on forest management and forest protection as amended
Regional indicators	5.1.1 Forests fulfilling soil protective functions shall be, after assessment, declared protective forests
Individual indicators	5.1.2 Forest stands fulfilling soil protective functions shall be managed in a way that ensures their permanent forest cover 5.1.3 Implementation of effective measures to stabilize the exposed slopes and prevent erosion in traffic lanes of machines
Sources of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FMP and records of forest manager - inspection in forest

5 PRESERVATION AND ADEQUATE DEVELOPMENT OF PROTECTIVE FOREST FUNCTIONS (MAINLY SOIL PROTECTIVE AND WATER PROTECTIVE)	
Criterion No.	5.2
Criterion title	PROTECTION OF WATER RESOURCES
Full wording of criterion	Implementation of timely and intensity appropriate management measures to maintain the functionality and resistance of forests protecting water resources
Criterion objective	Ensuring the required quality and the expected intensity of water resources
Legislative framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Act NR SR 326/2005 Coll. on forests as amended - Act NR SR 364/2004 Coll. on waters as amended - Act 538/2005 Coll. on the natural healing waters, natural curative spas, spa sites and natural mineral waters as amended - Decree MP SR 453/2006 Coll. on forest management and forest protection as amended
Regional indicators	<p>5.2.1 Development of share of forests, where a planned forest management is intended to protect water resources (ha,%)</p> <p>5.2.2 The existence of forest management measures for protection of water, water resources, water ecosystems</p>
Individual indicators	<p>5.2.3 Forest management in the forests situated in spring areas, waterlogged sites, banks of water streams, reservoirs and protection zones of natural curative resources and sources of natural mineral water shall be preferably adapted to fulfilment of their protective functions</p> <p>5.2.4 Compliance with specific management regimes in the protection zones of water resources</p>
Sources of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - information of MZ, ŠS ŽP, SIŽP, - manager of water resource - user of natural healing and mineral water resource - FMP and records of forest manager - flood risk management plans - inspection in forest

5 PRESERVATION AND ADEQUATE DEVELOPMENT OF PROTECTIVE FOREST FUNCTIONS (MAINLY SOIL PROTECTIVE AND WATER PROTECTIVE)	
Criterion No.	5.3
Criterion title	WATER RETENTION REGIME IN THE LANDSCAPE
Full wording of criterion	Support of water-regulating effect of forests
Criterion objective	Reducing surface runoff by retaining precipitation
Legislative framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Act NR SR 326/2005 Coll. on forests as amended - Act NR SR 364/2004 Coll. on waters as amended - Act NR SR 7/2010 Coll. on flood protection as amended - Decree MP SR 453/2006 Coll. on forest management and forest protection as amended
Regional indicators	5.3.1 Forests fulfilling water-regulating functions shall be, after assessment, declared protective forests
Individual indicators	<p>5.3.2 Regeneration of forest stands in the water crucial areas shall be carried out under the shelter of a forest stand and the last phase of regeneration (final cut) shall be made only if the stocking of subsequent growth is more than 70% of full stocking</p> <p>5.3.3 Maintenance of the flow capacity of torrents, maintenance of functionality of existing water dams and improvement of the functionality of riparian stands - protection of the natural composition of riparian stands</p> <p>5.3.4 Functionality and efficiency of forestry ameliorations</p> <p>5.3.5 Implementation of the proposed measures in flood risk management plans</p>
Sources of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - information of ŠS LH, ŠVS - municipalities - manager of water streams - FMP and records of forest manager - flood risk management plans - inspection in forest

6 PRESERVATION OF OTHER SOCIO-ECONOMIC FUNCTIONS AND CONDITIONS	
Criterion No.	6.1
Criterion title	OWNERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT OF FOREST LAND
Full wording of criterion	Property rights and rights related to the use of forests shall be clearly defined, documented and generally respected in a given territory
Criterion objective	Respecting the rights of forest land owners to manage themselves their property
Legislative framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Act NR SR 326/2005 Coll. on forests as amended - Act 229/1991 Coll. on arrangement of the ownership rights to land and other agricultural property as amended - Act 330/1991 Coll. on land consolidation, land ownership, land offices, land fund and land communities as amended - Act NR SR 97/2013 Coll. on land communities as amended - Act 582/2004 Coll. on local taxes and local fees for municipal waste and minor construction waste as amended - Act 40/1964 Coll. Civil Code as amended - Decree MP SR 65/1995 Coll. on registration of forest land and buildings as amended
Regional indicators	<p>6.1.1 The area of forest land broken down by type of ownership - public, private, communities, church, agricultural cooperatives, municipal, unknown (ha)</p> <p>6.1.2 Property rights shall be respected and conferred to legitimate owners without delay</p>
Individual indicators	<p>6.1.3 Keeping of documentation of forest land register (written part, map section, collection of documents) classified by legal grounds of their management</p> <p>6.1.4 Handling with the common real estate or jointly managed real estate shall be performed on the basis of a written community contract</p> <p>6.1.5. Maintenance of property boundaries in the terrain</p> <p>6.1.6 Foreign property may be used for the purposes of forest production only on the basis of an agreement with the owner or a decision of bodies of ŠS LH. After tenure is discontinued the property shall be returned to the state agreed with the owner or designated in the decision</p> <p>6.1.7 Terms and agreements regarding financial obligations related to management of forest land (rent, property tax, penalties, etc.) shall be immediately fulfilled</p>
Explanatory note	Land under the ongoing dispute over the ownership or management shall not be included in certification
Sources of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - proprietary documents - tenancy contracts - records of forests land and buildings - documentation of court cases - respective tax office - inspection in forest

6 PRESERVATION OF OTHER SOCIO-ECONOMIC FUNCTIONS AND CONDITIONS	
Criterion No.	6.2
Criterion title	WORKFORCE IN FORESTRY SECTOR
Full wording of criterion	Creation of standard working conditions for employees and contractors
Criterion objective	Stabilisation of employment in rural areas
Legislative framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Act NR SR 311/2001 Coll. Labour Code as amended - Act 513/91 Coll. Commercial Code as amended - Act NR SR 125/2006 Coll. on labour inspection and on amendment of Act 82/2005 Coll. on illegal work and illegal employment as amended
Regional indicators	<p>6.2.1 The existence of legal and governance framework governing labour relations, including collective bargaining</p> <p>6.2.2 The existence of collective agreement of higher level</p>
Individual indicators	<p>6.2.3 Respecting the rights of workers to associate and organize themselves; the implementation of a collective agreement or similar obligations (ILO Conventions 87 and 98)</p> <p>6.2.4 The rights and responsibilities of employees arising from the employment relationship, at least in accordance with the Labour Code shall be listed in the collective agreement, working contract or in other contractually binding document</p> <p>6.2.5 Conditions for performing forestry activities shall not discriminate against the local population</p> <p>6.2.6 Commitments for work shall be paid on time and in the agreed amount</p> <p>6.2.7 Ensuring staff awareness on matters related to occupation and its social impacts and ensuring the possibility to participate in decision-making</p>
Sources of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - collective agreements or similar obligations - statements or complaints of employees or contractors - working contracts - subcontracts - information of Labour Inspectorate, trade unions, local governments

6 PRESERVATION OF OTHER SOCIO-ECONOMIC FUNCTIONS AND CONDITIONS	
Criterion No.	6.3
Criterion title	LABOUR SAFETY AND HEALTH PROTECTION AT WORK
Full wording of criterion	Work in the forest are carried out in accordance with the principles of safety and health at work
Criterion objective	Reducing number of injuries and occupational diseases
Legislative framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Act NR SR 124/2006 Coll. on safety and health protection at work and on the amendment of certain acts as amended - Act NR SR 355/2007 Coll. on the protection, promotion and development of public health and amending certain acts as amended - Decree MPSVaR SR 46/2010 Coll. laying down details to ensure the safety and health protection of forest work and details of professional competence for the performance of certain work activities and the operation of certain technical equipment as amended
Regional indicators	<p>6.3.1 The existence of legal and governance framework governing the conditions for ensuring safety and health at forest work</p> <p>6.3.2 Regular controls of safety and health at work carried out by an independent inspection body (yes / no)</p> <p>6.3.3 Trend of occurrence of professional diseases or occupational diseases and injuries</p>
Individual indicators	<p>6.3.4 Forest workers shall have professional and health competences to carry out forestry activities</p> <p>6.3.5 Specific conditions of workplace, warning signs, risk assessment and procedure in the event of health injury shall be provided in writing and in an appropriate manner during work assignment</p> <p>6.3.6 Used production facilities, devices, tools and equipment, including personal protective equipment shall be in good condition</p> <p>6.3.7 Monitoring of compliance with the essential requirements of safety and health at work by participants in forestry operations</p> <p>6.3.8 Health and safety hazardous places shall be marked with warning signs</p>
Sources of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - documentation of safety and health protection at work - professional licenses and medical certificates - technological protocols - interviews with employees and suppliers - inspection in forest

6 PRESERVATION OF OTHER SOCIO-ECONOMIC FUNCTIONS AND CONDITIONS	
Criterion No.	6.4
Criterion title	PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH
Full wording of criterion	Sustainable forest management shall be exercised by qualified persons according to the latest scientific knowledge and research
Criterion objective	Supporting technological development, innovations and faster transfer of their results into practice
Legislative framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Act NR SR 245/2008 Coll. on education and training as amended - Act NR SR 568/2009 Coll. on lifelong learning as amended
Regional indicators	6.4.1 Interrelated system of professional training in forestry 6.4.2 The existence of programs of basic and applied research in forestry
Individual indicators	6.4.3 Organization and management of forest production shall be provided by persons with the necessary skills and education 6.4.4 Persons performing forest work shall hold valid licenses (license of professional competence) 6.4.5 Persons responsible for the forest production processes shall have sufficient access to information on sustainable forest management and possibilities for continuing education in this area 6.4.6 Constructive cooperation with scientific and research institutions in science and research projects and implementation of their realization outcomes 6.4.7 Sufficiency of to-date information on the results of technological development and innovations; use opportunities for enhancing professional growth
Sources of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - educational programs - institutions and schools with forestry education programs - scientific and research institutions

6 PRESERVATION OF OTHER SOCIO-ECONOMIC FUNCTIONS AND CONDITIONS	
Criterion No.	6.5
Criterion title	ACCESSIBILITY OF FORESTS FOR RECREATION
Full wording of criterion	Creation of biologically rich and aesthetically impressive forest nature adapted to the needs and interests of forest visitors
Criterion objective	Promoting recreational and health use of forests
Legislative framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Act NR SR 326/2005 Coll. on forests as amended - Decree MP SR 453/2006 Coll. on forest management and forest protection as amended
Regional indicators	6.5.1 Development of forest area accessible for recreation
Individual indicators	<p>6.5.2 Suitable and safe forest land and infrastructure (accommodation facilities, forest road network) shall be available for purposes of recreation, leisure, recreation, sport and culture to the public</p> <p>6.5.3 Co-operation in the establishment and maintenance of urban and thermal spa and curative forests in good condition</p>
Sources of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - information of IS LH NLC - information of forest manager - inspection in forest

6 PRESERVATION OF OTHER SOCIO-ECONOMIC FUNCTIONS AND CONDITIONS	
Criterion No.	6.6
Criterion title	CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL VALUES IN FORESTS
Full wording of criterion	Protection of historically and culturally significant forestry objects and forest-related sites
Criterion objective	Preserving historical, spiritual and cultural monuments
Legislative framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Act NR SR 543/2002 Coll. on nature and landscape protection as amended - Act NR SR 49/2002 Coll. on the protection of monuments, as amended - Act NR SR 326/2005 Coll. on forests as amended - Decree MP SR 453/2006 Coll. on forest management and forest protection as amended
Regional indicators	6.6.1 Places important for their historical, cultural, spiritual and social values shall be subject to protection or managed with regard to their significance
Individual indicators	6.6.2 Cooperation in maintaining places of special historical, cultural or spiritual significance in favourable conditions 6.6.3 Alleys, vegetation shields and aesthetically impressive trees shall be left mainly in places with landscape significance
Sources of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - information of the Monuments Board of SR, ŠOP SR, local governments - documentation of forest manager - inspection in forest

6 PRESERVATION OF OTHER SOCIO-ECONOMIC FUNCTIONS AND CONDITIONS	
Criterion No.	6.7
Criterion title	AWARENESS AND OPENNESS
Full wording of criterion	The public shall be competently informed about the nature and results of SFM and have the right to express an opinion
Criterion objective	Active public participation in the SFM processes
Legislative framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Act NR SR 326/2005 Coll. on forests as amended - Act NR SR 211/2000 Coll. on free access to information as amended
Regional indicators	<p>6.7.1 Interrelated system of forestry and environmental awareness and education of children and youth</p> <p>6.7.2 Publications and information materials on SFM (yes / no)</p>
Individual indicators	<p>6.7.3 Forest management plans, relevant maps, basic management frameworks and information on the results of forest management shall be publicly available, except of confidential information that are subject to business secret</p> <p>6.7.4 Communication with local governments, local communities and non-governmental organisations on impacts of SFM on the quality of life and ecosystems - adequate proposals shall be incorporated into implementation plans</p> <p>6.7.5 Resolving motions and requests, complaints and disputes relating to forest management between forest managers and local citizens and associations shall be documented in writing.</p> <p>6.7.6 Public events and operating of public educational facilities for the public</p>
Sources of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - media, information materials - public events - internet web pages - documentation of forest manager - inspection in forest

7 COMPLIANCE WITH LEGAL REQUIREMENTS	
Criterion No.	7.1
Criterion title	APPLICABLE LEGISLATION
Full wording of criterion	Forest management shall be in accordance with the legislation in the field of forestry, including methods of forest management, nature conservation and the environment of protected and endangered species, ownership, tenure and use rights of the local population, health, protection and safety at work and payment of fees and taxes.
Criterion objective	Ensuring legality compliance in forest management
Legislative framework	Legislation in the area of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) forestry, b) environment, nature and landscape protection and water resources, c) protection of property rights, social and workers' rights, d) safety and health at work, e) fire protection, f) provision of information, g) monuments conservation and the use of public forests, h) trade relations, i) tax and contribution obligations.
Regional indicators	7.1.1 Gathering and analysing of information from the respective state authorities concerning compliance with the applicable legislation in the field of forestry
Individual indicators	7.1.2 Compliance with applicable legislation relating to forest management
Sources of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - respective state administration bodies - documentation of forest manager

7 COMPLIANCE WITH LEGAL REQUIREMENTS	
Criterion No.	7.2
Criterion title	PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES
Full wording of criterion	Forest management shall ensure adequate protection of forests against unauthorized activities
Criterion objective	Protection of forest land from unauthorized activities
Legislative framework	- Act NR SR 326/2005 Coll. on forests as amended
Regional indicators	7.2.1 The existence of legal framework governing the protection of forests against unauthorized activities
Individual indicators	7.2.2 Notification of competent authorities of activities which are in conflict with the legislation in the area of forest management
Sources of information	- respective state administration bodies - documentation of forest manager