

# NATIONAL FOREST PROGRAMME

FOR THE PERIOD UNTIL 2013

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Motto:

*"Strong economic performance must go hand in hand with the sustainable use of natural resources."*

Guiding principles for the Common Agricultural Policy, market and rural development policies." The European Council, Göteborg (2001)

**NATIONAL  
FOREST  
PROGRAMME**



## **RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC**

No. 1221 of 1 October 2008  
on the National Forest Programme for the period until 2013

The Government

**I. ratifies** the National Forest Programme for the period until 2013, mentioned in Part III of the document filed under Ref. No. 1461/08 (hereinafter "the Programme");

**II. imposes**

1. on the Minister of Agriculture and on the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Environment to take into account the provisions of the Programme in preparing draft material objectives of the Act on Forests and the Act on State Forests,
2. on the 1st Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Regional Development, on the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Environment, on the Minister of Industry and Trade, Minister of Agriculture, Minister of Education, Youth and Sports and on the Minister of Defence, to take into account the objectives of the Programme in the implementation of medium-term policies in their departments and in the preparation of related legal regulations,
3. on the Minister of Agriculture to inform regional governors and the Mayor of the City of Prague about the Programme;

**III. recommends**

1. to the Minister of Agriculture to update the Programme after year 2013 in cooperation with the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Environment according to the actual development of the state of forests and forestry,
2. to regional governors and the Mayor of the City of Prague to take into account the objectives of the Programme in the implementation of medium-term policies of regions and to draw up regional forest development programmes.

To be executed by:

1<sup>st</sup> Deputy Prime Minister and  
Minister for Regional Development,  
Deputy Prime Minister and  
Minister of the Environment,  
Ministers of Education, Youth and Sports,  
Agriculture, Industry and Trade,  
Minister of Defence

For information to:

Regional governors,  
Mayor of the City of Prague

Prime Minister  
Mirek Topolánek in his own hand

## 1. Introduction

National Forest Programmes (hereinafter “NFPs”) are presently viewed as concepts designed for the implementation of sustainable forest management and long-term enhancement of forestry competitiveness in a manner respecting national sovereignty. NFPs form part of the national forest policy and they concurrently serve as a platform for the fulfilment of the European Union Forestry Strategy.

The 1998 Community Forestry Strategy set the framework of activities for forestry with its main objective to support sustainable forest management. The Strategy underlines the importance of a multifunctional role of forests and defines the guiding fundamentals and principles decisive for the realization thereof.

NFPs are designed to provide a planning framework delimiting the influence of other sectors on forest policy, raise awareness concerning the significance of forests and ensure participation of the responsible government departments and interest groups in the problem-solving process with regards to forests and forestry. The Programmes shall further create prerequisites for safeguarding adequate capacities and concentrate on controversial issues being solved by various competent state institutions.

In Europe, forestry is perceived as pertaining to rural development and land use with its three pillars (groups of forest functions). These functions, the fulfilment of which is carried out in line with the principle of sustainable development, are economic, environmental and social.

Group of economic forest functions – their strategic objective is long-term enhancement of forestry competitiveness and increased utilization of forest products, goods and services in the life of the society.

Group of environmental forest functions – their strategic objective is to preserve and enhance biological diversity, integrity, health and resistance of forest ecosystems on the local scale with respect to a possible scenario of global and landscape changes.

Group of social forest functions – their strategic objective is to contribute to the quality of life by preserving and enhancing the social and cultural dimensions of forests and forest management.

The National Forest Programme for the period until 2013 (hereinafter “NFP II”) amends and complements the National Forest Programme passed by Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic No. 53 of 13 January 2003 and respects the

below stated international treaties, agreements, conventions and directives of the EU.

Within the preparations for the implementation of the measures of the 2003 National Forest Programme, a number of expert opinions were elaborated providing a detailed analysis of the factual and forest policy context and of the prerequisites for the solution of forestry-related issues as defined by the Programme. With different levels of detail and consistency, the expert opinions also proposed the necessary steps towards such amendments to legal regulations, economic measures, research programmes, and educational and awareness raising activities that would bring improvement in the state of the forests and increase the potential for their rational and multi-purpose utilization. The proposals of the expert opinions were practically implemented only to a limited extent due to the relatively short time available and the fact that they had neither undergone an interdepartmental debate, nor had they been subject to a wider expert discussion. One of the main circumstances delaying the potential realization of the decisive changes is the postponed amendment to (or potential new elaboration of) the Forest Act from which a series of other necessary steps might ensue. The results from the expert opinions together with the assignments were at a full disposal to the NFP II authors so that they could entirely adopt and incorporate into the NFP II measures all the suggestions that have not been sufficiently realized and are still not out of date. A summary report is also available, assessing the contribution of all prepared expert opinions related to the 2003 NFP.

### 1.1. International treaties, agreements, conventions and directives of the EU

| Name of the treaty, agreement, convention  | In force from    |
|--|------------------|
| ■ United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change  | 21 March 1994    |
| ■ The Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change                        | 16 February 2005 |
| ■ Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)   | 3 March 1994     |
| ■ Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety  | 11 March 2003    |
| ■ Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)                | 1 January 1993   |
| ■ European Landscape Convention  | 1 October 2004   |
| ■ Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn Convention)                  | 1 May 1994       |
| ■ Agreement on the Conservation of Populations of European Bats (EUROBATS)                               | 26 March 1994    |
| ■ Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar Convention) | 1 January 1993   |

- Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) 1 June 1998
- Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage 1 January 1993
- Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA) 1 September 2006
- International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. Adopted at the 31st meeting of the FAO Conference 3 November 2001
- Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians 4 June 2006

## EU directives and documents

- Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds 2 April 1978
- Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora 21 May 1992
- Council Directive 1999/22/EC relating to the keeping of wild animals in zoos 29 March 1999
- Directive 2000/60/EC establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy 23 October 2000
- Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment (also 85/337/EEC as amended by the Directive 97/11/EC) 27 June 2001
- Directive 2003/4 EC on public access to environmental information 28 January 2003
- Council Conclusions on the European Union Forestry Strategy (Community Forestry Strategy) 15 December 1998
- Communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament on an EU Forest Action Plan (EU Forest Action Plan) 15 June 2006

## Ministerial Conferences on the Protection of Forests in Europe

### Strasbourg 1990 – General Declaration

#### Resolutions:

- S1: European Network of Permanent Sample Plots for Monitoring of Forest Ecosystems
- S2: Conservation of Forest Genetic Resources
- S3: Decentralized European Data Bank on Forest Fires
- S4: Adapting the Management of Mountain Forests to New Environmental Conditions
- S5: Expansion of the EUROSILVA Network of Research on Tree Physiology

### Helsinki 1993 – General Declaration

#### Resolutions:

- H1: General Guidelines for the Sustainable Management of Forests in Europe

- H2: General Guidelines for the Conservation of the Biodiversity of European Forests
- H3: Forestry Cooperation with Countries with Economies in Transition
- H4: Strategies for a Process of Long-term Adaptation of Forests in Europe to Climate Change

### Lisbon 1998 – General Declaration

#### Resolutions:

- L1: People, Forests and Forestry (Enhancement of Socio-Economic Aspects of Sustainable Forest Management)
- L2: Pan-European Criteria, Indicators and Operational Level Guidelines for Sustainable Forest Management; Pan-European Guidelines for Sustainable Forest Management

### Vienna 2003 – Vienna Living Forest Summit Declaration

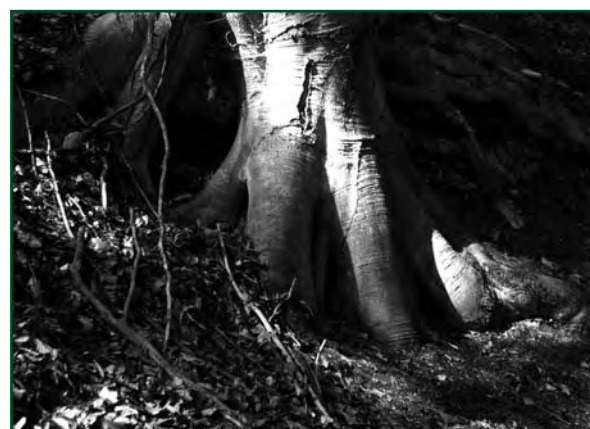
#### Resolutions:

- V1: Strengthen Synergies for Sustainable Forest Management in Europe through Cross-Sectoral Co-Operation and National Forest Programmes
- V2: Enhancing Economic Viability of Sustainable Forest Management in Europe
- V3: Preserving and Enhancing the Social and Cultural Dimensions of Sustainable Forest Management in Europe
- V4: Conserving and Enhancing Forest Biological Diversity in Europe
- V5: Climate Change and Sustainable Forest Management in Europe

### Warsaw 2007 – Warsaw Declaration

#### Resolutions:

- W1: Forests, Wood and Energy
- W2: Forests and Water



## 2. External factors affecting the current Czech forest policy

### 2.1. Economic sphere:

- Due to the gradual depletion of traditional sources of energy and course of prices, a growing pressure on the utilization of forest biomass as a renewable energy source is expected,
- Cost pressure on the level of European prices of timber and sawn timber will not cease due to inexpensive imports from non-EU countries,
- Execution of the EU Council Regulation on preventing imports of illegal timber (FLEGT) from third countries into the EU Member States,
- In the EU, a different level of quality and sensitivity in forest management will persist on the grounds of national legislations, directly impacting the cost price level of the produced timber,
- The trend towards the enhancement of forestry competitiveness and viability will continue in the EU countries.

### 2.2. Environmental sphere

- The principles of the Kyoto Protocol and other legally binding conventions focusing on the environment are being implemented on the basis of a legislative commitment of the Czech Republic,
- The principles of the environmental pillar of the Pan-European process on the conservation of European forests and principles of the Global Conference on Sustainable Development are being implemented into the Czech legislation on the grounds of a political commitment,
- Nature conservation within the EU structures exercises its unifying role with respect to the national legislations,
- Various certification systems are supported as market instruments for the enforcement of sustainable forest management (e.g. PEFC or FSC),
- The trend towards environmental pressure on forestry and strengthening of public interest in the forests in the EU countries will continue.

### 2.3. Social sphere

- The social pillar principles of the Pan-European process on the conservation of European forests are being implemented into the Czech legislation on the grounds of a political commitment,
- For the period of 2007 – 2013, the financial support to forests from EAFRD in the axis 3, 4 is planned with the aim to reinforce the social aspect of forestry for the rural development,
- The European Social Charter is in force,
- The public view of forests is changing because the great majority of the population live in cities and the public perceives the forests chiefly as an environment serving for relaxation, recreation and sports,
- The significance of forests for employment of rural population and development of services in the rural space is underestimated.



## 3. Present state of forests and forest sector in the Czech Republic (Data as of December 31, 2006)

The Czech Republic is a country with high forest coverage. Woodlands currently occupy an area of 2,655.490 ha, which represents 33.7% of the total country area. Forest area has been continually increasing thanks to afforestation of agricultural land, i.e. of land not used for agricultural production.

Czech forests are owned by the state (59.6%), by municipalities, forest cooperatives, administrative regions and public universities (17.1%), and by private persons (23.3%). Restitution of Church property has not been completed yet.

In terms of prevailing functions (in the sense of categorization specified in Act No. 289/1995 Coll.), 76% of Czech forests are commercial forests, 21% special-purpose forests and 3% protection forests.

A part of the forests occur in special protected areas, demarcated in accordance with the provisions of Act No. 114/1992 Coll. Total area of forests in existing special protected areas (SPA) of various levels of protection is approx. 750 thousand ha, which represents approx. 28.4% of total forest area in the Czech Republic. The size of protected areas in proportion to the country land area as well as the number of

timber and bird species, including protected ones, slightly exceed the European average.

The species and spatial composition of Czech forests was altered in the past in effort to increase timber production and to satisfy the demand for the most frequently required tree species, which resulted in the today's greater share of coniferous (76%) than broadleaved (24%) species.

The results from the analyzed descriptions of species composition in the units of spatial forest arrangement (subcompartments, stands and management units), listed in the forest management plans and forest management guidelines in force (1997-2006), indicate that individual units of spatial forest arrangement vary as to the mixture of forest stands. While the subcompartments and stands prevail rather mixed with other tree species over 30% (50.11%, 48.58%, resp.), the species composition of management units is significantly different with prevailing pure forest stands (monocultures) with interspersed woody species of up to max. 10% (38.49%).

At the level of subcompartments with their average area of 7.28 ha, 18.36% are pure subcompartments (with interspersed tree species of up to 10%), 31.52% subcompartments with admixture (admixture of other tree species 10-30%), and 50.12% mixed subcompartments (admixture of other tree species higher than 30%).

At the level of stands with their average area of 3.38 ha, 20.18% are pure stands (with interspersed tree species of up to

### Forest coverage of special protected areas in 2006

| Category of special protected areas (SPA)  | NP    | PLA               | NNR  | NNM  | NR   | NM    | Areas outside SPA |
|--|-------|-------------------|------|------|------|-------|-------------------|
| Number of areas  | 4     | 25                | 112  | 104  | 779  | 1 193 |                   |
| Total acreage (1 000 ha)   | 119.5 | 1 086.7           | 27.3 | 2.8  | 36.7 | 27.3  |                   |
| % of country land area   | 1.52  | 13.78             | 0.36 | 0.04 | 0.47 | 0.35  |                   |
| Forest land (1 000 ha)   | 104.0 | 588.5             | 23.1 | 1.6  | 16.1 | 19.0  |                   |
| Forest cover (%)   | 87    | 54                | 82   | 57   | 44   | 70    |                   |
| Area of natural forests <sup>1)</sup> (1 000 ha)                                   | 14.4  | 1.1 <sup>2)</sup> | 7.1  | 0.3  | 6.0  | 0.5   | 0.5               |
| Area of forests left to long-term spontaneous development (1 000 ha) <sup>3)</sup> | 5.9   | 0.1               | 2.5  | 0.1  | 0.8  | 0.1   | 0.1               |

Source: AOPK ČR (Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection of the Czech Republic) and Databank of Natural Forests

Legend: NP – National Park, PLA – Protected Landscape Area, NNR – National Nature Reserve, NNM – National Nature Monument, NR – Nature Reserve, NM – Nature Monument

<sup>1)</sup> Different from the MCPFE Indicator 4.3 Naturalness, classified as "undisturbed by man" <sup>2)</sup> Area of natural forests in PLAs outside small-scale SPAs

<sup>3)</sup> Sum of areas of the subcategories of forests denoted as "primeval forests" and "natural forests" that are used to denote forests left to long-term spontaneous development

### TYPE OF MIXTURE – BY THE REPRESENTATION OF INDIVIDUAL SPECIES – SUMMARY FOR THE CZECH REPUBLIC

| species   | represent. of indiv.sp. | admixture | symbol | share (%) |        |        | average acreage |       |      |
|-----------|-------------------------|-----------|--------|-----------|--------|--------|-----------------|-------|------|
|           |                         |           |        | subc.     | stand  | unit   | subc.           | stand | unit |
| TOTAL C+B |                         |           |        |           |        |        |                 |       |      |
|           | 90+                     | pure      | P      | 18.36     | 20.18  | 38.49  | 6.06            | 1.99  | 0.92 |
|           | 70-90                   | admixture | A      | 31.52     | 31.25  | 29.81  | 7.89            | 3.79  | 1.33 |
|           | -70                     | mixed     | M      | 50.11     | 48.58  | 31.71  | 7.48            | 4.34  | 1.49 |
|           | total                   |           |        | 100.00    | 100.00 | 100.00 | 7.28            | 3.38  | 1.17 |

Source: Data store FMI, 2006

10%), 31.25% stands with admixture (admixture of other tree species 10-30%), and 48.58% mixed stands (admixture of other tree species higher than 30%).

At the level of management units with their average area of 1.17 ha, 38.49% are pure management units (with interspersed tree species of up to 10%), 29.81% management units with admixture (admixture of other tree species 10-30%), and 31.51% mixed management units (admixture of other tree species higher than 30%).

The share of broadleaves practically doubled in the last 50 years (1950 – 12.5 %, 2006 – 23.9 %). Although the share of broadleaves and fir in forest regeneration increased (in 2005 – 41.5 %), the representation of autochthonous broadleaf species and silver fir is still insufficient in the Czech conditions.

In connection with the requirement of sustainable forest management, the government puts an ever-greater emphasis on forestry as a provider of renewable natural raw material (timber), biodiversity and socially beneficial functions of public interest.

### 3.1. Volume of growing stock and timber harvest

The volume of growing stock has been continually increasing. The volume recorded in the territory of today's Czech Republic in 1930 was 307 million m<sup>3</sup>; in 1980, it was 536 million m<sup>3</sup> and in 2006, the volume reached 668 million m<sup>3</sup>. Since 2005, the data have been available from the National Forest Inventory (NFI). According to the inventory data, the volume of growing stock in the Czech Republic amounts to 907 million m<sup>3</sup>. The considerable difference from the former records originates from different methodologies (e.g., NFI includes growing stock outside the forest and of secondary stands).

Harvesting relates to the development of production capacities of the forest. Average cut from 2000 to 2006 was 15.31 million m<sup>3</sup>, which is more than the European average if expressed per capita and per hectare of forest land. Total mean increment (TMI) for the same period was 17.06 million m<sup>3</sup>. In the last 7 years, cuts were on average 89.53 % of TMI, which is an indicator of the sustainable volume felled.

However, the utilization of wood raw material and adding it more value by domestic processing industry, as well as the consumption and recycling of wood products, are extremely low. More than a half of the harvested timber is exported raw or as semi-products. The level of timber production and namely

consumption of wood products at a higher stage of finalization is low and cannot bear comparison with other economically developed European countries. The development of modern capacities of forest-based industries is so far focused, with a strong participation of foreign capital, mainly on wood and paper semi-products with a high proportion of raw material and a low proportion of value added by further processing.

The economic results of forest management exhibit a long-term decreasing trend. This is a consequence of gradually increasing production costs and floating prices of raw timber. The expected development of revenues and costs in the Czech forestry signals a further decrease in profitability in this segment of industry.

### 3.2. Raw timber exports and imports

|      | Export               | Import               |
|------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Year | 1 000 m <sup>3</sup> | 1 000 m <sup>3</sup> |
| 2000 | 2 480                | 831                  |
| 2001 | 3 011                | 1 060                |
| 2002 | 2 764                | 1 255                |
| 2003 | 3 632                | 734                  |
| 2004 | 3 850                | 866                  |
| 2005 | 3 649                | 1 360                |
| 2006 | 3 773                | 1 366                |

### 3.3 Health of forests

The health of Czech forests is still not satisfactory. Trends in the health of forest stands are similar in the Czech Republic as in the neighbouring countries. It is affected, depending on local conditions, mainly by the following factors:

- extreme meteorological phenomena as a consequence of global climate change;
- previous and currently existing air-pollution and ecological loads;
- insufficient utilization of natural processes in forest management (improper use of clear cutting, high proportion of artificial regeneration, insufficient utilization of pioneer tree species in the regeneration of clear-cuts due to outbreaks or natural disasters, improper species and spatial composition);
- improper game management;
- harmful biotic agents and their mobilization.

Another problem is the decreased biodiversity of some species groups, namely soil organisms, insects and fungi.

#### Total annual harvest and Total mean increment

|   | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Volume of harvested timber (million m <sup>3</sup> )          | 14.4 | 14.4 | 14.5 | 15.1 | 15.6 | 15.5 | 17.7 |
| Total mean increment (million m <sup>3</sup> under bark/year) | 16.8 | 16.8 | 16.8 | 17.0 | 17.2 | 17.3 | 17.5 |



## 4. Key terms and principles of NFP

■ The following are the most important NFP principles: sustainable forest management with administrative interventions of the state reduced to an inevitable minimum, motivation incentives on the part of the government forest policy to support public interests and the increasing responsibility of forest owners for their properties. A differentiated approach to forests is expected according to the category, size and type of ownership.

■ The scale of inclination towards more natural management was defined by the following terms: sustainable management and more natural management practices.

The concept of more natural management practices relates to the application of selection principles. After many years of applying these principles, a stage of the selection forest is achieved, in which, management by selection system is possible.

■ Sustainable forest management is defined as management and exploitation of forests and forest soil in such a way and to such an extent that will preserve their biodiversity, production potential and capacity of regeneration, vitality and ability to fulfil adequate environmental, economic and social functions at local, national and global levels today and in the future, and that will not cause harm to other ecosystems.

■ Forest is the main carrier of biological diversity overlapping into the open landscape. The value of this biodiversity depends on the level of naturalness and relates, among other things, to the species and spatial composition of the forest.

■ The legal regulations will put greater emphasis on forests owned by the state and/or on municipal forests as to the fulfilment of their social and environmental functions including the implementation of more natural management practices at the same level of competitiveness.

■ The state needs to formulate its contracts with forest owners and entities managing state forests in order to accentuate long-term multifunctional requirements of the society based on



public interest and to resolve the compensation measures individually according to the respective types of ownership.

■ The terms forest and forest ecosystem are understood as synonyms.

|  | <b>Sustainable management</b>                                      | <b>More natural management practices</b>  |
|--|--|---|
| Clear-cuts                             | Regulation of clear-cut size                                       | Elimination of clear cutting<br>(selection of individual trees – not the selection system)                    |
| Structure and tree species composition | Mixed stands with the preference of commercially important species | Respect of potential natural vegetation<br>(slightly increased share of commercially attractive tree species) |
| Introduced tree species                | Introduced species are acceptable                                  | Management of autochthonous species only  |
| Forest management planning –age        | Time arrangement of the forest – object of interest is the stand   | Age is not applicable as a variable in forest management and planning – object of interest is the tree        |
| Forest management planning – felling   | Volume of growing stock is the groundwork for harvest planning     | Total current increment and target tree dimensions are the groundwork for planning of cuts                    |

## 5. SWOT Analysis

### 5.1 Economic pillar:

#### 5.1.1. Strong points of the forestry economic pillar

- Forestry and related forest-based industries represent an important part of national economy as their share in GDP is 5 – 7% (forestry approx. 0.7% of GDP, related forest-based industries 5 – 6% of GDP; these are qualified estimates – separate statistics not available),
- forest area has been gradually increasing in modern history,
- volume of growing stock has been increasing and the merchantable spruce represents a major part,
- forestry shows increasing labour productivity.

#### 5.1.2. Weak points of the forestry economic pillar

- Economic potential of forests is growing slower than social and ecological requirements imposed on the forest,
- positive externalities and services provided by forests are not sufficiently used and taken into account in economic processes,
- forestry does not have a uniform economic information system that would allow for detailed economic analyses,
- structural drawbacks of private forests (fragmentation and size of properties) do not support economic efficiency of forest management,
- potential of wood as a renewable source of energy is not sufficiently utilized,
- high share of spruce in the growing stock represents an economic risk in the future in respect of the anticipated climate change,
- overpopulated hoofed game adversely affects forest management economy,
- insufficient attention is paid to the economic context of more natural management,
- imperfect system of compensations awarded to forest owners for restrictions in forest management due to nature conservation reasons,
- complicated administrative system of EU subsidies hinders their greater use.

### 5.2. Environmental pillar:

#### 5.2.1. Strong points of the forestry environmental pillar

- Forests represent a fundamental potential of biological diversity in the Czech Republic and contain the most preserved constituents of our nature (approx. 28% of forests occur in special protected areas),
- forests are managed in a differentiated manner based on forest typology,
- in respect of their capacity to fix CO<sub>2</sub> in biomass and forest soil, forests represent a factor mitigating the impacts of climate change,
- forests are source of environmentally clean, renewable raw material,
- natural species composition was determined on the basis of a typological survey,
- depending on their condition, forests positively influence water management in the landscape, protect soil from erosion and fulfil other non-wood functions.

#### 5.2.2. Weak points of the forestry environmental pillar

- Insufficient utilization of natural processes in forest management,
- non-existing comparative space and legislative prerequisites for more natural management,
- previous and existing environmental air-pollution loads,
- improper hoofed game management in most hunting grounds,
- timber species composition in most forests differs from natural and recommended composition,
- domestic timber processing and value adding as well as consumption of wood-based products are low,
- risks resulting from the expected climate changes and lower environmental stability of forests are not taken into account sufficiently in forest management.

### 5.3. Social pillar:

#### 5.3.1. Strong points of the forestry social pillar

- Forests contribute to rural development by giving jobs to rural population,

- forests provide goods and services beneficial for citizens, their health and quality of life. This includes mainly leisure activities, recreation and sports,
- forests are open to public regardless of the type of ownership,
- community is interested in forests and its links to forests are emotive.

### 5.3.2. Weak points of the forestry social pillar

- General problem is a weak position of forestry within public administration,
- social situation of employees in forestry is unsatisfactory; their position on the income scale and on the social ladder is one of the lowest,
- sufficient prerequisites have not been created to use forest benefits in order to engage local forestry and timber-processing businesses and develop infrastructure and services of rural economy and regions,
- community is not properly informed about the actual conditions of forests and the needs of forestry,
- multifunctional character of forests is insufficiently perceived by the community,
- conflicts exist between local authorities and state forest administration,
- the relation of owners to their forest properties was discontinued by force for a period of forty years.

### 5.4. Challenges

- In the period from 2007-2013, a financial aid from EAFRD is counted on in Axis 1 to enhance competitiveness of forestry for rural development, along with the public aid from the state budget and from the resources of individual administrative regions,
- in the period from 2007-2013, a financial aid from EAFRD is counted on in Axis 2 to strengthen environmental aspects of forestry for rural development, along with the public aid from the state budget and from the resources of individual administrative regions,
- in the period from 2007-2013, a financial aid is counted on from the OP Environment, Priority 6 – improvement of the nature and landscape condition,
- increased use of timber and wood-based products, and their recycling as renewable ecological raw material with a view to contribute to the mitigation of climate change,
- in suitable localities, to utilize the timber potential (forest

- biomass) for energy purposes (solution of population's energetic needs, substitution of fossil fuels),
- employment of more natural management practices,
- utilization of the recreational potential of the forest,
- strengthening of the multifunctional role of forests, particularly of state forests,
- creation of additional funds in forest enterprises from the hitherto non-marketed products and services,
- on the basis of the principle of precaution, to enhance the species and spatial composition of the forest,
- enhancement of the society's awareness and regard of forests and forestry,
- to increase the contribution of forests to rural development.

### 5.5. Threats

- Expected climate change and its impact on forestry,
- conflict of interest between various policies involving forestry,
- excessive biomass removal from forests for energy purposes,
- persisting impact of air pollution, especially long-term damage to soils,
- persisting excessive hoofed game populations in many hunting grounds,
- damage to forest environment caused by visitors to forests,
- outflow of rural population from the countryside due to the shortage of jobs,
- leasing of state forests,
- lower environmental stability of forests jeopardizes balanced and sustained timber production,
- non-systematic and incompetent state administration of forests, mainly at lower organizational levels.



## 6. Objectives, key actions and measures

The structure of measures is based on four basic objectives defined in the EU Forest Action Plan. The measures respond to the most important problems of Czech forestry that were identified in the analytical section of the NFP. The measures proposed in the main frameworks respect the primary objectives of the European Community Forest Strategy and the national specificities of the hitherto development of forestry in the Czech Republic.

### **OBJECTIVE I. ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM COMPETITIVENESS – ECONOMIC PILLAR**

#### **Key action 1:**

##### **To increase economic viability and competitiveness of sustainable forest management**

1.1. To establish through legislation minimum forest management requirements with respect to sustainability and competitiveness of Czech forestry, individually by the type of ownership and size of land property, and to compensate the impact of social and ecological requirements reaching beyond this framework.

1.2. To review the legislative requirements for small forest properties with a view of softening some legal provisions.

1.3. To propose a system of adequate compensations for damage and loss incurred to forest owners on their properties and to eliminate legal problems related to compensations for the restrictions in forest management due to nature conservation.

1.4. To modify the existing system of public aid to forestry with a view of enhancing its competitiveness, supporting social and ecological requirements, ensuring mutual support of policies and preventing subsidies with adverse effects. To intensify the coordination of public aids in cooperation with the central bodies of state administration and regions, and to develop an effective information system regarding potential public aid for forest owners.

1.5. To support financially the area of investments with a view of increasing the economic value of forests and introducing environment-friendly forest technologies (through Measure 1.1.2 Investment into forests within the Programme of Rural Development).

1.6. To prepare and introduce a uniform forest economic information system, which will provide data about the economic exigency of partial forest operations so that its outputs will serve the forest owners and become groundwork for the creation of analyses and concepts in forest management (among others, in the field of financial subsidies).

1.7. To reduce the stock of hoofed game and hence the costs of forest protection and regeneration along with considerable losses in the quality of harvested assortments.

1.8. To set up regulations for a purposeful consolidation of forest estates.

1.9. For the sake of sustained and safe production, to modify legislation, namely the rotation period, and thus enable an accelerated conversion of spruce monocultures on improper sites into mixed stands.

1.10. To enhance the conditions for exchange of land properties in protected areas for other land properties outside protected areas in state ownership.

#### **Key action 2**

##### **To promote research and technology development with a view of increasing forest sector competitiveness**

2.1. To analyze the economic efficiency of various management models in different natural conditions and to reflect the outcomes into the legislation in force and into the government policy of public aid.

2.2. For verification and demonstration purposes, to establish a representative network of objects with more natural management practices, particularly in state forests.

2.3. To establish a technological platform for forestry and related industries with a view to support innovations and technology development and to support through this platform the participation of Czech forest entities in the European Forest-based Sector Technology Platform, in the 7th EU Framework Research Programme and in other international research projects.

2.4. To create economic and/or legislative conditions for a more intensive cooperation among research, corporations and third parties in the introduction of innovations and development of new products, practices, technologies and effective markets.

2.5. To continue in the development of methodologies for the assessment and appraisal of non-market forest functions with respect to various views of methods for appraisal and evaluation of practical applicability.

#### **Key action 3**

##### **To enhance valuation and marketing of forest non-wood benefits and services**

3.1. To create conditions and prerequisites (informative, legislative, motivational) for increased income of forest owners, e.g. through the merchandise of certain recreational and environmental services and goods including the building of efficient marketing.



3.2. To propose and negotiate the payment of services to owners who manage their forests by using methods beneficial for water quality (rewards to forest owners for the maintenance of underground water quality) from resources outside the state budget.

**Key action 4**

**To promote and foster the use of forest biomass for energy generation**

4.1. To analyze the potentials and, in line with the results of such analysis, to support the use of forest biomass and biomass of fast growing tree species for energy purposes.

4.2. To assess the environmental impacts of using forest biomass for energy including impacts on soil, water, biodiversity and cycling of nutrients.

4.3. To assess the impacts of using forest biomass for energy on the availability of primary raw material in forest-based industries.

4.4. In line with the state energy concept, to prepare a system of promotion and support for the production of forest species biomass and its use including the support to the establishment of fast growing species stands for energy on non-forest land.

4.5. To utilize possible public aid in the given field, e.g. measures of the Rural Development Programme focused on the technical equipment of operating facilities.

**Key action 5**

**To support cooperation between forest owners**

5.1. To support (through legislation, finance and information) association of small forest owners with the view of joint management and joint sales of products and services.

5.2. To make state and private advisory services to forest owners more effective.

5.3. To simplify the conditions for the consolidation and exchange of forest estates.

**OBJECTIVE II.  
ENVIRONMENT ENHANCEMENT  
AND PROTECTION - ENVIRONMENTAL PILLAR**

**Key action 6**

**To alleviate impacts of expected global climate change and extreme meteorological phenomena**

6.1. To grow diversified forest stands with the greatest possible employment of natural processes, varied species composition, natural regeneration and variability of silvicultural practices.

6.2. To prevent soil degradation and thus maximize the amount of carbon fixed in the soil.

6.3. To promote forest species and ecotypes resistant to climate changes.

6.4. To optimize carbon cycling in soil horizons, growing stock and wood products.

6.5. To apply measures maintaining high and stable wood mass production.

6.6. To extend legal time limits for the afforestation and establishment of stands in line with the natural forest regeneration.

6.7. In respect of forest typology, to assess possible changes of forest altitudinal vegetation zones (FAVZ).

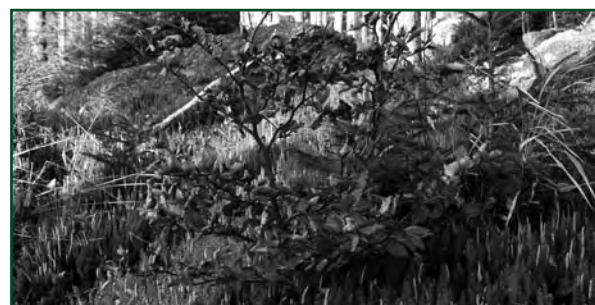
6.8. To focus the rules of public aid on the support of adaptive measures mitigating the impacts of climate change.

6.9. To foster the environment-friendly afforestation of farmlands.

6.10. To shorten the rotation period in woody species most jeopardized by climate change.

6.11. To support cultivation of stands with fast growing tree species on agricultural land with regard to the draft amendment to Government Decrees No. 239/2007 Coll. and No. 308/2004 Coll. as amended by Government Decree No. 512/2006 Coll. concerning, among others, the fast growing tree species grown on farmlands for energy purposes, approved by Government Resolution No. 402 of 16 April 2008.

6.12. To provide for the management of low forest and coppice-with-standards.



### Key action 7

#### Preservation and enhancement of biodiversity in forests

7.1. To evaluate and, in justified cases, revise the target species composition as an intersection of economic, environmental and social pillars of the forest.

7.2. To manage forests with the dominant conservation role towards the natural species composition.

7.3. To support diversity of management practices as one of the prerequisites for the maintenance of forest biodiversity.

7.4. To continue in the extension of forests left to spontaneous development aiming at a gradual establishment of a representative system that shall be systematically monitored. The system shall be established mainly within the network of national parks and nature reserves.

7.5. To foster site-autochthonous species that are main vehicles of biodiversity in forests.

7.6. Within the potential use of geographically non-autochthonous tree species, to respect the limitations given by the current knowledge of their ecological behaviour and the principle of precaution.

7.7. To preserve in the landscape a mosaic of stands with high biological value such as overmature stands, linear stands, wetlands, spring areas, peatlands, and to apply adequate management in them.



7.8. To focus on more natural species composition in state forests, while retaining their existing competitiveness. To regenerate and cultivate forest stands in state ownership so as to preserve the increased share of soil-improving and reinforcing species and species of natural composition. To attempt at similar achievements in non-state forest owners through suitable policy of public aid, awareness and education.

7.9. To support increased proportion of decaying wood, logging residues and trees, which have passed through the process of natural ageing in the forest, in order to maintain biodiversity and to establish mechanisms thereof.

7.10. To differentiate the amount and quality of wood mass left in the stands with respect to the requirement of its increased supplies for further use and in respect of site conditions.

7.11. To reduce or eliminate planting of geographically non-autochthonous tree species in the category of special-purpose forests if the forests are needed to maintain biodiversity (excluding gene pools certified for geographically non-autochthonous tree species).

7.12. To propose and implement measures against the spread of invasive plant species in forests and against other unintentionally introduced species in the case of special protected areas.

### Key action 8

#### To enhance forest monitoring

8.1 To provide for the periodical reiteration of National Forest Inventory (NFI), to revise its methodology and to make available the NFI data pursuant to the European Directive on Spatial Information - INSPIRE.

8.2 To do systematic monitoring of forests left to spontaneous development and to use the results in practice.

8.3 To continue and extend the monitoring of air pollution impact on forest ecosystems (e.g. ICP Forest, ICP Integrated monitoring, Long-Term Ecological Research (LTER), LIFE+, etc.)

### Key action 9

#### Enhancement of the health and protection of forests

9.1 To reduce clear-cutting preferably through the support and introduction of more natural management practices individually according to the natural conditions and ownership.

9.2 To foster natural regeneration and to reduce artificial regeneration according to the natural and stand conditions.

9.3 To enable and foster the use of pioneer species namely on clear-cuts due to outbreaks or natural disasters, and in afforestation of croplands, with a view to prepare conditions for a successful restoration of target species composition.



9.4 To support more natural diversification of the spatial structure and species composition as a pre-condition in elimination of stress factors.

9.5 To develop research, prognoses and advisory services within forest protection services and to support mitigation of biotic harmful agents, mainly through environment-friendly practices.

9.6 To monitor the occurrence and distribution of unintentionally introduced, especially quarantine harmful organisms and, in the case of immediate risk, to adopt measures to prevent their further spreading and incurred damages.

9.7 To ensure that forests and their sustainable management play active role in the maintenance and enhancement of water quality and its amount, in the mitigation of consequences of natural disasters such as floods, drought spells, avalanches, landslides, and in controlling soil erosion.

9.8 To develop coherence between forest and water management policies, and to coordinate sustainable forest management and integrated management of water resources.

9.9 To develop and introduce innovation tools, such as payment for ecosystem services or other measures, to ensure water management services provided by forests.

9.10 To provide in forest management for a sufficient protection of forest soils against erosion and degradation.

9.11 To revise the measures of technical forest reclamation and torrent control with a view to increase the retention capacity of the forests and reduce the negative impact on the natural morphology of watercourses.

9.12 To modify the calculation of the charge for land use change (i.e. change from forest land to other use) so that it takes into account the social significance of the forests.

9.13 To define environmental damage, to establish methodology for its calculation and reflect it into legislation; to be based, among others, on the Act on Prevention of Environmental Damage and its Remedy, signed by the President of the Czech Republic on 5 May 2008.

9.14 To reassess the forest categorization based on expert discussions so that it corresponds to the functional potential and planned use of the forests, and to determine the function priorities.

## Key action 10

### To alleviate the impact of previous and current environmental loads

10.1 To formulate the government strategy for the removal of previous and current environmental loads in forests (incl. funding).

10.2 To revise the conditions for chemical reclamation (especially liming) and to give preference to biological reclamation (especially species composition change).

10.3 To foster conversion of stands with substitute species.

10.4 To create legislative conditions for natural regeneration of sites in air-polluted areas with low reforestation potential.

10.5 To draw up a system solution, including a draft legal regulation, for the compensation of damages due to air pollution incurred to forest owners so that particularly the polluters are financially involved in such solution.

## Key action 11

### Achievement of a good balance between the forest and game

11.1 To increase the environmental stability of forest ecosystems by reducing the actual excessive stock of hoofed game with a view to facilitate the implementation of more natural management practices. To reduce game damages to forest stands so that the costs of their protection against such damages are economically acceptable to forest owners.

11.2 To make use of all legal possibilities given to the keepers of hunting grounds so they could consistently assert their interests in the reduction of game stock when drawing up the game management plans. To use therefore, among others, an information campaign in which the Ministry of Agriculture, in cooperation with the Ministry of the Environment and with the use of existing expert groundwork, will explain the necessity for reducing the stock of hoofed game to acceptable numbers.

11.3 To consistently base the annual game management plans for hoofed game hunting grounds on the provision of sec. 36(2) of Act No. 449/2001 Coll. on game management (i.e. to consider the general condition of the ecosystem, the results of control

and comparison plots and the level of damages to forest stands in the past period). For these purposes, the Ministry of Agriculture will issue, in cooperation with the Ministry of the Environment, a methodological instruction aimed at the determination of details for the elaboration of annual game management plans in the hunting ground, consistently based on the assessment of the general condition of the ecosystem.

11.4 To make use of all legal possibilities of the owners of hunting grounds to rearrange their hunting grounds in case that their shape and size do not respect the natural migration pathways of game and thus impede game management in the owners' interest.

11.5 To propose a new system of how to determine the required reduction of game stock and to subject it to an expert discussion. Such system shall be strictly based on the actual condition of the forest and the proposal shall result from the NFI outputs, the expert data showing mutual interactions between the hoofed game and forest ecosystems, and the functioning and well-proven practice in neighbouring countries.

11.6 In line with the above-mentioned facts, to amend Decree No. 553/2004 Coll. on the conditions, model and detailed instructions for the elaboration of game management plan in the hunting ground, so that the stock reduction is determined exclusively according to the rate of negative impacts on the forest ecosystem, i.e. mainly impeding and damage to natural regeneration, damage to plantations and deer barking.

### **OBJECTIVE III. ENHANCING THE QUALITY OF LIFE – SOCIAL PILLAR**

#### **Key action 12**

**To support enhancement of the social situation of forest workers**

12.1 To organize the administration and management of mainly state forest property so that it contributes to more employment opportunities from local sources in order to increase the income and social standard of workers in forestry, and to the development of regions.

12.2 In cooperation with the Ministry for Regional Development, to elaborate and introduce a system of vocational education and training in order to increase qualifications of workers, holders of licences in forestry and forest owners.

12.3 To support the introduction of new, particularly information and communication technologies, which will help people increase qualifications and find new jobs.

12.4 To support the qualification and social behaviour of businesses by awarding certification, to define and request necessary qualification of workers.

#### **Key action 13**

**To increase the contribution of forests and forestry (forest products and services) to rural development**

13.1 To support the foundation and development of micro businesses in rural areas including the establishment of an information and advisory system.

13.2 To improve the access of local businesses to orders for forestry operations, especially in state forests.

13.3 To make wood mass available to local enterprises and citizens, mainly in linkage to state forest ownership, while respecting market principles and limitations resulting from nature conservation.

13.4 To enhance awareness about the Leader Programme with a view to engage more entities involved in forestry in local action groups, in the creation of local development strategies, etc.

13.5 To retain the right to enter a forest and the principle of general use of forests at users' own risk, while reinforcing proprietary rights.

13.6 To elaborate frame conditions for intensified recreational use of the forest, mainly forest road networks, and to create opportunities for the provision of this type of services.

13.7 To support individually the recreational use of the forest according to its size, ownership and category.

13.8 To define adverse activities causing damage to forests and to introduce effective counter-measures.

### **OBJECTIVE IV. ENHANCING COORDINATION AND COMMUNICATION – COMMUNICATION PILLAR**

#### **Key action 14**

**To improve the weak position of forestry within public administration**

14.1 To develop a system of life-long forest education for civil servants whose competencies concern forests and forestry.

14.2 To revise qualifications of civil servants whose competencies concern forests and forestry at all levels.

14.3 To channel activities of state administration bodies with their competencies concerning forests and forestry more to the field of advisory services and education.

#### **Key action 15**

**To enhance public awareness about the actual condition of forests and forestry needs**

15.1 To carry out analysis of the current situation concerning external and internal communication in the forest sector.

15.2 To support public education and communication towards NFP priorities.



15.3 To utilize the potential of state administration, state forests and interest associations in communication with the public when presenting forestry, in particular the provided services and the roles of the forest.

15.4 To strive for a sufficient space in the media to objectively inform the general public about multiple forest functions.

15.5 To include the enhancement of personal communication skills in the system of forest education.

15.6 To develop forest pedagogy.

### **Key action 16**

#### **To resolve the institutional relation of the state to forests and forestry**

16.1 To clarify and unify the competency of the state in landscape management and in relation to forests, to clarify competencies of the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of the Environment.

16.2 To precise the rights and obligations of forest managers, particularly in cases when the costs of their activities are covered by state.

16.3 To assess the contents, use and efficiency of forest management guidelines.

16.4 To resolve the position and availability of forest management works in cooperation with forest owners.

16.5 To enhance the quality of the system of life-long education of persons and entities involved in forestry.

### **Key action 17**

#### **State forests**

17.1 To resolve the position of entities executing the right to manage state forests, and to define the public order for these entities by means of separate enactments. To ensure public and expert discussions on key issues in order to define the public order, which is to be based on the below specified economic, environmental and social principles.

17.2 To establish the assignment specifying concrete measures in the environmental pillar for state-owned forests, mainly limitations in clear-cutting, proportion of decaying wood and the share of areas left to spontaneous development, so that it respects the latest scientific knowledge and relevant international conventions.

17.3 To prefer more natural management practices at LČR, s.p. (Forests of the Czech Republic, State Enterprise) and VLS ČR, s.p. (Military Forests and Farms of the Czech Republic, State Enterprise) while respecting competitiveness.

17.4. In LČR, s.p., VLS ČR, s.p. and in national parks, to provide for:

a) Consistent adherence to internal regulations focused on the reduction of game damages.

b) Responsible use of financial means in the protection of forests against game damages at an extent corresponding to legal obligations (sec. 32 of Act No. 289/1995 Coll., on Forests and on amendment and supplementation of some acts, and sec. 5 of Decree No. 101/1996 Coll., stipulating details of forest protection measures, of a specimen badge and specimen forest service card); without prejudice to the duty to reduce the excessive hoofed game stocks.

c) To employ the principles of responsible game management, i.e. towards forest protection against excessive game damages, when concluding lease contracts and enforcing their performance with hunting ground users, and when operating hunting grounds administered by the mentioned state enterprises. These principles shall be employed mainly through the consistent application of sec. 36(2) of Act No. 449/2001 Coll. on game management and consequently through the methodological instruction specifying details for the elaboration of annual game management plans based exclusively on the assessment of the general condition of the ecosystem.

17.5 To establish the assignment specifying concrete measures in the economic pillar for state-owned forests, mainly compensation for damages, support of investment, reduction of hoofed game stock, consolidation of forest lands, especially:

a) To retain the present share of state forests while respecting the results of the restitution process and create conditions for the consolidation and sales of small forest properties.

b) To retain in legislation the provision about the prohibition of leasing state forests for management purposes.

c) To ensure transparency of business relations and effective system of timber sales.

d) For LČR, s.p. and VLS ČR, s.p. to introduce payment (rent) for the right to manage state forests.

e) State forests shall not be beneficiaries of the compensation for losses incurred due to restricted management for public interest reasons.

f) State forests shall enumerate and publish the amount of economic loss incurred from restricted management for public interest reasons. In case the payment for the use of forests is introduced, the sum will be subtracted.

g) The measures shall be applied with respect to the economic and environmental effectiveness.

17.6 To establish the assignment specifying concrete measures in the social pillar for state-owned forests, especially:

a) To reflect more consistently the regional viewpoints into the activities of LČR s.p.

b) To resolve in principle the assistance to small forest owners focused on the assurance of basic forest functions.

c) To create, in state forests, conditions for regional and rural development.

### 7. Management, monitoring and assessment of NFP implementation in the period until 2013

Steering the implementation of National Forest Programme is a common task to the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of the Environment in cooperation with other directly involved departments.

Within the Ministry of Agriculture, the implementation of the NFP intents and measures falls under responsibility of the Forestry Policy and Economy Department. At the Ministry of the Environment, the Department of Landscape Protection tackles the issues.

The Head of the Forestry Policy and Economy Department at the Ministry of Agriculture shall establish an NFP Coordination Board as his advisory body. The scope of NFP Coordination Board activities shall be defined by a regulation to be approved by the Deputy Minister of Agriculture. Apart from the representatives of the Ministry of the Environment and other concerned departments, the members of the Coordination Board will be delegated representatives of major administrative, technical and professional organizations/institutions, namely representatives of regional authorities, forest owners, entrepreneurs in forestry, academic

communities, scientific and research communities, non-governmental forest and environmental organizations and timber processing businesses. The members of the Coordination Board will be officially appointed by the Deputy Minister of Agriculture on the proposal submitted by the Head of the Forestry Policy and Economy Department at the Ministry of Agriculture and the Director of the Department of Landscape Protection at the Ministry of the Environment.

Organizational and technical coordination of activities connected with the implementation of NFP intents and measures will be entrusted to the Forest Management Institute (FMI).

When preparing specific steps towards the implementation of the most important selected NFP intents and measures, the Ministry of Agriculture, in cooperation with the Ministry of the Environment, will commission the elaboration of its technical bases. The assignment will be entrusted to interdisciplinary expert groups with their members to be nominated by the Ministry of Agriculture in agreement with the Ministry of the Environment. The goal will be to precise the NFP provisions that are conceived, as a rule, in general terms into the form of:

- a) Detailed material recommendations for the forest practice,
- b) Concrete measures of forest policy, namely in the field of:
  - legislation
  - economics
  - research

The principal (ordering institution) and the contractor shall always be specified for individual measures as well as the schedule of their implementation.

The implementation of the National Forest Programme will be monitored by using a set of quantitative indicators based on the nomenclature of European indicators of sustainable forest management and complemented with some national indicators or specific indicators for individual measures, which enable to follow the fulfilment of main set-up objectives. Indicator values will be published in the Report on the State of Forests and Forestry in the Czech Republic.

Information on the fulfilment of the National Forest Plan will also be continuously published in the Reports on the State of Forests and Forestry in the Czech Republic.

In 2010, the Ministry of Agriculture will elaborate and publish on websites, in cooperation with the Ministry of the Environment, a detailed interim report on the NFP implementation.

#### Abbreviations

(except 1.1. International treaties, agreements, conventions and directives of the EU.)

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| AOPK ČR      | Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection of the Czech Republic |
| CZK          | Czech koruna  |
| CR           | Czech Republic  |
| EAFRD        | European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development                              |
| EUR          | euro, €   |
| FAVZ         | forest altitudinal vegetation zones   |
| FMI          | Forest Management Institute   |
| FLEGT        | Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade                                  |
| FSC          | Forest Stewardship Council  |
| GDP          | gross domestic product  |
| LCR, s.p.    | Forests of the Czech Republic, State Enterprise                               |
| MZe          | Ministry of Agriculture   |
| Natura 2000  | ecological network of protected areas in the territory of the EU              |
| NFI          | National Forest Inventory   |
| NFP II       | National Forest Programme for the period until 2013                           |
| NFPs         | National Forest Programmes  |
| NM           | Nature Monument   |
| NNR          | National Nature Reserve   |
| NNM          | National Nature Monument  |
| NP           | National Park   |
| NR           | Nature Reserve  |
| OP           | operation programme   |
| PEFC         | Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes                 |
| PLA          | Protected Landscape Area  |
| SPA          | Special Protected Areas (under the Act on Nature and Landscape Protection)    |
| TMI          | Total mean increment  |
| VLS ČR, s.p. | Military Forests and Farms of the Czech Republic, State Enterprise            |

## Appendix: Informative list of financial allocations for the period until 2013

**Table 1: List of financial allocations from EAFRD for selected forest measures of the Rural Development Programme 2007 - 2013 (CZK million)**

| AXIS    | Measure / submeasure   | EU Funds | MZe - state budget | Aid - Total |
|---------|--|----------|--------------------|-------------|
| AXIS I  | I.1.2. Investment into forests   | 1 758    | 586                | 2 344       |
|         | I.3. Measures focused on the promotion of knowledge and human potential enhancement (finance not only for the segment of forestry – agg. AXES I and II.) |          |                    |             |
|         | I.3.1. Further professional education and information activity   | 259      | 86                 | 345         |
|         | I.3.4. Use of advisory services  | 408      | 136                | 544         |
| AXIS II | II.2.1. Afforestation of agricultural land   |          |                    |             |
|         | II.2.1.1. First afforestation of agricultural land   | 1 523    | 381                | 1 904       |
|         | II.2.2. Payments within Natura 2000 in forests   | 269      | 67                 | 337         |
|         | II.2.3. Forest-Environment payments  | 346      | 87                 | 433         |
|         | II.2.4. Restoring forestry potential in forests damaged by natural disasters and fire and supporting social functions of the forest                      |          |                    |             |
|         | II.2.4.1. Restoring forestry potential in forests damaged by natural disasters and fire and introducing preventive actions                               | 616      | 154                | 770         |
|         | II.2.4.2. Non-productive investments in forests  | 60       | 15                 | 75          |
| Total   |  | 5 239    | 1 512              | 6 750       |

Note: Exchange rate according to EU Official Journal for 2007 is 27.525 CZK/EUR.

Measure I.1.2. Investment into forests includes the following submeasures: Forest technology, Technical equipment of premises, Forest infrastructure. Measure II.2.2. Payments within Natura 2000 in forests includes the following submeasure: Preservation of the primary management group of forest stands from the previous production cycle. Measure II.2.3. Forest-Environment payments includes the following submeasure: Enhancement of forest stand species composition (soil-improving and reinforcing tree species). Submeasure II.2.4.2. Non-productive investments in forests include e.g. footpaths, cycle tracks, foot-bridges, hand rails, rest places, information boards, etc.

**Table 2: Proposed public aid to forestry in 2007 - 2013 (CZK million)**

| Title  | Compensation / service / allocation  | MZe – state budget |
|--|--|--------------------|
| <i>Ex lege</i> compensations   | Sec 24 – Soil improving and reinforcing timber species                         | 77                 |
|  | Sec 26 – Preparation of forest management guidelines                           | 210                |
|  | Sec 35 – Reclamation and torrent control                                       | 420                |
|  | Sec 37 – Licensed forest manager   | 1 134              |
| Services   |  | 630                |
| Financial contributions according to Annex No. 10 to the Act on State Budget of the Czech Republic | G – Selected activities of game management                                     | 105                |
|  | H – Preparation of forest management plans in digital form                     | 560                |
|  | I – Other management in forests  | 70                 |
|  | K – Breeding and training of national breeds of hunting dogs and birds of prey | 11                 |
| Total  |  | 3 217              |

Note: Expenditures of the Ministry of the Environment and Ministry of Industry and Trade are not included. Actual amounts of subsidies in the respective years will depend on possibilities of the state budget.

**Table 3: Notified regional allocations to forestry in the period from 2007-2013 (CZK million)**

| Title  | Region                              | Availability | Budget |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------|--------|
| Financial allocations according to the rules approved by respective regional authorities | Středočeský (Central Bohemia)       | 2007–2009    | 300    |
|  | Jihočeský (South Bohemia)           | 2007–2013    | 420    |
|  | Plzeňský (Pilsen)                   | 2007–2012    | 180    |
|  | Karlovarský (Carlsbad)              | 2007–2012    | 180    |
|  | Ústecký (Ústí nad Labem)            | 2007–2009    | 75     |
|  | Liberecký (Liberec)                 | 2007–2013    | 175    |
|  | Královéhradecký (Hradec Králové)    | 2007–2013    | 155    |
|  | Pardubický (Pardubice)              | 2007–2013    | 210    |
|  | Vysočina                            | 2007–2013    | 280    |
|  | Jihomoravský (South Moravia)        | 2007–2012    | 180    |
|  | Olomoucký (Olomouc)                 | 2007–2013    | 161    |
|  | Zlínský (Zlín)                      | 2007–2012    | 150    |
|  | Moravskoslezský (Moravian-Silesian) | 2007–2012    | 240    |
| Total  |                                     |              | 2 706  |

Note: Financial allocations to forestry provided by regions include mainly subsidies for: Regeneration of forests damaged by air pollution. Regeneration, establishment and tending of forest stands. Environmental and nature-friendly technologies. Other management activities in forests.

# NATIONAL FOREST PROGRAMME



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