

Report on outcomes of Joint Annual Review 26th April 2016

Agenda Item	Presentation/Discussion	Relevance to Action Plan, Strategy/ Follow-up actions
Welcome and Introduction Mr Tahir Ahmeti Head of DoF,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - calling for consensus on priorities - need to review PSP this year, - proceedings after JAR will be prepared by WG - FAO project the key project 	n/a
Opening speech Mr Vezir Januzi, Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - definition of forest is needed, transfer of competencies is critical - support should be intensified, - there are political issues that present a challenge - forestry should be ready for future policies of EU including adoption of rules and standards, forestry a high priority of EU as part of agriculture 	The question is if the Action Plan should include a project/activity linked to EU acquis and IPA
Priorities for forestry sector development Mr Kapllan Halimi, General Secretary MARFD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - it has been proven that sustainability in forestry achieved, the report has proved the progress - important to consider farmers and income generation - forestry is seen also as part of <u>investment to regulate migration from rural areas to urban centres</u>; quality of life a benefit from sustainable forestry 	Link to rural development policy; the compatibility of RD policy and forest policy should be remembered in drafting the next forest policy
Forest sector status and challenges Mr Ahmet Zejnullahu KFA Chief Executive Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 44,5 % forest cover; 25 – 55 000 hectares degraded - high investment in forestry is needed - there is potential for economic development, absorbing higher number of labour - tangible results: FMPs, coverage 70%; reforestation budget; seedlings also to private sector; free wood fuel from tending young forests; MSLW labour 1200 workers; - main challenge: forest protection; 90 % of population is using firewood; industrial wood also used as firewood; - deficiencies in competencies which lead to illegalities and inefficiency - land for long term use is problematic due to legislation 	Long term land use arrangements: Task Force including legal expertise to look thoroughly in the matter
International efforts on supporting the development of Kosovo Forest Sector Mr Lari Peltonen/ Dr Vesa Kaarakka Embassy of Finland in Kosovo	<p>Embassy of Finland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recalling Finland's policy in which reduction of poverty the priority - stating that Finland is concerned about the illegal harvesting - appreciate inclusion of 4 northern municipalities which is important - noted that political issues affect the project and that new forest law is important <p>Ministry for Foreign Affairs Finland:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - role of forests high in global agenda on climate change and carbon sequestration - new Finland's development policy: aligned with UN 2030 agenda, and promotes realisation of its development policy goals through EU action and UN - Finland's development funds have been reduced; Therefore increased cooperation with private sector and research/educations - noted result based reporting of PSP; Ministry for Foreign Affairs will adopt results based reporting by 2018 using global indicators including land area under sustainable management 	none
Presentation of the Sector Progress Report 2014 – 2015 Mr Faruk Bojaxhi, Head of the Department for Forest Management , KFA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the presentation did not include anything beyond the written report except some budget and expenditure figures 	none
Presentations of the projects supporting PSP implementation and success stories based on inter-institutional cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - of all registered persons at labour office 60 % are unqualified (i.e. no formal training); 90 % are long term unemployed - the activity is part of reactivation of unemployed to labour market; - co-financing is a success - challenge: engagement of women, 90 % are male; next period increasing the share of female 	Continue and seek new partnerships in the new Action Plan

<p>Mr Ylber Aliu Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare– Memorandum of Understanding for seasonal employment in forestry sector Mr Burim Berisha, expert at FAO project – Kosovo Forest Information System (KFIS) and WEB portal on Kosovo Forests</p>	<p>KFIS: nothing beyond the presentation</p>	
<p>Q & A on Sector Progress Report 2014 – 2015</p>	<p>USAID called for increased efforts on certification of forests since it is important for wood industry. Requested clarification on what has been done? KFA Response: 2 Pilot certification schemes in units that are under national parks, new areas are being searched.</p> <p>Vesa Kaarakka: Welcomed the progress that has been made. Overall comment: encourage to concentrate on long term impacts. Question: MSc training, where are the graduated persons employed. KFA response: all graduated and technical staff are in KFA;</p> <p>Pristina municipality: There were mistakes regarding management planning for Shari Park. Stated that forest certification is necessary (<i>Note: obvious misunderstanding what forest certification means</i>). Called for work on simplifying regulations and procedures for harvesting licensing.</p> <p>NAPFO: Stated that 1) NWFP very important, the sub-sector exports products for 20 million EUR, 2) quality forests are in parks. This needs to be considered against the industry needs for this raw material. 3) MAFRD to find the solution with MESP, no harvesting permits given this year. MESP should be obligated to compensate the properties.</p> <p>MESP: Things are improving, both ministries are in the same Government. Beshket e Nemuna plan is publically debated at the moment. There could be a plan B to exclude certain areas from the park. The target (10 %) on parks was too ambitious; Law on spatial planning should go to Government.</p> <p>Ex AUK consultant: Electricity prices are likely to increase. This will probably lead to increased demand for fire wood and illegal harvesting. Decision on how to use forests has to be made. At the household level there is a definite lack understanding of forestry and sustainability. Awareness raising was emphasised.</p> <p>KFA: There is a problem with management plan zoning of the Shari park (zone 3??). The planners need to be careful with Bjeshket e Nemuna zoning.</p> <p>Arieta AWPK: Relayed a message from companies – The industry lacks raw material. They have noticed that the tendering of harvesting is a problem.</p> <p>Ahmet KFA: The problem is not only the supply to wood industry. Demand for firewood is increasing which has increased use of technical wood for fuel. According to their (KFA) information, the major part of raw material to industry is imported.</p>	<p>No concrete proposal on corrections or amendments to the report.</p> <p>Simplifying regulations and procedures for harvesting licensing should be one of the new projects.</p>
<p>Group work (Three groups) Group I: Discussion for the Sector Progress Report and its recommendations.</p>	<p>The basis for reporting should be the NDS which has 3 key targets: progress in FMP (exceeds already the NDS target); There is lack of progress in reducing illegal logging; Forestation per year very low compared to NSD target; laboratory established. Need to raise the area collecting forest health data; need to strengthen law enforcement; immediate action to implement the 2 project afforestation and forest health. Tahir: progress report not discussed.</p>	<p>Link future reporting to NDS reporting as a means to institutionalise MER</p>

<p>Group II: Identification of the future priorities in the Kosovo forestry sector and possible projects to be financed.</p>	<p>The future priorities: 1) forest categorisation, 2) development of methods for young forests, 3) reviewing regulations for concession, 4) inventory of pest and diseases, 5) harmonising FMPs, 6) polluter pays PES, 7) harmonising with EU directives, 8) forest quality, species selection based on objectives 9) continue certification, 10) modernisation of FMP, 11) training of staff in use of laboratory 12) forest cadastre, 14) increase legal logging, 15) continue FMP, 16) forest fire protection (<i>Check from the presentation</i>)</p>	<p>All relevant to consider in the new Action Plan.</p>
<p>Group III: Midterm review of Forest Policy and Strategy</p>	<p>In summary the findings are: 1) technical aspects reviewed for all do not fulfil the OSP requirements 2) On capacity building: TVET should start from schools, forestry as subject; overlapping with other strategies; forestry is not attractive, 3) Link forest policy with renewable energy sector will enable the grants from EU 4) Missing integration of gender policy 5) More focus on sectoral communication</p> <p>Temporary approach should be a new Action Plan, start preparing new policy in 2018.</p> <p>Emine MOF: Previous Action Plan for 5 years has not been valid for some time. New action plan must in any case be prepared.</p> <p>MESP: They have prepare a new Action plan 5 year based on old strategy.</p>	<p>The report on PSP review contains all the issues except the forestry as part of kindergarden and primary school subject</p>
<p>Final discussions</p>	<p>No issues or matters raised.</p>	<p>none</p>
<p>Closure by General Secretary</p>	<p>Closure by Mr Tahir Ahmeti, head of Department of Forestry</p>	