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Survey on national sets of indicators for SFM

Conducted and analysed by Rastislav Raši (FOREST EUROPE) & Stefanie Linser (EFICEEC)

Introduction

A first survey on the national implementation of indicators for SFM in Europe was undertaken in 2012 by the European Forest Institute [1]. Recent results of a questionnaire survey on the future direction of FOREST EUROPE [2] clearly indicated that FOREST EUROPE Signatories consider the definition of SFM and related Criteria and Indicators for SFM as the most recognized achievements of the FOREST EUROPE process. Consequently, we consider the information on the use of indicators at the national level as an essential input for the further development of this SFM tool. Since there was information about further elaborations and revisions of national C&I sets for SFM, EFICEEC and the FOREST EUROPE – Liaison Unit Bratislava jointly initiated and elaborated a new survey to collect updated information on the actual use of indicators at national level. General information on the survey is provided in Table 1.

Table 1. General information on the survey

Conducted by:	FOREST EUROPE – Liaison Unit Bratislava and EFICEEC
Period of the survey:	8 June 2017 – 5 September 2017
Survey tool:	https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/nationalSFMindicators , see also Annex 1
Survey coverage:	FOREST EUROPE signatory countries
Total number of responses:	37 (out of 46 signatory countries, 80 % response rate), see Annex 2

The pan-European set of indicators for SFM (or FOREST EUROPE ind.) was last revised in 2015 and is listed in Annex 1 of the Madrid Ministerial Declaration [3]. The *FOREST EUROPE Expert Group on Implementation of the Updated pan-European Indicators for SFM* (<http://foresteurope.org/event/11455/>) initiated discussions on the implementation of the updated set of indicators, including new and substantially altered indicators, the use of key indicators as well as thematic subsets of indicators.

The LUB invited the members of this expert group as well as focal points from signatory countries not represented in the expert group to reply to a questionnaire. The results of this survey will be presented at the second meeting of the above mentioned expert group on 17-18 October 2017 and will also be published at the FOREST EUROPE Website.

The responses to the questions of the survey are presented in the following in detail.

National sets of indicators (Question 2)

→20 countries or 43 % of the FOREST EUROPE member states replied that they have a national set of indicators for SFM. The countries are: Albania/AL, Austria/AT, Belarus/BY, Belgium (Wallonia)/BE, Cyprus/CY, Czech Republic/CZ, Denmark/DK, Finland/FI, France/FR, Ireland/IE, Italy/IT, Montenegro/ME, Norway/NO, Portugal/PT, Russia/RU, Slovakia/SK, Slovenia/SI, Spain/ES, Switzerland/CH.

→5 countries or 11 % of the FOREST EUROPE member states replied that their national set is under development (Estonia/EE, Georgia/GE, Serbia/RS) or planned (Lithuania/LT, Iceland/IS).

→12 countries (Bulgaria/BG, Croatia/HR, Germany/DE, Hungary/HU, Liechtenstein/LI, Luxembourg/LU, Malta/MT, The Netherlands/NL, Poland/PL, Sweden/SE, Ukraine/UA, United Kingdom/UK) or 26 % of the FOREST EUROPE member states answered that application of SFM indicators at their national level is not intended. However, in some of these countries the reason is that the forestry policy is devolved.

Process of elaboration of the national sets of indicators for SFM (incl. sets under development) (Question 3)

→5 countries (CY, DK, PT, RS, SK) have based their national sets of indicators exclusively on FOREST EUROPE indicators.

→In 5 countries (AL, CH, CZ, ME, RU) the national indicator sets are under development or were compiled by the forest administration, in two of these cases (AL, CH) they were additionally supported by scientists.

→In 11 countries (AT, BE (Wallonia), EE, ES, FI, FR, GE, IE, NO, SI, TR) participatory stakeholder processes are or were the basis for the elaboration of national sets of indicators for SFM, most often also under scientific supervision.

→In 2 countries (BY, IT) there was a purely scientific elaboration of national sets of indicators for SFM.

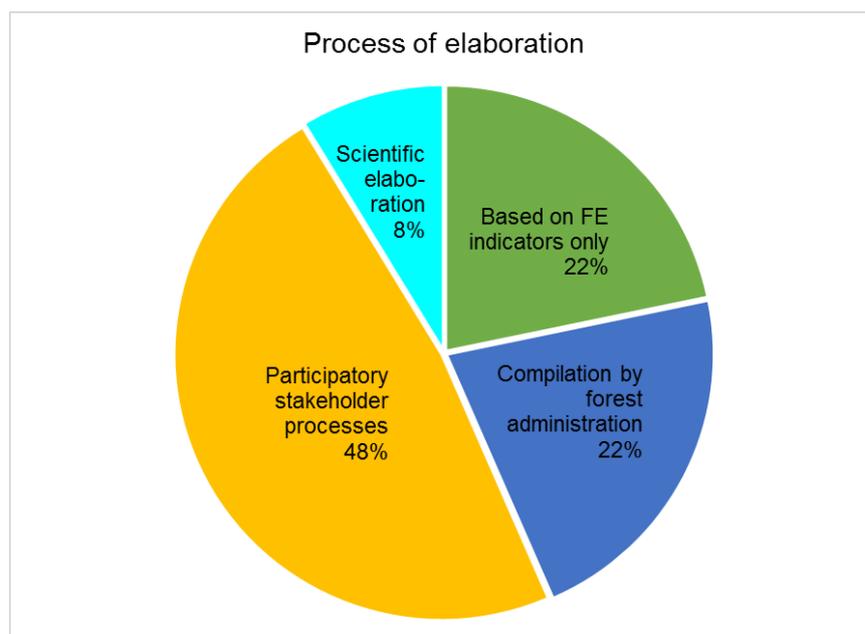


Figure 1. Share of approaches in the elaboration process for national sets of indicators.

An overview in Figure 2 is based on information according to the results on question 2 and question 3. The above responses were analysed and grouped into 6 categories listed in Table 2 and displayed in Figure 2.

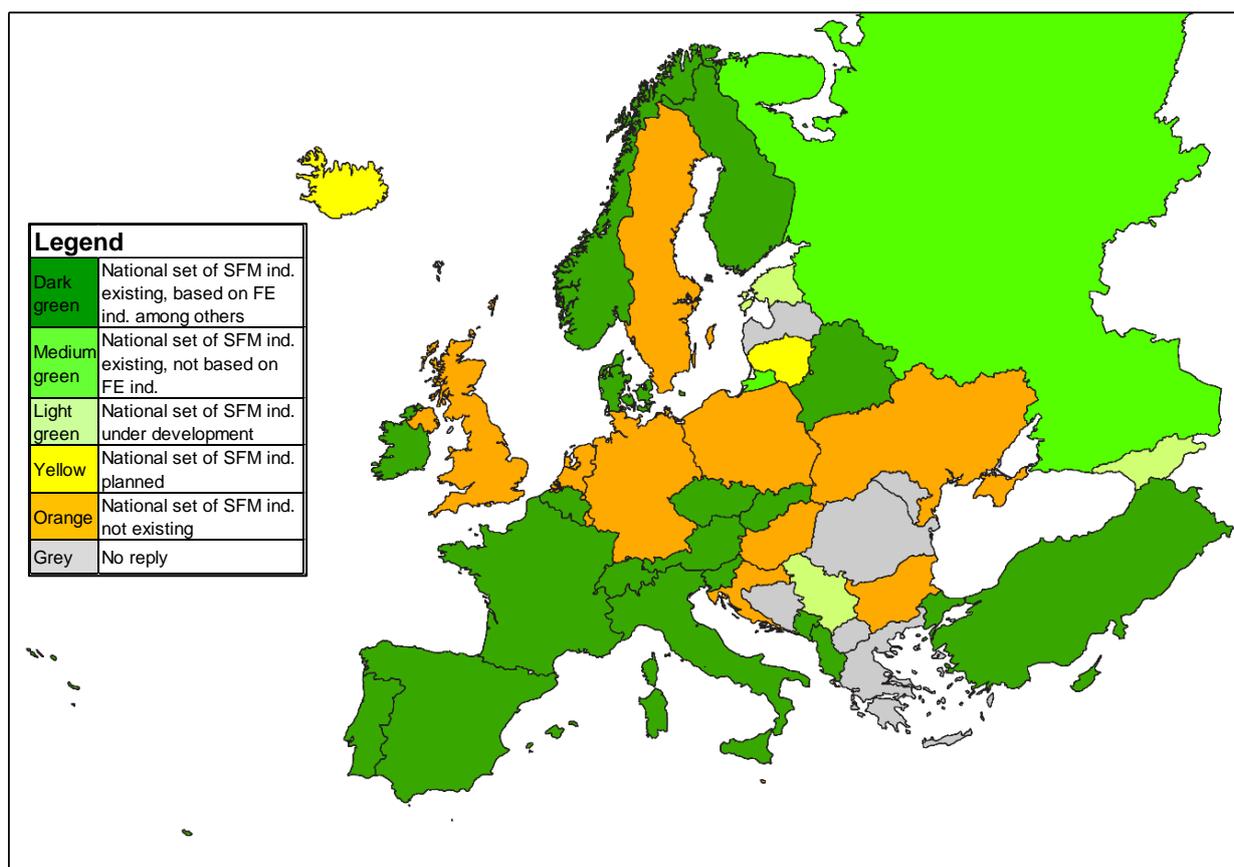


Figure 2. Availability of national sets of SFM indicators. The colour coding is in more detail also explained in Table 2.

Table 2. Categories of implementation of indicators for SFM at national level

Category	Colour Code	Description	No of countries
1	Dark green	National set of SFM indicators existing and based on the pan-European C&I among others	19 (AL, AT, BY, BE (Wallonia), CY, CZ, DK, FI, FR, IE, IT, ME, NO, PT, SK, SI, ES, CH, TR)
2	Medium green	National set of SFM indicators existing, but not based on pan-European C&I	1 (RU)
3	Light green	National set of SFM indicators is under development	3 (EE, GE, RS)
4	Yellow	National set of SFM indicators is planned	2 (IS, LT)
5	Orange	National set of SFM indicators is not existing/intended	12 (BG, HR, DE, HU, LI, LU, MT, NL, PL, SE, UA, GB)
6	Grey	No reply to the survey received	9 (AD, BA, GR, LV, MC, MD, MK, RO, VA)

Adoption and revisions of the national set of SFM indicators (Question 4)

An overview is provided in Figure 3 on the reported years when the national set was adopted and revised in respective countries. The first national indicator set for SFM was already developed in 1995 by France, followed by the Czech Republic in 1997 and Russia and Belgium (Wallonia) in the late nineties. Most sets were adopted at the beginning of the twenty-first century. The latest set adopted in 2017 is from Albania. In 2010 the first set was already revised, leading to revisions of nine national indicator sets in the past few years.

A specific situation is in Spain where the set was not formally adopted, however, it was periodically revised (in the years 2006, 2012 and the next revision is planned for 2018). Not displayed are three countries with existing national indicator sets, as Montenegro did not provide respective information, the Czech Republic reported small changes of the national set throughout the years, Portugal used always the FE indicator set in its current version.

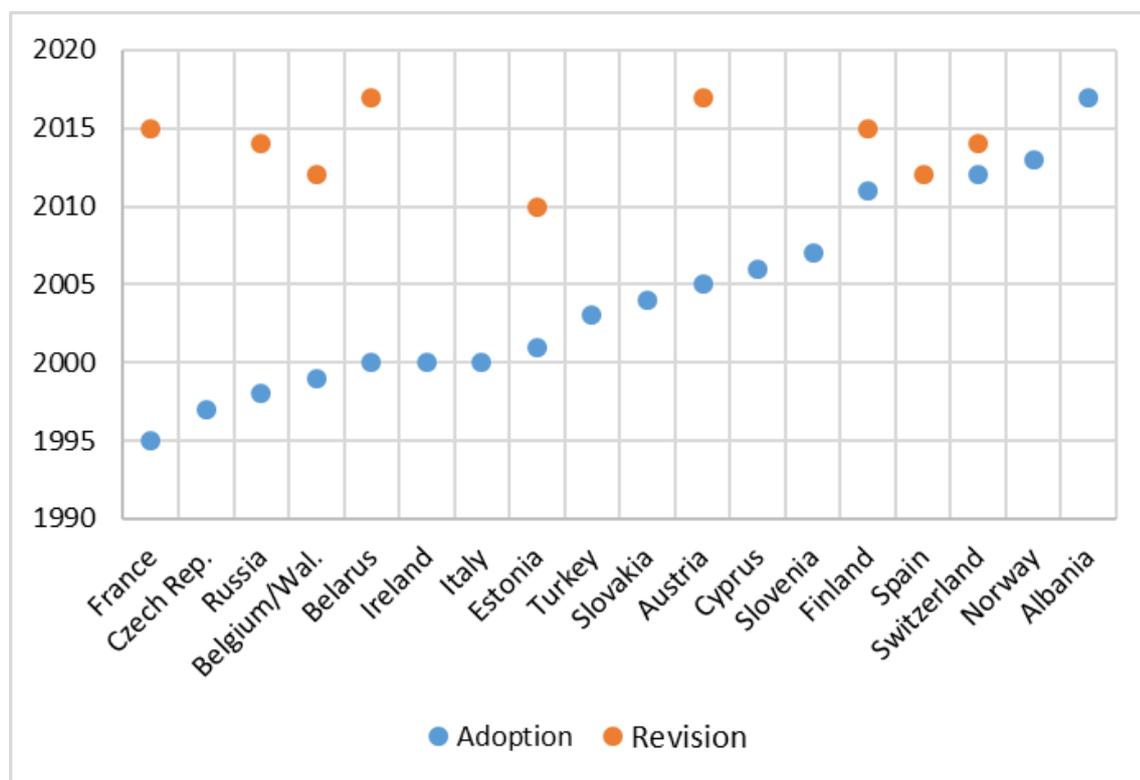


Figure 3. Year of adoption of the national set (in blue) and of the most recent revision (in orange).

Relation of the national set of SFM indicators to goals of a National Forest Programme or to a Strategy or any other national forest policy document (Question 5)

21 countries, including those where the national set of indicators is planned or under development, reported that their national set of SFM indicators is related to Goals of a National Forest Programme or Strategy or any other national forest policy document and only 4 countries (CY, ME, RU and NO) reported that their national set of SFM indicators is not related to any of such documents.

Structure of the national indicator sets (Question 6)

The national indicator sets of 20 countries are or will be structured according to the 6 FOREST EUROPE Criteria for SFM. 8 of these sets contain also additional Criteria of national importance. This includes also information provided on planned sets and sets under development)

4 national indicator sets (CZ, EE, GE, RU) are not based on FOREST EUROPE Criteria for SFM but structured under topics of the National Forest Programmes, or under other Criteria (e.g. of the Montréal Process).

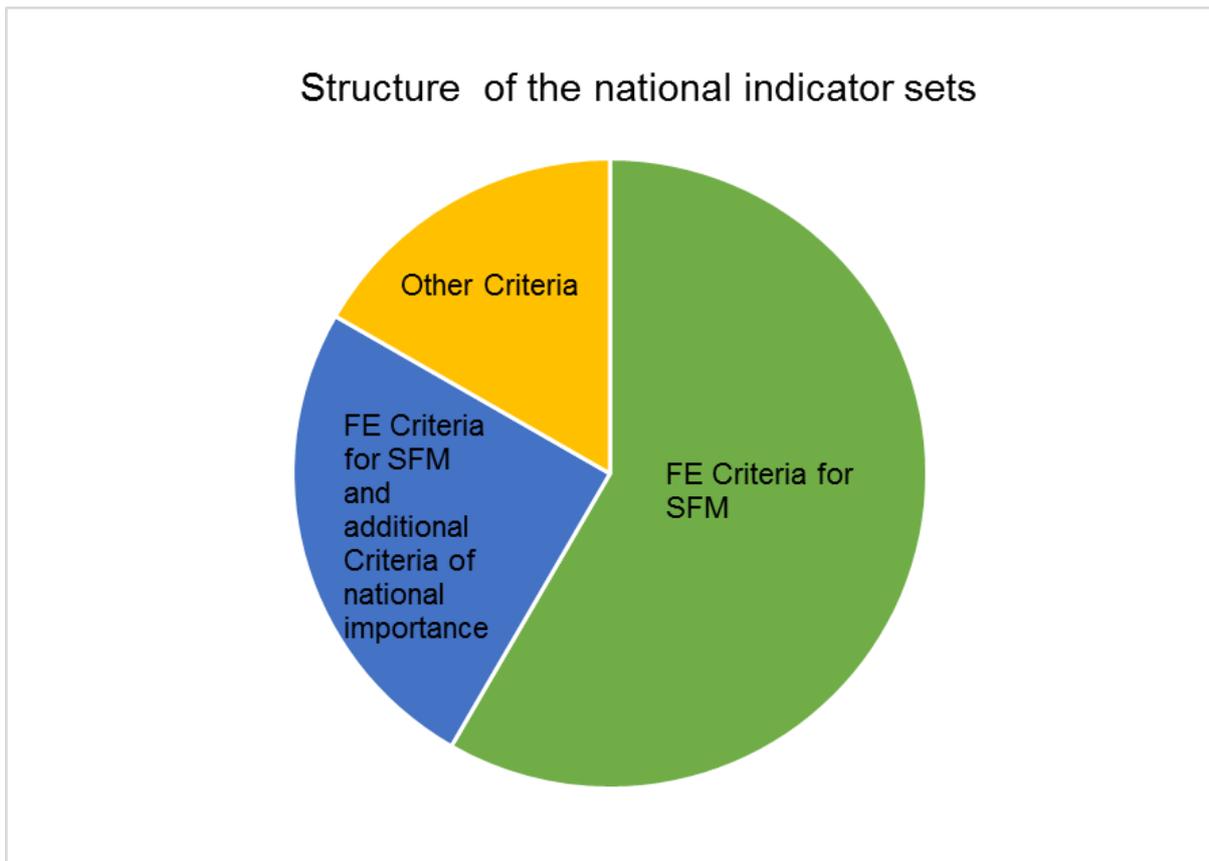


Figure 4. Share of approaches to structure the national indicator sets according to Criteria.

Origin of indicators (Question 7)

All indicator sets, except the one of Russia are based on FOREST EUROPE indicators. In 5 countries (CY, BY, ME, BE (Wallonia), DK) FOREST EUROPE indicators are the only source. 5 national indicator sets contain also FAO FRA indicators. 5 countries (AL, FI, GE, PT, ES) have also incorporated indicators from Global Conventions in their national sets. 16 indicator sets also contain additional indicators of national importance. The Russian indicator set contains also indicators from the Montréal Process, the one from Turkey contains some indicators from the Near East Process.

Number of indicators (Question 8)

The various national indicator sets contain most often indicators from different sources.

The amount of FOREST EUROPE indicators in the various sets ranges from 7 up to 45 indicators (incl. qualitative indicators) and is on average 33 indicators.

FAO FRA indicators were reported as part of 5 national indicator sets. The number of indicators range from 2 to the whole set, but are in general overlapping with the respective FOREST EUROPE indicators.

Between one and three indicators from global Conventions are part of the national indicator sets of Albania, Finland, Portugal and Spain.

Additional indicators of national importance are part of 10 national indicator sets, ranging between 1 and 83 indicators (average 24 indicators).

The overall number of quantitative indicators ranges between 28 and 131 indicators with an average of 57 quantitative indicators.

With regard to qualitative indicators only the 11 FOREST EUROPE qualitative indicators were reported as part of 5 national sets of indicators.

Key indicators or indices (Question 9)

5 countries (AL, AT, FI, RU, SI, CH) reported an additional selection of 3 to 21 key indicators out of their national sets.

4 countries (AL, AT, ES, CH) reported the use of related indices, like the Biodiversity Index, Simpson Diversity Index, Bird Index).

Model-based elaboration (Question 10)

The national set of SFM indicators is based on a certain model only in Belgium (Wallonia) (Pressure-State-Response Model) and in Switzerland (Cockpit Model).

National subsets of indicators (Questions 11 and 12)

The elaboration of thematic subsets of indicators were reported by 6 countries (AL, CZ, FR, ME, RU, ES). Their subsets comprise forest-related indicators for:

- Biodiversity (ES, FR)
- Desertification (ES)
- Climate change/carbon (ES, FR, ME)
- Contribution to markets/economic activities (CZ, FR)
- Non-wood forest products (ME)
- Contribution of forests to welfare (FR)
- Research (CZ)
- International activities (CZ)

Availability of information in different languages (Question 13)

The national indicator sets are usually available in the national languages, but there are also translations into English, French, German and Italian available.

Languages	Multilingual publicised indicator sets of:
English	Austria, Finland, France Ireland, Montenegro, Switzerland
French	Belgium (Wallonia), France, Switzerland.
German	Austria, Switzerland
Italian	Switzerland

Data availability for all national SFM indicators (Question 14)

Only 5 countries (CZ, SI, BY, DK, TR) can report national data for all of their national indicators. In Austria, France and Spain data is not available for only one or two indicators.

Basis for a related national report on SFM (Question 15)

National indicator sets are the basis of a related national report on SFM in 9 countries (AT, CZ, DK, EE, RU, SI, ES, CH, TR)

It is planned in the near future to use national indicator sets as basis of a related national report on SFM in four countries (BE (Wallonia), IS, LT, PT).

In two countries (CY, SK) the national set of SFM indicators is not applied in the national report on SFM.

No national report on SFM is produced in five countries (BY, FR, IE, ME, NO)

Inclusion of particular targets to be reached or thresholds not to exceed, as tools for assessments of SFM (Question 16)

In Austria, Russia and Slovenia all indicators for SFM have defined targets or thresholds.

In nine countries (CZ, BY, BE (Wallonia), EE, IE, FI, SK, PT, CH) at least some indicators have defined targets or thresholds.

Targets or thresholds are not part of the national indicator sets in four countries (DK, FR, NO, TR). In Iceland targets or thresholds for national indicators are under development.

Check of effectiveness of National Forest Programmes or Strategies (Question 17)

National SFM indicators are used to check the effectiveness of National Forest Programmes or Strategies in eleven countries (BY, CZ, DK, EE, FI, PT, RU, SK, SI, CH, TR).

The respective application of national SFM indicators is planned in seven countries (AT, BE (Wallonia), FR, IS, LT, ME, ES).

A check of the effectiveness of National Forest Programmes or Strategies by national SFM indicators is not undertaken in Norway and is not applicable in Denmark as neither a National Forest Programme nor Strategy is existing there.

References

[1] European Forest Institute, 2013: Implementing Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management in Europe, http://www.efi.int/files/attachments/publications/efi_ci_report_implementing_criteria_net_final.pdf

[2] Liaison Unit Bratislava, 2017: Results of the questionnaire survey on the future direction of FOREST EUROPE. http://foresteurope.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Review_survey-results.pdf

[3] Madrid Ministerial Declaration - 25 years together promoting Sustainable Forest Management in Europe. http://foresteurope.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/III.-ELM_7MC_2_2015_MinisterialDeclaration_adopted-2.pdf

Annex 1 – Content of the questionnaire

1. General information

Country:

Correspondent's name:

E-mail:

Organization:

2. Is there a national set of indicators for SFM available in your country?

- Yes*
- Not yet, set of indicators is under development
- Not yet, set of indicator is planned
- No, national application of SFM indicators is not intended (If this option is chosen, the following questions are not applicable. Please fill-in the date at the bottom of the questionnaire and submit it online or send it by e-mail to rastislav.rasi@foresteurope.org .)

*If yes, please provide a link or send us a pdf by e-mail to rastislav.rasi@foresteurope.org

Link:

3. The process of elaboration of your national set of indicators for SFM can be characterized as:

- Application of FOREST EUROPE indicators only
- Participatory stakeholder process
- Scientific development
- Compilation by forest administration
- Other*

* If other, please specify: If other, please specify:

4. When was your national set of SFM indicators adopted and revised?

Year of adoption of the (first) set of SFM indicators at national level:

Year(s) of the revision of the set of SFM indicators at national level:

5. Is the national set of SFM indicators related to Goals of a National Forest Programme or Strategy or any other national forest policy document?

- No
- Yes*

*If yes, please specify:

6. Is your national set of SFM indicators based on/structured according:

- FOREST EUROPE Criteria
- Other or additional criteria*

*If other or additional criteria, please specify:

7. Your national set of SFM indicators is based on:

- FOREST EUROPE indicators
- FAO FRA indicators
- Indicators from global Conventions
- Additional indicators of national importance
- Other*

*If other, please specify:

8. Please specify the number of indicators from each underlying set:

FOREST EUROPE indicators

FAO FRA indicators

Indicators from global Conventions (please specify the convention and number of related indicators, e.g. UNFCCC 2, ...)

Additional indicators of national importance

Overall number of quantitative indicators

Overall number of qualitative indicators

9. Does your national set of SFM indicators contain also selected:

Key indicators*

Indices (e.g. Biodiversity Index)*

Not any of above mentioned

*If any, please specify the number for each above mentioned category (e.g. Key indicators 10, Indices 3)

10. Is your national set of SFM indicators based on a certain method (e.g. Pressure-State-Response, Dashboard, etc.)?

Yes

No

11. Does your national set of SFM indicators contain also subsets of selected indicators?

Yes

No (If this option is chosen, please skip question 12.)

12. Please specify themes of your subsets of SFM indicators:

Subset 1:

Subset 2:

Subset 3:

Subset 4:

Subset 5:

Subset 6:

Subset 7:

Subset 8:

Subset 9:

Subset 10:

13. In which languages is your national set of SFM indicators available?

14. Is data available for all national SFM indicators?

Yes

No*

*If no, please specify:

15. Is the national indicator set the basis of a related national report on SFM?

Yes*

Planned in the near future

No, national set of SFM indicators is not used for national report on SFM

No, national report on SFM is not produced

*If yes, please provide a link to the national report:

(or send us a pdf by e-mail to rastislav.rasi@foresteurope.org)

16. Do the national SFM indicators contain particular targets to be reached or thresholds not to exceed, as tools for assessments of SFM?

Yes, all indicators have defined targets or thresholds

Yes, some indicators have defined targets or thresholds

No

Targets or thresholds for national indicators are under development

Targets or thresholds for national indicators are planned

17. Are the national SFM indicators used to check the effectiveness of National Forest Programmes or Strategies?

Yes

No

Planned

18. Do you agree to make your national SFM indicators set (pdf, link) publicly available on the FOREST EUROPE website/ sub-site on indicators for SFM?

Yes

No

19. Date of questionnaire submission:

DD/MM/YYYY:

Annex 2 - List of countries and national experts which contributed to the survey

No	Country	Country code	National correspondents
1	Albania	AL	Ylli Hoxha
2	Austria	AT	Johannes Hangler
3	Belarus	BY	Dmitry Krasovsky
4	Belgium (Wallonia)	BE	Christian Laurent
5	Bulgaria	BG	Dolores Belorechka
6	Croatia	HR	Goran Gregurović
7	Cyprus	CY	Savvas Andrea
8	Czech Republic	CZ	Jaroslav Kubišta
9	Denmark	DK	Christian Lundmark Jensen
10	Estonia	EE	Mati Valgepea
11	Finland	FI	Markus Lier, Kari T. Korhonen
12	France	FR	Antoine Colin
13	Georgia	GE	Natia Tskhovrebadze
14	Germany	DE	Jörg Schweinle
15	Hungary	HU	Csaba Mózes
16	Iceland	IS	Adalsteinn Sigurgeirsson
17	Ireland	IE	John Redmond
18	Italy	IT	Enrico Pompei
19	Liechtenstein	LI	Patrick Insinna
20	Lithuania	LT	Nerijus Kupstaitis
21	Luxembourg	LU	Frank Wolter
22	Malta	MT	Charles Camilleri
23	Montenegro	ME	Ranko Kankaraš
24	Netherlands	NL	Peter van der Knaap
25	Norway	NO	Stein M. Tomter
26	Poland	PL	Adam Kaliszewski
27	Portugal	PT	Conceição Ferreira, Graça Rato
28	Russia	RU	Maria Palenova
29	Serbia	RS	Predrag Jović
30	Slovakia	SK	Martin Moravčík
31	Slovenia	SI	Robert Režonja
32	Spain	ES	Guillermo Fernández Centeno
33	Sweden	SE	Andreas Eriksson
34	Switzerland	CH	Roberto Bolgè
35	Turkey	TR	Tamer Otrakcier
36	United Kingdom	UK	Richard Howe
37	Ukraine	UA	Liubov Poliakova