Special Features of National Forest Policy and Forest Management Reform in Ukraine

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SPECIAL FEATURES OF NATIONAL FOREST POLICY AND REFORMATION OF FORESTRY IN UKRAINE

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Ukraine is 8th in terms of forest area and 6th in timber stock in Europe.
Forest vegetation zones of Ukraine
Total area of the forest fund makes 10,8 million ha; percentage of forested area is 15.7 %. In 50 years percentage of forested area has increased by 1.5 times, and volume of growing stock by 2.5 times and reached 1.8 billion m³. Average annual increment in Goskomleshoz of Ukraine totals 4.0 m³ per 1 ha and varies from 5.0 m³ in Carpathians to 2.5 m³ in steppe zone.
### Key figures in forestry

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Total area, 1000 ha</th>
<th>Forest area, 1000 ha</th>
<th>Percentage of forested area, %</th>
<th>Forest area per capita, ha</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>2260128</td>
<td>933326</td>
<td>41,3</td>
<td>1,3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Europe</td>
<td>112329</td>
<td>52538</td>
<td>46,8</td>
<td>2,8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Europe</td>
<td>245569</td>
<td>59479</td>
<td>24,2</td>
<td>0,2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Europe</td>
<td>1902230</td>
<td>821309</td>
<td>43,2</td>
<td>2,4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>60350</td>
<td>9400</td>
<td>15,6</td>
<td>0,2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Percentage of forest area in Ukraine

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Real Forest Area, %</th>
<th>Optimal Forest Area, %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>marshy woodland</td>
<td>26.8</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>forest-steppe</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>steppe</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpathians</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crimea</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>10.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>15.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Timber harvesting

Timber is the main forest resource. Annual volume of harvesting of merchantable timber from all harvestings in Ukraine makes about 15 million m³ (in Goskomleshoz – 12 million m³). Final fellings – 6,5 million m³ (in Goskomleshoz – 5,6 million m³)
Use of annual increment
Dynamics of timber volume in forests of Ukraine

Volume, 1000 m³

Year


733 968 1025 1239 1320 1736 1800
Special features in political, social and economic situation in the country;
Lack of development in legal basis of forestry and in development of forest relations;
Low demand for timber on domestic market, especially for low quality timber;
Imperfection of forestry management in forests that belong to different forest users;
Imperfection of financial mechanisms of forestry development;
Weak correspondence between machine engineering and needs of forestry;
Lack of regulation of foreign trade including export and import relations;
Investment climate not favourable enough
State programme “Forests of Ukraine” for 2002-2015 (2002, reviewed in 2007);
Concept of forestry development in Ukraine for the period till 2015 (2006);
Forest Act of Ukraine (2006);
Priority activities on creating protection forests on wastelands and in basins of rivers (2001);
Other documents on the strategy of developing individual areas of forestry activities adopted by the parliament, government, Ministry of Nature and Goskomleshoz.
Basic provisions of Forest Act

- Unified state management in the area of forest conservation, protection, rational use and extended regeneration of forests;
- Availability of state, communal and private ownership on forests;
- Securing equality in property rights for forests among people, legal entities, territorial communities and state;
- Regulating of authority of all branches of power in the area of forest relations;
- Totally new principles of dividing forests by their functions with the aim of planning economic activities based on principles of sustainable development (forest division into groups has been abolished);
- Temporary forest use that can be long-term (from 1 to 50 years) and short-term (up to 1 year);
- New clauses were introduced for financing costs for conservation, protection, rational use and regeneration of forests; forest certification; biodiversity conservation in forests etc.
## Dynamics of key figures of the forest fund

(State programme "Forests of Ukraine")

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total area of forest fund:</td>
<td>million ha</td>
<td>10,8</td>
<td>10,9</td>
<td>11,3</td>
<td>11,7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of which covered by forests</td>
<td>million ha</td>
<td>9,4</td>
<td>9,4</td>
<td>9,7</td>
<td>10,3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Total volume of forests</td>
<td>billion m³</td>
<td>1,74</td>
<td>1,83</td>
<td>2,04</td>
<td>2,27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Average volume per ha</td>
<td>m³</td>
<td>186</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Average change in volume per ha</td>
<td>m³</td>
<td>3,8</td>
<td>3,8</td>
<td>4,0</td>
<td>4,2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Forested area of forest fund</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>15,6</td>
<td>15,6</td>
<td>16,1</td>
<td>17,1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Concept of reforming forestry in Ukraine

- Transfer of state-owned forests to Goskomleshoz;
- Support to communal and private ownership of forests;
- Enhancement of payments for forest resources;
- Supporting the development of recreational and tourism infrastructure in forests; environmental education activities;
- Ensuring environmentally oriented forestry;
- Reduction of volumes of clear cuts, their substitution by thinnings and selective fellings;
- Ensuring biodiversity conservation in forests;
- Solving the problem of protective afforestation at the level of the state
Concept of reforming forestry in Ukraine

- Development of a competitive basis for a service market in forestry;
- Formation of transparent timber market by sales of harvested timber on a tendering basis via auctions and sales;
- Optimization of the structure and number of forestry enterprises;
- Reorganization or abolishment of some inefficient enterprises;
- Separation of the woodworking sector from forestry by establishing independent enterprises acting on the basis of market principles;
- Establishment of production units on the basis of woodworking workshops acting on the principles of joint ventures.
Distribution of forest fund lands of Ukraine by subordination, %.

Forest fund of Ukraine in subordinate to over 50 ministries, administrative bodies and organizations.
Reform of forest planning and inventory

- Center of National Forest Inventory and Monitoring to be established under the entity «Ukrgoslesprojekt» (2007);
- Basic GIS for national inventory of forests – new technology «Field–Map» has been chosen (developed by the Forest Ecosystem Research Institute, Czech Republic);
- First cycle of national forest inventory (2007-2012)
- From 2013 – collection and analysis of information about all forests of Ukraine on the basis of sampling and statistical methods;
- Creation of a unified geographic information system on forestry branch of Ukraine. “Smallworld” software is a basis for the geographic information system being developed;
- Provision of PCs for all levels of forest management.
Reforming forestry of Ukrainian Carpathians

- Improvement of the legal basis of forestry;

- Implementation of state normative acts:
  - law on clear cut moratorium areas in spruce-beech-silver fur forests of Carpathians;
  - long-term program on construction of forest roads in the Carpathians;

- Execution of a series of organizational and silvicultural activities in forests of Ukrainian Carpathians:
  - wide use of nature-friendly technologies in the mountain conditions;
  - construction of forest roads in the mountains;
  - limited use of tracked machinery and gradual switch to cable logging.
Thank you !