Expert input sheet

Conservation and management of Continental Woodland and forest in Luxembourg

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Habitat(s):
91AA - Eastern white oak woods

Biogeographical region:
Continental

Member state:
Bulgaria

Region(s) (if applicable):
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Issues and pressures
B02.01.02 Forest replanting (non-native trees)
B02.02 Forestry clearance (clear cuts)
B02.04 Removal of dead and dying trees
B06 Grazing in forests/woodland
E01.03 Dispersed habitation
J01.01 Burning down
K02.01 Species composition change (succession)
L07 Storm, cyclone

Loss of area is caused by reforestation with exotic or coniferous tree species and cultivars, agricultural activities such as transformation of oak forests.

Conservation requirements
Development and implementation of forestry legislation. Development and implementation of Natura 2000 management plans. Designation of territories for maintenance of old-growthness (at least 10% of the habitat area at a management unit scale). Management of forests under continuous cover forestry systems and sustainable use of forest resources (multiple forest ecosystem services approach applied). Restrictions of grazing (e.g. no grassing to be allowed in areas subjected to or after regeneration activities and/or on slopes steeper than 45 degrees.

Conservation management
Some targeted measures for management of forests in Natura 2000 have been developed (by the State Forest Agency), but not yet been broadly implemented neither proven effective on practice and not adequate control of their implementation. Some methodologies have been suggested for evaluation of
the favourable conservation status of forest habitats, however due to data restrictions, those are mostly based on approximate data coming from forest management plans. Designation of territories for maintenance of old-growthness has not yet taken place and is (by now) most often impeded by the structures of the State Forest Agency. Some restrictions in forest management in Natura 2000 have been elaborated by the research society and nature protection NGOs, however those have not been officially accepted and legalised in the current form yet (discussions are ongoing).

**Species specific management:**
Yes

Species based actions are to be provided by the forest experts regarding implementation of sylvicultural system.

No plant species of the Natura 2000 lists.

**Barriers and bottlenecks**

**Solutions and opportunities**
Enhancing the understanding of sustainable management options for forests, triggered by the significant societal changes and emerging policies on biodiversity, bioenergy and climate change.

**Cross cutting issues**
Integration of Natura 2000 into other sectorial priorities – e.g. more efficient use of Natura 2000 recommendations and restrictions in elaboration and implementation of Forest Management Plans in both state and private forests.

**Lessons learned / best practice**
There is some understanding of foresters to change the traditional forestry system with more sustainable.

**Opportunities for joint action**
Exchange of knowledge and forest practices is also needed to elaborate methodologies to assess the quantity and value of various forest ecosystem services and accordingly analyse the efficiency of different management scenarios and policies.

**References**