Appendix 11

Contribution of the proposal to the main national strategies, policies and international commitments

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For the GCF-FAO Project "Enhancing the resilience of Serbian forests to ensure energy security of the most vulnerable while contributing to their livelihoods and carbon sequestration (FOREST Invest)"

Table 1: Contribution of the proposal to the main national strategies, policies and international commitments

#	Policy/Strategy	Addressed Priority	Contribution	Comp.
1	Energy Security Strategy, 2022	Intensified greening of areas in the Republic of Serbia and the development of planned plantations of forests and energy crops	7,000 ha of afforestation and 500 ha of shelterbelts/windbreaks established 33,000 ha of degraded state coppice stands converted into high forest. 18,000 hectares of private coppice stands is converted into high forests forest. 500 ha of abandoned & degraded agricultural land[1] are cultivated with agroforestry or fast-growing wooden species in short rotation for energy use	2,3
2	Energy Sector Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia for the period by 2025 with projections by 2030	Provision of conditions for energy efficiency improvement in energy and energy consumption;	The national standard for biomass production / handling and use is delivered.	1
		Creating institutional, financial and technical assumptions for using new energy sources;	1 national strategy for wood energy plantations prepared.	1
3	National Renewable Energy Action Plan	Adoption and enhancement of the legal framework which will stimulate a more energy efficient use of energy and more extensive use of RES;	1 national strategy for wood energy plantations prepared.	1
3	Low Carbon Development Strategy with action plan	Specific objective 2: Reduce GHG emissions not covered by the EU-ETS by 9.7% in 2030 and between 33.5% and 54.5% by 2050 compared to 2010.	5 decarbonization service providers (e.g. accountants/auditors) are operational.	3
			USD 50 million loans are disbursed to private sector companies to execute their respective decarbonization strategies (including insetting). No financial support will be provided for the purchase of offsets or carbon credits.	3
		Specific objective 3: Increase the carbon sink in the Serbian Forests by 17% by 2030 and at least by 22% by 2050; compared with 2010	7,000 ha of afforestation[2] 500 ha of shelterbelts established.	2
			33,000 ha of degraded state coppice stands converted into high forest.	2
			18,000 hectares of private coppice stands is converted into high forests forest.	3
		Specific objective 5: Promote transition to climate neutral and climate resilient economy and society.	Establishment of the national decarbonization facility.	1
		General objective: Reduction of national GHG emissions (excluding LULUCF) by 13%, up to 2030, and at least 55% to 69% by 2050 compared to 2010. Reduction of national GHG emissions (including LULUCF) by 16% by 2030 and by at least 58 % by 2050 compared to 2010.	1 national carbon offsetting[3][4]/insetting mechanism is developed and active[5]. Reduced emissions (8,2 mt CO_2eq. over 27 years)	1,2,3
5	Instrument for EU Pre-Accession Assistance IPA II (2018)	Design of modern, financially sustainable interventions in the areas of waste management, water management and wastewater treatment systems, nature protection, industrial pollution control and risk management […].	The national MRV system is upgraded (in relation to forestry) and operational[6].	1
		Integration of climate change relevant issues into the national development strategies, including in the area of mitigation of climate change, there is a need to strengthen the institutional capacity to design, implement and monitor mitigation policies and measures, with particular attention to GHG emission reduction activities	8 National curricula (University and vocational schools working on forestry, agriculture and accounting) are upgraded with introduced practices and technologies.	2
6	Nationally determined contribution (Draft NDC-2015-2025)	GHG emission reduction by 33% in 2030 compared to 1990 levels	Decarbonization via reductions, offsets and insetting activities corresponding to 1.85 mt CO_2eq. within 2030.	3
		Reforestation using climate adaptable tree species (5,000 ha annually by 2030)	7,000 ha of afforestation and 500 ha of shelterbelts/windbreaks established	2
		Conversion of coppice into high forests (7,000 ha annually by 2030)	33,000 ha of degraded state coppice stands converted into high forest.	2
			18,000 hectares of private coppice stands is converted into high forests forest.	3
7	National Adaptation Plan (2015-2021)	Establishment of new forests (total target area should amount to 6,000 ha per annum)	7,000 ha of afforestation and 500 ha of shelterbelts/windbreaks established.	2, 3
		Improving the quality of forests.	500,000 ha under sustainable and climate adaptive silviculture management.	1

[1] The accredited entity will launch dedicated surveys and assessments to map the interest of households for planting forests on the abandoned agricultural and other bare lands in the regions of East Serbia and Vojvodina.
[2] Afforestation activities will be funded on public land owned by the state or municipalities currently not devoted to any use.
[3] The possibility of including a blockchain technology approach to offsets to ensure transparency and efficiency of the process is currently being evaluated. A study is currently ongoing and results will be available during the design phase.
[4] The price of offsets is currently being studies. A detailed market analysis and pricing strategy for the country will be provided with the full funding proposal.
[5] The project and the NDA will formulate the proposed mechanism following the best practices from France, California, UK, Colombia, New Zealand and Australia
[6] The project will introduce specific geospatial analytic tools to support the upgrade of the national MRV system.

8	National Communications (2013, 2017, Draft 2020)	Increase adaptive capacity of forests, adaptive management of forests and forest resources	Establishment of a National Forest Monitoring and Assessment System.	1
			200 operators of public and private enterprises, including nurseries, supported and trained in the production of diverse and climate adaptive forestry. 2 public nurseries upgraded to ensure the production of climate adaptive seedlings.	2
		Choice of adequate tree species and change of forest management practices	500,000 ha under sustainable and climate adaptive silviculture management.	1
			33,000 ha of degraded state coppice stands converted into high forest. 18,000 hectares of private coppice stands is converted into high forests forest.	2
		Rehabilitation of degraded lands by afforestation and prevention of erosion and land slide of forests	500 ha of abandoned & degraded agricultural land[7] are cultivated with agroforestry or fast-growing wooden species in short rotation for energy use	3
		Development of a reliable and timely activity data collection system to estimate GHG emissions and removals.	Establishment of NFMA system. Regional knowledge sharing platform for national offsetting/insetting mechanisms in place.	1
		Development and improvement of country-specific emission factors and other parameters, including supporting methodologies.	One national carbon offsetting / insetting mechanism is developed and active.	1
		National Forest Inventory and integrated information system.	Establishment of NFMA system Upgrade of the MRV system to address the forest sector. Regional knowledge sharing platform for CAS in place.	1
		Improving cross-sectoral cooperation and incorporating aspects of climate change into planning documents in the forestry sector.	1 national strategy for wood energy plantations prepared.	1
			2 Guidelines on climate adaptive nursery production and planting developed.	2
			The national standard for biomass production / handling and use is delivered.	1
		Measures that will stimulate a sustainable biomass market;	1 platform involving stakeholders of the forestry and agricultural sector to support a modern and transparent forestry and biomass value chain and facilitate private investments,	3
9	Forestry Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia (2006) - not adopted	Conservation and improvement of the state of forests and the development of forestry as an economy branch.	500 ha of abandoned/degraded land is converted into agroforestry or bioenergy plantations. 1 national carbon offsetting/insetting mechanism is developed and active.	1,2
		Increase of the area under forest cover, which is necessary for increasing the contribution of forest sector to the State economy	7,000 ha of afforestation 500 ha of shelterbelts/windbreaks established.	2,3
10	Forestry Development Program (2010)[8]	Provision of forest seed and planting material and preservation of the gene pool of forest trees	60 million climate adaptive seedlings (local species/varieties) produced.	2
			2 public nurseries (Vojvodina/C. Serbia) upgraded and operational.	2
		System of planning in forestry	Establishment of the NFMA.	1
		Climate change mitigation (organized promotion of use of wood biomass for energy production)	1 platform involving stakeholders of the forestry and agricultural sector to support a modern and transparent biomass value chain. 1 national standard for biomass is endorsed 1 national strategy for wood energy plantations prepared.	1,3
11	National voluntary Land Degradation Neutrality targets	Improvement, restoration, rehabilitation of degraded areas, implementation of measures of sustainable land management.	500 ha of abandoned/degraded land are cultivated with agroforestry or fast-growing wooden species in short rotation for energy use 7,000 ha of afforestation 500 ha of shelterbelts/windbreaks established.	2,3
		To increase the area of national territory under forests to 41.4% by 2050		
12	Biodiversity strategy of the Republic of Serbia (2011)	Promote the conservation of forest biodiversity, including genetic diversity, through the development of a forest certification programme and best practice guidelines for ecosystem-based sustainable forestry.	60 million climate adaptive seedlings (local species/varieties) produced.	2
		Develop forest management measures and guidelines to prevent genetically modified tree species, as well as non-native and invasive species, from negatively impacting on forest and general biodiversity.	2 Guidelines on climate adaptive nursery production and planting developed	2

[7] The accredited entity will launch dedicated surveys and assessments to map the interest of households for planting forests on the abandoned agricultural and other bare lands in the regions of East Serbia and Vojvodina.
[8] The program has not been adopted yet.

13	National strategy for Sustainable Use of Natural Resources and Goods (2012)	Embed the aspect of climate changes in all long-term investments (in particular, in the biological works such as amelioration of coppice and degraded forests and afforestation, primarily in the selection of types and technology of works).	33,000 ha of degraded state coppice stands converted into high forest. 18,000 hectares of private coppice stands is converted into high forest.	2,3
14	Sixth National Report to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (2019)	Preservation of biological diversity at the genetic, species and ecosystem level.	33,000 ha of degraded state coppice stands converted into high forest.	2
		Monitoring the impact of climate change on biodiversity and the impact of biodiversity on mitigating the effects of climate change.	Establishment of a NFMA.	1

Table 2: Coherence of the project with national laws and regulations

#	Topic	Compliant with national law/regulation:	Compliance with National Strategies
1	Policy dialogues and creation of standards;	Law on Government (OGRS, 79/05)	Strategy for Implementation of Archus Convention (OGRS, 103/11)
2	Creation of the offsetting and insetting mechanism;	Law on energy efficiency and rational use of energy (Draft, 2021); Law on energy (OGRS, 145/14) Energy Security Strategy, 2022	Strategy for Energy Sector Development of the RS till 2025 with projections till 2030 (OGRS, 101/2015)
3	Forest restoration;	Law on Forests (OGRS, 30/10); Law on Nature Protection (OGRS, 36/09); Energy Security Strategy, 2022	Forest Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia (OGRS, 59/06); National Strategy for sustainable use of natural resources and goods (OGRS, 33/12)
4	Afforestation;	Law on Forests (OGRS, 30/10)	Forest Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia (OGRS, 59/06);
5	Conversion of degraded agriculture lands into bioenergy plantations;	Law on Rational Use of Energy (OGRS No. 25/13) The new Law on Agricultural Land No. 62/06 The law on climate change (26/21) Law on Land Protection (OGRS, 112/15) Energy Security Strategy, 2022	National Strategy of Sustainable Development ("Official Gazette of the RS", No. 57/2008) Climate change strategy (Draft, 2019)
6	Conversion of private and public degraded coppicing stands into high forests;	Law on Forests (OGRS, 30/10)	Forest Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia (OGRS, 59/06)
7	Decarbonization of private sector companies;	Law on energy efficiency and rational use of energy (Draft, 2021); Law on energy (OGRS, 145/14)	Strategy for Energy Sector Development of the RS till 2025 with projections till 2030 (OGRS, 101/2015)
8	Upgrade the national curricula related to forestry and decarbonization processes.	Law on High Education (OGRS, 88/17); Law on Middle School Education (OGRS, 55/13)	Strategy for Education Development of the RS till 20230 (draft, 2021)
9	Establishment of an MRV system	Climate change law	Low Carbon Development Strategy