



**The CBD EXPANDED PROGRAMME OF WORK ON
FOREST BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY and the IPF
AND IFF PROPOSALS FOR ACTION -
EVALUATION OF THEIR IMPLEMENTATION**

AUSTRIAN CASE-STUDY

PREFACE

This document was prepared for the Austrian Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management (BMLFUW). It evaluates the implementation of the CBD Expanded Programme of Work on Forest Biological Diversity in relation to the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action by Austria. The task was to identify the relevant activities of the CBD Programme of Work for an Austrian implementation, to assess the implementation responsibility, the present degree and form of implementation, and finally to identify the implementation gaps. Thereafter synergies and differences in the implementation of the CBD Programme of Work and the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action were identified.

This document is intended to assist Austria in further implementing the CBD Programme of Work and the respective IPF/IFF Proposals for Action and to facilitate subsequent consideration.

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Last but not least the author wishes to express her gratitude to Dr. Christoph Wildburger who particularly contributed his time and expertise to improve the present report. He read the report and criticized substantial parts of earlier versions. All mistakes are of course those of the author.

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1 INTRODUCTION

The present study has been commissioned by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Forestry, Environment and Water Management to the Institute of Forest Sector Policy and Economics at the Universität für Bodenkultur Vienna. The study has been prepared within a period of 6 months.

The report comprises three volumes. Volume I presents an extended English summary of the project report. The report is intended to assist the Austrian Ministries in further implementing the CBD Programme of Work and the respective IPF/IFF Proposals for Action. The English report (Vol. I) is intended to assist the Austrian Ministry in reporting to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) on the implementation of the CBD Programme of Work on Forest Biological Diversity and the respective IPF/IFF Proposals in Austria.

The research report (Vol. II) and an annex (Vol. III) show the results for every activity/goal of the CBD Programme of Work as well as the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action in detail. These were published in German so that stakeholders may have access to information.

The structure of the reports was drafted according to the arrangement of the CBD expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity¹.

1.1

The Convention on Biological Diversity and Forest Biological Diversity

The 6th Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted a Programme of Work for forest biological diversity in April 2002. This Programme of Work refers to the main three main goals of the Convention text: a) the protection of biological diversity, b) the use of biological

diversity, c) the fair and equitable sharing of genetic resources.

Austria signed and ratified the Convention on Biological Diversity and will implement the CBD Programme of Work. Decision VI/22 to the Programme of Work emphasises that every country should implement this Programme of Work in the context of its national priorities and needs. Countries are asked to prioritise activities according to their specific national and regional needs as well as their national determination and legislation.

1.2

Short introduction of the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action

The possibility of developing international forest policy and a mechanism to coordinate such policy was discussed during preparations for the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), but delegates agreed only to adopt the „Forest Principles“ and Chapter 11 of Agenda 21, „Combating Deforestation“². Three years later, in 1995, the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD), at its third session, established the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests (IPF) to continue the intergovernmental forest policy dialogue. During its two-year mandate, the IPF developed some 150 negotiated Proposals for Action on issues relating to sustainable forest management (SFM).

Subsequently, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) established the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (IFF) to continue this work under the auspices of the CSD. As one of its primary objectives was formulated the promotion and the facilitation of the implementation of the IPF Proposals for Actions as well as the review, monitoring and reporting on the progress of the management, conservation and sustainable

1) Convention on Biological Diversity (2002). Decision VI/22. Forest Biological Diversity. Conference of the Parties, The Hague 7-19 April. 2) Some other chapters do also relate to aspects of forest policy. 3) See Pülzl, H. (2002). Evaluierung der Umsetzung der IPF- und IFF-Aktionsvorschläge in Österreich. Schriftenreihe des Instituts für Sozioökonomik der Forst- und Holzwirtschaft. Band 45. Universität für Bodenkultur Wien.



development of all types of forests. However, during the fourth session of the IFF in February 2000 additional recommendations and Proposals for Actions were issued and sent to the CSD8 for approval. The report of IFF was adopted and CSD called upon ECOSOC to decide on the establishment of an intergovernmental body called „the United Nations Forum on Forests“ (UNFF).

The IPF/IFF Proposals for Actions present the highest global political agreement on forest policy in addition to the „Non-legally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of All Types of Forests“.

Austria adopted these IPF and IFF Proposals for Actions and attaches great importance to their implementation. Within the European Community, in April 2000, the Agricultural Council welcomed - like the previous report of the IPF in June 1997 - the IFF Conclusions and Proposals for Actions. It attached great importance in putting the agreed IPF/IFF Proposals for Actions into practice in all countries.

1.3 Objective and methods of the present study

Up to now an assessment of the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action for implementation within and by Austria³ has been carried out. Due to the fact that the CBD Programme of Work on Forest Biological Diversity has been adopted by the Parties of the Conference of the Convention on Biological Diversity in April 2002, no assessment on the Austrian implementation has been made so far. The commissioned study will fill this knowledge gap in order to allow for the reporting on the implementation successes and gaps for the Austrian case.

The present study comprises the **following objectives:**

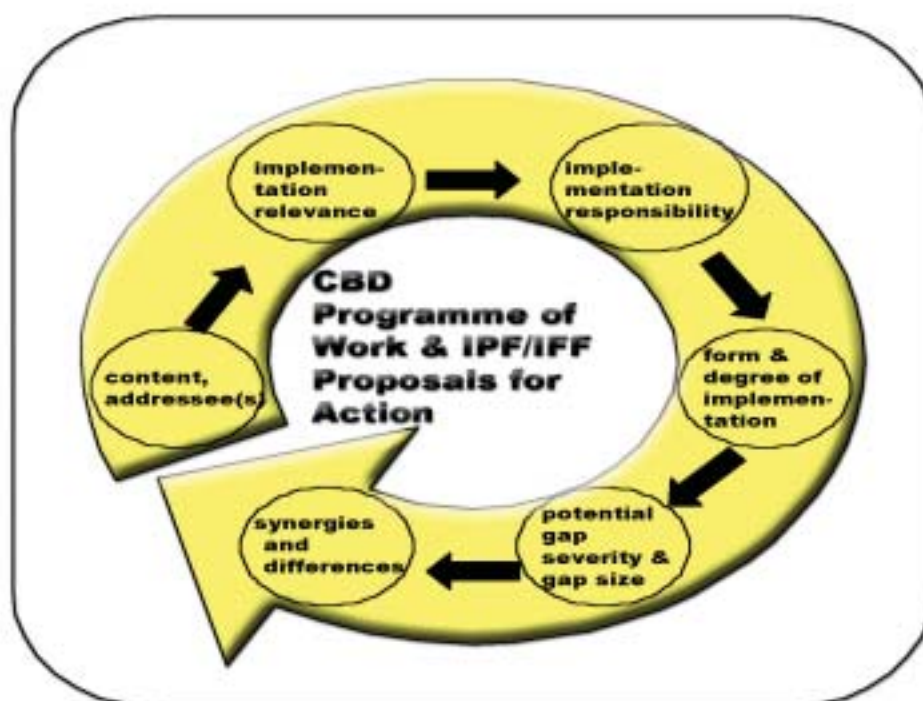
- 1.a Identification of the relevant Programme elements and goals of the CBD Programme of Work on Forest Biological Diversity for an Austrian implementation
- 1.b Identification of the Austrian implementation responsibility
2. Analysis of the present degree of implementation
3. Gap analysis
4. Synergies and differences between the CBD Programme of Work and the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action

The **methodical approach** (see graphic 1) builds on the method⁴ developed for the assessment of the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action, which was undertaken for the European Community⁵ and the Government of Austria. This was initially based on a call for tender by the European Commission, which closely followed the requirement of the IFF Proposal for Action 17c. The present study gave a further opportunity for the refinement of the methodical approach.

When developing this methodical approach other initiatives were taken into account such as the Australian-PROFOR⁶ assessment methodology that provides a rearrangement of summarized IPF/IFF Proposals for Action and related programme elements, goals, objectives, and activities of the CBD Expanded Programme of Work on forest biological diversity in line with the Plan of Action of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF).

³ Pülzl, H., Rametsteiner, E., 2002: Evaluating the implementation of the IPF and IFF Proposals for Action & How to approach it. Experiences made by Austria and the European Community. Discussion Paper P/2002-2, Institute of Forest Sector Policy and Economics, Vienna. ⁵ The greatest part of the methodology used has been developed in the course of a study for the European Commission: Ewald, Rametsteiner/ Helga, Pülzl et al. (2001). The Evaluation of the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action for the Implementation by the European Community. Study prepared for the European Commission, June 2001. (unpublished)

Graphic 1: Methodical approach to the evaluation of the implementation of the Expanded Programme of Work and the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action



The research procedure, respectively methodology, will be outlined as follows:

1.a) Preliminary work steps for the assessment of the CBD Programme of Work for the Austrian context.

A content analysis and summary of key aspects addressed by the activities/goals of

the CBD expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity has been conducted. This content analysis helped to clarify the intention of the negotiated text.

The addressees of the activities requested by the CBD expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity were assessed using 6 categories (see table 1).

Table 1: Addressee(s)

| ADDRESSEE | CRITERIA |
|---|---|
| Countries/ Parties to the Conference | Activities which explicitly address national governments (national administration). |
| Both: countries and international organisations | Activities which address countries and international organisations ⁷ together or where international organisations are called upon to provide support (for instance financial support) to countries. |

6) Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Australia; Programme on Forests (PROFOR) at the World Bank, 2002: Implementation of the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action. Fostering National-Level Assessment and Action. Summary of the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action and Assessment Methodology for In-Country Support to National Forest Programmes. 7) Regional processes such as the pan-European process are included here.

| | |
|---|---|
| International organisations only | Activities which explicitly address international organisations. International organisation are defined here as multilateral organisations. |
| International Institutions and major groups | Activities which address research institutions, or when major groups - as defined within CSD - are called upon. |
| All | Activities which address national governments, international organisations as well as institutions and major groups. |
| Non-specific | Some of the activities do not relate directly to a specific addressee, therefore they remain in this category. |

The output of the assessment of the content and addressee(s) was used to identify the implementation relevance and responsibility. All legal and non-legal texts that relate to Austrian Forest Policy were collected and further activities were listed in a comprehensive document.

1.b) Assessment of relevance and implementation responsibility of the CBD Programme of Work in Austria

The activities of the CBD expanded programme of work were analysed with a view to assess whether they are relevant for implementation within or by Austria. Either they were found relevant for national⁸ implementation or international implementation, or they remained irrelevant. Some were indistinct (see Table 2).

In a second step the policy areas were identified indicating where (in relation to which national administration activity and so forth) the respective activity/goal of the CBD Programme of Work might be most relevant. To identify for which policy areas or institutions a specific activity is relevant, a list of policy areas was developed. This analysis was important for conducting interviews.

Different degrees of implementation responsibilities were found in relation to the various activities requested by the CBD Programme of Work. It was distinguished between primary, secondary and no implementation responsibility. Additionally, national or international and internal or external relations had to be taken into consideration (see Table 3).

Table 2: Categories for implementation relevance

| RELEVANCE | CRITERIA |
|-------------------------|--|
| national/ internal | Activities address "countries". |
| international/ external | Activities address "international organisations" or donors. |
| not relevant | Activities address others than the above or remain indistinct. |

8) "Internal implementation" is valid also within the European Community

Table 3: Implementation Responsibility

| RESPONSIBILITY | CRITERIA | |
|----------------|---------------------------|--|
| Primary | National / internal: | Country: federal bodies have exclusive competence Supranational organisation⁹⁾: has exclusive competence (e.g. agricultural policy) |
| | International / external: | Country/supranational organisation as party to a convention (CBD, CCD, CITES, WTO, UNECE, etc.) Supranational organisation has exclusive competencies |
| Secondary | National: | Country: a) Provinces have exclusive competence. b) Provinces and federal bodies share competencies c) Addressee is not a country, but countries might be asked for provisions of financial aid, etc. d) European Community has exclusive competencies Supranational organisation: according to the principle of subsidiarity (Protocol on Subsidiarity to Amsterdam Treaty). |
| | Internal: | |
| | International / external: | Supranational organisation shared competencies among 15 Member States (e.g. development policy and research). |
| None | | Other addressees (not countries) |

Based on these three categories, the implementation responsibility was identified.

2. Implementation degree

Qualitative interviews were conducted with staff of national administration, provincial authorities, stakeholders, NGOs, the

research community etc. that have a competence for the policy areas set up earlier. Interviews were conducted also with forest owners.

The form of the current implementation was examined by distinguishing between legislative and non-legislative frameworks (see Table 4).

Table 4: Form of Implementation

| FORM OF IMPLEMENTATION | CRITERIA |
|--|-------------------|
| Legal framework Legal Acts, Regulations, directives, decisions, etc. | In force |
| Legal Acts under preparation (amendments) <i>supranational:</i> Communications, strategies | Under preparation |
| Non-legal framework Action and Working Programmes, Guidelines, Implementation Reports | Existing |
| Activities under preparation | Under preparation |
| No degree of implementation | |

9) This category applies to the European Community only.

The degree of implementation was assessed using four criteria. It showed whether the activities were fully addressed by the legislation and activities in force or under preparation, whether they were largely or only partly addressed, or not addressed at all. These are specified in the following:

reconcile these two and thereby identify the 'implementation gap' - if any - for each activity. The gap analysis covered an assessment of the size of the gap, based on the degree of implementation and a comment on the nature of the gap - that was, the aspects of the activities that remain

Table 5: Degree of Implementation

| ACTIVITIES/GOALS | DEGREE OF IMPLEMENTATION |
|---|--------------------------|
| Main aspects are addressed. | Fully addressed (1) |
| One or more aspects are addressed, but not all aspects. | Largely addressed (2) |
| Some aspects are partly addressed. | Partly addressed (3) |
| Activities are addressed by future action and within ongoing processes. | In preparation (4) |
| Nothing is addressed. | Not addressed (5)) |

3. Gap Analysis

The gap analysis was based on the results of the analysis of the implementation responsibility and the evaluation of the implementation degree. The task was to

uncompleted. In the entire analysis a distinction was made, where appropriate, between national/ internal and international/external roles and activities. The gap size was consequently the inverse of the degree of the implementation score- that

Table 6: Allocation of gap size scores to the different degrees of implementation

| Degree of implementation | Criteria | Gap size score |
|--------------------------|--|----------------|
| Fully | All was done that could reasonably have been expected to be done. However, there may be a couple of minor deviations or some small aspects not yet completed, or some work still to be finished. | None |
| Largely | Most, or at least the majority, of the work has been done. | Small |
| Partly | Only relatively minor parts have been completed; or there has been only limited progress across the full range of activities. | Medium |
| In preparation | Plans are actively being developed for implementing the work, but firm implementation has not begun. | Large |
| None | No significant progress has been made; or only preliminary discussions; or very limited aspects implemented. | Full |

was, full implementation meant there was no gap. Table 6 shows the correlation between the degree of implementation and the gap size score. It should be pointed out that these were only 'apparent' gaps based on the information readily available regarding implementation (see Table 6).

A table was elaborated that showed the following features:

- summary of the activities/goals of the expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity
- addressee(s)
- policy areas
- relevance for national/internal or international/external activities
- implementation responsibility
- implementation degree/form
- short text describing actual implementation
- implementation gap

This information was provided in a comprehensive research report (Vol. II).

4. Synergies and differences in the implementation of the CBD Programme of Work and the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action

The synergies and differences in the implementation of the CBD Programme of Work on forest biological diversity and the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action were identified. The text of each Proposal for Action was compared to the requirements of the activities of the CBD Programme of Work. The respective headings that introduced the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action as well as the activities/goals of the CBD Programme of Work were part of this analysis. Some brief comments have been given.

The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity provided parties with an information document¹⁰ that shows potential actors, timeframes, ways & means of implementation, and their relation to the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action. This document has been taken into account when evaluating

the synergies and differences of both - the CBD Programme of Work and the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action.

Meetings, workshop and interviews

In early October 2002 a meeting with responsible staff of the Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management (BMLFUW) was held in order to discuss details of the work plan and methods used. A further meeting with responsible staff of the BMLFUW was held in mid-June 2003 in order to prepare the Workshop held in the Ministry.

Finally, the results - a draft report - were made available to all interviewed persons and to interested stakeholders, civil servants and researchers. During a Workshop held in the Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, Vienna, in June 2003 the draft report was presented and discussed. Written comments have been forwarded to the author thereafter. These suggested comments were integrated, where possible into the final report, which was made available thereafter. A second meeting was convened at the BMLFUW in early July 2003. The author explained text changes and clarified misunderstandings.

The study followed a participatory approach in so far as all persons involved in the workshops could forward comments as well as text clarifications and provide additional information material. This participatory approach was not meant to further the consensus finding process, but only to clarify misunderstandings and improve the content of the report at hand.

25 Interviews have been conducted with responsible staff of relevant ministries and implementing agencies, research agencies, University, interest groups, and forest owners.

A detailed description of the methodology used can be found in Volume 2 of the present report (see Volume II).

10) See: Convention on Biological Diversity (2002). "Forest Biological Diversity". Elaboration of elements for an expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity - actors, suggested timeframes and performance measures of proposed activities. The Hague 7-19 April 2002, 6th meeting (UNEP/CBD/6/INF/9).

2 MAIN RESULTS



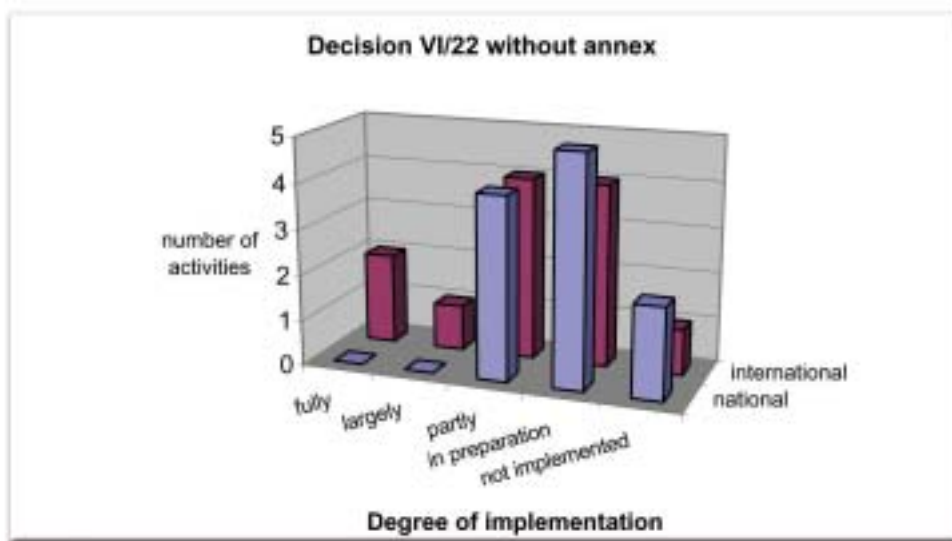
On the following pages you will find a short summary of the main research results of the evaluation of the implementation of the CBD Programme of Work and related IPF/IFF Proposals for Action in Austria. The detailed research findings can be read in Volume II of the present report. Here an account will be given on the addressee(s) of all activities of the CBD Programme of Work, further on their relevance in terms of national and international action are outlined. The Austrian implementation responsibility is sketched out. Thereafter the implementation degree and the main implementation gaps are described. Finally synergies and differences of the CBD Programme of Work and the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action are identified.

It should be noted here that Austrian authorities will have to decide on the further implementation of the activities. They have to decide also on their implementation priorities.

2.1 Implementation degree of the Decision VI/22

Decision VI/22 and the chapeau to the CBD Programme of Work were analysed separately. Decision VI/22 introduces the Programme of Work and provides information about how, where, why, and who should implement the Programme of Work. Specific topics of interest are contained therein also. Most of the requested activities have been implemented in part. For some activities, implementation has only started. Some of the activities have not been implemented at all. This is also due to the fact that the required activities in some cases just do not address the Austrian situation properly as they have been negotiated within a global context or, in other cases, the areas concerned have so far not been found that important within the Austrian national forest policy.

Fig. 1: Degree of implementation of Decision VI/22



The activities addressing national action are less well implemented than those addressing international action. This is also due to the fact that the implementation of some activities depends on the implementation of others. For an overview of the levels of implementation, see Fig. 1.

2.2 Addressee(s) of the CBD Programme of Work

Two thirds of all activities addressed by the three Programme elements are addressed at country level. Some activities have other addressees and therefore should not be implemented by Austria.

2.3 Relevance of the CBD Programme of Work for an Austrian implementation

The analysis showed that 70% of all activities are deemed relevant for national action. Within programme element 1 of the Programme of Work only 3% of all requested activities ask for international action by

Austria. Most activities should be implemented nationally. Some should be implemented nationally and internationally (25%). Within programme element 2 of the Programme of Work 14% and within programme element 3 20% of the requested activities ask for international action. There are only few activities of the programme elements 2 and 3 asking for a national and international implementation.

Contrary to the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action most activities of the Programme of Work are deemed relevant for national implementation within Austria and less for international implementation by Austria.

Austria is a member of the European Union. Although no common European forest policy exists, but only a Forestry Strategy¹¹, other policy areas (such as Trade, Development Cooperation, Environment, and Agriculture) of the European Union might well deal with forestry issues and have an impact on Austrian forest policy. This means that international action has to be seen as supranational and international action. Volume II of the present report pays attention to this fact.

11) COM(1998) 649 final (03/11/1998), Communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament on a forest strategy for the European Union.

Most of the activities of the CBD Programme of Work address the policy fields: Forest Policy, Biodiversity and research. Other policy areas such as Forestry Statistics, Rural Development, Development Cooperation, Trade, Forest genetics, and Climate Change policy etc. are addressed as well.

2.4 Austrian implementation responsibility of the CBD Programme of Work

The implementation responsibility for the activities of the CBD Programme of Work are primarily found at the federal level. The federal level has a primary implementation responsibility for 67% of the relevant activities of element 1 of the CBD Programme of Work, for 91% of the relevant activities of element 2, and for 100% of the relevant activities of element 3. The Federal Provinces (and, in some cases, the European Community) hold the implementation responsibility for 26% of the relevant activities of programme element 1 and for 7% of the relevant activities of programme element 2.

2.5 Austrian degree of implementation of the CBD Programme of Work

The degree of implementation of the activities of the CBD Programme of Work varies between the 3 programme elements. This means that the national implementation degree of programme element 1 (see Fig. 2) is slightly better than that for programme elements 2 and 3.

The degree of national implementation for element 2 is less good than that for element 1 (see Fig. 3).

The degree of implementation for programme element 3, which contains fewer activities than the other programme elements, is nationally not as good as internationally (see Fig. 4.).

The implementation degree of the activities of the CBD Programme of Work is generally spoken less well for its national implementation than for its international implementation. This is due to the fact that the CBD Programme of Work was adopted only in April 2002. Besides in some cases

Fig. 2 Degree of implementation of Element 1

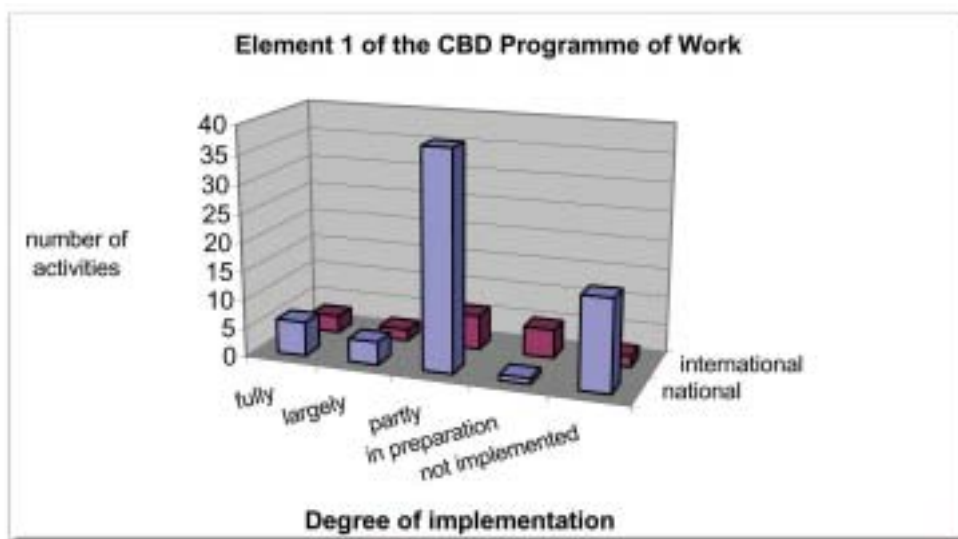
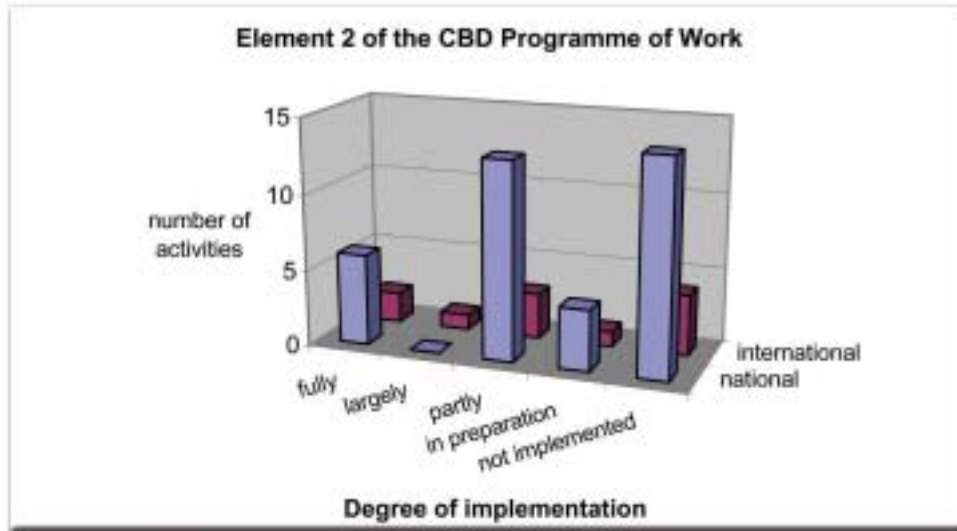


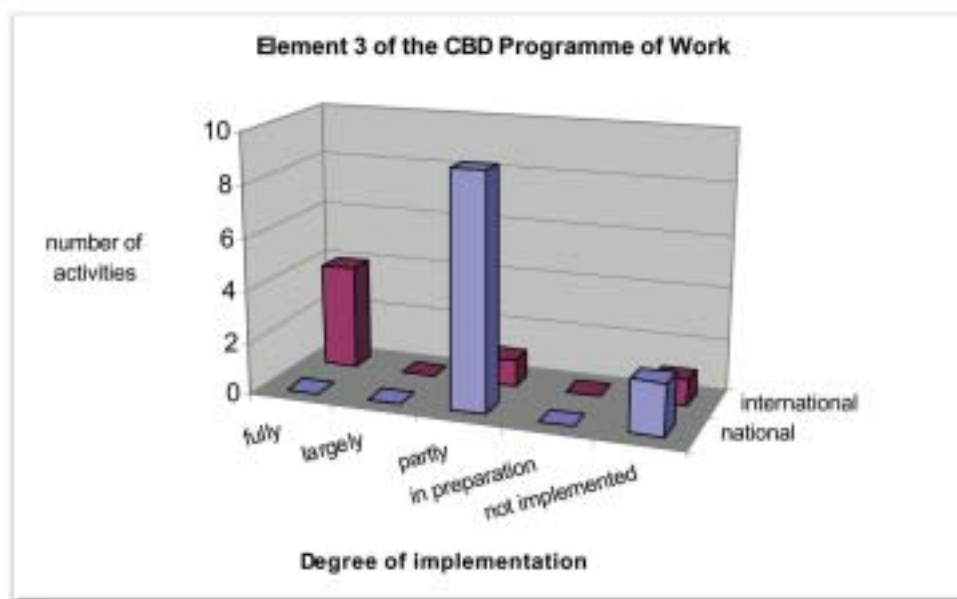
Fig. 3 Degree of implementation of Element 2



these activities just do not address the Austrian situation properly as they have been negotiated within a global context or, in other cases, the areas concerned have so far not been found that important within Austrian national forest policy. The further

implementation of activities, found relevant, will continue within the Austrian Biodiversity Commission and within the process of drafting an Austrian national forest programme.

Fig. 4 Degree of implementation of Element 3



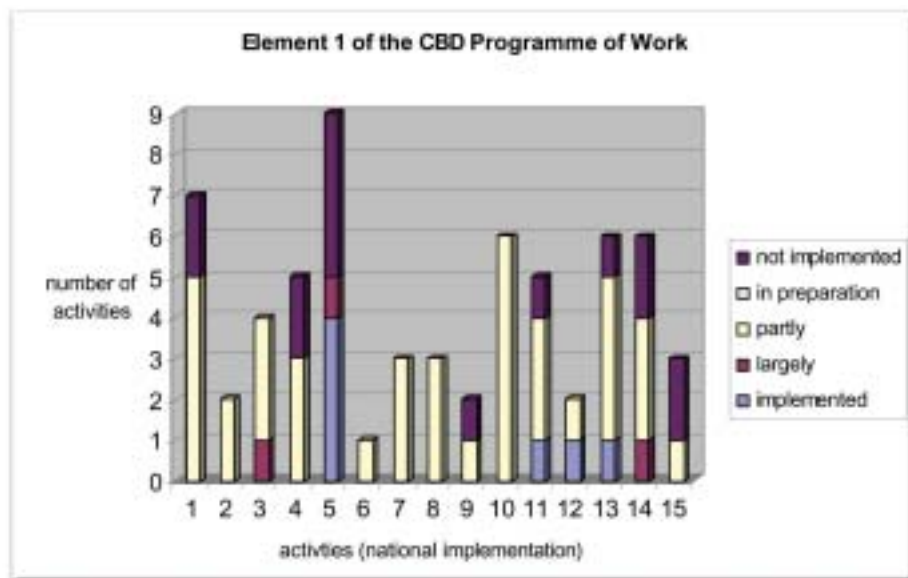
2.6 Gap analysis - a short summary

The gap analysis was based on the previous assessment of the relevance of the activities of the CBD Programme of Work and the implementation responsibility for Austria. Primary national implementation gaps (see Fig. 5) were found in Programme element 1 in the areas of ecosystem approach (1), forest fires (5), endemic and threatened species (9), sustainable use of forest biological diversity (11), community managed systems (13), forest genetics (14), and fair and equitable sharing of benefits from forest genetic resources (15).

Primary international implementation gaps can be found in the following areas (see Fig. 6): Ecosystem approach (1) and in the areas of endemic and threatened species (9).

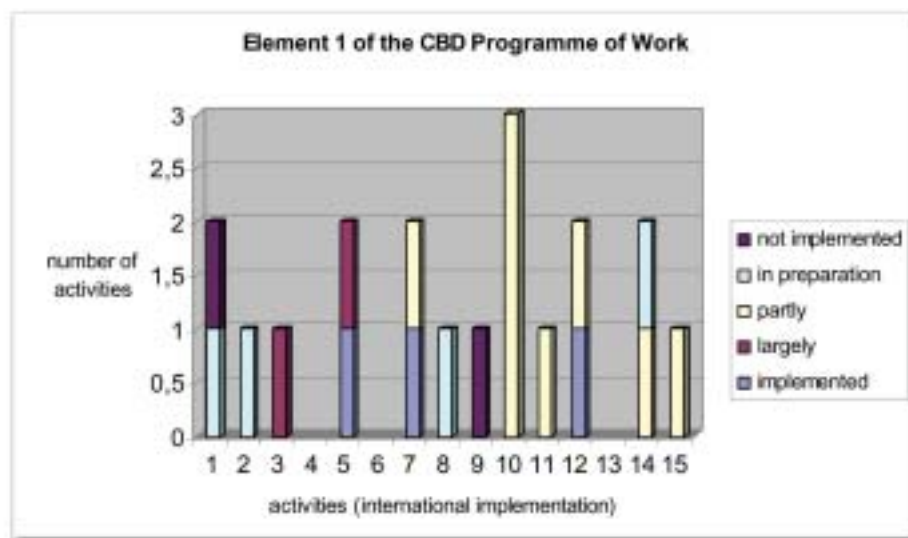
Primary international implementation gaps can be found in the following areas (see Fig. 6): Ecosystem approach (1) and in the areas of endemic and threatened species (9).

Fig. 5: Overview of national implementation gaps (Programme element 1)



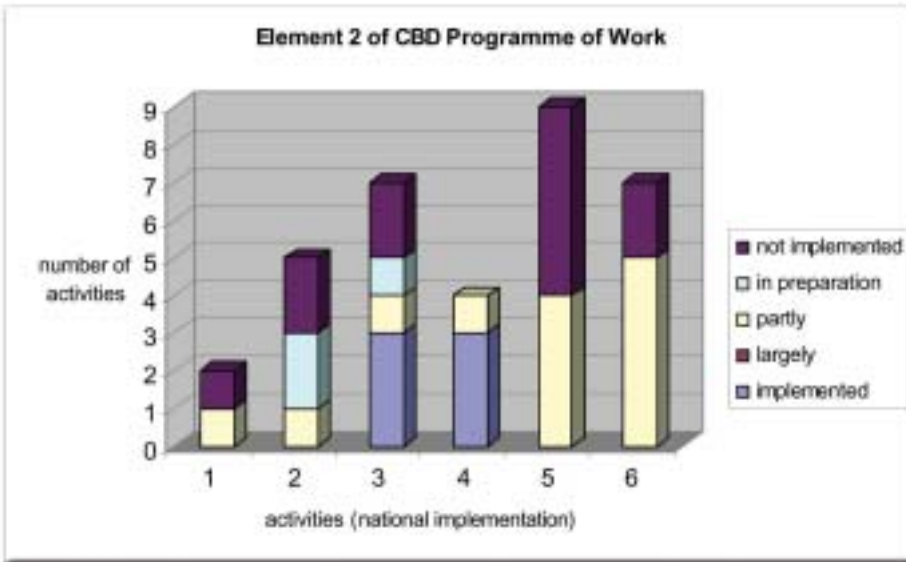
- 1 ecosystem approach of CBD;
- 2 invasive alien species;
- 3 pollution;
- 4 climate change;
- 5 forest fires;
- 6 loss of natural disturbances;
- 7 fragmentation;
- 8 restoration;
- 9 endemic and threatened species;
- 10 protected forest area networks;
- 11 sustainable use of forest biological diversity;
- 12 unsustainable harvesting;
- 13 community managed systems;
- 14 forest genetic diversity;
- 15 fair and equitable sharing of benefits of forest genetic resources.

Fig. 6. Overview of international implementation gaps (Programme element 1)



- 1 ecosystem approach of CBD;
- 2 invasive alien species;
- 3 pollution;
- 4 climate change;
- 5 forest fires;
- 6 loss of natural disturbances;
- 7 fragmentation;
- 8 restoration;
- 9 endemic and threatened species;
- 10 protected forest area networks;
- 11 sustainable use of forest biological diversity;
- 12 unsustainable harvesting;
- 13 community managed systems;
- 14 forest genetic diversity;
- 15 fair and equitable sharing of benefits of forest genetic resources.

Fig. 7. Overview of national implementation gaps (Programme element 2)



- 1 causes of forest biological diversity loss;
- 2 integration in other sector policies;
- 3 good governance practices;
- 4 forest law enforcement and trade;
- 5 economic failures / distortions;
- 6 public understanding

Primary national implementation gaps (see Fig. 7) could be found in Programme element 2 in all areas.

Primary international implementation gaps (see Fig. 8) can be found in the following areas: causes of forest biological diversity loss (1); good-governance practices (3); forest law enforcement/trade (4); economic failures/distortions (5).

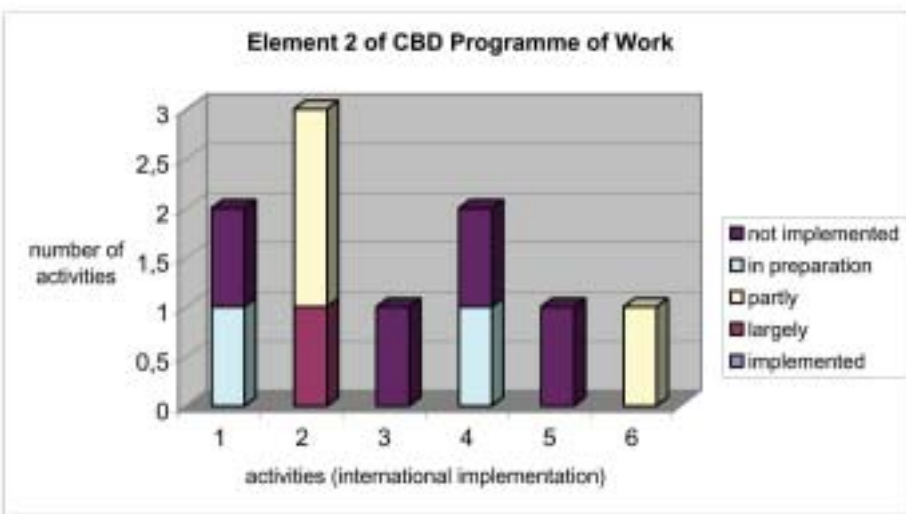
Primary national implementation gaps could be found in Programme element 3 in the

following areas: National forest classification systems/maps (2); specific forest ecosystem surveys (3); criteria and indicators (4); research programmes (5).

Primary international implementation gaps could be found in Programme element 3 with regards to the enhancement and improvement of technical capacities (6).

A precise description of all implementation gaps can be found in Volume II of the present study.

Fig. 8. Overview of international implementation gaps (Programme element 2)



- 1 causes of forest biological diversity loss;
- 2 integration in other sector policies;
- 3 good governance practices;
- 4 forest law enforcement and trade;
- 5 economic failures/distortions;
- 6 public understanding

2.7

Synergies and differences between the CBD Programme of Work and the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action

When evaluating the implementation of the CBD Programme of Work and the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action it should be taken into account that both have been developed in different periods of time. While the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action have been developed between 1995 and 2000, the CBD Programme of Work was adopted in April 2002. Despite their numerous overlaps and interlinkages the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action contain a solid basis for action on the international, the supranational and the national level. They concentrate mainly on international actions, while the CBD Programme of Work should be implemented mainly on the national level.

The IPF/IFF Proposals for Action are valid for all types of forests and refer to all aspects of forest policy. The main objective of the CBD Programme is to enhance the protection and sustainable use of forest biological diversity as well as the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of forest genetic resources. It further proposes activities for the improvement of institutional and socio-economic structures. It contains also activities for the monitoring of forest-biological diversity and research.

The analysis showed that most of the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action address the policy areas „development cooperation, forest policy, research and forestry statistics“. This is not surprising, as development cooperation is most important to reduce the pressure on natural resources within developing countries and countries with economies in transition. New and additional financial resources should be provided. Research policy plays also a prominent role as it has been one of the main parts of the work programme of IPF. Forestry statistics plays

also a rather prominent role for the Proposals for Action. It has been one of the parts of the work programme and many Proposals for Action ask for the need for sharing information and call upon countries and international organisations to develop harmonized and comprehensive reporting formats for collecting and synthesizing national forest information to meet various needs. Developing countries should be supported in their efforts, and access to forest-related information should be made available to everybody.

Biodiversity and climate change, respectively energy policy, are not among the main policy areas addressed by the Proposals for Action, as these issues are being discussed separately within the framework of two Conventions - the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Most of the activities of the CBD Programme of Work address the policy fields Forest Policy, Biodiversity and research. Other policy areas such as Forestry Statistics, Rural Development, Development Cooperation, Trade, Forest genetics, and Climate Change policy etc. are also addressed.

The analysis showed further that the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action emphasises the following thematic areas:

- Trade
- International cooperation and technology transfer
- Financial resources
- Research
- Rehabilitation of degraded areas

In Decision VI/22 to the Annex of the CBD Programme of Work on forest biological diversity the international community emphasises the importance of the following areas:

- Effectiveness of forest law enforcement
- Role of indigenous and local communities
- Role of women
- Development and use of criteria and indicators
- Cooperation and identification of synergies between the CBD Programme of Work and the Plan of Action (UNFF)
- Forest protected area networks

Many activities of the CBD Programme of Work are also addressed by the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action. In some cases the requirements of the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action are more detailed (e.g. traditional forest knowledge, criteria and indicators). In other areas no IPF/IFF Proposals for Action exist (e.g. invasive alien species, climate change, forest fires etc.).



3 FINAL REMARKS

Austrian authorities regard the national Austrian biodiversity strategy and the national forest programme as main tools for the implementation of the CBD Programme of Work and the Proposals for Action. Further implementation therefore depends on both processes.

The methodical approach, presented in this study, to the evaluation of the activities/goals of the CBD Programme of Work on forest biological diversity as well as the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action may facilitate this coordinated integration of international forest-related requirements into national biodiversity action plans and strategies and national forest programmes. It may also assist national representatives in their reporting requirements to UNFF and CBD as it allows easily for a common reporting format. Finally, it intends to encourage others to share their experiences.

However, as the time available for the present analysis was limited to 6 months it was not possible to address all aspects to the level that might be desirable.

As this report comprises three Volumes it is highly recommended to interested readers to refer to Volume II (research report) and, for a detailed description of the implementation of Proposals for Action in Austria, to refer to Volume III (Annex). The study report has been published in book form: Pülzl, Helga (2003). Die Evaluierung der Umsetzung des erweiterten CBD Arbeitsprogramms für biologische Vielfalt der Wälder und der IPF- und IFF-Aktionsvorschläge in Österreich. Schriftenreihe des Instituts für Sozioökonomik der Forst- und Holzwirtschaft - Band 50, Universität für Bodenkultur Wien. It can be ordered at Department of Economic and Social Sciences, Feistmantelstrasse 4, A-1180 Vienna or consult our homepage at <http://www.boku.ac.at/sfh/publ-e.htm>. For more on forest biological diversity in Austria please consult www.biodiv.at.





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REMARK

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CBD PROGRAMME OF WORK ON FOREST BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND THE IPF/IFF PROPOSALS FOR ACTION IN AUSTRIA



The report of this study contains three volumes:

VOLUME I: EXTENDED EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (English)

The extended Executive Summary is published in English and could be sent to CBD and UNFF. It has been clustered according to the CBD Programme of Work on Forest Biological Diversity.

VOLUME II: RESEARCH REPORT (German)

Vol.2. presents a comprehensive research report published in German language in order to make it available to Austrian stakeholders and to increase the knowledge on the implementation status of the CBD Programme of Work on Forest Biological Diversity and related IPF/IFF Proposals for Action in Austria.

The chapters follow the present structure:

- * Addressee(s) of the Proposals for Action
- * Relevance, Implementation responsibility, Policy area
- * Implementation degree
- * Implementation gap
- * Synergies and differences with IPF/IFF Proposals for Action

VOLUME III: ANNEX (German)

Vol.3 was published in the form of an Annex in order to allow for a detailed assessment of every activity of the CBD Programme of Work and the related IPF/IFF Proposal for Action and a detailed description of the respective implementation. For every activity for Action it comprises a short summary of the text, addressee(s), relevance, policy area, implementation responsibility, and description of the implementation degree and it gives an account on the respective gap. Finally information on synergies and differences with the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action is given also.

It contains further a comprehensive list of all relevant national (Austrian federal law and provincial law), supranational and international legislation in force related to forest matter.

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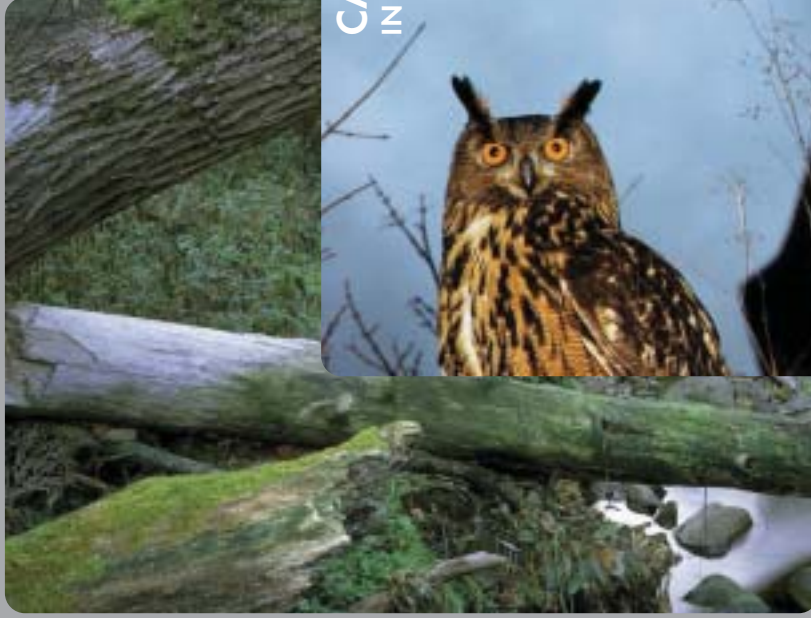
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