



# **COST Action E 51**

**Integrating Innovation and Development Policies for the  
Forest Sector**

Analysis of integration of innovation  
in different policy areas and their  
implementation mechanisms

**Slovakia**

**COUNTRY REPORT  
PHASE I**

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## Abstract

This report deals with the integration of innovation in different policy areas and their effects on innovation in the forest sector in the Slovak Republic. The two main objectives of the report are to analyse existing Slovak national strategies and programmes and their implementation mechanisms on innovation, rural development, regional development and sustainable development policies, and to appraise effects of these programmes on forestry and forest sector enterprises in the Slovak Republic. The general comments on the analysed documents are mentioned in following review.

National Forest Programme of the Slovak Republic (NFP SR) is a basic document for securing sustainable forest management in the forests. On the 1st March 2007 it was discussed and approved by the Ministry of Agriculture of SR and is under preparation to be submitted for the session of the Government of SR (May 2007) and the National Council of SR (Sep 2007). It was worked out for the period by 2020 by formulating five strategic goals, 18 priorities and 52 general objectives. General objectives will be worked out into more details on regular basis and updated through measures formulated in the Action Plan of the NFP SR. In 2008 Action plan of the NFP SR will be developed. Herewith will be developed the strategy for evaluation and monitoring and it will be tool for implementation as well.

Innovation strategy for the Slovak Republic 2006-2013 (IS SR) will be a basic document for support of innovation activities of Slovak industry. Forest based industry is not priority in this document. We can assume that IS will be amended because government has changed. The orientation of document is very strong in relationship to innovation, but forestry and forest based industry is not priority. This document follows concept of systemic innovation policy.

National reform programme of the Slovak republic 2006-2008 is in conformity with the New Lisbon strategy of EU. The focus and content of these strategic documents are derived from the new guidelines of the EU economic policy – from the so-called *Integrated Guidelines*, unifying the previously existing Broad Economic Policy Guidelines and Employment Guidelines. We can assume that this document will be amended because government in Slovakia has changed and the most important specific priorities and individual activities are determined by individual member states. Bio energy involved in this document, but not in the follow Innovation strategy.

Within the Rural Development Programme of the Slovak Republic 2007–2013, in the axis 2 with the main objective Improving the environment and the countryside, there are no forestry measures specially devoted to innovations even though there are forestry measures such as Measures targeting the sustainable use of forestry land, First afforestation of agricultural land, Natura 2000 payments – forestry land, Forest-environment payments, Restoring forestry potential and introducing prevention actions. Forestry is excluded from the Axis 3 Quality of life in rural areas and diversification of rural economy and axis 4 Leader.

Considering the Regional Operational Programme 2007–2013, it can be stated that in comparison with the first version from May there were add some new measures. The final document was adopted in September 2007 by EC. There is the assumption that innovation will be invoked by investments to infrastructure in growth centres. After the adoption of document and its implementation it will be interesting to analyse how the support for tourism is successful in territorial based services related to forestry. In the programme period 2007-2013 the rate of regions involvement into ROP implementation will be markedly strengthened in comparison with the period 2004-2006. The extent of delegation of tasks performance will be described in detail in Programme manual of ROP and Internal manual of procedures for ROP.

National Strategy for Sustainable Development for the Slovak Republic has to be a superior document in all economic, environmental and social areas in the Slovak Republic. The connection to innovation is very general. The document defines frame conditions for innovations and entrepreneurship.

The Energy Policy of the Slovak Republic is a high-level document stipulating the starting point for orientation of individual players on the Slovakia's energy market for a longer

period. It is a document open to any changes which may arise in the course of implementation. At the moment, this material is rather general piece of document which needs to be further developed. Innovations in the area of biomass production would need to be dealt with more in detail as biomass is recognized as one of the most important and prospective renewable source of energy.

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## 1 Introduction

The membership of the EU, which makes structural funds and manifold incentives available to the Slovakian rural sector, increases the competitive pressure on domestic agricultural and forest sector. While the market economy and political changes opened a space for entrepreneurial activities in forestry as well as in other branches of the rural economy, integration and coordination of different branch, sectoral and cross-sector policies problems have arisen particularly in the rural areas.

During years 2002-2004 the project "Research of Innovation and entrepreneurship and their influence on rural development" APVT 20-13-72 launched by the Agency for Research and Development was solved. Some of the main results were:

- The inclusion of support to entrepreneurship and innovation in forestry is important but the intersectorial partnerships are more significant.
- The regional and rural development policies play a key role in relation to the forestry and forests.
- The EU-related programming documents making the external support systematic and open for more actors, including the forestry ones, require multi-level decision-making.

In the new program period 2007-2013 is opportunity to analyze the changes in documents and compare the innovations support measures for forestry. The next step will be the analysis how was the efficiency of planned measures.

### *Institutional frameworks, policy development and policy processes, as well as current policy issues*

Central legal framework has been applied in Slovakia. A central organ of state administration of forestry and game management is the Ministry of Agriculture of SR. On 1 January 2004 there was established an independent state administration of forestry by establishment of 8 county forest offices and 39 district forest offices. The main forest legal act is Forest Act no. 326/2005 of the Digest, adopted on 23 June 2005. The main changes from the previous are: Consent of forest owner with declaring the forests for special purpose forests and agreement on the amount and way of reimbursement of detriment due to restrictions of ownership's rights

- Ban on clear-felling system; introducing a special regeneration method – forest reconstruction, in damaged, more open, weeded forest stands, in conversions
- Determination of purposeful silvicultural system being applied mainly in protective and special purpose forests
- Introduction of the regime of forest roads utilization, performing forestry-technical reclamation and torrent control in the forests, with considering the ownership of forest lands
- Introduction of the regime of incidental felling in protected areas with the highest degree of protection
- New act does not deal with the issue of gathering forest fruits, berries
- New provision on reimbursement of damage to forest property and reimbursement of detriment due to restrictions of ownership's rights
- Establishment of a new regime of funding, elaboration of forest management plans with covering the costs by the state as well as forest manager
- Introduction of the regime of professional forest administration on the basis of the decision of the organ of state forest administration if forest manager does not fulfil his duties following for him from the provisions on professional management in forest
- Setting the principles of the administration of forest property owned by the state
- More detailed specification of the provision on appeal, keeping records, duties and rights of forest guard
- New provision on funding public beneficial activities to secure sustainable management in forests

- Establishment of specialized state administration of forestry and state supervision in forests

Economy policy of forest sector was realized on the principles of the document called Conception of forest policy until 2005 and its main focus it targeted to improve the competitiveness and SFM through: - optimal usage of the production capabilities of the forests with the aim to create enough financial resources for covering costs in the silviculture and also in the governance of investment properties- support for securing and providing of the non-production functions of the forests - improvement of the social conditions of the employees in the forestry sector. Forestry in Slovakia was in the unfavourable economical and financial situation.

The most important financial tools in forest sector are market prices of timber, support from public sources and axes. Market prices of timber decreased in 2003-2005, but this was shifted in the year 2006. The most important toll of support from public sources was budgetary chapter of MA of the SR, which supported mostly specific forestry measures and RandD. Programme SAPARD and SOP Agriculture and Rural Development support mostly investments within the forest sector. The support from public sources decreases continuously, noting the biggest decrease in the years on 2004-2005.

#### *Methodological aspects*

The forest policy, rural development policy and regional policy were analysed by the staff of National Forest Centre (NFC). For document analyse the most recent documents were chosen, regardless some of them are still under negotiation in EC.

National Forest Program was elaborated on Department of Forest Strategy, Policy and Economy and on the evaluation the authors were contributed. NFC Institute of forest consulting and training was involved in evaluation of rural development programs. Regional operational program was the most problematic document, because of difficulties with the final version. The philosophy of and possible changes was consulting with regional governance and Regional Development Agency.

The other policy documents (i.e. documents on the forest based sector policy, innovation policy, sustainable development policy, renewable energy policy) were analysed only by authors without any consultancies with the staff responsible for the documents development or with the national and local experts. Thus, the general method of document analysis was mainly used.

## 2 Innovation areas in forestry in the country

The most important current forest sector innovations are as follows:

**Table 1: Innovation areas: The most important innovation for Slovakia**

Area	Territory based services	Value added chain
<b>Type</b>		
<b>Product</b>	Recreational services - forest pedagogy and educational paths	Biomass, wood prefabricated houses
<b>Process</b>		Harvester technology
<b>Marketing method</b>	Introduction of social functions to the market - marketing of forest non-wood forest products and services	
<b>Organisational model</b>	Regional cooperation - RIS, cooperation among regional R&D institutions, local governance, SMEs ...	Horizontal cooperation of forest owners Vertical cooperation - between actors in forestry-wood chain Innovation centres
<b>Institutional innovations</b>		

**Table 2: Evaluation documents**

<p><b>Forest Policy:</b> National Forest Programme Publication Date: March 2007 Website: <a href="http://www.land.gov.sk/index.php?navID=18&amp;ofs1=60&amp;pkID=494">www.land.gov.sk/index.php?navID=18&amp;ofs1=60&amp;pkID=494</a></p>
<p><b>Forest Based Sector Policy (Sector Policy Strategy):</b> Innovation strategy for the Slovak republic 2006-2013 Publication Date: July 2005 Website: <a href="http://www.economy.gov.sk/pk/128-2006-1000/ma.htm">www.economy.gov.sk/pk/128-2006-1000/ma.htm</a></p>
<p><b>Innovation Policy:</b> National reform programme of the Slovak republic 2006-2008 Publication Date: October 2005 Website: <a href="http://www.finance.gov.sk/EN/Documents/IFP/nrp_2005_en.pdf">http://www.finance.gov.sk/EN/Documents/IFP/nrp_2005_en.pdf</a></p>
<p><b>Rural Development Policy:</b> Rural Development Programme of the Slovak Republic 2007–2013 Publication Date: February 2007 Website: <a href="http://www.mpsr.sk/pk/html/1921_2006_100/vlastnymat.pdf">http://www.mpsr.sk/pk/html/1921_2006_100/vlastnymat.pdf</a></p>
<p><b>Regional Development Policy:</b> Regional Operational Programme 2007–2013 Publication Date: September 2007 Website: <a href="http://www.build.gov.sk/mvrrsr/index.php?id=10&amp;cat=103&amp;news=3150">http://www.build.gov.sk/mvrrsr/index.php?id=10&amp;cat=103&amp;news=3150</a></p>
<p><b>Sustainable Development Policy:</b> National Strategy for Sustainable Development for the Slovak Republic Publication Date: 2002 Website: <a href="http://www.tur.sk/doc_en/Slovakia_NSSD_Final.pdf">www.tur.sk/doc_en/Slovakia_NSSD_Final.pdf</a></p>
<p><b>Renewable Energy Policy:</b> Energy Policy of the Slovak Republic</p>

Publication Date: January 2006

Website:

[www.economy.gov.sk/files/Energetika/Energetickapolitika/SR\\_New\\_Energy\\_Policy\\_ENG.DOC](http://www.economy.gov.sk/files/Energetika/Energetickapolitika/SR_New_Energy_Policy_ENG.DOC)



### 3 Forest Policy

National Forest Programme of the Slovak Republic (NFP SR) will be a basic document for securing sustainable forest management in the forests. On the 1st March 2007 it was discussed and approved by the Ministry of Agriculture of SR and is under preparation to be submitted for the session of the Government of SR (May 2007) and the National Council of SR (Sep 2007). It was worked out for the period by 2020 by formulating five strategic goals, 18 priorities and 52 general objectives. General objectives will be worked out into more details on regular basis and updated through measures formulated in the Action Plan of the NFP SR. As forest policy is considered to be one of the important areas of innovation policy that plays significant role in rural regions, the NFP is perceived as a key policy document that should also provide adequate guidance for implementation of the innovations. The first part of this paper deals with the process of NFP adoption, its mission and goals as well as with the structure of the NFP. The second part of the paper analyses the strategic objectives and priorities of the NFP with regard to the implementation of innovations in forestry practice.

#### 3.1 Part A – General description

**Table 2: Part General document information**

<b>Name:</b>	<b>National Forest Programme</b>
<b>Adoption:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Parliament <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ministry of Agriculture SR <input type="checkbox"/> Others: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No formal approval Level: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National <input type="checkbox"/> Regional <input type="checkbox"/> Local Adoption date: March 2007
<b>Validity period:</b>	2007-2020
<b>Revision:</b>	No revision planned
<b>Monitoring/ Evaluation:</b>	Will be defined by Action Plan to NFP
<b>Related documents:</b>	No so far
<b>Geographical scope:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National <input type="checkbox"/> Regional; name: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Local, name: _____
<b>Budget:</b>	State budget: 12,4mill. € during 2007 EAFRD found: not specified for forestry yet,
<b>General description of contents as written in document</b>	
<b>Objective of the document</b>	Securing sustainable forest management based on adequate usage of forests economic, ecological and social functions for the development of whole country and mainly rural areas
<b>Priorities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase long-term competitiveness of forest sector and improve sustainable use of forest products and services – economic goal.</li> <li>• Maintain and improve adequately biodiversity, carbon sequestration, integrity and resistance of forest ecosystems – ecological goal.</li> <li>• Contribute to the quality of life through preservation and improvement of social and cultural dimensions of forests and forestry – social goal.</li> </ul>

<b>Structure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Strategic objective 1: Support to ecological management of forests</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Priority 1: Support forest management close to nature</li> <li>○ Priority 2: Support development and use of environmentally friendly technologies and machinery</li> <li>○ Priority 3: Preservation and proper improvement of biodiversity in forests</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Strategic objective 2: Improvement and protection of the environment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Priority 4: Increasing carbon stocks in forests through implementation forestry mitigation and adaptation measures.</li> <li>○ Priority 5: Enhance forest protection</li> <li>○ Priority 6: Develop forest monitoring</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Strategic objective 3: Improvement of the quality of life</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Priority 7: preserve and improve protective forest functions</li> <li>Priority 8: Increase contribution of forestry to rural economy;</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Strategic objective 4: Increasing long-term competitiveness</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Priority 9: Increase competitiveness and economic viability of forestry;</li> <li>○ Priority 10: Support research and technological development for the improvement of competitiveness of forest sector</li> <li>○ Priority 11: Monetization and marketing of forest non-wood products and services</li> <li>○ Priority 12: Support to utilization of forest biomass for energy production</li> <li>○ Priority 13: Support to the cooperation of forest owners creates preconditions for increasing the participation; Improvement of informing forest owners and their associations,</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Strategic objective 5: Enhancement of cooperation, coordination and communication</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Priority 14: Secure implementation of international commitments in relation to forests and forestry within the implementation of the objectives of National forest programme,</li> <li>○ Priority 15: Strengthen inter-sectoral cooperation and coordination between policies influencing forests and forest management</li> <li>○ Priority 16: Securing eligible interests and needs of forest owners and the whole society</li> <li>○ Priority 17: Support to utilization of timber from the forests managed by means of sustainable forest management</li> <li>○ Priority 18: Support to systematic work with public, improvement of public relations, etc.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Measure Areas</b>	identical to priorities
<b>Follow-up / Implementation</b>	
<b>Follow-up measures:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> No follow-up activities so far <input type="checkbox"/> New or adapted funding programme(s) /budget line; name: <input type="checkbox"/> New or adapted regulations/laws; name: <input type="checkbox"/> New or adapted informational campaigns/instruments; name: <input type="checkbox"/> New or restructured institutions/organisations; name: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Implementation in forest policy: Action plan of the NFP
<b>General comment:</b>	National Forest Programme of the Slovak Republic (NFP SR) will be a basic document for securing sustainable forest management in the forests. On the 1st March 2007 it was discussed and approved by the Ministry of Agriculture of SR and is under preparation to be submitted for

	<p>the session of the Government of SR (May 2007) and the National Council of SR (Sep 2007). It was worked out for the period by 2020 by formulating five strategic goals, 18 priorities and 52 general objectives. General objectives will be worked out into more details on regular basis and updated through measures formulated in the Action Plan of the NFP SR. In 2008 Action plan of the NLP will be developed. Herewith will be developed the strategy for evaluation and monitoring and it will be tool for implementation as well.</p>
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### 3.2 Part B – Integration of innovation

**Table 3: Part B - Overall Innovation Orientation**

<b>Overall innovation orientation</b>	Please mark the frequency of occurrence of the <u>more generic terms</u> 'innovation' or synonyms ('new products', 'new services', 'new processes', new marketing methods', 'new business models') in the document	<input type="checkbox"/> Never <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> Frequently
	Please mark the frequency of occurrence of the forest sector ' <u>innovation frontier</u> ' – innovation areas identified in Chapter 3 - in the document	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Never <input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> Frequently
	Please mark the frequency of occurrence of the <u>terms</u> that are related to innovation, for example entrepreneurship, diversification, competitiveness	<input type="checkbox"/> Never <input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frequently Terms used: innovation, diversification, competitiveness
	Further comments on overall innovation orientation of the document:	
<b>Relevance of innovation:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> No relevance at all <input type="checkbox"/> Marginal issue <input type="checkbox"/> One issue among others <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Important issue <input type="checkbox"/> Central issue Comments:	
<b>Degree of specification:</b> Forestry	<input type="checkbox"/> Very general ( <i>innovation is named in general parts, e.g. preamble, but no related goals, measures, identified needs or similar are addressed by the document</i> ) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rather general ( <i>innovation is addressed in overall goals, needs are identified but no specification of measures</i> ) <input type="checkbox"/> Rather specific ( <i>innovation is addressed in concrete goals, measures are formulated</i> ) <input type="checkbox"/> Very specific ( <i>quantified goals related to innovation are formulated, concrete measures introduced, a fixed budget and timetable exist</i> ) Comments: Innovation including research and education is strategy for competitiveness of forestry in rural areas.	

<b>Understanding of innovation policy</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Predominantly traditional science and technology policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Traditional S&T policy with systemic elements <input type="checkbox"/> Systemic innovation policy with S&T policy elements <input type="checkbox"/> Predominantly systemic innovation policy Comments:
<b>Goals and objectives:</b> Increasing long-term competitiveness	
<b>Issues, problems and related topics:</b> Competitiveness and diversification are important issues for sustainable forestry. They are concentrated to the non-timber production functions and rural development activities.	
<b>Innovation areas:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Strengthen inter-sectoral cooperation and coordination between the policies influencing forests and forest management</li> <li>- Monetization and marketing of forest non-wood products and services</li> <li>- Support to utilization of forest biomass for energy production</li> <li>- Support the cooperation of forest owners and improve the education and professional/technical training, courses</li> </ul>	
<b>General comment:</b> Analyse Action plan to NFP, efficiency of the measures will be possible after their implementation	

**Table 4: Part B - Innovation Support Measures**

<b>Innovation support &amp; measures</b>	<b>Research and Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improvement of economic, legislative, institutional and information tools for strengthening forest research, technological development, innovations and faster transfer of their results into forest practice.</li> <li>• Securing orientation of forest research towards scientific-technical projects within State programme of science and research and international research projects within the 7<sup>th</sup> FP of EU for science and research.</li> </ul>
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	<b>Dissemination of innovation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing technical and technological level of forestry with regard to ecological principles in whole production process, respecting the principles of minimal damage to soil, water and air, creating favourable conditions for the work mainly in logging and transportation process.</li> <li>• Securing adequate access to forests for transportation with regard to the principles of ecological management of forests. In the construction of forest transportation network to create conditions for the utilization of environment friendly technologies.</li> <li>• Increasing economic effectiveness of production process by optimisation of planning, decision-making, marketing and innovation procedures.</li> <li>• Proposal and implementation of the methods of identification, quantification and evaluation of non-wood products and benefits of non-production forest functions.</li> <li>• Gradual attaining national-wide acceptance of non-production (public beneficial – ecological and social forest functions) as externalities of forestry.</li> <li>• Utilization of the production of wood biomass for energy production as an important factor of sustainable development of regions, mainly rural areas with aim of creating stable work opportunities, improvement of the quality of environment, development of infrastructure and alternative use of forest lands (increasing the area of stands for energy production on low-productive forest lands or afforestation of agricultural lands not suitable for cultivation of agricultural crops).</li> </ul>
	<b>Strengthening the knowledge base</b>	<p>Improvement of informing private forest owners and their associations about possibilities and ways of using EU funds mainly from European Agricultural Fund for rural development with the aim of increasing the rate of its utilization.</p> <p>Establishment and implementation of the system of consultation services.</p> <p>Development of the concept of forestry education with regard to adapting technical education to new requirements of labour market.</p> <p>Establishment and implementation of a complex system of lifelong education with the aim of building knowledge-based society.</p>
	<b>Strengthening interaction</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve coherence and inter-sectoral cooperation of forestry and related sectors with the aim of harmonization of economic, ecological and social-cultural objectives.</li> </ul>

	<b>Demand creation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation of the system of economic securing the social demand after the benefits from forests in relation with other tools of forest policy (support from public sources – state sources; EU funds; payments for ecosystem services; reimbursement of detriment to property; state support; tax allowances; “public beneficial services” as a part of forest activities in forestry), including a proposal of legislative and institutional tools of the development of enterprising and securing non-wood products and services, and benefits from non-production forest functions.</li> <li>• Increasing employment rate mainly through diversification of economic activities and development of services related with forestry.</li> <li>• Improvement of economic, legislative, institutional and information tools for enhancement of forest research, technological development, innovations and faster transfer of their results into forest practice.</li> </ul>
	<b>Improving frame conditions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applying specific forms of enterprising, services, marketing and consultancy in forestry with the aim of improvement of socio-economic parameters of rural areas.</li> </ul>
	<b>Comments</b> NFP is developed on the basis of EU Forest Action Plan	
<b>Priorities</b>	The high priority for innovation support is education and diversification of forest goods and services. Education and competitiveness are priorities of National Lisbon strategy too. These should be the key elements for sustainable development of our society.	
<b>Assessment of overall relevance</b>	Several areas directly or indirectly mention innovation. It could be one among most important measures.	
<b>Promotion of innovation</b>	The innovation issues are first time mentioned in the official forest documents and taking in mind that NFP is the main document for Forestry policy it could be important progress by acceptance of new approaches in policy documents considered Forestry.	
<b>General comment:</b>	In Forest policy, it is most often the MA SR as the initiator of changes and innovations by reacting to the changes in the programme of governmental measures, requests from forest owners, various organizations and associations linked to the forests. Coordination functions are performed by the Forestry Section of MA SR, responsible body is the NFC in cooperation with associations of forest owners and forestry chamber.	

**Table 5: Part B - Cross-sectoral coordination**

<b>Policy formulation</b>	
<b>Co-ordination with other processes and documents</b>	Forestry Strategy of EU, Action Plan of EU for Forests, Concept of agrarian development for the years 2007-2013 – Part Forestry, Plan of Rural Development, Resolutions of MCPFE, UNFF, CBD, UN FCCC, Kyoto Protocol
<b>Administrative Co-ordination:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Between different sections/departments within the same ministry; specify: forestry section, budget section, legislation

	<p>section, international affairs section, land arrangement section</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Between different ministries, specify: Ministry of Agriculture of the SR (MA SR), Ministry of Economy of the SR, Ministry of Construction and Regional Development of the SR, Ministry of Environment of the SR, Ministry of Education of the SR, Ministry of defence of the SR, Ministry of Transport, Post and Telecommunications of the SR,</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Between ministries and other public organizations / agencies, specify:</p> <p>_____</p> <p><u>Comments:</u> The role of actors is to give comments and participate in the implementation of tasks resulting from NFP</p>
<b>Stakeholder involvement</b>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forestry: name most important organisations: <u>Forestry Section of MA SR, NFC, and Forests of SR s.e.</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forest-based industries: name most important organisations: <u>Ministry of Economy</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture: name most important organisations: <u>MA SR</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tourism: name most important organisations: <u>Ministry of Construction and Regional Development</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy: name most important organisations: <u>Ministry of Economy</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environment: name most important organisations: <u>Ministry of Environment</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other sector: <u>Ministry of Education</u>: name most important organisations: forestry schools</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other sector: Ministry of Defence: name most important organisations: <u>Military forests and estates of SR</u></p> <p><u>Comments:</u> e.g. according to different interests or property rights</p>
<b>Coordination mechanisms:</b>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Formal (central) coordination body; name: _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Formal coordination process</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Inter-sectoral working groups</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Inter-sectoral advisory body</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Formal mandatory consultation process</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Formal voluntary consultation process</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Informal consultations (please describe _____)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Others: according to provisions set by Action Plan to NFP</p>
<b>Policy Implementation</b>	
<b>Responsible actors and their roles:</b>	Ministry of Agriculture of the SR is a guarantor, and it has to coordinate, organize and direct.
<b>Level of delegation</b>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Decentralized, e.g.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Central, e.g. ministry, public agency</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Outsourced to private actors</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Local, e.g. by municipalities</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Regional, e.g. by regional public actors</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Others: _____</p>
<b>General comment</b>	

#### 4 Forest Based Sector Policy

Innovation activities as the results of research and development in general are, in the European Union and in Slovakia alike, the drive of economic development, advancing the possibilities of future competitiveness in the form of new knowledge and increasing economy's efficiency and performance, particularly through SME's. States that invested significant funds in these activities in the past have presently advanced economies multiplying the effect of the investment in science and technology.

No comprehensive innovation strategy has been adopted in Slovakia. There is no comprehensive functioning innovation system that should comprise institutions, policies, programmes and tools creating conditions for the support to innovations increasing competitiveness of Slovak Republic's economy.

On the other hand, however, it should be noted that the Government of the Slovak Republic approved the European Council's conclusions of March 2005 and became intensely involved in their performance, considering innovation policy to be one of its priorities (National Strategic Reference Framework of the Slovak Republic for 2007-13, National Reform Programme of Slovakia for 2006-08) that will contribute to the building of knowledge economy and thereby to economic growth. At the same time, it is true that the Slovak Republic has a relatively good research potential with the key problem being the conversion of this quality into outputs implementable in the practice and innovations, particularly at small and medium-sized enterprises.

It is difficult to understand the fact that the Slovak innovation strategy does not include forest based sector as one of the priority areas. It will be introduced as an example of the systemic innovation policy in the Slovak Republic.

##### 4.1 Part A – General description

**Table 2: Part General document information**

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Innovation strategy for the Slovak republic 2006-2013</b>
<b>Adoption:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Parliament <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Ministry of Agriculture SR <input type="checkbox"/> Others: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No formal approval Level: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National <input type="checkbox"/> Regional <input type="checkbox"/> Local Adoption date: December 2005
<b>Validity period:</b>	2006-2013
<b>Revision:</b>	No revision planned
<b>Monitoring/ Evaluation:</b>	Defined indicators in document
<b>Related documents:</b>	Proposal of innovation act, Lisbon Strategy for Slovakia, National reform programme, Macroeconomic programme, etc.
<b>Geographical scope:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National <input type="checkbox"/> Regional; name: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Local, name: _____
<b>Budget:</b>	No explicit defined EU funds: not specified for forestry and forest based sector yet,
<b>General description of contents as written in document</b>	
<b>Objective of the document</b>	Objective of document is to create strategic conception for effective and systematically support of innovations in selected sectors of Slovak industry.



<b>Priorities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• effective system and infrastructure for increasing of innovation,</li> <li>• human resources and motivation for innovation activities,</li> <li>• public policy for support of innovation,</li> <li>• sector priorities: electrotechnics, machine industry, chemistry,</li> <li>• cross sector priorities: information technologies, nanotechnologies.</li> </ul>
<b>Structure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analysis of current situation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Weaknesses of Slovak industry</li> <li>○ Strengths of Slovak industry</li> <li>○ Conclusion</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Starting points for innovation strategy of SR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Innovation in EU and OECD</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Strategic priorities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Priorities of other relevant documents</li> <li>○ Priorities of Innovation strategy</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Measures for more effective support of innovation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Explicit instruments for financial support of innovation</li> <li>○ Development of environment for innovation support</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Implementation strategy</li> <li>• Financial resources for implementation of innovation strategy</li> <li>• Legislation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Act of innovation etc.</li> <li>○ Statute of governmental council for research and development</li> <li>○ Statute of implementation agency for support of innovation</li> <li>○ Support of innovation activities – tax law</li> <li>○ Programmes, grant schemes, measures</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Measure Areas</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legislation measures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Act of innovation etc.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Institutional measures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Governmental council for research and development</li> <li>○ Implementation agency for support of innovation</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Financial support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Explicit financial support of innovation</li> <li>○ Tax law</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Follow-up / Implementation</b>	
<b>Follow-up measures:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> No follow-up activities so far <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New or adapted funding programme(s) /budget line; name: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New or adapted regulations/laws; name: act of innovations, tax law <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New or adapted informational campaigns/instruments; name: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New or restructured institutions/organisations; name: Governmental council for research and development, Implementation agency for support of innovation <input type="checkbox"/> Implementation in forest policy
<b>General comment:</b>	Innovation strategy for the Slovak Republic (IS SR) will be a basic document for support of innovation activities of Slovak industry. Forest based industry is not priority in this document. We can assume, that IS will be amended, because government has changed.

#### 4.2 Part B – Integration of innovation

**Table 3: Part B - Overall Innovation Orientation**

<b>Overall innovation orientation</b>	Please mark the frequency of occurrence of the <u>more generic terms</u> 'innovation' or synonyms ('new products', 'new services', 'new processes', new marketing methods', 'new business models') in the document	<input type="checkbox"/> Never <input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frequently
	Please mark the frequency of occurrence of the forest sector ' <u>innovation frontier</u> ' – innovation areas identified in Chapter 3 - in the document	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Never <input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> Frequently
	Please mark the frequency of occurrence of the <u>terms</u> that are related to innovation, for example entrepreneurship, diversification, competitiveness	<input type="checkbox"/> Never <input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frequently Terms used: competitiveness, R und D
	Further comments on overall innovation orientation of the document:	
<b>Relevance of innovation:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> No relevance at all <input type="checkbox"/> Marginal issue <input type="checkbox"/> One issue among others <input type="checkbox"/> Important issue <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Central issue Comments:	
<b>Degree of specification:</b> Forestry	<input type="checkbox"/> Very general ( <i>innovation is named in general parts, e.g. preamble, but no related goals, measures, identified needs or similar are addressed by the document</i> ) <input type="checkbox"/> Rather general ( <i>innovation is addressed in overall goals, needs are identified but no specification of measures</i> ) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rather specific ( <i>innovation is addressed in concrete goals, measures are formulated</i> ) <input type="checkbox"/> Very specific ( <i>quantified goals related to innovation are formulated, concrete measures introduced, a fixed budget and timetable exist</i> ) Comments: Innovation including research and education is strategy for competitiveness of forestry in rural areas.	
<b>Understanding of innovation policy</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Predominantly traditional science and technology policy <input type="checkbox"/> Traditional S&T policy with systemic elements <input type="checkbox"/> Systemic innovation policy with S&T policy elements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Predominantly systemic innovation policy Comments:	
<b>Goals and objectives:</b> Increasing long-term innovation activities		
<b>Issues, problems and related topics:</b>		
<b>Innovation areas:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sector priorities: electrotechnics, machine industry, chemistry,</li> <li>• cross sector priorities: information technologies, nanotechnologies,</li> </ul>		
<b>General comment:</b> The orientation of document is very strong in relationship to innovation, but forestry and forest		

based industry is not priority.

**Table 4: Part B - Innovation Support Measures**

<b>Innovation support &amp; measures</b>	<b>Research and Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o proposed explicit financial support for innovation in enterprises</li> <li>o proposed financial support of innovation through risk capital and development of new programmes and schemes,</li> <li>o proposed financial support for investment in innovation on enterprise level</li> </ul>
	<b>Dissemination of innovation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o proposed financial support for dissemination</li> <li>o proposed generally support based on informational instruments on enterprise level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o information portal for strengthening of innovativeness,</li> <li>o communications for propagation of innovativeness</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<b>Strengthening the knowledge base</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o proposed financial support of human capital, based on financing of activities to increase knowledge base and mobility</li> </ul>
	<b>Strengthening interaction</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o proposed promoting of research and enterprises cooperation and innovation centres in universities</li> </ul>
	<b>Demand creation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o no proposed</li> </ul>
	<b>Improving frame conditions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legislation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Act of innovation etc.</li> <li>o Support of innovation activities – tax law</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Institutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Governmental council for research and development</li> <li>o Implementation agency for support of innovation</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<b>Comments</b> forestry and forest based sector not involved	
<b>Priorities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sector priorities: electrotechnics, machine industry, chemistry,</li> <li>• cross sector priorities: information technologies, nanotechnologies,</li> </ul>	
<b>Assessment of overall relevance</b>	Lisbon Strategy for Slovakia, National reform programme, Macroeconomic programme,	
<b>Promotion of innovation</b>		
<b>General comment:</b>	This document follows concept of systemic innovation policy.	

**Table 5: Part B - Cross-sectoral coordination**

<b>Policy formulation</b>	
<b>Co-ordination with other processes and documents</b>	Lisbon Strategy for Slovakia, National reform programme, Macroeconomic programme, Convergence programme of Slovak Republic
<b>Administrative Co-</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Between different sections/departments within the same

<b>ordination:</b>	ministry; specify: Ministry of economy, no more information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Between different ministries, specify: Ministry of Economy of the SR, Ministry of Education of the SR, Ministry of Finance of the SR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Between ministries and other public organizations / agencies, specify: proposed cooperation with: Central bank of Slovakia , interest group of employers and employees regional and local public administration, Slovak conference of rectors of universities, <u>Comments:</u>
<b>Stakeholder involvement</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Forestry: name most important organisations: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forest-based industries: name most important organisations: <u>Ministry of Economy</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture: name most important organisations: <input type="checkbox"/> Tourism: name most important organisations: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy: name most important organisations: <u>Ministry of Economy</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Environment: name most important organisations: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other sector: <u>Ministry of Education, Ministry of Finance</u> <u>Comments:</u>
<b>Coordination mechanisms:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Formal (central) coordination body; name: proposed: <u>Governmental council for research and development</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Formal coordination process <input type="checkbox"/> Inter-sectoral working groups <input type="checkbox"/> Inter-sectoral advisory body <input type="checkbox"/> Formal mandatory consultation process <input type="checkbox"/> Formal voluntary consultation process <input type="checkbox"/> Informal consultations (please describe _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Others:
<b>Policy Implementation</b>	
<b>Responsible actors and their roles:</b>	Governmental council for research and development is a guarantor, and Implementation agency for support of innovation has to implement measures, programmes and other activities.
<b>Level of delegation</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Decentralized, e.g. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Central, e.g. ministry, public agency <input type="checkbox"/> Outsourced to private actors <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local, e.g. by municipalities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional, e.g. by regional public actors <input type="checkbox"/> Others: _____
<b>General comment</b>	

## 5 Innovation Policy

In March 2005 the heads of member states decided at the European Council to enhance the dynamics of the Lisbon process, whose target is to transform the European Union, by 2010, into “the most competitive and dynamic knowledge-based economy in the world, capable of sustainable economic growth with more and better jobs and greater social cohesion.” The decision was partly a reaction to rather unfavourable results of the mid-term review of the Lisbon strategy. It clearly indicated that the main target of the Lisbon strategy is not likely to be achieved by the originally established date. With the aim of improving the chances of success, the European Council adopted several key measures partly modifying both the content and the process of implementation of the Lisbon strategy.

The main changes of the content include a greater emphasis on the implementation, partial reduction in the number of the priorities, and more focus on the economic area – mainly on growth and employment.

With regard to processes, management is simplified both at the level of the Community and at the level of individual member states. Such changes enhance the responsibility of member states and simultaneously give them more freedom in selecting the best strategy and steps for the achievement of the Lisbon targets. The European Commission was delegated the role of coordinator and facilitator of activities of individual countries, as well as the responsibility for the implementation of the tasks determined at the level of the whole community.

In conformity with the new coordination processes, the strategies of member countries are drafted in three-year program cycles and presented in *National Reform Programs*. The focus and content of these strategic documents are derived from the new guidelines of the EU economic policy – from the so-called *Integrated Guidelines*, unifying the previously existing Broad Economic Policy Guidelines and Employment Guidelines. Integrated Guidelines define three basic groups of priorities of the EU economic policy for three main areas, namely:

- macro-economic policies
- micro-economic policies
- employment policy

The most important specific priorities and individual activities are determined by individual member states. *The National Reform Program of Slovak republic* is focused on those four areas that are most important for the development of the innovative potential of the Slovak economy. They form one whole, in which each of them is equally important:

- Education and Employment
- Information society
- Research, development, and innovations
- Business environment

### 5.1 Part A – General description

**Table 2: Part General document information**

<b>Name:</b>	<b>National reform programme of the Slovak republic 2006-2008</b>
<b>Adoption:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Parliament <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Ministry of Agriculture SR <input type="checkbox"/> Others: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No formal approval Level: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National <input type="checkbox"/> Regional <input type="checkbox"/> Local Adoption date: October 2005
<b>Validity period:</b>	2006-2008
<b>Revision:</b>	2008

<b>Monitoring/ Evaluation:</b>	Defined structural indicators in document
<b>Related documents:</b>	Integrated Guidelines EU (Broad Economic Policy Guidelines, Employment Guidelines), National Lisbon Strategy, Convergence Program of the Slovak Republic by 2010, National strategic reference framework 2007 – 2013 etc.
<b>Geographical scope:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National <input type="checkbox"/> Regional; name: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Local, name: _____
<b>Budget:</b>	No explicit defined
<b>General description of contents as written in document</b>	
<b>Objective of the document</b>	The basic aim of the document on the macroeconomic level is to achieve high economic growth sustainable in the long term, contributing to a rapid growth of the standard of living of residents of Slovakia. On the microeconomic level is the basic aim to achieve favourable business environment that represents a principle prerequisite for the long-term competitiveness and growth of every market economy. It is an environment where the state supports and protects economic competition, creates clear and stable rules, acts efficiently while enforcing their observation by all the market participants and also minimizes administrative barriers and requirements towards businesses.
<b>Priorities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ macro-economic policies</li> <li>▪ micro-economic policies</li> <li>▪ employment policy</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finishing of structural reforms and maintenance of their results,</li> <li>• Development of the knowledge economy.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Structure</b></p>	<p>I INTRODUCTION  Purpose of the document from the view point of EU processes  Basic framework and goals of NRP ensuing from the National Lisbon Strategy  Main principles of economic and social policy of Slovak republic by 2010  Environmental principles of NRP policies  NRP and programming of EU funds from 2007 to 2013  Involvement of stakeholders</p> <p>II MACROECONOMIC POLICY  II.1 Basic aims and principles  II.2 Current situation and intermediate forecast</p> <p>III Policy of employment  III.1 Modern educational policy  III.2 Achievement of high employment rate  III.3 Responding of demographic changes  III.4 Inclusive labour market and inclusive society</p> <p>IV MICROECONOMIC POLICY  IV.1 Business environment  High enforcement of laws, regulations, and contracts  Public institutions as a partner rather than as a burden  Efficient access to the capital market for all businesses  Good quality physical infrastructure and services in utility industries  Liberalisation of markets  IV.2 Science, R&amp;D and innovations  Raising and supporting quality scientists  High quality research with an adequate connections to the business  Effective public support of business activities focused on development and innovation  IV.3 Information society  Information literacy  Effective informatization of public administration  Broadband internet access  IV.4 Action plans vs. Integrated Guidelines</p> <p>V ATTACHMENTS</p>
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<b>Measure Areas</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fiscal policy</li> <li>• Monetary and exchange-rate policy</li> <li>• Structural policies</li> <li>• Modern educational policy</li> <li>• Employment policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Achievement of a high rate of employment</li> <li>○ Coping with demographic changes</li> <li>○ Social inclusion</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Business environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ high enforcement of law</li> <li>○ public institutions as a partner and not a burden</li> <li>○ efficient access to the capital market for all businesses</li> <li>○ quality physical infrastructure and services in utility industries</li> <li>○ liberalization of markets</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Science, R&amp;D and innovations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ raising and supporting quality scientists,</li> <li>○ international quality research with adequate interconnection to the business sphere,</li> <li>○ effective support of business activities aimed at the development and innovation.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Information society <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ information literacy,</li> <li>○ effective informing of the public administration and</li> <li>○ wide internet access.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Follow-up / Implementation</b>	
<b>Follow-up measures:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> No follow-up activities so far <input type="checkbox"/> New or adapted funding programme(s) /budget line; name: <input type="checkbox"/> New or adapted regulations/laws; name: act of innovations, tax law <input type="checkbox"/> New or adapted informational campaigns/instruments; name: <input type="checkbox"/> New or restructured institutions/organisations; name: Governmental council for research and development, Implementation agency for support of innovation <input type="checkbox"/> Implementation in forest policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Follow documents: Action plans and Innovation strategy (see chapter 4)
<b>General comment:</b>	<p>This document is in conformity with the New Lisbon strategy of EU. The focus and content of these strategic documents are derived from the new guidelines of the EU economic policy – from the so-called <i>Integrated Guidelines</i>, unifying the previously existing Broad Economic Policy Guidelines and Employment Guidelines. We can assume, that this document will be amended, because government in Slovakia has changed and the most important specific priorities and individual activities are determined by individual member states.</p>

## 5.2 Part B – Integration of innovation

**Table 3: Part B - Overall Innovation Orientation**



<b>Overall innovation orientation</b>	Please mark the frequency of occurrence of the <u>more generic terms</u> 'innovation' or synonyms ('new products', 'new services', 'new processes', new marketing methods', 'new business models') in the document	<input type="checkbox"/> Never <input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frequently
	Please mark the frequency of occurrence of the forest sector ' <u>innovation frontier</u> ' – innovation areas identified in Chapter 3 - in the document	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Never <input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> Frequently
	Please mark the frequency of occurrence of the <u>terms</u> that are related to innovation, for example entrepreneurship, diversification, competitiveness	<input type="checkbox"/> Never <input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frequently Terms used: business environment, competitiveness, R&D
	Further comments on overall innovation orientation of the document:	
<b>Relevance of innovation:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> No relevance at all <input type="checkbox"/> Marginal issue <input type="checkbox"/> One issue among others <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Important issue <input type="checkbox"/> Central issue Comments:	
<b>Degree of specification:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Very general ( <i>innovation is named in general parts, e.g. preamble, but no related goals, measures, identified needs or similar are addressed by the document</i> ) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rather general ( <i>innovation is addressed in overall goals, needs are identified but no specification of measures</i> ) <input type="checkbox"/> Rather specific ( <i>innovation is addressed in concrete goals, measures are formulated</i> ) <input type="checkbox"/> Very specific ( <i>quantified goals related to innovation are formulated, concrete measures introduced, a fixed budget and timetable exist</i> ) Comments: Innovation including research and education is strategy for competitiveness of forestry in rural areas.	
<b>Understanding of innovation policy</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Predominantly traditional science and technology policy <input type="checkbox"/> Traditional S&T policy with systemic elements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Systemic innovation policy with S&T policy elements <input type="checkbox"/> Predominantly systemic innovation policy Comments:	
<b>Goals and objectives:</b>		
Macroeconomic stabilisation and improvement of framework for entrepreneurship and innovation		
<b>Issues, problems and related topics:</b>		
<b>Innovation areas:</b>		
•		
<b>General comment:</b>		



**Table 4: Part B - Innovation Support Measures**

<b>Innovation support &amp; measures</b> <i>Consult classification in chapter 2.2.2</i>	<b>Research and Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Complex system of the support of innovative companies and innovative activities in a private sphere</li> <li>○ The law on innovation - creation of modern legislation for the field of innovation</li> <li>○ Support of technological incubators focused on innovative companies</li> <li>○ Public supporting instrument for an improvement of the risk capital offer for innovative companies in the early stage of their activity, especially:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ the type of financial instrument (e.g. soft loans, funds, investment grants, guarantee schemes, risk fund in the state property and suchlike.),</li> <li>○ the role and power of the state during selection of particular investments,</li> <li>○ the type of industry in which it will be possible to invest.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<b>Dissemination of innovation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○</li> </ul>
	<b>Strengthening the knowledge base</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Develop the national information infrastructure in the field of science, research and innovation</li> <li>○ System for supporting the mobility of human resources in the field of research and development</li> <li>○ Elaboration of the system of science and research outputs quality assessment</li> <li>○ The proposal of the new system of state programs for the support of science and research</li> <li>○ Instrument for the support of international science and technology cooperation and facilitation of drawing financial means from the EU sources and research and development</li> <li>○ Program for science popularization in the society</li> </ul>
	<b>Strengthening interaction</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Formation of the quality central state agency for the support of research and development</li> <li>○ Elaboration of the long-term objective of the national science and technology policy</li> <li>○ Central information portal for the field of science, research and innovation</li> <li>○</li> </ul>
	<b>Demand creation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Broadband internet access</li> </ul>

	<b>Improving frame conditions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• high enforcement of law</li> <li>• implementation of a system for regulatory impact assessment</li> <li>• public institutions as a partner and not a burden <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ comprehensive audit of barriers to business in Slovakia</li> <li>○ making the state assistance more transparent</li> <li>○ improvement of infrastructure for businesses</li> <li>○ electronic public procurement (e-procurement)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• efficient access to the capital market for all businesses</li> <li>• quality physical infrastructure and services in utility industries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ identification and elimination of barriers to real opening of the power supply market</li> <li>○ development of business in the area of use of renewable sources of energy</li> </ul> </li> <li>• liberalization of markets</li> </ul>
	<b>Comments</b>	
<b>Priorities</b>		•
<b>Assessment of overall relevance</b>		high
<b>Promotion of innovation</b>		
<b>General comment:</b>		Bio energy involved in this document, but not in the follow Innovation strategy.

**Table 5: Part B - Cross-sectoral coordination**

<b>Policy formulation</b>	
<b>Co-ordination with other processes and documents</b>	Integrated Guidelines EU (Broad Economic Policy Guidelines, Employment Guidelines), National Lisbon Strategy, Convergence Program of the Slovak Republic by 2010, National strategic reference framework 2007 – 2013
<b>Administrative Co-ordination:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Between different sections/departments within the same ministry; specify: Ministry of Finance of the SR, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Between different ministries, specify: all ministries <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Between ministries and other public organizations / agencies, specify: proposed cooperation with: proposed broad public discussion <u>Comments:</u>
<b>Stakeholder involvement</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Forestry: name most important organisations: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forest-based industries: name most important organisations: <u>Ministry of Economy</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture: name most important organisations: <input type="checkbox"/> Tourism: name most important organisations: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy: name most important organisations: <u>Ministry of Economy</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Environment: name most important organisations: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other sector: <u>all other ministries</u>

	<u>Comments:</u>
<b>Coordination mechanisms:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Formal (central) coordination body; name: proposed: <u>Government</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Formal coordination process <input type="checkbox"/> Inter-sectoral working groups <input type="checkbox"/> Inter-sectoral advisory body <input type="checkbox"/> Formal mandatory consultation process <input type="checkbox"/> Formal voluntary consultation process <input type="checkbox"/> Informal consultations (please describe _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Others:
<b>Policy Implementation</b>	
<b>Responsible actors and their roles:</b>	Ministry of Finance of the SR.
<b>Level of delegation</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Decentralized, e.g. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Central, e.g. ministry, public agency <input type="checkbox"/> Outsourced to private actors <input type="checkbox"/> Local, e.g. by municipalities <input type="checkbox"/> Regional, e.g. by regional public actors <input type="checkbox"/> Others: _____
<b>General comment</b>	

## 6 Rural Development Policy

The global objective of the national Rural Development Concept of the SR is sustainable development of the rural areas.

The European Union has prepared for associated countries pre-accession instruments for institutional preparation up to the accession period. The agriculture and rural development sector has the opportunity for preparation through the SAPARD Programme. The SAPARD Programme was prepared with the intention in order that experience from programming and institution creation is used in the period following EU accession. The Sectoral Operational Programme Agriculture and Rural Development (SOP ARD) for the period 2004-2006 represented the elaboration of one of the priority axes of the National Development Plan of the Slovak Republic. Rural Development Programme of the Slovak Republic 2007 –2013 continue in this philosophy and offers tools for the achievement of the economic growth through market orientation, improvement of the quality of environment, which also contributes to the attractiveness of the rural areas as well as to the creation of possibilities for economic and employment activities.

### 6.1 Part A – General description

**Table: Part A - General document information**

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Rural Development Programme of the Slovak Republic 2007 – 2013</b>
<b>Adoption:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Parliament <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Ministry: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Others: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No formal approval Level: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National <input type="checkbox"/> Regional <input type="checkbox"/> Local Adoption date: 21. March 2007
<b>Validity period:</b>	2007 – 2013
<b>Revision:</b>	There is regular revision according EU rules
<b>Monitoring/ Evaluation:</b>	Special body - Agricultural Payment Agency, plans the monitoring and evaluation yearly after particular calls. The Agency is a budgetary organisation funded from the budget section of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Slovak Republic
<b>Related documents:</b>	
<b>Geographical scope:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National <input type="checkbox"/> Regional; name: <input type="checkbox"/> Local, name:
<b>Budget:</b>	EU funds +National level - 396 mil euro/ 7 years together for agriculture and forestry
<b>General description of contents as written in document</b>	
<b>Objective of the document</b>	Increasing the competitiveness of the agricultural and forestry sectors
<b>Priorities</b>	To promote the modernization, innovation and effectiveness of the agricultural and forestry sector

<b>Structure</b>	1 Name of the Programme 2 Member State and administrative region 3 Analysis of the situation in terms of strengths and weaknesses, strategy chosen to meet them and the ex ante evaluation 4 Justification of the priorities chosen having regard to the Community strategic guidelines and the National strategy plan, as well as the expected impact according to the ex ante evaluation 5 Information on the axes and measures proposed for each axis and their description 6 Financing plan 7 Indicative breakdown by measures for the rural development (in EUR, the whole programming period) 8 Table on additional national financing per axis, differentiating between the measures set out in Regulation (EC) No. 1698/2005 9 Elements needed for the appraisal under competition rules and, when applicable, the list of aid schemes authorised under Articles 87, 88 and 89 of the Treaty to be used for the implementation of the Programme 10 Information on the complementarity's with the measures financed by the other common agricultural policy instruments, through Cohesion policy as well as by the European Fisheries Fund 11 Designation of the authorities and responsible entities 12 Monitoring and evaluation systems 13 Provisions ensuring the publicity of the Programme 14 Designation of partners and the results of the consultations of the partners 15 Equality between men and women and non-discrimination 16 Technical assistance operations
<b>Measure Areas Forestry</b>	123 Adding value to agricultural and forestry products 125 Quality-raising and development of infrastructure for the development and adaptation of agriculture and forestry 122 Increasing the commercial value of forests 111 Professional education and informational activities 114 The use of advisory services by agricultural workers and users of forests
<b>Follow-up / Implementation</b>	
<b>Follow-up measures:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No follow-up activities so far <input type="checkbox"/> New or adapted funding programme(s) /budget line; name: <input type="checkbox"/> New or adapted regulations/laws; name: <input type="checkbox"/> New or adapted informational campaigns/instruments; name: <input type="checkbox"/> New or restructured institutions/organisations; name: <input type="checkbox"/> Implementation in forest policy:
<b>General comment:</b>	In the axis 2 with the main objective: Improving the environment and the countryside, there are no forestry measures considered especially to innovations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Measures targeting the sustainable use of forestry land</li> <li>- First afforestation of agricultural land</li> <li>- Natura 2000 payments – forestry land</li> <li>- Forest-environment payments</li> <li>- Restoring forestry potential and introducing prevention actions</li> </ul> Forestry is excluded from the Axis 3 Quality of life in rural areas and diversification of rural economy and axis 4 Leader.

## 6.2 Part B – Integration of innovation

**Table: Part B - Overall Innovation Orientation**

<b>Overall innovation orientation</b>	Please mark the frequency of occurrence of the <u>more generic terms</u> 'innovation' or synonyms ('new products', 'new services', 'new processes', new marketing methods', 'new business models') in the document	<input type="checkbox"/> Never <input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frequently
	Please mark the frequency of occurrence of the forest sector ' <u>innovation frontier</u> ' – innovation areas identified in Chapter 3 - in the document	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Never <input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> Frequently
	Please mark the frequency of occurrence of the <u>terms</u> that are related to innovation, for example entrepreneurship, diversification, competitiveness	<input type="checkbox"/> Never <input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frequently Terms used: innovation, diversification, competitiveness
	Further comments on overall innovation orientation of the document: Support to new technologies and investments to innovations are key power of competitiveness in agriculture and forestry sector.	
<b>Relevance of innovation:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> No relevance at all <input type="checkbox"/> Marginal issue <input type="checkbox"/> One issue among others <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Important issue <input type="checkbox"/> Central issue Comments:	
<b>Degree of specification:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Very general ( <i>innovation is named in general parts, e.g. preamble, but no related goals, measures, identified needs or similar are addressed by the document</i> ) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rather general ( <i>innovation is addressed in overall goals, needs are identified but no specification of measures</i> ) <input type="checkbox"/> Rather specific ( <i>innovation is addressed in concrete goals, measures are formulated</i> ) <input type="checkbox"/> Very specific ( <i>quantified goals related to innovation are formulated, concrete measures introduced, a fixed budget and timetable exist</i> ) Comments: Innovations are not defined as a goal, but as a tool to reach main objective - increasing the competitiveness.	
<b>Understanding of innovation policy</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Predominately traditional science and technology policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Traditional S&T policy with systemic elements <input type="checkbox"/> Systemic innovation policy with S&T policy elements <input type="checkbox"/> Predominantly systemic innovation policy Comments:	
<b>Goals and objectives:</b>		
Introducing innovations, new methods and instruments for work in forest businesses in order to increase their effectiveness.		



<p><b>Issues, problems and related topics:</b></p> <p>Increasing the competitiveness of agricultural subjects through better use of production factors and the application of new technology and innovation.</p> <p>Improving primary processing and saleability of products from forestry through promoting effectiveness, developing renewable energy sources, introducing new technology and taking advantage of new markets.</p>
<p><b>Innovation areas:</b></p> <p>There are two main areas: introducing innovations, new methods and instruments for work in forest businesses in order to increase their effectiveness and improving the quality of human resources through educational and informational activities.</p>
<p><b>General comment:</b></p>

**Table: Part B - Innovation Support Measures**

<b>Innovation support measures</b>	<b>Research and Development</b>	No specific measures
	<b>Diffusion of innovation</b>	Measure 111 Professional education and informational activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Transfer and utilization of knowledge and results of research into land management practices (e.g. technological innovation of production systems, biotechnology development);</li> <li>- Introducing innovations, new methods and instruments for work in agricultural, grocery and forest businesses in order to increase their effectiveness</li> </ul>
	<b>Strengthening the knowledge base</b>	Measure 111 Professional education and informational activities: The educational projects aimed at acquiring, deepening and innovating knowledge and skills and circulating information about individual EAFRD measures and the goals of the Common Agricultural Policy.
	<b>Strengthening interaction</b>	No specific measures
	<b>Demand creation</b>	Measure 123 Adding value to agricultural and forestry products: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To improve primary processing and saleability of products from forestry through promoting higher effectiveness, developing renewable energy sources, introducing new technology and taking advantage of new markets.</li> <li>- Increasing competitiveness by rising of added value of the finished products of commercial forestry, mainly by diversifying production and widening the market opportunities. One potentially valuable product of commercial forestry is biomass, an important renewable source of energy requiring a certain amount of treatment before it can be used in energy production.</li> </ul>
	<b>Improving frame conditions</b>	No specific measures
	<b>Comments</b>	

<b>Priorities</b>	The priorities are investments in production promotion and marketing of new products, new methods/technology, ICT; and education and training as well, because the dominant need of the agrarian sector is modernization of equipment and machinery and the development of economic knowledge is the goal also in the National Programme for Reform in the Slovak Republic.
<b>Assessment of overall relevance</b>	The innovation support measures are well proposed by the document. Market support and direct payments are complemented in the programme by support to construction and technology investments in the agricultural sector that comply with environmental protection criteria. At the same time, the Rural Development Programme promotes education, information and consultancy, thus helping to promote the competitiveness of enterprises.
<b>Promotion of innovation</b>	The Rural Development Programme (RDP) promotes rural development activities under Common Agricultural Policy. The relevance of innovation within RDP flows from effort to increase the competitiveness of the Slovak agricultural holdings, the most emphasis needs to be put on the modernisation and innovation of the machinery and the buildings, utilisation of the natural resources for the production of the energy, extension and improvement of the forest road network, but also on the improvement of the knowledge and information of the rural population including the farmers and forestry personnel.
<b>General comment:</b>	

**Table: Part B - Cross-sectoral coordination**

<b>Policy formulation</b>	
<b>Co-ordination with other processes and documents</b>	Community Strategy Guidelines, National Strategy Plan for Rural Development, National Programme for Reform in the Slovak Republic, National Strategy Reference Framework, National Forest Programme
<b>Administrative Co-ordination:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Between different sections/departments of the same ministry; specify: Forestry Section, Budget Section, Legislation Section, International Affairs Section, Land Arrangement Section of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Slovak Republic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Between different ministries, specify: Ministry of Agriculture of the Slovak Republic, Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic, Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic, Ministry of Construction and Regional Development of the Slovak Republic, Ministry of the Environment of the Slovak Republic, Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Between ministries and other public organizations / agencies, specify: Agricultural Payment Agency, National Forest Centre <u>Comments:</u> The most important institution in coordination is Agricultural Payment Agency - a legal entity funded from the budget section of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Slovak Republic. The objective of the Agency is to support the sector of agriculture, food processing, forestry, fisheries and rural development, providing funds from the National Budget of the Slovak Republic and from the European Community Budget, particularly from the European Agriculture Guidance and

	Guarantee Fund (EAGGF) as well as from the Financial Instrument for Fisheries Guidance (FIFG) in form of direct payments, financing of agriculture and rural development programmes.
<b>Stakeholder involvement</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forestry: name most important organisations: Forestry Section MA SR, National Forest Centre, Regional Associations of Owners of Non-State Forests, <input type="checkbox"/> Forest-based industries: name most important organisations: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture: name most important organisations: Agro-Institute Nitra, Agro-eco forum, Rural Development Agency, Board of Local Agricultural Authorities, Slovak Agricultural and Food Chamber, Slovak Agricultural Research Institute Association of Agricultural Cooperatives and Agricultural Holdings of the Slovak Republic, Research Institute of Agricultural and Food Economics, Research Institute for Animal Production, Association of Land Owners and Agro-entrepreneurs of Slovakia, Association of Farmers and Agro entrepreneurs of Slovakia <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tourism: name most important organisations: Slovak Tourism Agency, Slovak Rural Tourism and Agro Tourism Association <input type="checkbox"/> Energy: name most important organisations: _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environment: name most important organisations: National Environment Protection Agency <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other sector: state administrative: name most important organisations: Administrative regions of the SR, Association of Towns and Municipalities of Slovakia <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other sector: NGOs and others: name most important organisations: Rural Parliament civic association, Club of Female Professionals, The representative for Roma communities with the Slovak Republic Government Office <u>Comments:</u> The Ministry of Agriculture of the Slovak Republic cooperates with scientific and professional organisations, sectoral partners, administrative regions, special interest associations and non-governmental, non-profit organisations that participated with their suggestions, recommendations and comments in preparing the Rural Development Programme of the SR 2007 – 2013 in work groups in relation to key parts of the Programme.
<b>Coordination mechanisms:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Formal (central) coordination body; name: Ministry of Agriculture of the Slovak Republic <input type="checkbox"/> Formal coordination process <input type="checkbox"/> Inter-sectoral working groups <input type="checkbox"/> Inter-sectoral advisory body <input type="checkbox"/> Formal mandatory consultation process <input type="checkbox"/> Formal voluntary consultation process <input type="checkbox"/> Informal consultations (please describe _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Others: _____
<b>Policy Implementation</b>	
<b>Responsible actors and their roles:</b>	MA SR – coordination, methodology preparation Agricultural Payment Agency – implementation and controlling
<b>Level of delegation</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Decentralized, e.g. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Central, e.g. ministry, public agency <input type="checkbox"/> Outsourced to private actors <input type="checkbox"/> Local, e.g. by municipalities

	<input type="checkbox"/> Regional, e.g. by regional public actors <input type="checkbox"/> Others: _____
<b>General comment</b>	

### 6.3 Part C – Appraisal of effects

There is no official document exist for the evaluation of effects for last programme period. Just partial data from Agricultural Payment Agency database are available. There were 3 relevant documents during years 2000-2006 in Slovakia for Rural development policy:

SAPARD - Special Assistance Programme for Agriculture and Rural Development 2000-2003

Rural Development Plan 2004-2006

Sectoral Operational Programme – Agriculture and Rural Development 2004-2006

Explanatory notes:

\*<sup>1</sup>) It was not possible to calculate due to large number of beneficiaries and projects

In recounting to SKK there was used exchange rate given in the source of information:

1 € = 38 SKK

#### 6.3.1 Rural Development Plan 2004-2006

**Table: Part C - Appraisal of Effects - General Information**

	<b>Whole document</b>	<b>Forestry Part</b>
<b>Total amount of funding</b>	289,812 mil. €	0,441 mil. €
<b>Total number of projects</b>	1 623	6
<b>Total number of beneficiaries</b>	* <sup>1</sup> )	6
<b>Average amount of funding per project</b>	178 566 €	69 151 €
<b>Median of project funding</b>	* <sup>1</sup> )	73 500 €
<b>Average amount of funding per beneficiary</b>	* <sup>1</sup> )	69 151 €
<b>Median of funding per beneficiary</b>	* <sup>1</sup> )	73 500 €
<b>General comment:</b>		
<p>The assessment of the Plan of Rural Development refers only to approved projects (not finished ones) within calls in 2004 and 2005. The assessment does not include projects submitted within calls in 2006 due to the fact that PPA in time of working out this assessment has not published yet the list of approved projects submitted in 2006.</p> <p>In the framework of the Plan of Rural Development only one forestry measure, namely Measure no. 8 "Afforestation of agricultural land" could be supported. Its main aim was to strengthen ecological stability of the landscape and specific objectives were to reduce soil erosion and contribute to diversification of agricultural production. This measure has not supported innovations or dissemination in forestry.</p>		

**6.3.2 Sectoral Operational Programme – Agriculture and Rural Development  
2004-2006**

**Table: Part C - Appraisal of Effects - General Information**

	<b>Whole document</b>	<b>Forestry Part</b>
<b>Total amount of funding</b>	246.643 mill. €	11.713 mill. €
<b>Total number of projects</b>	1 611	142
<b>Total number of beneficiaries</b>	*)	99
<b>Average amount of funding per project</b>	153 099 €	82 489 €
<b>Median of project funding</b>	*)	43 502 €
<b>Average amount of funding per beneficiary</b>	*)	118 308 €
<b>Median of funding per beneficiary</b>	*)	56 366 €
<b>General comment:</b>		
The assessment of SOP Agriculture and Rural Development refers only to the approved projects (not finished) within calls in 2004 and 2005. The assessment does not include projects submitted within calls in 2006 due to the fact that PPA in time of working out this assessment has not published yet the list of approved projects submitted in 2006.		

**Table: Part C - Appraisal of Effects: Funding for private sector innovation**

<b>Support for</b>	<b>Research &amp; development</b>	<b>Diffusion of innovation</b>	<b>Strengthening knowledge base</b>	<b>Strengthening interaction</b>	<b>Demand Creation</b>
<b>Volume of funding in €</b>		3,734	0,727		
<b>Share of funding in overall funding in %</b>		31,88	6,20		
<b>Number of projects supported</b>		45	19		
<b>Share of projects in all projects in %</b>		31,69	31,38		
<b>Average funding per project in €</b>		82 982	38 250		
<b>Number of beneficiaries</b>		44	3		
<b>Share of beneficiaries in total number of beneficiaries in %</b>		42,42	3,03		
<b>Average</b>		88 910	242 250		

<b>amount of funding per beneficiary in €</b>					
<b>Priorities of funding</b>		In the field of innovation the most frequently financed were projects in subcategory: "Extension of processes"	In the field "Strengthening of knowledge base" there were supported only activities "Strengthening of further education of forestry employees"		
<b>Overall assessment:</b>					
<b>General comment:</b>					

### 6.3.3 SAPARD - Special Assistance Programme for Agriculture and Rural Development

**Table: Part C - Appraisal of Effects - General Information**

	<b>Whole document</b>	<b>Forestry Part</b>
<b>Total amount of funding</b>	110,704 mil. €	1,943 mil. €
<b>Total number of projects</b>	911	43
<b>Total number of beneficiaries</b>	525	28
<b>Average amount of funding per project</b>	126 886 €	125 294 €
<b>Median of project funding</b>	102 686 €	100 638 €
<b>Average amount of funding per beneficiary</b>	*)	68 915 €
<b>Median of funding per beneficiary</b>	*)	39 007 €
<b>General comment:</b>		
Assessment of the programme SAPARD refers to the projects financed within SAPARD programme as well as the projects implemented within this programme but they were funded from the Plan of Rural Development for the Years 2004-2006.		

**Table: Part C - Appraisal of Effects: Funding for private sector innovation**

<b>Support for</b>	<b>Research &amp; development</b>	<b>Diffusion of innovation</b>	<b>Strengthening knowledge base</b>	<b>Strengthening interaction</b>	<b>Demand Creation</b>
<b>Volume of funding in €</b>		1 677 864 €			
<b>Share of funding in overall</b>		99,90			

<b>funding in %</b>					
<b>Number of projects supported</b>		33			
<b>Share of projects in all projects in %</b>		97,06			
<b>Average funding per project in €</b>		50 844 €			
<b>Number of beneficiaries</b>		26			
<b>Share of beneficiaries in total number of beneficiaries in %</b>		92,86			
<b>Average amount of funding per beneficiary in €</b>		59 924 €			
<b>Priorities of funding</b>		In the field of innovations the most frequently financed projects were in sub-category: "Extension of processes"			
<b>Overall assessment:</b>					
<p><b>General comment:</b></p> <p>Within SAPARD programme there was provided support for the procurement of machines, equipment and technologies used in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tending and treatment of young forest stands (1)</li> <li>• Felling (6)</li> <li>• Forest nurseries (9)</li> <li>• Timber skidding (13)</li> <li>• Timber loading and transportation (21)</li> <li>• As technological vehicles (5)</li> <li>• At log yards (2)</li> </ul>					

## 7 Regional policy

Regional Operational Programme (ROP) for the years 2007-2013 is a programme document of the Slovak Republic for using support from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). This Programme is focused on regional infrastructure as one of the most important determinants of human life quality.

Measures of the ROP are focused on the support of increasing the levels of facilities of the regions through the public infrastructure facilities with the aim of the present qualitative and quantitative demands and their equal serviceability through improvement and development of transport and settlements elements.

The field or regional infrastructure have a big influence on quality of life in the supported region and is one of the main factors of the economy competitiveness and the attractiveness of the region for the localisations of the investments. Character of ROP measures in frame of regional infrastructure contributes to the improving of energy thriftiness as well as to the removal of barriers in the buildings used by the public.

### 7.1 Part A – General description

**Table: Part A - General document information**

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Regional Operational Programme (ROP)</b>
<b>Adoption:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Parliament <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Ministry: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Others: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No formal approval Level: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National <input type="checkbox"/> Regional <input type="checkbox"/> Local Adoption date: December 2006
<b>Validity period:</b>	2007-2013
<b>Revision:</b>	Revision will be according EU rules (Council Regulation (EC) No.1083/2006)
<b>Monitoring/ Evaluation:</b>	Monitoring Committee for ROP monitors the implementation of ROP at least 2 times per year. Evaluation is carried out prior to programme period (ex ante evaluation), during programme period (current/ongoing evaluation) and after finishing the programme period (final evaluation). The government of the Slovak Republic works out ex ante evaluation of strategic part of ROP after incorporation of inter-sectoral comments and approval of the Regional Operational Programme by the government of the Slovak Republic. Ministry of Construction and Regional Development of the Slovak Republic – Managing authority performs evaluation in two lines: 1. Programme evaluation and 2. Evaluation of projects.
<b>Related documents:</b>	NSRR- National Strategic Reference Framework
<b>Geographical scope:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National <input type="checkbox"/> Regional; name: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Local, name: _____
<b>Budget:</b>	2007-2013: 1 445 mill. € from ERDF
<b>General description of contents as written in document</b>	
<b>Objective of the document</b>	Increasing availability and quality of public infrastructure and necessary facilities of the regions



<p><b>Priorities</b></p>	<p><u>Priority axis:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Increase of the levels of provided services in the field of education</li> <li>o Increase the levels of services provided in social fields</li> <li>o Strengthening the cultural potential of the regions and development of tourism</li> <li>o Increase competitiveness of settlements and enhance the quality and safety of public areas</li> <li>o Increase the levels of transport serviceability of the regions</li> <li>o Effective managing and implementation of the ROP</li> </ul> <p><u>Horizontal priorities:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Marginal Roma communities,</li> <li>o Variety of opportunities,</li> <li>o Sustainable development,</li> <li>o Information based society</li> </ul>
<p><b>Structure</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Total content</li> <li>2. Preparing of Regional Operational Programme</li> <li>3. Current situation in regional infrastructure</li> <li>4. Strategy of operational programme</li> <li>5. Priority axis</li> <li>6. Horizontal priorities</li> <li>7. Accordance of strategy with policies, documents and objectives</li> <li>8. Financial plan</li> <li>9. Implementation system</li> <li>10. Annexes</li> </ol>

M e a s u r e  A r e a s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o reconstruction, expanding and modernisation of selected preschool facilities, elementary and secondary schools</li> <li>o procurement of equipment, including ICT equipment for the selected preschool facilities, elementary and secondary schools in connection to their reconstruction, expanding and modernisation.</li> <li>o reconstruction, extension and modernisation of social service facilities and facilities for performing social-legal protection and social guardianship</li> <li>o building up social service facilities and facilities for performing the measures of social-legal protection and social guardianship</li> <li>o procurement of equipment, including ICT equipment of the social service facilities and facilities for performing social-legal protection and social guardianship in connection to their reconstruction, extension, modernisation and development.</li> <li>o reconstruction, extension and modernisation of memory and heritage fund institutions at the local and regional levels (e.g., galleries, libraries, museums etc.)</li> <li>o revitalisation of unused or unsuitable utilised cultural monuments in the territory in ownership of the public sector with the utilisation for extension of activities of memory and heritage funds institutions and their use in cultural-learning tourism, in justified and extraordinary case it is possible to using them for cultural-social and community purposes</li> <li>o procurement of equipment of memory and heritage fund institutions at the local and regional levels and cultural-social facilities in connection to their reconstruction, extension and modernisation, procurement of ICT equipment</li> <li>o support of non-commercial public infrastructure (e.g., parking areas, orientation boards, lie-bys, public toilets, etc.) adjacent to the tourism centres with all-year utilisation in the territories with international and national significance and areas in the region of a higher category than the respective region</li> <li>o support of the promotion of tourism at the regional and local levels, establishing and support of the existing tourist information offices, establishing partnerships at the level of self-governments and the private sector</li> <li>o support of the promotion of tourism at the regional and local levels, home and abroad, and establishing and support of the existing tourist information offices</li> <li>o support of designing an integral supply of tourism products with emphasis on the effective use of natural and cultural potentials through the preparation of cultural-learning routes in the areas with international and national significance and areas in the region of a higher category than the respective region.</li> <li>o renewal and partial development of the tangible infrastructure of settlements within the separate demand-oriented projects implemented in the centres of municipalities identified as the cohesion and innovation growth poles, including their core settlement centres, aimed at the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o arrangement of public concourses and public greenery elements</li> <li>o development and reconstruction of public lightings</li> <li>o development and reconstructions of walkways and bike routes</li> </ul> </li> <li>o Implementation of integrated strategies of development of the selected urban areas experiencing or threatened by physical deteriorating and social exclusion, including renewal of apartment houses</li> <li>o renovation and partial development of the tangible infrastructure of the municipalities with segregated and separated Roma settlements in the rural environment</li> <li>o preparation and updating of development documents at the level of NUTS 2 and 3 level regions</li> <li>o reconstruction, extension and modernisation of the facilities of non-commercial rescue services, and in two specific cases set forth in advance also developing the facility of the FRC in accordance with the Perspective of spatial distribution of the personnel and tools of the FRC</li> <li>o procurement of equipment of non-commercial rescue service facilities, including ICT equipment, and excluding transport vehicles</li> <li>o procurement of equipment for non-commercial rescue service facilities in links to the interventions into structural buildings.</li> <li>o reconstruction and modernisation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> class roads in the Objective Convergence territory</li> <li>o reconstruction and development of transport sub-systems ensuring increase of the level of transport, safety and environmental aspects</li> <li>o activities of publicity and information of the Managing Authority for the ROP (MA) and the Intermediate Bodies under MA (IBMA)</li> <li>o technical, spatial and operational provisions of the MA and the IBMA</li> <li>o staff cost of the MA and the IBMA</li> <li>o educational/training activities for the MA and the IBMA</li> <li>o provision of functionality of the Monitoring Committee for ROP</li> <li>o evaluation of the ROP defined in General Regulation</li> <li>o provision of the MA and the IBMA by information technologies</li> <li>o software products and their maintenance</li> <li>o studies and analyses, outsourcing, monitoring</li> <li>o other activities in accordance with the SR and EU legislation.</li> </ul>
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Follow-up / Implementation	
<b>Follow-up measures:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No follow-up activities so far <input type="checkbox"/> New or adapted funding programme(s) /budget line; name: <input type="checkbox"/> New or adapted regulations/laws; name: <input type="checkbox"/> New or adapted informational campaigns/instruments; name:  <input type="checkbox"/> New or restructured institutions/organisations; name: <input type="checkbox"/> Implementation in forest policy:
<b>General comment:</b>	In comparison with the first version from May there were add some new measures. The final document was adopted in September 2007 by EC.

## 7.2 Part B – Integration of innovation

**Table: Part B - Overall Innovation Orientation**

<b>Overall innovation orientation</b>	Please mark the frequency of occurrence of the <u>more generic terms</u> 'innovation' or synonyms ('new products', 'new services', 'new processes', new marketing methods', 'new business models') in the document	<input type="checkbox"/> Never <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> Frequently
	Please mark the frequency of occurrence of the forest sector ' <u>innovation frontier</u> ' – innovation areas identified in Chapter 3 - in the document	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Never <input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> Frequently
	Please mark the frequency of occurrence of the <u>terms</u> that are related to innovation, for example entrepreneurship, diversification, competitiveness	<input type="checkbox"/> Never <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> Frequently Terms used: innovation, diversification, competitiveness
	Further comments on overall innovation orientation of the document: Innovations are mentioned in context of innovation and cohesion growth poles and diversification and competitiveness are the key issues how to reach global goal of NSRR – By the year 2013 to increase significantly competitiveness and performance of regions and Slovakia's economy with respecting sustainable development	
<b>Relevance of innovation:</b> Please mark how much relevance is given to innovation in the document (one answer)	<input type="checkbox"/> No relevance at all <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marginal issue <input type="checkbox"/> One issue among others <input type="checkbox"/> Important issue <input type="checkbox"/> Central issue Comments: The main stress is given on reconstruction and regeneration of infrastructure.	
<b>Degree of specification:</b> Please mark how general or specific innovation is	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Very general ( <i>innovation is named in general parts, e.g. preamble, but no related goals, measures, identified needs or similar are addressed by the document</i> ) <input type="checkbox"/> Rather general ( <i>innovation is addressed in overall goals, needs are identified but no specification of measures</i> )	

<p>addressed by the document (one answer) Please use comments section to describe if the degree of specification varies for different parts of the document, esp. when concerning forestry</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Rather specific (<i>innovation is addressed in concrete goals, measures are formulated</i>)  <input type="checkbox"/> Very specific (<i>quantified goals related to innovation are formulated, concrete measures introduced, a fixed budget and timetable exist</i>)  Comments: All measures are focus on investments to innovation and cohesion growth poles, especially to modernization of equipment of public infrastructure (schools, social area, sight institutions on local and regional level, immovable cultural monuments, emergency services, roads, engineering networks)</p>
<p><b>Understanding of innovation policy</b></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Predominately traditional science and technology policy  <input type="checkbox"/> Traditional S&amp;T policy with systemic elements  <input type="checkbox"/> Systemic innovation policy with S&amp;T policy elements  <input type="checkbox"/> Predominantly systemic innovation policy  Comments: We are not able to assess it.</p>
<p><b>Goals and objectives:</b> Support to competitiveness and innovative capacity of regions.</p>	
<p><b>Issues, problems and related topics:</b> Competitiveness of regions.</p>	
<p><b>Innovation areas:</b> There are plan of improving frame conditions for innovations.</p>	
<p><b>General comment:</b> There is the assumption that innovation will be invoked by investments to infrastructure in growth centres.</p>	

**Table: Part B - Innovation Support Measures**

<b>Innovation support measures</b>	<b>Research and Development</b>	No measures
	<b>Diffusion of innovation</b>	No measures
	<b>Strengthening the knowledge base</b>	Educational activities of employees Managing authority
	<b>Strengthening interaction</b>	Support to formation of tourism clusters and associations. Support to the development of partnership cooperation (local and regional self-governing authorities with private providers of tourism related services, mainly in the framework of interest associations with related sectors and travel agencies). Support to formation complete offer of the products of tourism with emphasis on effective utilization of natural and cultural potential. Support to presentation of tourism on regional level at home as well as abroad, establishing new and supporting existing travel and information agencies.
	<b>Demand creation</b>	No measures
	<b>Improving frame conditions</b>	Support to investment activities aimed at regional communications securing transport services for the region. Activities aimed at improvement of the state of elements of tangible infrastructure (construction and repair of pavements and biking routes, public lightings, bus stops, public social facilities, cultural centres). Support and restoration of tourism infrastructure (parking lots, info boards, localities listed in the UNESCO list)
	<b>Comments</b>	
<b>Priorities</b>	Measures strengthening interaction are the priority area for innovation support in regional policy. The investments in infrastructure just prepare the framework conditions.	
<b>Assessment of overall relevance</b>	The innovations measures are not the key measures in this document. But they will support the competitiveness of regions.	
<b>Promotion of innovation</b>	Regional development is the key issue in EU policy. ROP is the main tool how to build regional infrastructure as one of the most important determinant of the quality of life of population. Support of innovation is concentrate to improving of frame conditions and Strengthening of cooperation.	
<b>General comment:</b>	After the adoption of document and its implementation it will be interesting to analyse how the support for tourism is successful in territorial based services related to forestry.	

**Table: Part B - Cross-sectoral coordination**

<b>Policy formulation</b>	
<b>Co-ordination with other processes and documents</b>	<p>Proposal of Council Directive that specifies general provisions on European Fund for Regional Development, European Social Fund and Cohesion Fund (general directive), proposal of directive of European Parliament and Council on European Fund for Regional Development, Proposal of directive of the European Parliament and Council on European Social Fund, Proposal of directive of the Council that constitutes Cohesion Fund.</p> <p>Proposal: Cohesion policy for supporting the growth of employment: Strategic directives of the Community for the years 2007 – 2013, Proposal of Directive of Commission that specifies detailed rules for the implementation of Council Directive that sets general provisions on European Fund for Regional Development, European Social Fund and Cohesion Fund (implementation directive).</p> <p>National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRR), Proposal of strategic objective and priorities of SR interlinked with cohesion policy of the EU for future programme period 2007 – 2013, Concept of territorial development of Slovakia 2001, Strategy of competitiveness of Slovakia by 2010, National strategy of sustainable development of SR, National programme of reforms in SR for the years 2006 – 2008, Framework of Community support in 2004 – 2006 for Slovakia, Updated convergence programme of Slovakia for the years 2005 – 2010, Programmes of economic and social development of self-governing counties, sectoral strategic documents approved by the government of SR.</p>
<b>Administrative Co-ordination:</b>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Between different sections/departments within the same ministry; specify: Section of the Strategy of Regions Development, Section of Building Industry and Housing Policy of the Ministry of Construction and Regional Development of the Slovak Republic.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Between different ministries, specify: Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic, Ministry of Transport, Post and Telecommunications of the SR, Ministry of Finance of the Slovak Republic, Ministry of Education of the SR, Ministry of Agriculture of the Slovak Republic, Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic, Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic, Ministry of the Environment of the Slovak Republic, Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Between ministries and other public organizations / agencies, specify: Agency for Regional Development Support, Association of Towns and Municipalities of Slovakia, Rural Parliament, Office of Commissioner of the Government of SR for Roma communities, Integrated network of regional development agencies, Higher Territorial Unit (VUC)</p> <p><u>Comments:</u> Form of partnership – working group for ROP preparation</p>
<b>Stakeholder involvement</b>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forestry: name most important organisations: Ministry of Agriculture of the SR</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forest-based industries: name most important organisations:</p>

	<p>Ministry of Economy</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture: name most important organisations: Ministry of Agriculture of the SR</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tourism: name most important organisations: Ministry of Construction and Regional Development of the Slovak Republic,</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy: name most important organisations: Ministry of Economy</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environment: name most important organisations: Ministry of the Environment of the Slovak Republic</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other sector: <u>public administrative</u>: name most important organisations: Higher Territorial Unit (VUC)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other sector: <u>3<sup>rd</sup> sector</u>: name most important organisations: Association of Towns and Municipalities of Slovakia, Rural Parliament</p> <p><u>Comments</u>: Representatives were the members of working group for ROP</p>
<b>Coordination mechanisms:</b>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Formal (central) coordination body; name: Ministry of Construction and Regional Development of the Slovak Republic</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Formal coordination process</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Inter-sectoral working groups</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Inter-sectoral advisory body</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Formal mandatory consultation process</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Formal voluntary consultation process</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Informal consultations (please describe _____)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Others: _____</p>
<b>Policy Implementation</b>	
<b>Responsible actors and their roles:</b>	<p>Ministry of Construction and Regional Development of the Slovak Republic is the Managing authority and Central coordination authority as well. It supplies coordination, methodology, monitoring, evaluation, publication, information and education of staff. System of ROP implementation presupposes gradual shift from centralized approach and constitutes mediation organs under managing organ on the level NUTS 3.</p>
<b>Level of delegation</b>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Decentralized, e.g.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Central, e.g. ministry, public agency</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Outsourced to private actors</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Local, e.g. by municipalities</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional, e.g. by regional public actors</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Others: _____</p>
<b>General comment</b>	<p>In the programme period 2007-2013 the rate of regions involvement into ROP implementation will be markedly strengthened in comparison with the period 2004-2006. The extent of delegation of tasks performance will be described in detail in Programme manual of ROP and Internal manual of procedures for ROP.</p>

## 8 Sustainable Development Policy

The Slovak Republic agreed with accession to the Rio Declaration and Agenda 21 by the Resolution of the Government of the Slovak Republic 118 of 8 September 1992. This Resolution assigned all Ministers and the Heads of other central state administration authorities of the Slovak Republic "to utilise the results of UNCED and incorporate them into the sectoral programmes". In principle, application of principles of sustainable development has been reflected also in the Article 55 of the Constitution of the Slovak Republic (the Act 460/1992) and in the European Accession Agreement agreed between the European Communities and their member states on one hand and the Slovak Republic on the other hand (Luxembourg, 1993). The Article 72, paragraph 2 of the Economic co-operation reads: "Measures of the economic policy and other measures will be intended to lead to economic and social development of the Slovak Republic and will be in compliance with the principle of sustainable development".

Since all the mentioned measures remained only in declarative position, the Slovak Government in its Resolution 655 of 16 September 1997 concerning application of Agenda 21 and evaluation of indicators of sustainable development in the Slovak Republic assigned the Ministers and the Heads of other central state administration authorities of the Slovak Republic "to evaluate application of the individual Chapters of Agenda 21 and indicators of sustainable development in the Slovak Republic in accordance with the UN requirements and methodology and according to designated responsibility". At the same time, the Government initiated creation of the Council of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Sustainable Development which had its first session in 1999. Moreover, starting from 1998, individual bodies responsible for indicators of sustainable development were to request the Office for Statistics of the Slovak Republic to include relevant statistic indicators into the Programme of the State Statistic Data Gathering. This part of the Resolution remained unfulfilled, though a number of indicators monitored by the Office for Statistics are identical with indicators of sustainable development. Even the fact, that Slovakia as the first associated country published translation of the whole Agenda 21 with all 132 indicators of sustainable development (Ministry of the Environment of the Slovak Republic, 1996), was not very helpful in this matter.

A number of activities on the regional or local levels can be evaluated positively. These activities were initiated by municipal self-governments, universities, scientific or research institutes and interest groups (e.g. Society for Sustainable Life, People and Water, Regional Environmental Centre). Ideas of sustainable development or selected parts of local and regional Agenda 21 have been successfully implemented in a number of towns and cities, enterprises and are becoming a part of education at universities, secondary and primary schools. Activities, which are important from the point of view of sustainable development, include introduction of ISO 14000 in enterprises, Programme of Village Renewal, UNDP Small Grant Programme for Sustainable Development, projects oriented to support of utilisation of renewable sources of energy. A Rural Parliament is being created and many community associations are quite active.

### 8.1 Part A – General description

**Table: Part A - General document information**

<b>Name:</b>	<b>National Strategy for Sustainable Development for the Slovak Republic</b>
<b>Adoption:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parliament <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Ministry: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Others: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No formal approval Level: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National <input type="checkbox"/> Regional <input type="checkbox"/> Local Adoption date: Parliament – April 2002, Government - October 2001



<b>Validity period:</b>	Not defined
<b>Revision:</b>	
<b>Monitoring/ Evaluation:</b>	Evaluation: April 2003, March 2004, March 2005
<b>Related documents:</b>	The Slovak Republic Action Plan for Sustainable Development for the years 2005- 2010
<b>Geographical scope:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National <input type="checkbox"/> Regional; name: <input type="checkbox"/> Local, name:
<b>Budget:</b>	No explicit defined
<b>General description of contents as written in document</b>	
<b>Objective of the document</b>	The objective of document is to transfer principles of sustainable development into daily behaviour, to assess all planned and implemented activities, using criteria of sustainable development, and to assess orientation towards sustainability with a help of a set of sustainable development indicators
<b>Priorities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Developed democratic country</li> <li>o Modern state and system of public administration</li> <li>o Highly-developed civic society social solidarity and social protection</li> <li>o Balanced territorial development High quality of human and social resources</li> <li>o New model of economy</li> <li>o High quality of the environment, protection and rational use of natural resources</li> <li>o Assurance of life and safety for citizens, existence and functioning of the state</li> <li>o Application of fundamental interests of the Slovak Republic</li> </ul>

<p><b>Structure</b></p>	<p><b>SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, ITS PRINCIPLES, CRITERIA AND INDICATORS</b></p> <p><b>ENFORCEMENT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE WORLD – A CHALLENGE FOR SLOVAKIA</b></p> <p>ENFORCEMENT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS</p> <p>ENFORCEMENT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT</p> <p>ENFORCEMENT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE EUROPEAN UNION</p> <p>STRATEGIES OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN SELECTED COUNTRIES – CHALLENGES AND SOURCES OF EXPERIENCE</p> <p><b>STARTING SITUATION FOR ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC</b></p> <p>INITIAL STAGES IN APPLICATION OF AGENDA 21 IN SLOVAKIA</p> <p>CULTURAL CONDITIONS AND PERSPECTIVES</p> <p>SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND PERSPECTIVES</p> <p>ECONOMIC CONDITIONS AND PERSPECTIVES</p> <p>ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS AND PERSPECTIVES</p> <p>INSTITUTIONAL CONDITIONS AND PERSPECTIVES</p> <p>REGIONAL CONDITIONS AND ASPECTS</p> <p>ASSESSMENT OF THE STARTING SITUATION</p> <p><b>IDEA OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC AND DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES</b></p> <p><b>NATIONAL STRATEGY OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT</b></p> <p>ORIENTATION AND PRIORITIES OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC</p> <p>STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC</p> <p>WAYS AND TOOLS TO SUPPORT PRIORITIES AND ACHIEVEMENT OF STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT</p> <p><b>RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC NO. 978/2001</b></p> <p><b>RESOLUTION OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC NO. 1989/2002</b></p>
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<b>Measure Areas</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Strengthening of international position and credibility of the Slovak Republic.</li> <li>○ Use of positive trends and elimination of risks of globalisation.</li> <li>○ Development of democracy, political pluralistic system, legal instruments and institutions</li> <li>○ Improvement of function of the state, its main institutions and the public administration</li> <li>○ Support of non-governmental organisations, interest associations and the public in participation in development of the society...</li> <li>○ Strengthening of legal awareness, change of value orientations of inhabitants, education and enlightenment....</li> <li>○ Development of culture, cultural, historical and national awareness</li> <li>○ Building a modern and quality educational system, support of science and research</li> <li>○ Achieving sustainable development of settlements and regions</li> <li>○ Preferential development of problematic (peripheral, marginal) regions</li> <li>○ Support of construction and maintenance of building stock and protection of historical structures in landscape</li> <li>○ Achieving favourable trends and balanced demographic structure</li> <li>○ Improvement of health state of population and health care, improvement of lifestyle</li> <li>○ Alleviation of social differences in the society, reduction of unemployment rate, completion of transformation of the system of social assurance and support of employment policy</li> <li>○ Increase of support for socially endangered groups of inhabitants and family</li> <li>○ Comprehensive solution of position of the Roma minority...</li> <li>○ Minimisation of occurrence of socio-pathological phenomena</li> <li>○ Completion of an overall transformation of economy...</li> <li>○ Improvement of the main economic indicators</li> <li>○ Development of an integrated model of soil management</li> <li>○ Restructuring, modernisation and recovery of the production sector...</li> <li>○ Improvement of the transport and technical infrastructure, development of tourism</li> <li>○ Restructuring and modernisation of the banking sector</li> <li>○ Reduction of energy and resource consumption and increase of effectiveness of the Slovak economy</li> <li>○ Reduction of share of use of non-renewable natural resources and rational use of renewable resources</li> <li>○ Reduction of pollution and damaging of the environment</li> <li>○ Alleviation of consequences of the global climate change, depletion of the ozone layer and natural disasters</li> <li>○ Improvement of quality of the environment in regions</li> </ul>
<b>Follow-up / Implementation</b>	
<b>Follow-up measures:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> No follow-up activities so far</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New or adapted funding programme(s) /budget line; name: This document has influence on law and strategic document in all areas.</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New or adapted regulations/laws; name: This document has influence on law and strategic document in all areas.</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New or adapted informational campaigns/instruments; name: This document has influence on law and strategic document in all areas.</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New or restructured institutions/organisations; name: This document has influence on law and strategic document in all areas.</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Implementation in forest policy: National forest programme</li> </ul>

<b>General comment:</b>	National Strategy for Sustainable Development for the Slovak Republic has to be a superior document in all economic, environmental and social areas in the Slovak Republic.
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## 8.2 Part B – Integration of innovation

**Table: Part B - Overall Innovation Orientation**

<b>Overall innovation orientation</b>	Please mark the frequency of occurrence of the <u>more generic terms</u> 'innovation' or synonyms ('new products', 'new services', 'new processes', new marketing methods', 'new business models') in the document	<input type="checkbox"/> Never <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> Frequently
	Please mark the frequency of occurrence of the forest sector ' <u>innovation frontier</u> ' – innovation areas identified in Chapter 3 - in the document	<input type="checkbox"/> Never <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> Frequently
	Please mark the frequency of occurrence of the <u>terms</u> that are related to innovation, for example entrepreneurship, diversification, competitiveness	<input type="checkbox"/> Never <input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frequently Terms used: diversification, competitiveness
	Further comments on overall innovation orientation of the document: Important issue is renewable energy.	
<b>Relevance of innovation:</b> Please mark how much relevance is given to innovation in the document (one answer)	<input type="checkbox"/> No relevance at all <input type="checkbox"/> Marginal issue <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> One issue among others <input type="checkbox"/> Important issue <input type="checkbox"/> Central issue Comments:	
<b>Degree of specification:</b> Please mark how general or specific innovation is addressed by the document (one answer) Please use comments section to describe if the degree of specification varies for different parts of the document, esp. when concerning forestry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Very general ( <i>innovation is named in general parts, e.g. preamble, but no related goals, measures, identified needs or similar are addressed by the document</i> ) <input type="checkbox"/> Rather general ( <i>innovation is addressed in overall goals, needs are identified but no specification of measures</i> ) <input type="checkbox"/> Rather specific ( <i>innovation is addressed in concrete goals, measures are formulated</i> ) <input type="checkbox"/> Very specific ( <i>quantified goals related to innovation are formulated, concrete measures introduced, a fixed budget and timetable exist</i> ) Comments: This document is very general. It defines only areas for measures. It defines indicators for assessment of sustainable development.	

<b>Understanding of innovation policy</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Predominately traditional science and technology policy <input type="checkbox"/> Traditional S&T policy with systemic elements <input type="checkbox"/> Systemic innovation policy with S&T policy elements <input type="checkbox"/> Predominantly systemic innovation policy Comments:
<b>Goals and objectives:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Strengthening of international position and credibility of the Slovak Republic</li> <li>2. Use of positive trends and elimination of risks of globalisation</li> <li>3. Development of democracy, political pluralistic system, legal instruments and institutions</li> <li>4. Improvement of function of the state, its main institutions and the public administration</li> <li>5. Support of non-governmental organisations, interest associations and the public in participation in development of the society</li> <li>6. Strengthening of legal awareness, change of value orientations of inhabitants, education and enlightenment</li> <li>7. Development of culture, cultural, historical and national awareness</li> <li>8. <b>Building a modern and quality educational system, support of science and research</b></li> <li>9. Achieving a balanced development of the settlement environment and integration of planning activities</li> <li>10. Preferential development of problematic (peripheral, marginal) regions</li> <li>11. Support of construction and maintenance of building stock and protection of historical structures in the landscape</li> <li>12. Achieving favourable trends and balanced demographic structure</li> <li>13. Improvement of health state of population and health care, improvement of lifestyle</li> <li>14. Alleviation of social differences in the society, reduction of unemployment rate, completion of transformation of the system of social assurance and support of employment policy</li> <li>15. Increase of support for socially endangered groups of inhabitants and family</li> <li>16. Comprehensive solution of position of the Roma minority</li> <li>17. Minimisation of occurrence of socio-pathological phenomena</li> <li>18. <b>Completion of an overall transformation of economy</b></li> <li>19. <b>Improvement of the main economic indicators</b></li> <li>20. <b>Development of an integrated model of soil management</b></li> <li>21. <b>Restructuring, modernisation and recovery of the production sector</b></li> <li>22. <b>Improvement of the transport and technical infrastructure, development of tourism</b></li> <li>23. Restructuring and modernisation of the banking sector</li> <li>24. <b>Reduction of energy and resource consumption and increase of effectiveness of the Slovak economy</b></li> <li>25. <b>Reduction of share of use of non-renewable natural resources and rational use of renewable resources</b></li> <li>26. <b>Reduction of environmental load</b></li> <li>27. <b>Alleviation of consequences of the global climate change, depletion of the ozone layer and natural disasters</b></li> <li>28. <b>Improvement of quality of the environment in regions</b></li> </ol>	
<b>Issues, problems and related topics:</b> Competitiveness of Slovak republic.	
<b>Innovation areas:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Reduction of share of use of non-renewable natural resources and rational use of renewable resources</li> <li>o Restructuring, modernisation and recovery of the production sector</li> <li>o Reduction of environmental load</li> </ul>	

- Alleviation of consequences of the global climate change, depletion of the ozone layer and natural disasters
- Improvement of quality of the environment in regions

**General comment:**

The connection to innovation is very general.

**Table: Part B - Innovation Support Measures**

<b>Innovation support measures</b>	<b>Research and Development</b>	<p><b>Reduction of share of use of non-renewable natural resources and rational use of renewable resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ ensuring environmentally sound long-term use of natural resources (to achieve maintenance or regeneration of natural resources)</li> <li>○ harmonisation of use of non-renewable mineral resources with natural conditions and potentials of the Slovak territory and wider international relations – to carry out a new mineral resources policy of the Slovak Republic</li> <li>○ gradual damping of use of non-renewable sources of energy and mineral resources, reduction of resource and energy inputs and losses, rational use of all kinds of energy</li> <li>○ perspective damping of development of nuclear energy, gradual building of alternative energy sources</li> <li>○ ensuring a substantial increase of use of renewable sources of energy – in particular geothermal and solar energy</li> <li>○ improvement of structure of utilisation of hydropower potential through increase of share of small hydropower plants with output up to 1 MW</li> <li>○ introduction of efficient legal instruments and creation of proper economic conditions for production of energy from renewable sources, development of support technologies</li> <li>○ ensuring environmentally sound use of water resources and water management adjustments – integrated river basin management in relation with agricultural and forestry measures, rational use of sources in accordance with requirements of nature and landscape protection</li> </ul>
	<b>Diffusion of innovation</b>	No measures

	<p><b>Strengthening the knowledge base</b></p>	<p><b>Building a modern and quality educational system, support of science and research</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ extension of the number of multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary courses</li> <li>○ carrying out a fundamental reform of the educational system</li> <li>○ recovery and rationalism of science and research</li> <li>○ development of educational opportunities and equal access to education</li> <li>○ changes in management, structure and economic support of educational system and changes in the content of education</li> <li>○ inclusion of the key development themes in education (human rights, combating corruption, European dimension)</li> <li>○ improvement and extension of teaching of foreign languages</li> <li>○ achievement of high quality and proportionality of educational process</li> <li>○ connecting education to practice and upbringing to creativity, increase of share of practical activities and skills</li> <li>○ sufficient amount of quality schoolbooks in all areas</li> <li>○ education of teachers in priority areas – education in social areas, environmental education, European dimension</li> <li>○ application of curricular and extracurricular upbringing to sustainable life as a part of the educational system</li> <li>○ completion of a complex curricular and extracurricular system of environmental and ethical education at higher qualitative level</li> <li>○ creation of conditions for lifetime education</li> <li>○ increase of quality of university education – orientation to quality, creativity, efficiency and responsibility of graduates in the interest of competitiveness</li> <li>○ closer co-operation of schools and scientific and research institutions</li> <li>○ support of science and research, achievement of level comparable to developed European countries</li> <li>○ support programmes for creation of new organisational structures of research, development and services in business and non-profit sectors</li> <li>○ assurance of preferential conditions for use of modern information and telecommunication technologies at all educational institutions</li> <li>○ assurance of education of inhabitants in the area of information technologies</li> </ul>
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	<p><b>Strengthening interaction</b></p>	<p><b>Development of an integrated model of soil management</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ restructuring of the soil management – use of production capacity of soils and resources of landscape while respecting the environmental conditions and limits on the basis of a comprehensive soil management policy</li> <li>○ reviving of agriculture and forestry – improvement of the main economic indicators</li> <li>○ strategic protection of food safety – protection of production potential of soils and genetic potential of cultural plants</li> <li>○ elaboration of a system of evaluation of non-productive functions of natural resources and its inclusion into the soil management policy</li> <li>○ completion of process of settlement of proprietary relations to soils and land consolidation</li> <li>○ elaboration and application of efficient measures to support alternative (organic, ecological) agriculture</li> <li>○ support of conservation of traditional forms of agriculture in rural areas as a condition of sustainable development long-term assurance of sufficient amount of water resources for inhabitants, elaboration of programmes of water management rationalisation</li> <li>○ application of sustainable water management – integrated management of river basins, diversification of water resources, de-centralisation of management</li> </ul> <p><b>Improvement of quality of the environment in regions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ use of landscape in accordance with its natural conditions (potentials) while strictly respecting its limits, application of regulators of territorial development and ensuring protection of its important values</li> <li>○ conservation of biodiversity of nature and landscape, preferential long-term protection of valuable sites, their eco-systems and species protection “in situ”</li> <li>○ building a network of protected sites, increasing quality of urban and rural landscapes with emphasis on revitalisation of endangered areas</li> <li>○ conservation of landscape diversity in accordance with natural, cultural and social conditions of settlement</li> <li>○ assessment of exposition of inhabitants in environmentally sensitive areas and larger settlements in order to lay down priorities of remedial measures at all levels</li> <li>○ evaluation of relationship between health state of inhabitants of the Slovak Republic and negative factors of the environment, improvement of conditions for healthy life of inhabitants</li> <li>○ practical application of protection of nature and landscape through regional state administration and self-governments (via application of a comprehensive environmental policy, environmental action programmes, local Agenda 21).</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Demand creation</b></p>	<p>No measures</p>

	<p><b>Improving frame conditions</b></p>	<p><b>Completion of an overall transformation of economy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ elaboration of principles and criteria of a new economy serving to support a comprehensive development of human resources and replacing the industrial economy</li> <li>○ adjusting the economic policy of the Slovak Republic to gradual transition to the New Economy, support of trends of civilisation transformation – elaboration of economic strategy of sustainable development of the Slovak Republic</li> <li>○ carrying out structural change of economy of the Slovak Republic – support of proportionate development of all sub-structures towards de-centralisation, diversification and subsidiary</li> <li>○ support of development of information society – elaboration of strategy of development of information society of the Slovak Republic, elaboration of strategic programmes of digital economy, electronic business and networking</li> <li>○ support of development of modern technologies</li> <li>○ reasonable de-monopolisation and de-centralisation of economy of the Slovak Republic, regulation of natural monopolies</li> <li>○ support of competitive market environment and restraint upon influence of domestic and foreign monopolistic economic and non-economic structures</li> <li>○ restraint upon re-distribution of financial resources through the state budget or restructuring of the debt, portfolio of enterprises, banks, financial and state institutions, limitation of providing state guarantees only for projects complying with principles of sustainable development</li> <li>○ application of economic, financial and tax tools supporting sustainable development (e.g. environmental tax reform)</li> </ul> <p><b>Improvement of the main economic indicators</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ long-term reduction of inflation rate to the level which is close to the level of developed countries, stabilisation of monetary development, reduction of foreign indebtedness of economy of the Slovak Republic</li> <li>○ improvement of trade balance and change of its structure in favour of export of modern goods and services</li> <li>○ stable development of domestic product with a moderate tendency to growth, towards the level of the EU countries (60 percent by 2010)</li> <li>○ creation of conditions for attracting the foreign capital to economy of the Slovak Republic and increase of volume of foreign investment</li> <li>○ application of a fiscal policy of the state based on real incomes, reduction of fiscal deficit and reduction of debt of the state</li> <li>○ long-term reduction of unemployment rate to the level of developed countries</li> </ul>
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	<p><b>Improving frame conditions</b></p>	<p><b>Restructuring, modernisation and recovery of the production sector</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ restructuring of economy of the Slovak Republic – fundamental restructuring of enterprise sphere, increasing effectiveness of bankruptcy processes, completion of process of privatisation of state enterprises</li> <li>○ creation of conditions for restructuring of industry and modernisation of its infrastructure, transfer of work opportunities to perspective sectors</li> <li>○ recovery and stabilisation of industrial production with orientation to perspective and modern sectors</li> <li>○ proportionate development of production with regard to value added, export and other key indicators</li> <li>○ diversification of import of mineral resources and reduction of relating geopolitical dependence</li> <li>○ support of small and medium businesses as basic pillars of healthy and working economy</li> <li>○ introduction of environmental management in enterprises, development and transfer of environmentally friendly technologies to reduce load to the environmental components</li> <li>○ minimisation of waste production, support of closed production cycles</li> </ul> <p><b>Improvement of the transport and technical infrastructure, development of tourism</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ improvement of transport – advantaging public forms of transport against individual, support of urban public transport, building sub-urban integrated systems of transport</li> <li>○ strengthening of railway transport, reconstruction and upgrading of railway network</li> <li>○ support of railway and combined transport of goods (freight transport)</li> <li>○ completion of building of superior road network, improvement of accessibility of regions and marginal areas through building and maintaining the lower-level road network</li> <li>○ complex development of telecommunications and other technical infrastructures</li> <li>○ support of development of tourism – priority development of domestic tourism and creation of conditions for substantial growth of active foreign tourism</li> <li>○ support of domestic small and medium entrepreneurs in the area of tourism</li> <li>○ informatization of the society, substantial improvement of access to modern technologies for citizens</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Comments</b></p>	
<p><b>Priorities</b></p>	<p>No priorities</p>	
<p><b>Assessment of overall relevance</b></p>	<p>High but general</p>	

<b>Promotion of innovation</b>	No
<b>General comment:</b>	The document defines frame conditions for innovations and entrepreneurship.

**Table: Part B - Cross-sectoral coordination**

<b>Policy formulation</b>	
<b>Co-ordination with other processes and documents</b>	Rio Declaration (27 principles), Convention of Biological Diversity, Framework Convention of Climate Change and Agenda 21 (40 chapters), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), OECD Environmental Strategy for the First Decade of the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century, Cardiff initiative, Lisbon strategy Draft Strategy of Sustainable Development (Stockholm), 17/1992 on the environment of SR
<b>Administrative Co-ordination:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Between different sections/departments within the same ministry; specify: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Between different ministries, specify: Government, Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic, Ministry of Transport, Post and Telecommunications of the SR, Ministry of Finance of the Slovak Republic, Ministry of Education of the SR, Ministry of Agriculture of the Slovak Republic, Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic, Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic, Ministry of the Environment of the Slovak Republic, Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Between ministries and other public organizations / agencies, specify: National Sustainable Development Council of SR, Working group of sustainable development <u>Comments:</u>
<b>Stakeholder involvement</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forestry: name most important organisations: Ministry of Agriculture of the SR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forest-based industries: name most important organisations: Ministry of Economy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture: name most important organisations: Ministry of Agriculture of the SR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tourism: name most important organisations: Ministry of Construction and Regional Development of the Slovak Republic, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy: name most important organisations: Ministry of Economy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environment: name most important organisations: Ministry of the Environment of the Slovak Republic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other sector: name most important organisations: a lot of organisations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other sector: <u>3<sup>rd</sup> sector</u> : name most important organisations: a lot of organisations <u>Comments:</u>
<b>Coordination mechanisms:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Formal (central) coordination body; name: <input type="checkbox"/> Formal coordination process <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inter-sectoral working groups: Working group of sustainable development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inter-sectoral advisory body: National Sustainable Development Council of SR <input type="checkbox"/> Formal mandatory consultation process <input type="checkbox"/> Formal voluntary consultation process <input type="checkbox"/> Informal consultations (please describe _____)

	<input type="checkbox"/> Others: _____
<b>Policy Implementation</b>	
<b>Responsible actors and their roles:</b>	Government and Minister president is responsible for whole implementation.
<b>Level of delegation</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Decentralized, e.g. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Central, e.g. ministry, public agency <input type="checkbox"/> Outsourced to private actors <input type="checkbox"/> Local, e.g. by municipalities <input type="checkbox"/> Regional, e.g. by regional public actors <input type="checkbox"/> Others: _____
<b>General comment</b>	

## 9 Renewable Energy Policy

The Energy Policy is a strategic document setting out primary goals and general frameworks of power industry development in long term perspective. The Energy Policy is a part of the national economic strategy of the Slovak Republic, since ensuring maximum economic growth while retaining sustainable development is conditioned by reliability of energy supplies at optimum cost and adequate environmental protection. The Energy Policy has been developed, based on the Act No 656/2004 Coll. on Power Industry, for the period of 25 years. The Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic shall update the Energy Policy at least every five years reviewing changes in factors with direct or indirect impact on the energy policy.

The Energy Policy constitutes the starting point for further development of electricity industry, heat industry, gas industry, production and transport of oil, coal production and, finally of the use of renewable energy sources. The goal of the Energy Policy is to create prerequisites for ensuring sufficient volume of energy, its efficient utilisation, safe and continuous supply as well as maximisation of savings on the consumption side. Implementation of the Energy Policy will secure energy requirements of the Slovak Republic, a path to continuous decrease of energy intensiveness, creation of competitive environment on the energy market aiming at lowering cost on all levels and removing unilateral dependency on the energy supplier. At the same time, the implementation of the policy forms prerequisites for increasing energy utilisation efficiency.

### 9.1 Part A – General description

**Table 5: Part A – Part General document information**

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Energy Policy of the Slovak Republic</b>
<b>Adoption:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Parliament <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Ministry of Agriculture SR <input type="checkbox"/> Others: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No formal approval Level: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National <input type="checkbox"/> Regional <input type="checkbox"/> Local Adoption date: January 2006
<b>Validity period:</b>	2006-2030
<b>Revision:</b>	every 5 <sup>th</sup> year, has not been done yet
<b>Monitoring/ Evaluation:</b>	not specified in the document
<b>Related documents:</b>	none so far
<b>Geographical scope:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National <input type="checkbox"/> Regional; name: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Local, name: _____
<b>Budget:</b>	not specified in the document
<b>General description of contents as written in document</b>	
<b>Objective of the document</b>	The goal of the Energy Policy is to create prerequisites for ensuring sufficient volume of energy, its efficient utilisation, safe and continuous supply as well as maximisation of savings on the consumption side.
<b>Priorities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- securing energy requirements of the Slovak Republic</li> <li>- continuous decrease of energy intensiveness</li> <li>- creation of competitive environment on the energy market aiming at lowering cost on all levels and removing unilateral dependency on the energy supplier</li> <li>- increasing energy utilisation efficiency</li> </ul>

<b>Structure</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Power industry in the EU countries and in the SR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Energy policy of EU countries</li> <li>- Energy policy in the SR</li> <li>- Evaluation of fulfilment of measures in energy policy 2000</li> <li>- Energy market liberalisation, restructuring and privatisation</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Energy policy long-term concept <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Objectives and priorities of the energy policy of the SR for the period up to 2020 and with the outlook up to 2030</li> <li>- Bases for achieving the energy policy objectives – resources and needs balance</li> <li>- Electricity consumption development</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Ensuring targets of the energy policy – proposal of forms and steps to ensure targets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ensuring production of electricity necessary to saturate demand</li> <li>- Safety and reliability of supplies of all forms of energy in required quantity and quality</li> <li>- Decreasing energy intensiveness and increasing energy effectiveness</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Role of research and development in power industry</li> <li>5. Financing measures under the energy policy</li> </ol> <p>+ 9 annexes</p>
<b>Measure Areas</b>	identical to priorities
<b>Follow-up / Implementation</b>	
<b>Follow-up measures:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No follow-up activities so far <input type="checkbox"/> New or adapted funding programme(s) /budget line; name: <input type="checkbox"/> New or adapted regulations/laws; name: <input type="checkbox"/> New or adapted informational campaigns/instruments; name: <input type="checkbox"/> New or restructured institutions/organisations; name: <input type="checkbox"/> Implementation in forest policy:
<b>General comment:</b>	<p>The Energy Policy of the Slovak Republic is a high-level document stipulating the starting point for orientation of individual players on the Slovakia's energy market for a longer period. It is a document open to any changes which may arise in the course of implementation.</p> <p>Our comment: At the moment, this material is rather general piece of document which needs to be further developed.</p>

## 9.2 Part B – Integration of innovation

**Table 6: Part B – Overall Innovation Orientation**

<b>Overall innovation orientation</b>	Please mark the frequency of occurrence of the <u>more generic terms</u> 'innovation' or synonyms ('new products', 'new services', 'new processes', new marketing methods', 'new business models') in the document	<input type="checkbox"/> Never <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> Frequently
	Please mark the frequency of occurrence of the forest sector ' <u>innovation frontier</u> ' – innovation areas identified in Chapter 3 - in the document	<input type="checkbox"/> Never <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> Frequently



	Please mark the frequency of occurrence of the <u>terms</u> that are related to innovation, for example entrepreneurship, diversification, competitiveness	<input type="checkbox"/> Never <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> Frequently Terms used: innovation, diversification, competitiveness
Further comments on overall innovation orientation of the document: The document is more "traditionally" oriented – innovations are mentioned only scarcely, especially in the annex dealing with the research and development in energetic industry.		
<b>Relevance of innovation:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> No relevance at all <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marginal issue <input type="checkbox"/> One issue among others <input type="checkbox"/> Important issue <input type="checkbox"/> Central issue Comments:	
<b>Degree of specification:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Very general ( <i>innovation is named in general parts, e.g. preamble, but no related goals, measures, identified needs or similar are addressed by the document</i> ) <input type="checkbox"/> Rather general ( <i>innovation is addressed in overall goals, needs are identified but no specification of measures</i> ) <input type="checkbox"/> Rather specific ( <i>innovation is addressed in concrete goals, measures are formulated</i> ) <input type="checkbox"/> Very specific ( <i>quantified goals related to innovation are formulated, concrete measures introduced, a fixed budget and timetable exist</i> ) Comments: Innovations are mentioned only as one of the research and development priorities in the energy sector.	
<b>Understanding of innovation policy</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Predominantly traditional science and technology policy <input type="checkbox"/> Traditional S&T policy with systemic elements <input type="checkbox"/> Systemic innovation policy with S&T policy elements <input type="checkbox"/> Predominantly systemic innovation policy Comments: In this document, innovations are seen as the end of research and development processes based on so-called knowledge economy	
<b>Goals and objectives:</b> unclear (not specified in the document)		
<b>Issues, problems and related topics:</b> Innovations are mentioned in relation to the environmental impacts of the energy sector, measures aimed at increasing energy efficiency as well as research and development in the energy sector. Energy sources diversification is declared to be an important issue in the document.		
<b>Innovation areas:</b> – Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions – Enhancement of the capacity of nuclear power plants – New methods of research, development and education		
<b>General comment:</b> Innovations in the area of biomass production would need to be dealt with more in detail as biomass is recognized as one of the most important and prospective renewable source of energy.		

**Table 7: Part B – Innovation Support Measures**

<b>Innovation support &amp; measures</b> <i>Consult classification in chapter 2.2.2</i>	<b>Research and Development</b>	- research and development in power industry
	<b>Dissemination of innovation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- increasing energy effectiveness</li> <li>- decreasing energy intensiveness</li> <li>- new production sources construction</li> <li>- increasing existing capacity performance</li> <li>- decreasing the overall electricity consumption</li> <li>- increasing safety and reliability of supplies of all forms of energy in required quantity and quality</li> <li>- measures to deal with natural gas consumption peak and to tackle interruptions in natural gas supply</li> </ul>
	<b>Strengthening the knowledge base</b>	
	<b>Strengthening interaction</b>	
	<b>Demand creation</b>	
	<b>Improving frame conditions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- energy market liberalisation, restructuring and privatisation</li> <li>- monitoring of impact of energy-related legislation and financial instruments on facilitation of renewable energy sources utilisation</li> <li>- amending appropriate legislation leading to increased utilisation of renewable energy sources</li> </ul>
	<b>Comments</b>	
<b>Priorities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- increasing energy effectiveness</li> <li>- decreasing energy intensiveness</li> </ul>	
<b>Assessment of overall relevance</b>	Innovations are not the key relevance in this document.	
<b>Promotion of innovation</b>	Innovations are not the key relevance in this document.	
<b>General comment:</b>		

**Table 5: Part B - Cross-sectoral coordination**

<b>Policy formulation</b>	
<b>Co-ordination with other processes and documents</b>	not specified
<b>Administrative Co-ordination:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Between different sections/departments within the same ministry; specify: Power Industry Section, Section of Legislation and Law, Section of Strategy, Section of Trade, Section of Budget and Financing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Between different ministries, specify: Ministry of Agriculture of the SR, Ministry of Construction and Regional Development of the SR, Ministry of Environment of the SR <input type="checkbox"/> Between ministries and other public organizations / agencies, specify:

	<p>_____</p> <p><u>Comments:</u> The role of actors is to give comments and participate in the implementation of tasks resulting from the Energy policy</p>
<b>Stakeholder involvement</b>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forestry: name most important organisations: <u>Forestry Section of the Ministry of Agriculture, National Forest Centre, Forests of SR, state enterprise</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forest-based industries: name most important organisations: <u>Ministry of Economy</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture: name most important organisations: <u>Ministry of Agriculture</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Tourism: name most important organisations</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Energy: name most important organisations:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environment: name most important organisations: <u>Ministry of Environment</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other sector: ____: name most important organisations: ____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other sector: ____: name most important organisations: ____</p> <p><u>Comments:</u></p>
<b>Coordination mechanisms:</b>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Formal (central) coordination body; name: <u>Ministry of Economy</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Formal coordination process</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Inter-sectoral working groups</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Inter-sectoral advisory body</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Formal mandatory consultation process</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Formal voluntary consultation process</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Informal consultations (please describe ____)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Others:</p>
<b>Policy Implementation</b>	
<b>Responsible actors and their roles:</b>	Ministry of Economy of the SR is a supervisor, and it has to coordinate, organize and direct the energy policy in the SR.
<b>Level of delegation</b>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Decentralized, e.g.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Central, e.g. ministry, public agency</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Outsourced to private actors</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Local, e.g. by municipalities</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Regional, e.g. by regional public actors</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Others: _____</p>
<b>General comment</b>	

## 10 Conclusions and Research Needs

Based on the analysis of all relevant before mentioned policy documents, a number of individual research needs has arisen. They should be dealt with so that the main aim of the project – to develop science and improve knowledge on integration of development, innovation and environmental policies for forest sector within the context of sustainable rural development – is to be reached. The partial aims according the stages are as follows:

STAGE 1: THEORETICAL FRAME ELABORATION

Goal 1: Analysis of theoretical principles of policies integration and coordination for forestry

## STAGE 2: ANALYTICAL FRAME ELABORATION AND ANALYSIS

Goal 2: Analysis of relevant programmes and strategies, procedures and mechanisms for policy integration and coordination in forestry („top down“ approach)

Goal 3: Analysis of actors' behaviour regarding to policy integration and coordination in forestry („top down“ approach)

Goal 4: Analysis of political networks from forestry actor's point of view („top down“ approach)

Goal 5: Analysis of relationships and combinations of hierarchic and network coordination from forestry actors point of view („top down“ approach)

Goal 6: Analysis of economic (regional, innovative and environmental) networks from forest holdings point of view („bottom up“ approach)

Goal 7: „Best practice“ case study analysis of intersectorial cooperation from forest holdings point of view („bottom up“ approach)

Goal 8: Identification of „success factors“ for intersectorial cooperation from forest holdings point of view („bottom up“ approach)

## STAGE 3: SYNTHESIS AND DISSEMINATION

Goal 9: Synthesis of „top down“ approach

Goal 10: Synthesis of „bottom up“ approach

Goal 11: Synthesis of recommendations and principles of integration and coordination of policies for forestry

## 11 References