



EUROPEAN NEIGHBORHOOD
AND PARTNERSHIP INSTRUMENT
EAST COUNTRIES FOREST LAW
ENFORCEMENT AND GOVERNANCE
II PROGRAM



The Program is funded by the European Union and implemented
by the World Bank in partnership with WWF and IUCN

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Summary (Vitaliy Storozhuk)

REVIEW OF ADAPTATION OF UKRAINIAN FORESTRY LEGISLATION WITH EU LEGISLATION

Adaptation practices of the national legislation to EU legislation in recent years, under which the development of provisions of the national law had to ensure, first of all, the achievement of sustainable forest management improvement within the national legal system, only tangentially guided by the objectives set by the Forest Strategy and other EU regulations proved to be not very effective in general. Real approximation of the Ukrainian forest legislation to EU legislation has not happened, and national strategic priorities of the forest sector development remained in the immature form.

In connection with the events of the Revolution of Dignity and signing the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the EU¹, conditions and attitudes towards harmonization of Ukraine's legislation with the EU law have significantly changed.

The study conducted a detailed review of modern EU forestry legislation and the updated EU "forest" acquis compared with the research performed at the beginning of the FLEG-I Program in 2010.

Provisions of the Association Agreement and the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine Plan for their implementation in the forest sector require public bodies to prepare a common EU glossary on the basic areas of further harmonization of forestry legislation in the sphere of the forest products market (standards update); forestry statistics (forest account); forest conservation and protection (Natura 2000).

Updated forest "acquis" includes a limited number of EU directives and regulations, which implementation in Ukraine's forestry legislation will continue in the future to focus on the European integration and EU membership. The decisive factor for the success of the national legislation adaptation activities still remains the political will to bear quite high costs as is shown in the Eastern European countries experience.

¹ For the Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, on the one part, and Ukraine, on the other part, see http://zakon3.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/984_011