

SFM: Joint research priorities and challenges in
EU, Russia & EaP countries

The current forest research priorities & challenges in Armenia

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Institutions involved in forest research

- Forestry department of Armenian national agrarian university (ANAU)- established in 2004 by methodological and financial support from SIDA
 - Forest enterprises: inventory, management plans, forest melioration, silviculture
 - Settlements greening: species selection for greening
 - GIS and RS in forest management planning
 - Study of upper timberline changes due to climate change and human factor

Institute of Botany of NAS of RA

- Forest research division in the Institute of Botany of NAS of RA
 - Biological studies on *Quercus spp.*, *Fagus orientalis* and other forest species
 - Afforestation and reforestation studies, sub-division of country according to preferred list of species for planting and/or cultivation
 - Forest dendrological studies
 - Forest bio-diversity studies

Ministerial bodies

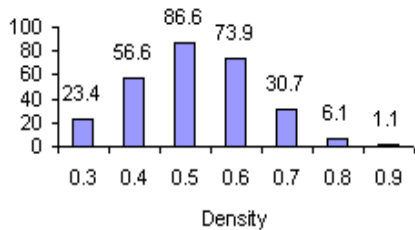
- Forest research and experimental center (FREC) since 1998 in the Ministry of Nature Protection
 - Forest inventories
 - Forest management planning
- “Zikatar” nature protection center, since 2002 in the Ministry of Nature Protection
- Plant breeding and forest policy processing agency in the Ministry of Agriculture
 - Forest policy
 - Forest related normative and juridical issues

Ministry of Agriculture

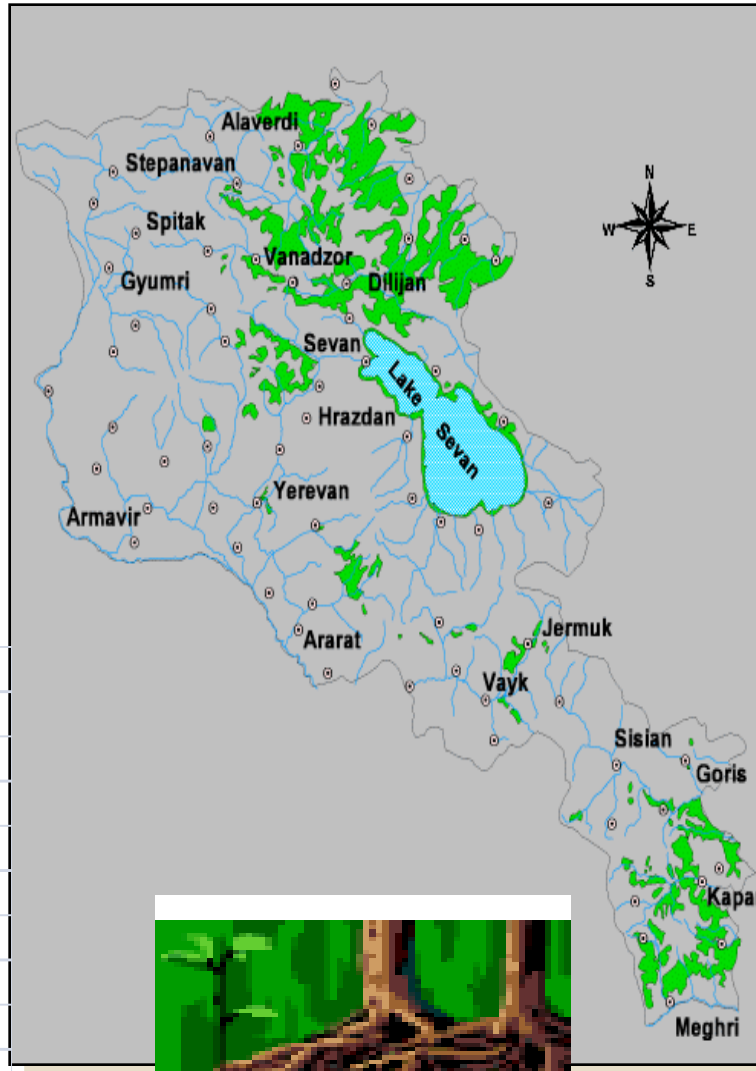
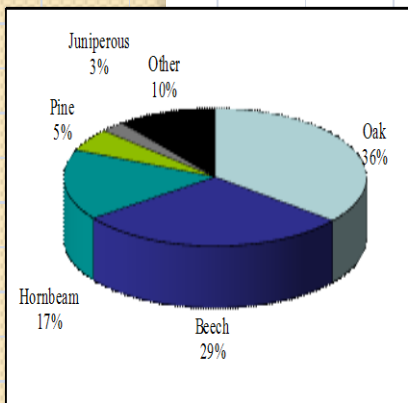
- Armenian state forest service (Hayantar)
 - Forest inventory and management planning
 - FLEG I and FLEG II
 - Forest protection (paste management, forest fire management)
 - Carbon sequestration studies
 - Seed management and nursery farm
- State forest monitoring center
 - Overall monitoring of forest management through well developed forest information systems

ARMENIAN FORESTS

The distribution of area of covered by forest according to its density (th.ha)



Tree Species Structure



- Area-334,100ha (around 11 %)
- standing volume- 41,74 mln.m³
- mean annual growth - 0,45 mln.m³
- loggings -0,7-1,0 mln (1992-2000s)
- mean resources per ha - 125 m³
- mean annual growth - 1,3 m³
- mean bonitet - III-6
- mean canopy closure - 0,53
- mean age - 99



HIGHLIGHTED ISSUES IN ARMENIAN FORESTRY TO BE ADDRESSED

- Inappropriate management structure and weak responsibility for national forest resources,
- Former extensive conservation practice vs. current wrong management approaches
- Inappropriate FLEGT and REDD activities



- Lack of transparency and participatory approach, lack of will to work and to use funds and resources together, lack of professionals

Illegal cuttings in Dilijan Nat. Park

- Deforestation due to illegal logging, overgrazing, dry climate ,
- Lack of struggle against pests, insects and fungi in the forestry,
- Degradation of xerofil bushes specially in southern aspects



Fire trace



Overgrazing everywhere in Armenia



Thank you for your attention !