

**Summary of activities in Hungary in 2006
in relation to the implementation of the
Kyoto Protocol in the LULUCF sector**

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- The year 2006 was a rather important year in the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol (KP).
- Hungary, like all other countries that have ratified the KP, had to prepare the so called Initial Report, and had to make associated decisions.

These decisions included:

- Definition of relevant forest parameters (for minimum forest area, Hungary elected 0,5 ha, for minimum tree height, 5 m, for minimum crown density, 30%, and minimum forests width, 20 m)

Summary of activities in Hungary in 2006 in relation to the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol in the LULUCF sector

These decisions included (continued):

- Election of activities under Article 3.4. of the KP (Hungary elected Forest management, but did not elect Cropland management, Grazing land management, and Revegetation)
- Election of accounting method (Hungary elected annual accounting)

Summary of activities in Hungary in 2006 in relation to the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol in the LULUCF sector

In order that these decisions could be made, a thorough study was commissioned to analyse:

- possible options,
- the possible consequences of these options,
- and to recommend those options what were believed to be beneficial for the country.

This analysis is part of a process to build capacity to correctly interpret the provisions of the KP, and to collect information that is needed for the relevant decisions.

This information includes data on emissions and removals in the LULUCF sector.

Summary of activities in Hungary in 2006 in relation to the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol in the LULUCF sector

Although Hungary started to develop her LULUCF inventory system years ago, much is still to be done to comply with the international requirements on accuracy, transparency, completeness, comparability and consistency.

Therefore, efforts were made to increase the knowledge on the carbon cycle of the Hungarian forests. In 2006, we made an advancement, through:

- completing data collection and analyzing results

Summary of activities in Hungary in 2006 in relation to the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol in the LULUCF sector

- understanding about carbon stocks and their changes in forests, as well as how carbon stocks might change due to conversion of cropland or grassland to forest land.

Some of this work built on the results that were achieved in an EU funded research project, CarboInvent, that ended at the end of 2005.

Summary of activities in Hungary in 2006 in relation to the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol in the LULUCF sector

This scientific aspect of the annual inventories is very much related to the joint efforts of the IPCC to develop the methodologies of the annual greenhouse gas inventories.

Hungary, through its expert, participated in the development of the IPCC 2006 Guidelines, which was published at the end of 2006.

Also, Hungary is active in two COST actions (E43 and 639), which directly address relevant inventory issues related to the national greenhouse gas inventories.

Summary of activities in Hungary in 2006 in relation to the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol in the LULUCF sector

Finally, it must be emphasized that the development of all the above is very much interrelated with other international activities.

These include:

- review of annual reports of other countries under the UNFCCC (Hungary is active in this field through its expert)
- organizing workshops (an expert of Hungary was a co-organizer of a Kyoto-workshop of the EU DG JRC, Ispra, Italy)

Summary of activities in Hungary in 2006 in relation to the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol in the LULUCF sector

- pre-review of reporting systems under the KP (at the invitation of Japan and the Czech Republic)
- participating in workshops organized by the UNFCCC and in the work of SBSTA, and finally,
- participating in the LULUCF expert group of the EU.

Summary of activities in Hungary in 2006 in relation to the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol in the LULUCF sector

THANK YOU !

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