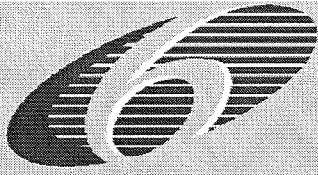


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## TEMPLATE FOR FP6 PROJECT REVIEWS

This template can be downloaded from the Internet at  
<http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/project-management.htm>

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Individual report  
Consolidated report

Thematic Priority/Activity	6.3 "Global Change and Ecosystems"
Instrument type	Integrated Project
Project no and acronym	518128 EFORWOOD
Project full title	<i>Sustainability Impact Assessment of the Forestry-Wood Chain</i>
Project start date	1 November 2005
Project duration	48 months
Project coordinator name and organisation	Kaj Rosen
Period covered by report (from - to)	1/11/07-31/10/2008
Date of (review) meeting	20-22 January, 2009
Name(s) of reviewer(s)	Angeles Blanco, Anna-Liisa Myllynen and Franz Schmithüsen
Name of reviewer drafting the report	Angeles Blanco

## Introduction

This template provides the structure for the review report that needs to be prepared after the project review. It can be completed on-line via the SESAM reporting tool (CIRCA username and password are required). Please go to <http://webgate.cec.eu.int/sesam> and click on "Review reports" on the upper left corner of the page. Alternatively, the template can be found in Word format at <http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/project-management.htm> and be completed off-line.

In completing Sections 2-8 of the report, independent reviewers should keep in mind that, in case they feel that they do not have the competence or the information to answer a question, they do not need to tick any of the boxes 'Yes', 'Partially', 'No' for that question, but they must complete the 'Comments' box.

If several reviewers are involved, it is preferable that a consolidated report be prepared by one reviewer chosen as 'rapporteur'.

The reporting requirements for FP6 projects are described in detail in the "Guidance notes on Project reporting in FP6" (downloadable from <http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/find-doc-management.htm#reporting>).

## Questions to be answered by the reviewer(s)

### 1. OVERALL ASSESSMENT

#### a. Executive summary

*Please follow the order of the individual sections of this report*

Comments:

The project is good. It is running according to the original plans and budget with some justified modifications that do not affect the main objective of EFORWOOD. It has achieved most of its objectives and technical goals for this period.

The main result, ToSIA, will be a flexible tool with the potential to expand the data base and to make it more user-friendly after the project. Only pre-defined scenario data will be analysed within the project lifetime while the planned development of more flexible response functions between varying scenario drivers and indicator results has been postponed to a possible follow-up of the project.

Some planned activities for the third year have been carried out with some delay. Main delays are related to data collection and data treatment which have been important bottleneck for the development of models and for the final ToSIA applications. Some case studies have been simplified due to the difficulty of collecting comprehensive data and some planned ToSIA studies have been cut off.

Planned resources are used with minor adjustments according to plan. The large majority of the consortium partners are performing in line with their commitments. The role of some partners has been adequately modified according to their real contribution.

Management and reporting activities are excellent.

The corrective actions taken by the management, leaders, task forces, etc, have improved the general interaction between partners, the cross module activities and the integration of modules. Although a procedure for quality control and registration of deliverables has been implemented there is still a considerable delay in the submission of deliverables but it does not seem to influence the development of the final outcome.

The plan of dissemination has been restructured and improved. At the moment, dissemination, demonstration and training activities are being carried out successfully. Roadshows have been very successful for identifying main stakeholders concerns on project results.

The implementation plan, month 37-48, is solid and a good basis for a successful termination of the project.

Exploitation of the final results by stakeholders, Commission, etc. is not totally clear.

- Good to excellent project (The project has fully achieved its objectives and technical goals for the period and has even exceeded expectations)
- Acceptable project (The project has achieved most of its objectives and technical goals for the period with relatively minor deviations)
- Unsatisfactory project (The project has failed to achieve critical objectives and/or is not at all on schedule)

#### b. Recommendations

- Project management and module leaders should focus on finishing the data collection according to the deadlines of the roadmaps in order to assure that there will be enough time for the ToSIA testing and for the analysis of the ToSIA results.
- Assure the quality of the final results. If necessary, it is suggested that the coordinator considers the potential benefits of a 3 months prolongation of the project.
- Assess the impact of less data, less case studies and less scenarios into the overall quality, applicability and impact of the final ToSIA tool.
- Potential applications of ToSIA should be further explored.
- Dissemination effects should be analysed and dealt with a perspective going beyond the life span of the project. Exploitation of available knowledge should be further explored. Partners should focus on assuring the timely production of scientific papers. Valuable teaching material produced during project time should be preserved and remain available to the academic community after project termination.
- The use of project results by stakeholders, commission services, academia, researchers and to the public in general should be further clarified.
- Ownership of the final ToSIA tool, access to use it by interested stakeholders and institutions, maintenance and update of data bases need further clarification. Clear binding legal arrangements are necessary in order to make sure that the project results remain accessible and usable to the public in general and to all stakeholders in research, teaching and practice that can benefit from the ToSIA tool and from other project results.
- Interaction with other projects e.g. SENSOR and SEAMLESS should be further promoted if Commission wants to use the results to compare EU policies regarding land uses, agriculture, biomass energy production or forestry.
- Give special attention to concerns raised from stakeholders.

## 2. OBJECTIVES

a. Have the objectives for the period been achieved?

Yes

Partially

No

Comments:

Main delays identified during the second year evaluation in January 2008, specifically in module 5 and to a lesser extent in module 4, have been reduced due to corrective actions and adjustments of the tasks of some partners and improved cooperation among project partners.

Delays related to data collection have affected the development of models and the implementation of ToSIA case studies, consequently some case studies have been simplified and planned ToSIA studies cut off.

There have not yet been sufficient analysis of trade-offs between sustainability impacts along the entire FWC.

The level of aggregation and detail of collected data affect model development and may limit the final impact of the project due to the limited number of studied scenarios and ToSIA applications, on one hand, and the limited capacity of the ToSIA tool to predict situations outside the pre-defined scenarios, on the other.

b. Are the overall objectives (i) still relevant and (ii) still achievable within the time and resources available to the project?

(i)  
  
Yes

Partially

No

(ii)  
  
Yes

Partially

No

Comments:

- (i) None of the project results obtained so far suggests the need of a revision of overall project objectives. The research topic is still relevant considering the current interest on sustainable resource use, energy production, global warming, biodiversity, etc. The project is innovative and will provide new information in bringing together forest management and wood production with multiple wood processing flows including wood energy in one single end market oriented value added chain. It will allow to use the model at different time periods in the future due to its built in response factors, both at country and regional levels as well as for the European space (excluding Russia) by modifying the baseline scenario 2005. In the context of using wood as a renewable raw material resource, climate change, sustainable bio-energy and biodiversity issues the project is of high interest.
- (ii) The progress of the project shows that the ToSIA objective is likely to be met. However the reports show that only pre-defined scenario data will be analysed within the project lifetime while the planned development of more flexible response functions between varying scenario drivers and indicator results has been postponed to a possible follow-up of the project. In order to assure the quality of final results it is suggested to the project team to consider a 3 months prolongation of the project.

c. Do you recommend changes in objectives in order to keep up with the current state-of-the-art?

Yes

Partially

No

Comments:

There is no need to modify the project objectives.

The “post-EFORWOOD activities” should be clarified.

### 3. WORKPLAN AND RESOURCES

a. Has the project as a whole been making satisfactory progress in relation to the Description of Work (Annex I to the contract)?

Yes

Partially

No

Comments:

The activities of the third year have, with some delays, been carried out according to the description of work. A final set of sustainable indicators and data collection protocols are available; data for the three case studies for the reference futures are almost finished; data collection for the case study EU-FWC has started; an important effort has been carried out to assess the quality of data; the third ToSIA prototype has been developed; and the sustainability impact evaluation methods are available and policy data base is finalised.

Project management and collaboration among modules have improved due to a number of corrective actions taken and due to the need of standardised data collection from many partners respectively data sources.

b. Has each work package (WP) been making satisfactory progress in relation to the Description of Work (Annex I to the contract)?

Yes

Partially

No

Comments:

There are some minor deviations to the plan which do not affect the overall project. Delays have had some impact in the amount of data, case studies and scenarios to be studied with the ToSIA tool.

M4 Processing and Manufacturing and M5 Industry Consumer Interactions have gained in speed in particular due to the inputs from some project partners. However further effort should be done for forthcoming data and its integration into the FWC. Assessment of progress in module 4 by the evaluators has been difficult due to the general delay in the deliverables which seems to be corrected at the moment.

M6 Knowledge Transfer has made considerable efforts to develop a more focused knowledge transfer policy and shows a large list of activities.

c. Have planned milestones and deliverables been achieved for the reporting period?

Yes

Partially

No

Comments:

Although a procedure for quality control and registration of deliverables has been implemented there is still an average delay of 4.7 months in the submission of deliverables.

Evaluators did not receive in time several deliverables corresponding to module 4 which made difficult the assessment of its progress.

As the life span of the project has now less than one year, reinforcing of monitoring of project deliverables and milestones is necessary and appropriate actions should be undertaken by the management and the module leaders to assure that work is carried out within the deadlines.

d. Have resources been deployed as foreseen in Annex I, overall and for each participant?

Yes

Partially

No

Comments:

As suggested during the 2<sup>nd</sup> year evaluation the management has taken action in order to focus more effectively the inputs from project partners and, in a few cases, this has lead to rearrangements of duties and respectively budgetary allocations. Such changes are well explained and justified in the Periodic Activity Report.

The contribution from INCO partners has been still very limited.

e. Have costs incurred, i.e., personnel costs and other major cost items, been 1) necessary for the implementation of the project and 2) economic. Note that both aspects 1) and 2) have to be covered in the answer.

Yes

Partially

No

Comments:

The costs have followed the planned and executed activities. Some adjustments have been carried out and are well justified in the reports.

f. For Networks of Excellence (NoEs) only:

f1. Is there evidence of real integration and restructuring of activities between partners (to be evaluated against Indicators of Integration, e.g., exchanges of personnel, shared infrastructures, joint research and training activities, changes of research orientation of individual partners to better integrate into the NoE, etc).

Yes

Partially

No

Comments:



f2. Does the joint research performed under the NoE as a whole continue to qualify as excellent?

Yes

Partially

No

Comments:

**4. WORK PLANNED FOR THE NEXT 18-MONTH PERIOD (NoEs and IPs only)**

Is the proposed update to the *Implementation Plan* (IPs) or *Joint Programme of Activity* (NoEs) for the next 18-month period satisfactory

a. from a scientific/technical point of view?

Yes

Partially

No

Comments:

The planning and resources programming is largely fixed by the already available results of year 1-3 and by the need to finalize the essential tasks that are needed to reach the overall objectives of the project as a whole at the date of termination.

Special effort should be done for the collection of data, checking data quality, aggregation of indicators, implementation of the ToSIA case studies and checking the quality of the final results.

The ToSIA tool should clearly indicate, what it offers with respect to wood energy as well as to nature and landscape protection. It should also show how the modules can eventually be expanded in order to improve its indicative value for broader land management, sustainable resource use, climate change and landscape protection.

The contribution of EFORWOOD to help decision makers in designing, evaluating and implementing policies, regulations and other types of decision should be demonstrated with different examples.

b. from a management point of view including use of resources?

Yes

Partially

No

Comments:

The planned project management is adequate.

Resources should be allocated, if necessary, in a flexible way to further improve the quality of final results.

c. concerning non-scientific activities (dissemination, exploitation, training, science-society issues, further integration etc)?

Yes

Partially

No

Comments:

Dissemination and training activities are well planned.

The plan for exploitation of final results is still not clear.

Post-project activities mentioned in the plan should be clarified.

The use, promotion, support, etc. of the tool should be clarified.

**5. CONSORTIUM PARTNERSHIP**

a. Has the collaboration between the participants been effective?

Yes

Partially

No

Comments:

Large efforts have been made during this period to improve the interaction between partners and the result is an effective collaboration between participants.

The project has a positive impact to the development of the European forest related scientific network.

b. Have the partners contributed as planned to the project and tasks assigned to them?

Yes

Partially

No

Comments:

The role of some partners has been modified. The corrective actions have led to a more realistic situation with regard to the few partners that had been out of schedule with their committed inputs.

Altogether, the partnership is good and functions intensively.

c. Do you identify any conflicts or evidence of underperforming partners, lack of commitment or change of interest of any partners? Do you recommend any changes in responsibilities?

Yes

Partially

No

Comments:

## 6. MANAGEMENT

a. Has the scientific/technical management been performed as required?

Yes

Partially

No

Comments:

Scientific and technical management of the project is adequate. In general, very good management reporting.

b. Has the administrative and financial management been performed as required ((including proper handling of contractual matters, maintenance of the consortium agreement, intellectual property rights, technical collective responsibility, sub-contracting, competitive calls)?

Yes

Partially

No

Comments:

There is still uncertainty to what extent data, models and the ToSIA tool will be available to the public domain. Ownership, use, maintenance and update of the databases/tool after the project need further clarification. Where appropriate, communication to the research community and other important relevant stakeholder groups is needed.

c. Have (electronic) information and communication networks been established as required to support interactive working between the teams involved (if relevant)?

Yes

Partially

No

Comments:

EFORWOOD web page and portal are good tools for exchange and dissemination of information. Restructuring of the EFORWOOD web in year 3 was positive.

Creation of the EFORWOOD glossary was positive.

d. Is the consortium interacting in a satisfactory manner with other related 5th and 6th Framework projects or other R&D national/international programmes (if relevant)?

Yes

Partially

No

Comments:

Not much evidence is available for assessing this issue. From the evaluators' point of view this critical point needs more efforts both from the project management as well as from module leaders.

Although contacts with SENSOR and SEAMLESS have been already carried out further interaction is recommended.

## 7. USE AND DISSEMINATION OF KNOWLEDGE

a. Does the project have significant use potential (if applicable)?

Yes

Partially

No

Comments:

Although the project has significant use potential the final use of the ToSIA tool is not yet clear. If the tool is not used the impact of the project will be small.

The usability by researchers, education and policy analysts is clear. Use by stakeholders, academia, NGOs and policymakers will depend on the practicality of the tool and the training and promotion available. A clear and comprehensive user manual for the ToSIA tool should be prepared.

The project materials are still lacking an illustration of the limitations of the model and potential sources of error, and the risk assessment of the tool is insufficient.

The limited interest and motivation of industrial federation partners so far has possibly been linked to the lack of information for the overall practical usability to those stakeholders. During the final phase of the project the management team should demonstrate the practical benefits of the tool.

b. Is the Plan for the Use and Dissemination of Knowledge developing in a satisfactory manner?

Yes

Partially

No

Comments:

A high effort has been carried out for dissemination of knowledge. The review and restructuring of the communication strategy in year 3 and its split according to the communication target groups was positive.

In year 4, it is necessary to clarify the finalisation steps and their timeline: ToSIA finalisation, testing and corrective actions before launching the tool.

The final plan for the use of knowledge after the project is still in an initial stage.

Although many publications have been produced the number of scientific papers issued so far is relatively low and should be further promoted.

c. Have the contractors disseminated project results and information as foreseen by the contract and the plan for dissemination and use of knowledge (publications, conferences...)?

Yes

Partially

No

Comments:

A lot of activities have taken place. Portal, flyer, conference, meetings, presentations .....

The roadshow practice is very positive.

d. Are potential users and other stakeholders (outside the consortium) suitably involved (if applicable)?

Yes

Partially

No

Comments:

According to reporting, EC and other stakeholders have been involved in the roadshows.

In year 3, the involvement of NGOs was mentioned in to be not so active. In year 4, it is important to clarify the use of the tool and support needed by other stakeholders. For what purposes, and how they can use the tool?. Have the expectations of the project team about the role, contribution and needs, of for instance of NGOs and the industry, been realistic?.



## 8. OTHER ISSUES

a. Have policy-related and/or regulatory issues been properly handled (if applicable)?

Yes

Partially

No

Comments:

Relevant policies are identified in the project.

The potential use of the tool for recommendations for policy makers is an important aim of the project but it is difficult to assess at the present stage to what extent this objective can be met after project finalisation.

b. Have ethical issues been appropriately handled (if applicable)?

Yes

Partially

No

Comments:

c. Have safety issues been properly handled (if applicable)?

Yes

Partially

No

Comments:

Included as an indicator in the project.

d. Has progress on the Gender Action Plan been satisfactory (if applicable for this reporting period)?

Yes

Partially

No

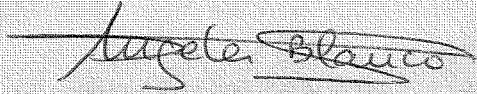
Comments:

The project report does not display the results achieved, even though the project plan insists equity and monitoring of the gender balance for instance in some project management bodies (IP organising committees and expert panels).

Name (s) of the reviewer(s): Angeles Blanco

Date: 22 January, 2009

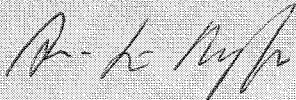
Signature(s):

Handwritten signature of Angeles Blanco in cursive script.

Name (s) of the reviewer(s): Anna-Liisa Myllynen

Date: 22 January 2009

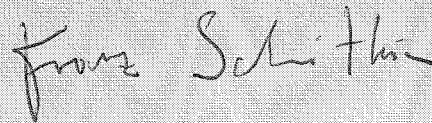
Signature(s):

Handwritten signature of Anna-Liisa Myllynen in cursive script.

Name (s) of the reviewer(s): Franz Schmithüsen

Date: 22 January 2009

Signature(s):

Handwritten signature of Franz Schmithüsen in cursive script.