



Analysis of the possibilities for carbon credits generating in private forests

Dragan Čomić¹, Branko Glavonjić²

Corresponding author e-mail: dcomic.sfbl@gmail.com, brankogl@rcub.bg.ac.rs

Terrestrial ecosystems in general, and especially forests as the largest terrestrial ecosystem, play a key role in keeping balance in the climatic aspects of the Earth. Forests make multiple benefits, they provide raw material for renewable and ecologically safe products and play an important role for economic well-being, biodiversity, global circulation of carbon, water balance, erosion control, prevention of natural disasters, and ensuring social and recreational services. Significant and crucial role of forests in climate change mitigation and adaptation is now widely recognized, especially given the fact that forests significantly contribute to climate change mitigation by absorbing carbon and through carbon storage functions.

Climate changes pose key challenges, but also new opportunities for the forestry sector, since they can be an exceptional development opportunity for the use of international practice and financial funds, as well as a chance to increase the number of employees, in both the civil service and individual entrepreneurial activities.

It is necessary to conduct a detailed and complementary scientific research in order to identify all the potentials and possibilities, as well as barriers and flaws which the forestry sector in Bosnia and Herzegovina is facing, aiming at more active involvement in global flows and utilization possibilities of generating carbon credits from the existing, and from new forest areas too. In the process, it is always necessary to consider both types of ownership, both state-owned and private forests and forest lands.

In this paper, besides analyzing basic types, mechanisms and economic parameters related to forestry and forests in the carbon cycle, are explored and presented possibilities and willingness of private forests or other land owners (agricultural or any other land), to initiate and implement activities that aim to generate carbon credits and generate income through reforestation activities.

The research was conducted using the method of stratification in a sample of 550 private forests owners in the Republic of Srpska.

Key words: Carbon sequestration, afforestation and reforestation, carbon credits, mitigation

¹ Faculty of Forestry, Vojvode Stepe Stepanovića 75a, Banja Luka

² Faculty of Forestry, Kneza Visaslava Street No 1, Belgrade, Serbia