Opportunities for Enhancement of Competitiveness in Forestry in Bulgaria Konstantin Kolev¹

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Abstract

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One of the relevant priorities of the Strategic Plan for Development of Bulgarian Forest Sector 2014-2023 is to increase the competitiveness of forest sector as a base for better standard of living especially in the mountainous and rural areas of the country, rational use of resources and maintenance of ecological, social and economic functions of forest territories [3]. The quantification of forestry competitiveness by means of factor analysis and linear ordering in multidimensional space in previous studies [1, 2] reveals the main factor for the unsatisfactory ranking of Bulgarian forestry in terms of competitiveness in comparison with 15 EU member states and it is insufficient investments. In this relation an attempt is made to answer the questions: 'Which are the reasons for insufficient investments in forestry in Bulgaria?' and 'What have to be done to enhance investments and competitiveness of forestry in Bulgaria?'. Based on questionnaire survey among specialists working in forestry and hypotheses testing through χ^2 -analysis is established that among the main reasons for insufficient investment in Bulgarian forestry are some market failures (asymmetry of information and opportunism) [4]. To overcome them and to increase the competitiveness of forestry according to respondents it is appropriate the territorial divisions of state forest enterprises to invest in forestry equipment and to increase the share of economic activities carried out with their own workers and equipment.

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