

CYPRUS MARKET STATEMENT 2024

1. General economic trends

The Cypriot economy grew by 2.5% in real terms in 2023, thus decelerating compared to 2022 when the corresponding growth rate was 5.1%. Regarding 2024, the growth rate for the 1st quarter of 2024 is estimated at 3.3% compared to the corresponding quarter of 2023 and at 1.2% compared to the 4th quarter of 2023. This rate is an important head start for the year and is consistent with the forecast by the Ministry of Finance, which conservatively estimates the growth rate for 2024 overall at 2.9%, and confirms that the economy in 2024 has re-entered a recovery path. Remarkably, according to corresponding data from Eurostat, the growth rate of Cyprus for the 1st quarter of 2024 is the highest among the Member States confirming once again the resilience and flexibility of the Cypriot economy in an external environment with uncertainty due to the ongoing conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East.

On the output side of GDP, value added increased in almost all sectors except professional activities due to the impact of sanctions. The sector with the greatest contribution to growth was "Accommodation and catering services activities", while the sectors "Information and Communication", "Administrative Services" and "Transportation" continued to significantly support growth. In particular, regarding the tourism sector, in 2023 tourist arrivals reached 3.8 million compared to 3.2 million in 2022. The increase in tourist arrivals was accompanied by a 22.6% increase in tourism revenue. The figures continue to be encouraging for 2024 as well, as for the period January - June 2024 tourist arrivals reached 1.65 million compared to 1.61 million in the corresponding period of 2023, marking an increase of 2.4%.

Outcomes in the labour market improved in the last year in par with the continued favourable economic conditions. This is reflected in an increase of 6,970 in the number of employed persons, which corresponds to an increase of 1.5% compared to 2022, while employment measured in hours worked increased by 1.7%. The number of registered unemployed persons fell compared to the previous year by 6.1% and the unemployment rate in 2023, as measured by the Labour Force Survey, averaged at 6.1%, compared with 6.8% in 2022.

Inflation, as measured by the Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices (HICP), subsided significantly in 2023 and averaged at 3.9% from a rate of 8.1% in 2022. The ease in inflationary pressures is driven by the developments in international oil prices and consequently retail energy prices, in conjunction with the effect of government measures taken in 2023, targeted to curb inflation especially in the food and energy sectors. As for the first half of 2024, inflation in Cyprus decreased by 0.32%, excluding consumption tax increases, compared to the previous half, covering the period between July and December 2023. However, when compared to the same half of 2023, inflation, excluding increases in excise taxes, recorded an increase of 2.2% in the first half of 2024.

Table A: Main economic indicators (2022 - 2027) *

Indicators	2022	2023	2024 proj.	2025 proj.	2026 proj.	2027 proj.
GDP at constant market prices 2010 (% change)	5.1	2.5	2.9	3.1	3.2	3.3
Unemployment Rate LFS (%)	6.8	6.1	5.8	5.5	5.3	5.1
Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices (% change)	8.1	3.9	2.5	2.0	2.0	2.0
Budget Balance (% of GDP)	2.7	3.1	2.9	2.8	2.6	2.1
Public Debt (% of GDP)	85.6	77.4	70.6	65.5	59.2	54.6

* *Stability Programme 2024-27. Republic of Cyprus, Ministry of Finance. April, 2024.*

2. Policy measures

2.1. National Forestry Legislation

In 2012, a new Forest Legislation (Forest Law and Regulations) was adopted by the Parliament. The Forest Law and Regulations are setting the relevant legal framework for the conservation, protection, sustainable management, and development of the forests of Cyprus incorporating key international forest-related commitments, including biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation. The forest legislation is amended whenever necessary to address the challenges that arise at national and international level, as well as to align with the EU acquis. The most recent amendments to the Forestry Law and Regulations were made in 2014, 2017, and 2018, in order to address the challenges that arose due to the need to further regulate the conditions for the allocation and use of state forest lands.

2.2. National Forest Policy

In 2013, the Council of Ministers adopted a new Forest Policy. This Policy Statement sets the following strategic priorities:

- Conservation of forests and other wooded lands,
- Protection of forests from fire and other abiotic and biotic agents,
- Improvement and expansion of forests and the vegetation in general,
- Adaptation of forests to climate change and enhancement of the contribution of forests to climate change,
- Protection of biodiversity, landscapes, and cultural heritage,
- Promotion of forest recreation and tourism,
- Provision of employment and improvement of the quality of life for the residents of mountainous areas,
- Strengthening of the protective role of forests and their role in addressing desertification,
- Production of timber and other forest products,

- Strengthening of forest education and enlightenment and promotion of forest research,
- Construction and improvement of infrastructure,
- Alignment with European and international forest policy,
- Improvement and strengthening of the policy framework and the administrative and institutional framework.

Cyprus' forestry policy is in line with the EU's Forestry Strategy for 2030, which highlights the multifunctional role of forests and sets a vision and actions for increasing the quantity and quality of forests and strengthening their protection, restoration and resilience.

2.3. Harmonization with EU Legislation

In 2013 a new national legislation for the control of illegal logging and associated timber and timber products trade, in line with EU Timber Regulation 995/2012 was adopted by the Parliament. Through this law, the Department of Forests has been officially assigned as the Competent Authority for the implementation of the EU Timber Regulation. This law regulates the trade of timber and requires those who place timber for the first time on the market to have a due diligence system in place. This law sets also penalties and fines. However, on 16 May 2023 a new regulation on deforestation-free products (Regulation (EU) No 2023/1115) was adopted by the Council, which repeals the EU Timber Regulation (Regulation (EU) No 995 /2010). The final act was signed on 31 May and published on 9 June in the Official Journal of the EU. The main obligations will apply from 30 December 2024 (30 June 2025 for micro and small businesses). Cyprus, is in the process of defining the competent authority that will be responsible for fulfilling the obligations arising from this new regulation.

In relation to the FLEGT Regulation (Council Regulation (EC) No. 2173/2005) which allows the control of the entry of timber into the EU from countries that conclude bilateral voluntary partnership agreements (VPAs), Cyprus has begun the implementation of the FLEGT licensing program for imports of timber and timber products under national Law 125 (I)/2010. The implementation of the Law includes controls, acceptance or rejection of FLEGT licenses, as well as physical checks of goods at entry points into the Republic of Cyprus.

2.4. Promotion of tree planting

It is a standing policy of the Department of Forests to use non-invasive indigenous species that are already adapted to the country's climatic conditions when carrying out afforestation/ reforestation works. In this context, during the five-year period 2019-2023, Department of Forests produced and made available approximately 500,000 saplings in order to cover both its own needs and the needs of public or private organizations such as municipalities, churches, schools, NGOs and firms who wish to forest public or privately-owned lands and who will agree to be responsible to provide the funds and care (i.e. water) of these areas for a minimum of three years. Approximately half of the saplings (250,000) were used in afforestation and reforestation projects in state forests and other government areas, while the remaining saplings were made available free of charge to public or private organizations, mainly through the special program called "I plant for Climate". The afforestation and reforestation projects implemented by the

Department of Forests, are expected to play an important role in increasing carbon sequestration functions in Cyprus in the coming decades.

2.5. Strategic Plan for Forests

The Strategic Plan for Forests, which is integrated into the strategic planning of the Department of Forests, envisages the development of forests and forestry as an integral part of the national development strategy. It includes one primary objective and six related activities. The primary goal is to preserve, protect, and manage forests sustainably, while the relevant activities are focused on six areas: effective response to forest fires; effective environmental protection and strengthening of the ecological role of forests; enhancement of forest recreation and promotion of forest tourism; improvement of the condition of state forests and the production of timber and other forest products; protection and enhancement of green areas; and improvement of the policy framework, productivity and education. The Strategic Plan for Forests, is updated in the medium term, every three years. The last update, concerning the period 2025-2027, was made at the beginning of 2024.

2.6. Forest Subsidization

All subsidies of relevance to forestry in Cyprus are bundled in the national programme of the European Union Rural Development Regulation. Totally, they have been allocated 5.5 million for forest-related projects funded by the Cyprus 2014 - 2020 Rural Development Programme. Full implementation (6.5 million) of the Programme is about to be, by the end of 2025. As regards the implementation of the Cyprus 2023 - 2027 CAP Strategic Plan, is about to start at the beginning of the next year, and this will also include forest-related interventions/actions similar to the measures/actions already implemented.

2.7. Green transition

In its quest for a sustainable future, Cyprus secured funding from national and community resources for the period 2021-2027 amounting to €591 million to promote the green transition and support households and businesses in their energy needs, amid the increased interest of Cypriot citizens regarding the government's grant schemes for energy saving. Specifically, over 21000 applications were submitted in 2023, compared to 12000 in 2022 and 7000 in 2021, while for the first quarter of 2024 the number of applications reached 10000.

The green transition is also supported by various government initiatives and schemes. Cyprus' Integrated National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP) for the period 2021-2030 looks into detail at the national targets for the next decade on a mid-term basis, up to 2030, and serve as a basis for an ambitious long-term strategy aiming towards the minimisation of greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. The national plan elaborates on the five dimensions of the Energy Union, i.e. decarbonisation, energy efficiency, security of energy supply, internal energy market, and research, innovation and competitiveness. Cyprus originally set a 19% share of energy from renewable sources in gross final consumption of energy in 2030. This level of ambition was increased significantly with the new proposed policies and measures to reach 23% in 2030, also in accordance with the relevant EC Recommendation. In this context, the revised National Energy and

Climate Plan expected to be completed this year, set out the measures and policies based on which Cyprus will achieve its new climate and energy ambitious targets by 2030. Priority is given to reducing energy demand in the country, with an emphasis on building renovations, as well as combating energy poverty. In addition, the National Action Plan for Green Public Procurements, provides for the use of woody materials derived from sustainably managed forests and aims at increasing the use of certified timber products from internationally recognised certifying organizations up to 50%. This Action Plan also provides for the use of timber and timber products from legal sources.

The Cyprus Government Initiative for Coordinating Climate Change Actions in the Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East (EMME), established in 2018, aims at the development of a Regional Action Plan to address the specific needs and challenges countries are facing in the EMME region, to address and ameliorate the impact of climate change and advance mitigation actions in accordance with the Paris Agreement. The first Meeting of the Ministers of the Environment of the countries participating in the Cyprus Governmental Initiative to address the effects of climate change in the EMME, was held online in February 2022. During the meeting, there was a discussion about the structure and content of a Regional Plan Action on Climate Change. The second Ministerial Session of the Cyprus Governmental Initiative for the Coordination of Actions on Climate Change in EMME took place in Cyprus in June 2022. The Ministerial Session presented the initial draft of a 10-year Regional Climate Action Plan, which proposes feasible policy measures and common projects and actions for the mitigation and adaptation of Climate Change in the EMME region.

Also, Cyprus hosted on September 23, 2024 the 2nd MED9 Ministerial Meeting on Energy, during which the Energy Ministers of Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Spain, Croatia, Malta, Portugal and Slovenia held discussions aimed at strengthening the energy cooperation between the nine Mediterranean member states of the EU, especially regarding the effort to transform the Mediterranean region into a transmission hub green energy.

2.8. Research and development policies

The capacity of research institutions in Cyprus has been strengthened, especially during the last years, through various projects and co-operation on a national and regional level. Funding is ensured either through the national budget or other international sources. The establishment of the Deputy Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy (2020) to enable and accelerate Cyprus' digital transformation is expected to further strengthen the capacity of the research institutes of Cyprus.

As regards the forestry sector in Cyprus, scientific research and knowledge have been the backbone of most policy-related decisions and actions taken by the Department of Forests. For instance, the development of the National Forest Programme (NFP) and the formulation of the new Forest Policy were based on such knowledge. Similarly, the adoption of forestry measures in the Rural Development Programme and the procedure for the formulation of the Cyprus Criteria and Indicators for SFM have also taken into consideration the scientific research and knowledge.

Additionally, a significant number of applied research programs are being developed for the management and exploitation of forest resources and a continuous effort is being made to improve the quality, quantity and accuracy of information collected by the Department of Forests on the condition and development of the national forest resources. Likewise, the collection mechanisms have been redesigned to comply with modern trends, needs and technologies such as GPS, GIS, remote sensing, etc.

In this context, a collaboration has been developed between the Department of Forests and the Cyprus Institute, a world-class, non-profit research and educational institution with a strong scientific and technological orientation that aims to address regional but global issues. The collaboration concerns the use of unmanned fixed-wing aircraft (drones) with the aim of strengthening forest monitoring and fire protection.

2.9. Energy sector

The energy sector of Cyprus is transformed thanks to the new discoveries of natural gas in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), which allow the country to move from exploration to production and to become a key energy hub in the region. With strong corporate interest in commercializing these natural gas resources, in the long term these discoveries could end Cyprus' dependence on imported fossil fuels by replacing them with domestic sources.

In addition, after receiving grant approval from the European financing mechanism "Connecting Europe Facility" (CEF) and the Recovery and Resilience Fund of the EU, the Great Sea Interconnector (GSI) has now entered the construction stage. When it is completed, the GSI will be the world's longest subsea electricity interconnector, measuring over 1200 kilometers in length and the deepest, reaching up to 3000 meters in depth. It will connect the national electricity grids of Israel, Cyprus, and Greece with the European electricity grid, thereby creating a reliable green interconnector for Europe. Work is currently underway on the Cyprus-Greece (Crete) electrical interconnection project. The project will cost almost 2 billion euros with the European Union contributing 657 million euros. In this context, the Cypriot government has agreed to finance the project with the amount of 125 million euros, paying 25 million euros annually from 2025 to 2029, with no additional charges for Cypriot consumers, as their bills will be fully subsidized, through the Emissions Fund.

Another project, which is expected to contribute the most to ending Cyprus' energy isolation and reducing its carbon footprint, is the Vasiliko liquefied natural gas (LNG) project. The Vasiliko LNG project aims to create an entry point for natural gas to Cyprus, enabling the country to connect with the wider European gas market, and involves a cost of €542 million - of which approximately €101m was financed by the Connecting Europe Facility programme (CEF). The contract was awarded in 2019 to the Chinese group CPP-METRON Consortium (CMC) but since then there have been delays in a process riddled with inaccuracies and serious violations of public contracting. The project had significantly exceeded its original two-year timeline, now extending beyond four years. As the agreement reached an impasse, and while the Republic of Cyprus had been negotiating with the Consortium for a mutual agreement for termination, the Consortium announced the termination of the contract. The next likely step is for Cyprus' Natural

Gas Infrastructure Company (ETYFA) to complete the project, taking over the construction of the three components of the terminal: the ship, the jetty, and the onshore terminal. ETYFA has issued a tender for the provision of management services to complete the liquefied natural gas (LNG) import terminal project at the country's Vasiliko Port. The tender encompasses project management services in the areas of architecture, construction, civil engineering, and supervision services, paired with services related to the oil and gas industry. The tender opened on August 29, and bids were accepted until September 20, 2024.

2.9.1. Renewable energy policies and their impacts on forest products markets

According to the most recent official statistics (2022), the share of renewable energy sources in the gross final energy consumption of Cyprus was 19.4%, ranking Cyprus 16th among the 27 EU Member States. In terms of heating/ cooling, Cyprus ranked 8th with a share of 41.6%. At the same time, the integration of renewable energy sources (RES) in electricity was not what was expected, as the share of RES in electricity reached only 17%, ranking Cyprus in 23rd place in the EU. Regarding renewable energy, approximately 606 MW of photovoltaic systems, 157 MW of wind systems and 13 MW of biomass systems are in operation, i.e., a total installed capacity of 776 MW. The total installed capacity of conventional power generation units amounts to 1488 MW, i.e. 34% of the installed capacity concerns renewable energy systems.

Contrary to the general trend in the EU where emissions fell by 7.1%, Cyprus saw its economy's emissions rise in the third quarter of 2023 by 3.7% compared to the corresponding quarter of 2022, marking the second largest increase among the four EU Member States where an increase was recorded. Emissions in Cyprus are estimated to have reached 2.4 million tonnes of CO₂-eq in the third quarter of 2023 compared to 2.3 million tonnes of CO₂-eq in the corresponding quarter of 2022.

Despite wood is a renewable source of energy and wood fuel has a key environmental benefit over fossil fuels in that wood is 'carbon neutral', the potential of fuel production from forests is limited, mainly due to adverse climatic conditions. For this reason, the forests of Cyprus are managed in a sustainable way with an emphasis on the protection of biodiversity and not on the production of timber and firewood. Sustainable forest management contributes significantly to the achievement of national decarbonization targets. The forests (living biomass) in Cyprus are estimated to contain 4.5 million tons of carbon (2023). This amount has been increasing in recent decades, as the harvest rate is significantly lower than the sustainable harvest rate. Given the gross increase, the forests of Cyprus are capable of blocking approximately 72 thousand tons of carbon. This amount represents about 1,0% of the total carbon emissions in Cyprus.

2.9.2. Forests and forest-based industries in a circular economy

The low productivity of the forests of Cyprus, which is mainly due to the unfavorable soil and climatic conditions that prevail in Cyprus, makes the exploitation of forest biomass difficult and uneconomical. Agriculture and the agro-food sectors dominate the bioeconomy, while forests and forest related value chains represent more over 50% of the non-food bioeconomy. As a consequence, there is higher diversity of biomass sources with a greater relevance of agricultural residues and dedicated agricultural

crops. Nevertheless, lignocellulosic biomass and, specifically forest primary and secondary biomass (residues and side-streams), are the most significant sources of non-food biomass in Cyprus. Clearly, there is a need to better understand, monitor and communicate biomass availabilities, to facilitate business discoveries and investment decisions.

In general terms, Cyprus' bioeconomy will need to stay away from a model based in large scale bio refineries centred in bulk products and commodities. Instead it will need a greater focus on specialised, smaller scale facilities producing higher added-value bio-products. Even then, achieving the necessary economies of scale might require mixed feedstock conversion processes and, distributed pre-treatment facilities. This represents a significant technological challenge. In July, 2021 a new €90 million national action plan for the transition to a circular economy for the period 2021-2027 was approved by the Government, which aims to facilitate Cyprus' transition to a less wasteful, environmentally friendly circular economy. The plan is based on four pillars, the cultural change for circular economy, providing incentives for investments, development for circular economy infrastructures and municipal waste management.

2.10. Abiotic and biotic threats - Challenges exacerbated by climate change

Abiotic threats to forests mainly include fires, drought, storms and atmospheric pollution. The fragmentation of forests as a result of the construction of road infrastructure also poses a threat to biodiversity. Biotic factors, such as animals, including grazing, and insects and diseases, also damage forests. However, the degree of impact of abiotic and biotic factors on the forests of Cyprus is significantly affected by climate change, as climate change and forests are inextricably linked; On the one hand, climate change can stress forests affecting production and forest health, and on the other hand, forests act as carbon sink, playing a major role in mitigating climate change. Due to climate change, Cypriot forests face increased pressures associated with higher average annual temperatures, lower rainfall and unusual distribution of extreme weather events leading to desertification, higher forest fire risks, severe diseases and insect infestation, etc. To mitigate the effects of the drought on the forests, the Department of Forests has prepared a short-term plan which focuses on three measures. These relate to the prevention and suppression of forest fires, forest expansion through afforestation and reforestation of degraded and burnt forest areas, and effective control of grazing on forest land to prevent forest degradation.

3. Market Drivers

The level of investment in Cyprus forestry is very low in relation to the investments in other sectors and branches of the productive activities in Cyprus (the contribution of forestry to the Gross Domestic Production is far below 1%). This is mainly due to the low productivity of forests and the dependence of the market on the imports of finished or processed wood products. Additionally, rural depopulation alienates people from rural communities and pushes them to urban centers, where the service sector is growing. However, urbanization induces increasing demand for recreational services rather than for timber products. The offer of recreational opportunities combined with the protective

services they provide highlight the enormous social and environmental role of Cyprus' forests. An economic valuation study shows that the overall social and environmental value of forests far exceeds the commercial use-value of trees as a wood material.

Cyprus forests provide important indirect benefits and services such as protection of soil and water resources, conservation of biological diversity, support to agricultural productivity, picnicking, camping, hiking, walking, cycling, skiing, bird-watching, sightseeing, hunting, fishing, carbon sequestration and mitigation of global warming, combating desertification, medicinal and aromatic plants, mushrooms, cones, acorns, resin, etc. Furthermore, the importance of ecotourism is more and more increasing as individuals come closer to nature for outdoor experiences. Several ecotourism enterprises were founded, especially in communities around the forests. The importance of these enterprises is significant to rural people as a source of employment and income. Also, the number of visitors with special interest on the flora and fauna of the island has an increasing trend.

Building permits constitute a leading indicator of future activity in the construction sector. During the period January - December 2023, 7170 building permits were issued compared to 7604 in the corresponding period of the previous year, recording a decrease of 5.7%. The total value of these permits increased by 16.4% and the total area by 4.3%. The number of dwelling units recorded an increase of 12.2%. Figures for the first quarter of 2024 show an increase of 8.3% in the issuance of building permits, compared to the corresponding period of the previous year. Specifically, in the first quarter of 2024, 2545 licenses were issued, showing an increase from the 2351 licenses granted in the same period of the previous year. In terms of value, these licenses reflect an increase of 8.9%, while the total area covered by licenses increased by 15.7%. In addition, there was a significant rise of 24.2% in the number of residential units planned.

4. Developments in forest products markets sectors

Cyprus is a net wood importing country. The overall wood market imports account up to 98%, while exports are negligible. Consequently, Cyprus is very vulnerable to market developments elsewhere. The main commercial value species of Cyprus forests is *Pinus brutia*, which constitutes about 80% of the area of forests and 80% of the growing stock. Although *Pinus brutia* can reach large sizes and produce good quality timber, the growth rate is low, accounting only to about 1.3 m³/ha/year. In addition, some areas are critically under stocked, and regeneration is inadequate. Consequently, large areas are excluded from felling to allow for the growing stock to recover and obtain the desired stocking. The yield is mainly obtained from the productive state forests, and it is sold to sawmill owners or wood-cutter associations through open tenders.

Local production can only satisfy a small part of the local demand for wood, thus timber-based industries are supported on imported timber. The local yield ends up to some private sawmills that produce tailor made products for constructional purposes mainly for renovation of traditional buildings, light weight packaging for fruit and vegetables and pallets for the export trade. In addition, through local production, the Department of

Forests makes available to the public quantities of firewood, in order to meet the growing demand for firewood. However, large quantities of firewood are also imported, both from European and third countries.

4.1. Marketing and Consumption of Forest Products

In 2023 2387m³ roundwood over bark (R.O.B.) of timber were extracted from state forests and sold to private sawmills and other individuals for the production of pallets, light weight packaging for fruit and vegetables, and tailor-made products. 154m³ of the above timber came from burnt areas. In addition, timber from state forests, equivalent to 7588m³ R.O.B. was extracted and sold to private individuals as firewood. Also, a volume of 2949m³ R.O.B. of firewood was extracted from private forests and another 44m³ R.O.B were extracted from Hali land¹.

Local needs are met by importing timber and timber products from abroad. The most important products imported are sawn wood, wood-based panels and paper and paperboard. Compared to 2022, in 2023 imports of wood-based panels increased by 10%, while imports of sawn timber, as well as paper and paperboard, decreased by 19% and 16% respectively (Table B). Compared to imports, exports of wood and wood-based products from Cyprus are very limited, with the exception of recovered paper for recycling purposes. (All traded quantities of wood and wood-based products can be seen on the attached TF1 and TF2 tables).

Table B: Imports of wood and wood-based products (2019-2023)

Timber and timber products	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Sawn wood (thousand m ³)	48.475	35.448	37.156	43.128	34.820
Wood based panels (thousand m ³)	94.530	95.913	90.183	94.585	104.150
Paper & paperboard (thousand Mt)	50.409	46.043	44.443	56.074	46.890

4.2. Forest Industries

Due to limited raw material availability, the timber-based industries of the island are gradually shrinking and there is a tendency of wood market shifting to imported final products. Nine small capacity mills producing pallets and lightweight packaging for fruit and vegetables, and also one larger mill producing constructional timber, were operating in 2023. Pallets in Cyprus have a very high rate of reuse, repair and recycling and at the end of their useful life are used for energy production.

5. Gender and human rights issues related to the forest market sector

¹ Hali-land is scattered land throughout the island, not regularly exploited for the last 300 years. Hali-lands are areas never been claimed by anyone due to heavy property and farming taxes imposed by the Ottoman administration (Thirgood, 1987). Later on, these areas were declared as common lands and the ownership passed to the State (Ioannou, 1991). Some of these areas have been naturally forested. Periodically, parts of these areas are declared as State Forests (FAO 2010; available at: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/013/al487E/al487E.pdf>).


The Republic of Cyprus takes all necessary measures to ensure respect for human rights, gender equality, and the protection of the rights of vulnerable groups of the population as well as persons with disabilities. A number of legislative measures concerning human rights and gender equality were passed in the context of the harmonization of Cyprus with the EU acquis. Sectoral laws on gender equality in areas like employment, equal work and pay, access to goods and services, gender-based violence, and domestic violence protect human rights and gender equality. In addition, action plans on specific aspects of gender equality, ensures that gender mainstreaming is incorporated into all stages of the utilisation of the funds granted to Cyprus by the EU Structural Funds.

A decisive role in ensuring human rights and gender equality in Cyprus is played by the Commissioner for Administration and the Protection of Human Rights (Ombudsman), who is an independent Incumbent. The Ombudsman constitutes the most prevalent institution of extra judicial control of the administration and protection of human rights. The main pivots of the mission of the Commissioner for Administration and the Protection of Human Rights are to ensure legality, to promote good governance, to combat maladministration and to protect citizens' rights and human rights in general.

Based on the above, human rights and issues related to gender equality are considered by the competent services active in the forest sector. The Department of Forests, which reports to the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment, fully complies with the provisions of national legislation and the EU acquis in terms of human rights and gender equality. Furthermore, it takes all the necessary steps to ensure that people with disabilities have unhindered access to all forest recreation areas, while demonstrating particular concern and taking steps to support vulnerable groups of population.

6. TF1 and TF2 Tables

Information for forest products production and trade in 2023, 2024 and 2025 is in the attached tables below.

 UNECE TF1 TIMBER FORECAST QUESTIONNAIRE Roundwood		Country: Cyprus			Date: 18/9/2024		
		Name of Official responsible for reply: Sawas Andrea					
		Official Address (in full): CY - 1414 NCOSSIA, CYPRUS					
		Telephone: 00357 22805517			Fax: 00357 22805542		
		E-mail: planning@fd.moa.gov.cy					
Product Code	Product	Unit	Historical data		Revised 2023	Estimate 2024	Forecast 2025
			2022	2023			
1.2.1.C	SAWLOGS AND VENEER LOGS, CONIFEROUS						
	Removals	1000 m ³ ub	2	2		2	2
	Imports	1000 m ³ ub	0 #	0 #		0	0
	Exports	1000 m ³ ub	0 #	0 #		0	0
	Apparent consumption	1000 m ³ ub	2	2		2	2
1.2.1.NC	SAWLOGS AND VENEER LOGS, NON-CONIFEROUS						
	Removals	1000 m ³ ub	0	0		0	0
	Imports	1000 m ³ ub	0 #	0 #		0	0
	Exports	1000 m ³ ub	0 #	0 #		0	0
	Apparent consumption	1000 m ³ ub	0	0		0	0
1.2.1.NC.T	of which, tropical logs						
	Imports	1000 m ³ ub	0 #	0 #		0	0
	Exports	1000 m ³ ub	0 #	0 #		0	0
	Net Trade	1000 m ³ ub	0	0		0	0
1.2.2.C	PULPWOOD (ROUND AND SPLIT), CONIFEROUS						
	Removals	1000 m ³ ub	0	0		0	0
	Imports	1000 m ³ ub	0 #	0 #		0	0
	Exports	1000 m ³ ub	0 #	0 #		0	0
	Apparent consumption	1000 m ³ ub	0	0		0	0
1.2.2.NC	PULPWOOD (ROUND AND SPLIT), NON-CONIFEROUS						
	Removals	1000 m ³ ub	0	0		0	0
	Imports	1000 m ³ ub	0 #	0 #		0	0
	Exports	1000 m ³ ub	0 #	0 #		0	0
	Apparent consumption	1000 m ³ ub	0	0		0	0
3	WOOD CHIPS, PARTICLES AND RESIDUES						
	Domestic supply	1000 m ³	7 C	7 C		7	7
	Imports	1000 m ³	1 C	1 C		2	2
	Exports	1000 m ³	0 C	0 C		0	0
	Apparent consumption	1000 m ³	8	8		9	9
1.2.3.C	OTHER INDUSTRIAL ROUNDWOOD, CONIFEROUS						
	Removals	1000 m ³ ub	0	0		0	0
1.2.3.NC	OTHER INDUSTRIAL ROUNDWOOD, NON-CONIFEROUS						
	Removals	1000 m ³ ub	0	0		0	0
1.1.C	WOOD FUEL, CONIFEROUS						
	Removals	1000 m ³ ub	10	5		6	6
1.1.NC	WOOD FUEL, NON-CONIFEROUS						
	Removals	1000 m ³ ub	1	1		1	1

Please return by e-mail no later than 01 October 2024.

By e-mail to stats.timber@un.org.

Questions? Please contact Ms. Sofia Parent at the above address.

The historical data are from the most recent Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire (blank) or the Tin

These data are flagged with E, R, N or C for secretariat estimate, repeat, national estimate or calculated totals (from subitems). If there is no flag, this indicates officially supplied data.

Product Code		Product	Unit	Historical data		Revised	Estimate	Forecast
				2022	2023	2023	2024	2025
		Country: Cyprus		Date: 18/9/2024				
		Name of Official responsible for reply: Savvas Andrea						
		Official Address (in full): CY - 1414 NICOSIA, CYPRUS						
		Telephone: 00357 22805517		Fax: 00357 22805542				
		E-mail: planning@fd.moa.gov.cy						
6.C		SAWNWOOD, CONIFEROUS						
		Production	1000 m ³	1	1,110		1	1
		Imports	1000 m ³	32	25,810		26	26
		Exports	1000 m ³	0	0,000		0	0
		Apparent consumption	1000 m ³	33	26,920		27	27
6.NC		SAWNWOOD, NON-CONIFEROUS						
		Production	1000 m ³	0	0,010		0	0
		Imports	1000 m ³	11	9,010		9	9
		Exports	1000 m ³	0	0,000		0	0
		Apparent consumption	1000 m ³	11	9,020		9	9
6.NC.T		of which, tropical sawnwood						
		Production	1000 m ³	0	0,000		0	0
		Imports	1000 m ³	3	3,230		3	3
		Exports	1000 m ³	0	0,000		0	0
		Apparent consumption	1000 m ³	3	3,230		3	3
7		VENEER SHEETS						
		Production	1000 m ³	0 C	0,060 C		0	0
		Imports	1000 m ³	1 C	0,760 C		1	1
		Exports	1000 m ³	0 C	0,000 C		0	0
		Apparent consumption	1000 m ³	1	0,820		1	1
7.NC.T		of which, tropical veneer sheets						
		Production	1000 m ³	0	0,010		0	0
		Imports	1000 m ³	0	0,000		0	0
		Exports	1000 m ³	0	0,000		0	0
		Apparent consumption	1000 m ³	0	0,010		0	0
8.1		PLYWOOD						
		Production	1000 m ³	0 C	0,000 C		0	0
		Imports	1000 m ³	14 C	21,540 C		22	22
		Exports	1000 m ³	0 C	0,000 C		0	0
		Apparent consumption	1000 m ³	14	21,540		22	22
8.1.NC.T		of which, tropical plywood						
		Production	1000 m ³	0	0,000		0	0
		Imports	1000 m ³	3	4,620		5	5
		Exports	1000 m ³	0	0,000		0	0
		Apparent consumption	1000 m ³	3	4,620		5	5
8.2		PARTICLE BOARD (including OSB)						
		Production	1000 m ³	0	0,000		0	0
		Imports	1000 m ³	60	64,960		65	65
		Exports	1000 m ³	0	0,000		0	0
		Apparent consumption	1000 m ³	60	64,960		65	65
8.2.1		of which, OSB						
		Production	1000 m ³	0	0,000		0	0
		Imports	1000 m ³	11	13,710		14	14
		Exports	1000 m ³	0	0,000		0	0
		Apparent consumption	1000 m ³	11	13,710		14	14
8.3		FIBREBOARD						
		Production	1000 m ³	0 C	0,000 C		0	0
		Imports	1000 m ³	20 C	17,650 C		18	18
		Exports	1000 m ³	0 C	0,000 C		0	0
		Apparent consumption	1000 m ³	20	17,650		18	18
8.3.1		Hardboard						
		Production	1000 m ³	0	0,000		0	0
		Imports	1000 m ³	2	1,680		2	2
		Exports	1000 m ³	0	0,000		0	0
		Apparent consumption	1000 m ³	2	1,680		2	2
8.3.2		MDF/HDF (Medium density/high density)						
		Production	1000 m ³	0	0,000		0	0
		Imports	1000 m ³	16	14,450		14	14
		Exports	1000 m ³	0	0,000		0	0
		Apparent consumption	1000 m ³	16	14,450		14	14
8.3.3		Other fibreboard						
		Production	1000 m ³	0	0,000		0	0
		Imports	1000 m ³	3	1,520		2	2
		Exports	1000 m ³	0	0,000		0	0
		Apparent consumption	1000 m ³	2	1,520		2	2
9		WOOD PULP						
		Production	1000 m.t.	0 C	0,000 C		0	0
		Imports	1000 m.t.	0 C	0,150 C		0	0
		Exports	1000 m.t.	0 C	0,000 C		0	0
		Apparent consumption	1000 m.t.	0	0,150		0	0
12		PAPER & PAPERBOARD						
		Production	1000 m.t.	0 C	0,000 C		0	0
		Imports	1000 m.t.	58 C	46,890 C		47	47
		Exports	1000 m.t.	0 C	0,260 C		0	0
		Apparent consumption	1000 m.t.	58	46,630		47	47
5.1		WOOD PELLETS						
		Production	1000 m.t.	0	0,000		0	0
		Imports	1000 m.t.	8	2,790		5	5
		Exports	1000 m.t.	0	0,000		0	0
		Apparent consumption	1000 m.t.	8	2,790		5	5

Please return by e-mail no later than 01 October 2024.

By e-mail to stats.timber@un.org.

Questions? Please contact Ms. Sofiia Parent at the above address.

The historical data are from the most recent Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire (blank) or the

These data are flagged with E, R, N or C for secretariat estimate, repeat, national estimate or calculated totals (from subitems). If there is no flag, this indicates officially supplied data.