Description of best practice

Best practice	
Title	Forest road network
Picture	
Domain	Infrastructure
Source of wood	Stemwood, energy wood
Location	Finland
Implementers	Private forests, state forests
Actual status	Running
Approach	The Finnish forest road network (150 000 km) gives value not only to forestry but enhances recreational utilization of forests and serves for preventing forest fires and for rescue services. It contributes also to putting out fires if needed. Half of the private roads in Finland are forest roads. The forest road networks enable efficient wood procurement from forests. Access to forests are easier and the long-distance transportation is simple. Distances to forests are shorter and in the countryside, forest roads are used for other transportation as well and as links between villages. The recreational users (berry picking, hunting) benefit from roads also.
Main results	Access to forest assets allover Finland Enabling to recreational utilization of forests
Lessons learned	It is important to keep the road clear of bushes and prevent water from resting on the road. Heavy vehicles are not allowed to utilize the roads during frost heave. Constant maintenance of forest road network and the connected road networks and bridges would be essential, since roads have been built lightly and cost-efficiently. In the forest road maintenance, utilization of side steams from forest industry, heat plants and mines, for example, would advance actions or circular economy and contribute to preventing emissions and waste. Heavier vehicles require constant maintenance of forest roads. New method for maintenance need to be applied as well. Mild winters and rainy summers add to the need for maintenance.
Contact information	
Link to website	
Code	BP_FI_05

Best practice assessment

Region	Finland
Time scale	Long history
Mobilization Potential	High
Kind of wood concerned	Stemwood, energy wood
Sustainability Potential	Positive
Impact on environment & biodiversity	Might have effected to environment: species and water environments
Ease of implementation	Easy
Economic impact	Enabling wood procurement: easier access to forest resources.
Job effect	Positive
Income effect	Positive
Specific knowledge needed	Skills inb forest road planning and construction Planning of maintenance
Costs of implementation	High
Technical readiness level	Applicable
Key information for adoption	Participation of each relevant stakeholders.