



## Higher National Unit specification

### General information for centres

**Unit title:** Forestry in Europe

**Unit code:** F3YK 35

**Unit purpose:** This Unit is designed to develop the candidate's knowledge of forest policy and management within Europe.

The Unit is relevant to candidates requiring an understanding of European forest policy and management practices and is particularly appropriate to participants involved in international forestry exchange schemes.

On completion of the Unit the candidate should be able to:

- 1 Explain the European Union Policy on forestry.
- 2 Evaluate forest policy in a named European country.
- 3 Evaluate traditional forest management practices in a named European country.

**Credit points and level:** 1 HN credit at SCQF level 8: (8 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 8\*)

*\*SCQF credit points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification in the Framework is allocated a number of SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

**Recommended prior knowledge and skills:** Access to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre. Prior knowledge of forest policy and management would be helpful to the candidate.

**Core Skills:** There are opportunities to develop the Written Communication component of the Core Skill of *Communication* to SCQF level 5, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or the Core Skills components.

## General information for centres (cont)

**Context for delivery:** If this Unit is to be delivered as part of a Group Award, it is recommended that it should be taught and delivered within the subject area of the Group Award to which it contributes.

This Unit is included in the optional sections of the frameworks of the following Group Awards:

- ◆ HND Forestry
- ◆ HND Arboriculture and Urban Forestry

It is however a free standing Unit and may be delivered as such.

**Assessment:** This Unit may be assessed using a holistic assessment, which covers Outcomes 1, 2 and 3.

## **Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards**

**Unit title:** Forestry in Europe

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The sections of the Unit stating the Outcomes, Knowledge and/or Skills, and Evidence Requirements are mandatory.

Where evidence for Outcomes is assessed on a sample basis, the whole of the content listed in the Knowledge and/or Skills section must be taught and available for assessment. Candidates should not know in advance the items on which they will be assessed and different items should be sampled on each assessment occasion.

### **Outcome 1**

Explain the European Union policy on forestry

#### **Knowledge and/or Skills**

- ◆ The government and executive structures influencing European Union forest policy
- ◆ The aims and content of European Union forest policy
- ◆ Forest policy at European Union member-state level

#### **Evidence Requirements**

Candidate will need evidence to demonstrate their knowledge for this Outcome by showing they can:

- ◆ explain the European Union (EU) Parliamentary and executive member states' structures influencing EU forestry policy.
- ◆ explain the aims and content of EU Forest policy and outline how this is disseminated and implemented. Candidates must explain what the aims and policy are designed to achieve.
- ◆ explain the way EU forest policy relates to forest policy at an individual member state level. Candidates must include the key policy aims, including — timber production, maintenance of forest area, incentives, conservation, biodiversity, recreation.

#### **Assessment Guidelines**

Outcomes 1, 2 and 3 could be assessed holistically. See the Assessment Guidelines after Outcome 3 for recommendations.

## **Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)**

**Unit title:** Forestry in Europe

### **Outcome 2**

Evaluate forest policy in a named European country

#### **Knowledge and/or Skills**

- ◆ Key features of a named country's forest policy
- ◆ Implementation of a named country's forest policy
- ◆ Effectiveness of the forest policy of a named country

#### **Evidence Requirements**

The candidate will select a named European country, other than the candidate's home country, and will provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and skills by showing they can:

- ◆ describe the key features of the forest policy in the named country. This must include its aims and content and how information on the policy is disseminated.
- ◆ explain how the forest policy is implemented in the named country. This must include the key agencies involved in implementation and the mechanism for delivering and reporting.
- ◆ evaluate the effectiveness of the forest policy in the named country. This must include any social, economic and environmental benefits arising from the policy.

#### **Assessment Guidelines**

Outcomes 1, 2 and 3 could be assessed holistically. See the Assessment Guidelines after Outcome 3 for recommendations.

## **Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)**

**Unit title:** Forestry in Europe

### **Outcome 3**

Evaluate traditional forest management practices in a named European country

#### **Knowledge and/or Skills**

- ◆ The main tree species and forest types in a named country
- ◆ The main forest management practices in a named country
- ◆ The main silvicultural systems used in a named country
- ◆ The incentives available to support forestry in a named country

#### **Evidence Requirements**

The candidate will select a named European country, other than the candidate's home country, and will provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge for this Outcome by showing they can:

- ◆ briefly describe the main tree species and forest types in the named country. This must include those that have been planted and regenerated naturally.
- ◆ evaluate the main forest management practices and silvicultural systems used in the named country. The evaluation must include a description of the practices and systems; an explanation of the management objectives; the incentives that exist to support management objectives; and the systems of regulation.

#### **Assessment Guidelines**

This could take the form of an assignment, which combines the evidence for Outcomes 1, 2 and 3. The assignment could explore EU forest policy and then focus on the forest policy of a country, other than the candidate's home country, and how this is implemented through the forest management practice and forestry operation of that country. The evidence for the assignment could be presented in the form of an extended response of approximately 1,800 words or equivalent.

## Administrative Information

**Unit code:** F3YK 35  
**Unit title:** Forestry in Europe  
**Superclass category:** AD  
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### History of changes:

Version	Description of change	Date

**Source:** SQA

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## **Higher National Unit specification: support notes**

**Unit title:** Forestry in Europe

This part of the Unit specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocation for this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional length is 40 hours.

### **Guidance on the content and context for this Unit**

This Unit is designed as an optional Unit in the following SQA Group Awards:

- ◆ HND Forestry
- ◆ HND Arboriculture and Urban Forestry

The Unit is intended for candidates who are in employment or full time students who are taking one of the two Higher National qualifications above.

The content of this Unit should provide the candidate with the necessary knowledge and skills to have an understanding of forest policy within the EU, a more detailed understanding of the both the forest policy and its application and the forest management practices in a named EU country other than the candidate's home country.

The following support notes cover the mandatory requirements of the Unit and recommended aspects that could be covered in teaching and learning.

#### **Outcome 1**

- ◆ EU structures and organisation
- ◆ EU forestry strategy
- ◆ influence of CAP, global dimension — the UNCED World Earth Summits
- ◆ the importance of the national dimension
- ◆ the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe
- ◆ the influence of relevant European Directives
- ◆ the relevance of Woodland Assurance schemes

#### **Outcome 2**

- ◆ named country
  - responsible agencies and public bodies
  - the links to government
  - forest policy and related statements and their main features and commitments
  - mechanisms for delivery and reporting
  - relative importance of forestry within the national economy
  - the goals and benefits associated with forestry
  - engagement with other bodies and the wider public
  - nature of change within the forestry and wider land based sector

## Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

**Unit title:** Forestry in Europe

### Outcome 3

- ◆ named country
  - the main forest types and tree species
  - the regeneration methods used
  - the main silvicultural systems applied
  - the management objectives and the incentives and supports to take this forward
  - the systems of regulation

### Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

The approach to the delivery of the Unit should be determined by the background knowledge and experience of the candidate. It is likely that many candidates will be able to make use of existing experience and this will contribute as a significant information source.

One approach could be to provide initial information and guidance and support to candidates through formal time tabled classes. This could include extensive use of handout and support information, with clear guidance on additional information sources. It should then be possible for candidates to carry out the necessary directed and self-study to gather the necessary additional information and complete the assessment exercise. A presentation on the forestry of a European country by the candidates could be employed to enrich their learning experience. Use should be made of follow up tutorials to confirm candidate progress and identify any areas of additional support.

It may be possible for a candidate to have assessment on demand, although it may have to link into the normal assessment timetable and arrangements. With appropriate supervision and testimony arrangements it is also possible for candidates to undertake the assessments at sites remote from the learning centre.

The assessment evidence should provide:

A full explanation of EU Forest Policy; the structures influencing EU Forest Policy; and the link to the Forest Policy of an individual member state. Candidates could make use of the forest policy of their home country where this appropriate and the information is available. This evidence relates to Outcome 1.

An evaluation of forest policy in a European country other than the candidate's own country, this should include a clear identification of the key features of the forest policy and the means of implementation. This evidence relates to Outcome 2.

An evaluation of forest management practices in a European country other than the candidate's own country; this should include information on the main species and forest types, plus the silvicultural systems used. This evidence relates to Outcome 3.



## **Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)**

**Unit title:** Forestry in Europe

### ***Opportunities for developing Core Skills***

There are opportunities to develop the Written Communication component of the Core Skill of *Communication* to SCQF level 5 in this Unit. These opportunities will arise if candidates undertake reading to produce information for their assessment and if they produce their assessment in written form.

### **Open learning**

All Outcomes are appropriate for open and distance learning approaches, and it would be good practice to provide candidate packs and tutor input and support at all stages. Centre devised supervision agreements should detail any conditions to ensure authenticity of evidence.

### **Candidates with disabilities and/or additional support needs**

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering alternative Outcomes for Units. Further advice can be found in the SQA document *Guidance on Assessment Arrangements for Candidates with Disabilities and/or Additional Support Needs* ([www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk)).

## General information for candidates

### Unit title: Forestry in Europe

This Unit is designed to enable you to develop an understanding of forestry in Europe, the international context and the main policy drivers. You will be able to develop your knowledge of forest policy in your own country and relate this to the policy and forest management practice of a country other than your home country. It is intended to allow a fuller understanding of forest policy across Europe, based on the wider European context and the link to the candidate's own and another named country.

This Unit has three Outcomes.

Outcome 1 covers European forestry policy and strategic context and relates this to forest policy at an individual state level.

Outcome 2 covers the forest policy position of a named country. This will include the main and within the forest policy of the named country and how this policy is expressed and implemented.

Outcome 3 covers forest management practices applied in a named country. This will include a basic understanding of silviculture and silvicultural systems within the named country, incentives and systems of regulation.

Overall, the knowledge and skills acquired in this Unit will help you understand forest policy in a European context.

Depending on the activities, you undertake in teaching and learning, this Unit provides opportunities to develop the Written Communication component of the Core Skill of *Communication* to SCQF level 5.

The assessment for this Unit may be on an assignment that covers all Outcomes for the Unit. The assignment will explore the forest policy of a country other than Great Britain and how this is implemented through the forest management practice and forestry operation of that country.