

LULUCF Comprehensive Review 2025

Overview and outcomes

Bernd Gugele, 6 November 2025



Overview

LULUCF Review 2025

- Purpose: review of LULUCF emissions and removals for the time series 2021-2023 and 2016-2018:
 - average 2021-2023 will be starting point and the average of 2016-2018 plus the value from annex IIa will be the end point of the linear trajectory to determine the LULUCF budget for the period 2026-2029 (Article 4(4) of the LULUCF Regulation)
- Team of 18 reviewers: 4 lead reviewers (LULUCF experts) and 14 LULUCF experts
- Reviewed countries: EU MS plus IS, NO

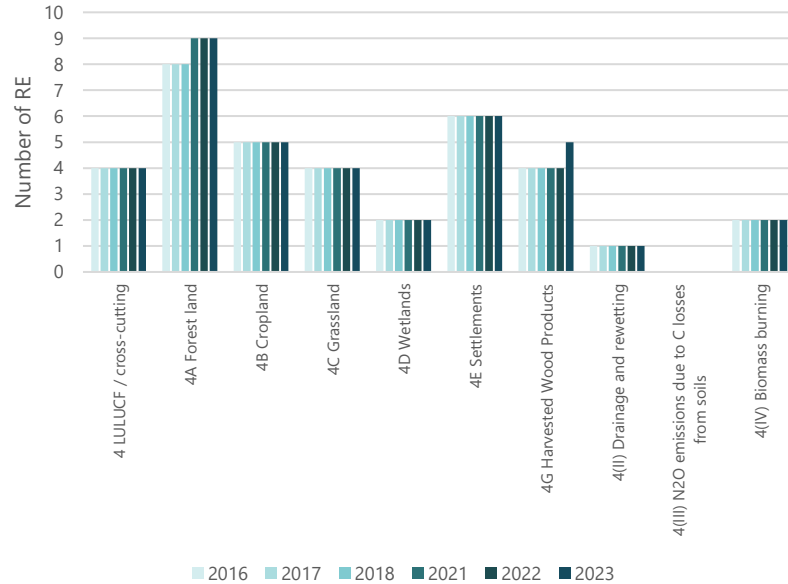
The LULUCF review was conducted with the same timeline as ESR review

Issues raised / final outcome in review reports

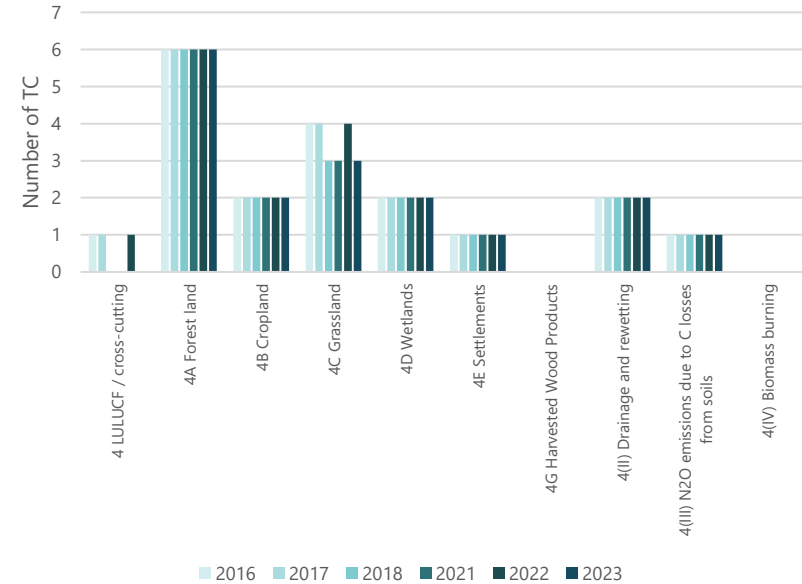
	2016	2017	2018	2021	2022	2023	Total
Issues raised during the initial check							239
Issues raised during the comprehensive review							455
Recommendations							281
Revised estimates	36	36	36	37	37	38	
Technical corrections	19	19	17	17	19	17	

Revised estimates / Technical corrections per LULUCF category

Revised estimates per LULUCF category



Technical corrections per LULUCF category



Change in emissions/removals (2016-2018 / 2021-2023)

EU-27, IS, NO



- **Changes in 2016-2018 for LULUCF are about half of the magnitude of 2021-2023**
- **MS changes vary significantly:**

2023	LULUCF	
	Min	Max
Absolute	-12.9 Mt	+1.7 Mt
Percentage change (to LULUCF Total)	-50.0 %	+30.0 %

MS feedback: LULUCF review

- 9 Member States provided feedback
- Overall feedback very positive

Question	Mostly positive	Mostly negative
Did you feel well informed?	8	1
Satisfaction with (technical) support by EEA	5	1
Usefulness of guidance documents	4	0
Were questions relevant	10	0
Satisfaction with EMRT	10	1
Findings clear and understandable	9	0
Findings helpful for improvements	7	2
Technical corrections transparent	4	0
Treatment of insignificant issues	6	1
Usefulness of online meetings	5	0
Efficiency of communication with EEA	7	0
Opportunities to comment	8	1
Ratio positive / negative	93 / 7	

- Some individual MS feedback

Responses from individual MS

- **Review scope/procedure:**

- The scope (depth of questions) was only clear at a later stage; it would have been useful to receive some more information earlier
- Procedure of review is not clear -> use UNFCCC review handbook

- **Review timing:**

- MS received a very high number of questions. Due to dense schedule: set a limit to the number of questions / prioritize
- Questions on inventory models should be asked at beginning of review since sharing modeling assumptions / hypothesis can be very time-consuming.
- We regret the inventory reviewing process is not organized in a yearly improvement logic. MS was asked to make significant methodological changes to its inventory as part of the review, in a very short timeframe. Such methodological developments cannot take place in such constraining circumstances.
- Very short time to submit revised data, which caused some errors in our submission

- **Country visit / online meeting with countries:**

- Sub-optimal timing of the country visit
- Country visit was not necessary; could have been organized online

- **Final review report:**

- Last version of review reports was not sent to country.
- All final review reports should be uploaded to the EMRT.
- It is not clear whether MS can get access to the review reports of all other MS or not.

Capacity building 2025: 3 tracks

	Schedule	Type of activity
Mail sent to all MS : EEA on 12/9	EEA sent on 11/9; 6 MS confirmed	Bilateral exchange
Additional mail sent to MS for which TERT considers follow-up useful	UBA sent on 16-17/9; 5 MS confirmed	Bilateral exchange
Online webinar (open to all MS)	Lessons learned (6 November)	Webinar open to all MS

Contact & Information

Bernd Guele

Project coordinator

++43-664-8583924

Bernd.guele@umweltbundesamt.at



 www.umweltbundesamt.at

 bsky.app/profile/umweltbundesamt-at.bsky.social

 www.linkedin.com/company/umweltbundesamt

6 November 2025