

STATUS OF TRANSFORMATION IN THE FOREST SECTOR 2011/12

A Document Prepared for:

Forest Sector Charter Council

May 2012

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The Forest Sector Charter Council is tasked, inter alia, with the evaluating and monitoring of transformation in the forest sector. The forest sector comprises the following sub-sectors:

- Forestry (plantations)
- Contracting
- Pulp and paper
- Sawmilling
- Mining timber
- Board production
- Chipping plants
- Poles
- Charcoal production.

A first (benchmark) report on the transformation status of the sector was produced in July 2010. Subsequently, LHA Management Consultants (LHA) was again approached in early 2012 to produce an updated report, with results for the financial year 2012. This report assesses the results for FY2012, with comparisons to the first benchmark study and FY2011 results.

1.2 Research Methodology

During the first research study, a comprehensive database of forest sector enterprises was compiled, and this database was updated particularly in respect of relevant contact people and contact details for each of the enterprises. Enterprises were subsequently requested to submit to LHA valid B-BBEE certificates for the period covering April 2011 to March 2012. The results provided in this report are based on the scores per element as recorded on the certificates, with no further details on changes (either positive or negative) within specific elements.

Although some gaps still exist regarding sub-sector coverage, e.g. limited information could be obtained on charcoal producers and wood chip exporters, we believe that the information is sufficiently representative to provide a good picture of the status of transformation in the forest sector over this period. Also, it should be noted that some enterprises, e.g. the large pulp and paper companies and sawmilling groups supplied one scorecard covering all their operations. In the case of Sappi and Mondi, for instance, it covers plantation forestry and pulp and paper production, and in the case of large sawmilling groups, e.g. York Timbers and Singisi. Forest Products, both sawmilling and plantation activities. In our assessment we have allocated the scorecard rating to both the two major activities, e.g. in the case of Sappi and Mondi, to plantation forestry and pulp production, as they are major players in both sub-sectors.



1.3 Reporting

Chapter 2 presents an overview of the forest sector in terms of the relative sizes of the various sub-sectors and the composition of each sub-sector in terms of small, medium and large enterprises. In addition, information on the coverage in terms of scorecards received for each sub-sector is indicated. It is thus possible to obtain a weighted average for the total sector but also some detail for the sub-sectors and specific categories within each sub-sector.

In Chapter 3 the transformation status of each of the sub-sectors is described, together with an analysis of the composition of the scorecard in terms of the various elements. Chapter 4 provides a summary of the current status of transformation in the forest sector.

2. FOREST SECTOR STRUCTURE

2.1 Sector Weightings

Based on production output, the contribution of large enterprises, qualifying small enterprises (QSEs) and exempted micro-enterprises (EMEs) across each sector is shown in the table below, as well as the contribution of each sub-sector within the total forestry sector. These weightings are used to present an overview of transformation in the sector as a whole.

Soctor	% V	Vithin Sector ((➔)	% of Total
Sector	Large	QSE	EME	Forest Sector (♥)
Forestry	70%	12%	18%	18%
Board Production	100%	-	-	7%
Chipping Plants	100%	-	-	5%
Contractors	49%	35%	16%	8%
Mining Timber	90%	10%	-	2%
Pole Treaters	25%	50%	25%	2%
Pulp and Paper	100%	-	-	40%
Sawmilling	65%	16%	19%	15%
Charcoal	60%	-	40%	3%
TOTAL	-		-	100%

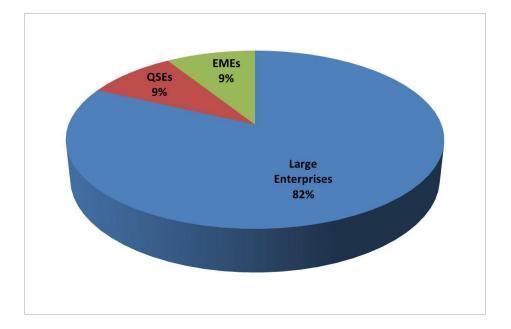


The enterprises that make up the bulk of production output in each sub-sector are shown below.

Sector	Structure
Forestry	 Nine large groups Mondi Forests South African Forestry Company Yorkor MTO Forestry Masonite (Africa) Sappi Southern Africa Komatiland Forests Hans Merensky Holdings Amathole Forestry Company Balance medium/small timber farmers
Board Production	Three large groups PG Bison Masonite (Africa) Sonae Novobord
Chipping Plants	Three large groups • NCT (Shincell) • Mondi (Silvacell) • TWK (CTC)
Contractors	Estimated 300 forestry contractors 150 Medium and some large enterprises 150 EMEs
Mining Timber	Two large groups Reatile Timrite Bedrock Mining Systems
Pole Treaters	 Small number of larger companies Woodline Timber Industries Harding Treated Timbers Natal Forest Products Balance very fragmented industry
Pulp and Paper	Two large groups - Sappi and Mondi
Sawmilling	Total of 250 operating sawmills Large sawmilling groups • York Timbers • Hans Merensky Holdings • Cape Timber Resources • Komatiland Forests • Rance Timbers • Sappi Balance medium sized and small sawmills
Charcoal	 Three larger producers E&C Charcoal Charka Braai & Barbeque International Balance very fragmented industry

In summary, the contribution (in terms of output) of large enterprises, QSEs and EMEs in the whole forestry sector is shown below.

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Large enterprises in the forestry sector are represented principally by pulp & paper (40%), large forestry (13%), large sawmills (10%) and board producers (7%).

QSEs are mostly represented by timber farmers, forestry contractors, sawmills and pole treaters.

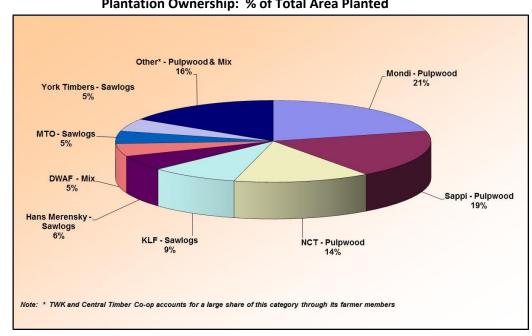
EMEs comprise small timber farmers, contractors, charcoal producers, pole treaters and sawmills.

One of the key characteristics of the forest sector is the extent of vertical integration. About 90% of plantation output is consumed by primary processors belonging to the same companies or groups. For instance, a group like Sappi includes in their operations plantation forestry, pulp production as well as sawmilling. B-BBEE scorecards generally cover the total operation and are not split between various sub-sectors, e.g. sawmilling, plantation forestry or pulp and paper production.

2.2 Plantation Forestry

The South African plantation area is close on 1.4 million hectares. The large pulp companies and chip exporters have control over about 60% of planted hectares in South Africa. A breakdown is presented in the figure below.





Plantation Ownership: % of Total Area Planted

Verified scorecard data has been obtained from the following enterprises:

- Mondi •
- Sappi •
- **Komatiland Forests** .
- Hans Merensky •
- MTO •
- **York Timbers** •
- Masonite •
- Amathole Forestry Company •
- South African Forestry Company (Safcol).

These companies together manage 65% of all plantations in South Africa. In addition, an estimated 20% of plantations are owned and managed by small independent farmers. Their output is marketed and distributed through various timber co-operatives. The bulk of these farmers produce timber valued at less than R5 million per year and would therefore fall into the category of exempted micro-enterprises.



2.3 Contracting

There are an estimated 300 forestry contractors active in the forest sector. Main activities include silviculture, harvesting and transport. Silviculture activities account for 30% of total turnover with the balance of 70% equally split between harvesting and transport operators.

The sub-sector employs 25 000 people. A large number of operations are controlled and owned by black people. It is further estimated that 40% of enterprises have an annual turnover of less than R5 million thus qualifying as exempted micro-enterprises (Level 3 and 4 contributors). A total of 7 scorecards in this sub-sector were received.

2.4 Pulp Mills

South African pulp mills consume an estimated 9.5 million m³ of roundwood to produce pulp for paper and board manufacture and dissolving pulp. In addition to the roundwood intake an estimated 400 000 tons of chips is used annually.

The pulping mills using virgin wood fibre include:

- Sappi
 - Enstra
 - Ngodwana
 - Mandini
 - Saiccor
- Mondi
 - Richards Bay
 - Merebank
 - Piet Retief

The pulp and paper industry is a significant exporter. On a value basis exports account for about 35% of production. Scorecard information has been received from both Sappi and Mondi, resulting in full coverage of this sub-sector.

2.5 Sawmilling

South Africa has an estimated 250 operating sawmills. Seven large companies, which between them operate 19 sawmills, account for 65% of total log intake and production of sawn timber. A further 25 independently owned medium sized mills account for 16% of production and the balance by about 200 small and bush mills. Of the latter category it is estimated that about 80 mills are formal mills and the rest are bush mills/mobile mills.



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Most of the large sawmilling groups provided scorecards. Few responses have been received from medium sized sawmills. Most of the 125 bush mills and some of the smaller formal mills have an annual turnover of less than R5 million and would all be classified as exempted micro-enterprises. We estimate that at least 70% of small mills will fall into this category.

2.6 Chipping Plants

Chipping plants, located in Richards Bay and Durban, export Gum and black wattle wood chips to Japanese pulp and paper mills. The operators in this market and their estimated market shares are indicated below.

Parent Company	Plant	Market Share (%)	Location
NCT	Bay FibreShincellNCT Durban Wood Chips	40	Richards Bay Richards Bay Durban
тwк	СТС	23	Richards Bay
Mondi	Silvacell	37	Richards Bay
TOTAL	-	100	-

The industry reached its peak roundwood intake in the middle 2000s and operated very close to full capacity at an annual intake level in excess of 6.2 million m³. This intake has subsequently dropped below 4 million m³ mainly as a result of non-availability of timber in the local market and declining market demand by overseas pulp mills. Investigations are constantly underway to convert some of the chip exports to local pulp production. Scorecard information has been received only from Mondi, resulting in a reduced coverage of the sub-sector, relative to the previous year. TWK does not regard itself as part of the forestry sector, but rather the agriculture sector.

2.7 Board Products

The producers of wood based board products are PG Bison, producing MDF and chip board, Sonae Novobord (MDF and chip board) and Masonite (fibre board). The estimated market shares of producers are:

•	TOTAL	100%
•	Other	4%
•	Masonite	14%
•	PG Bison	50%
•	Sonae Novobord	32%

PG Bison, Masonite and Sonae Novobord submitted scorecards resulting in a coverage of 96% of this sub-sector.



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2.8 Poles

This sub-sector consumes an estimated 680 000 m³ of roundwood per annum, split about 50:50 between Gum and Pine. Of the total intake about 65% is treated whilst the balance is used mainly by the informal sector in untreated form for building and fencing purposes. Treated poles are produced according to SABS specifications as electricity transmission poles, telephone poles and building and fencing poles. About 65% of poles find application in the building sector.

We estimate that there are approximately 120 pole manufacturing establishments in South Africa. Of this about 80% are small (informal) enterprises, probably with an annual turnover of less than R5 million and accounting for about 25% of production. These are all exempted micro-enterprises. The 40 medium to larger enterprises/groups account for the balance (75%) of output. Larger enterprises/groups include:

- Woodline Timber Industries (part of PG Bison)
- Treated Timber Products
- Tzaneng Treated Timbers
- G-Worx Forest Products
- Vhuka Commondale Treated Timbers
- Harding Treated Timbers
- Vuka Khulani Timber Industries
- Lows Creek Treated Timbers
- Natal Forest Products
- Shefeera Timbers
- Flaxton Timbers.

Scorecard information has been received from a limited number of enterprises, accounting for an estimated 20% of pole manufacturing activity.

2.9 Mining Timber

The sub-sector is dominated by two main players accounting for more than 90% of mining timber output. These are:

- **Reatile Timrite:** They have six mills in the northern Mpumalanga and Tzaneen area, and account for an estimated 40% of mining timber production.
- **Bedrock MS:** Bedrock Mining Systems was recently formed through a merger of Shanyala and SMT (Sappi Mining Timbers). The Shanyala Group operates mostly in the Piet Retief/Paul Pietersburg area and has five mining timber mills. SMT is active mainly in the Nelspruit, Barberton and Graskop area where it operates three mining timber mills. The group's market share is estimated at 50%.



The balance (10%) is produced by small independent mills and TWK which owns sawmills near Piet Retief and in Swaziland. Scorecard information has been obtained from both major enterprises in the sub-sector, resulting in 90% coverage.

2.10 Charcoal

About 50% of charcoal is consumed by ferrous industries where natural charcoal is used as a reducing agent. Major companies include Silicon Smelters, Rand Carbide and Siltech. They obtain charcoal from a vast network of small independent producers (about 50% of intake) and the balance from formal charcoal producers.

The household market accounts for 50% of total demand and is mainly supplied by formal charcoal producers. The major producers include:

- Charka Suiderland Piet Retief
- Braai and Barbeque International Gauteng
- E&C Charcoal Pietermaritzburg
- Freidheim Timbers KZN

The vast majority of small informal producers would have an m annual turnover of less than R5 million and will thus be classified as exempted micro-enterprises. No scorecard information could be obtained from the formal charcoal producers.



3. STATUS OF TRANSFORMATION IN THE FOREST SECTOR (FY 2012)

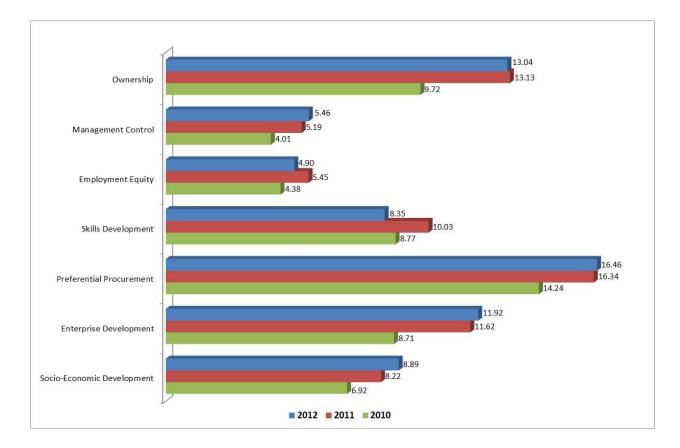
In the following sections the scorecard information obtained is presented to reflect the current FY 2012 status of transformation in the various sub-sectors.

3.1 Large Forestry Companies

In 2012, total coverage of the large forestry sub-sector was achieved with all enterprises submitting data. This sub-sector shows improvement in management control, preferential procurement, enterprise development and socio-economic development over the analysis period. A decline has been recorded in skills development and employment equity.

The sub-sector has achieved a total B-BBEE score in financial year 2012 of 69, very similar to the year before. This has resulted in maintaining Level 4. Details are shown in the table and graph below.

Year	Total B-BBEE Score	B-BBEE Level
2012	69.02	4
2011	69.96	4
2010	56.75	5



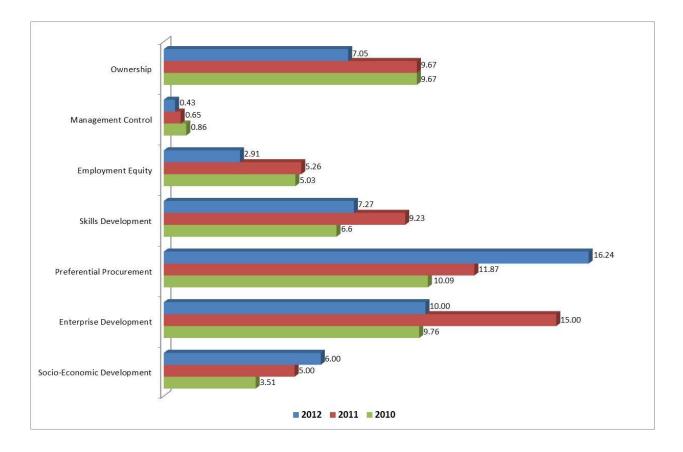


3.2 Board Producers

Data for 2012 reflects total coverage of the board products sector with data for one further large enterprise included. Comparisons with previous years are therefore not directly possible due to an expansion of the sample constituents.

The sub-sector has achieved a total B-BBEE score in financial year 2012 of 50, down from 57 in the year before (note point above). This has resulted in a decline to Level 6 for the sub-sector. Details are shown in the table and graph below.

Year	Total B-BBEE Score	B-BBEE Level
2012	49.89	6
2011	56.67	5
2010	45.52	6



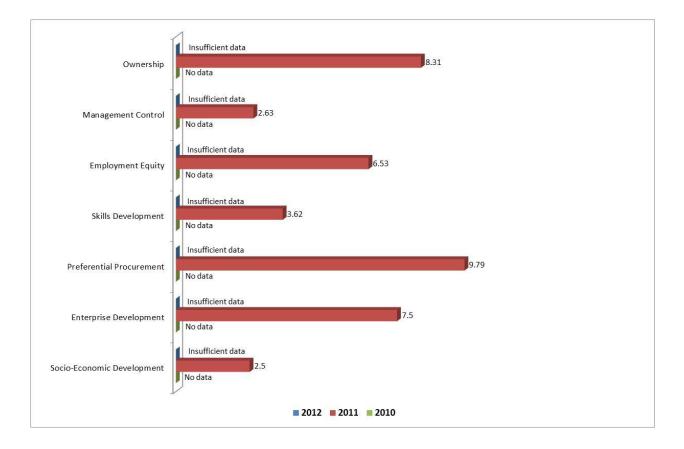
Noting sample differences, the sector has shown considerable improvement in preferential procurement and socio-economic development. In all other areas declines are evident.



3.3 Chipping Plants

Data for 2012 reflects limited coverage of the sub-sector, with results only available from one enterprise. No data from the first benchmark study is available, but in 2011 the sub-sector achieved an overall B-BBEE score of 41 equating to Level 7.

Year	Total B-BBEE Score	B-BBEE Level
2012	-	-
2011	40.88	7
2010	-	-





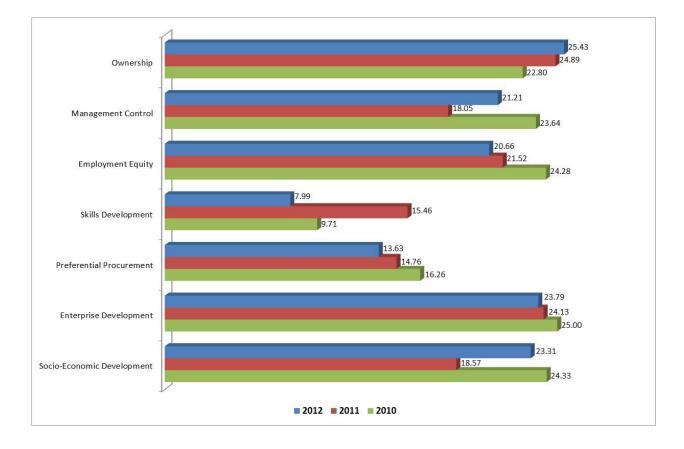
3.4 Contractors (QSE)

The sub-sector has achieved a total B-BBEE score in financial year 2012 of 79, slightly up from 77 in the year before. This has resulted in maintaining a Level 3 contributor level. Details are shown in the table and graph below.

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As a result of the large number of enterprises in this sub-sector, comparison on a constant sample basis remains problematic. The data, however, remains remarkably consistent despite variations in the sample constituents. It should be noted that the total score for QSEs is not equal to the sum of all element scores as only four element scores count.

Year	Total B-BBEE Score	B-BBEE Level
2012	79.37	3
2011	76.89	3
2010	82.41	3



Of concern is the considerable decline in respect of skills development and preferential procurement, as well as employment equity.

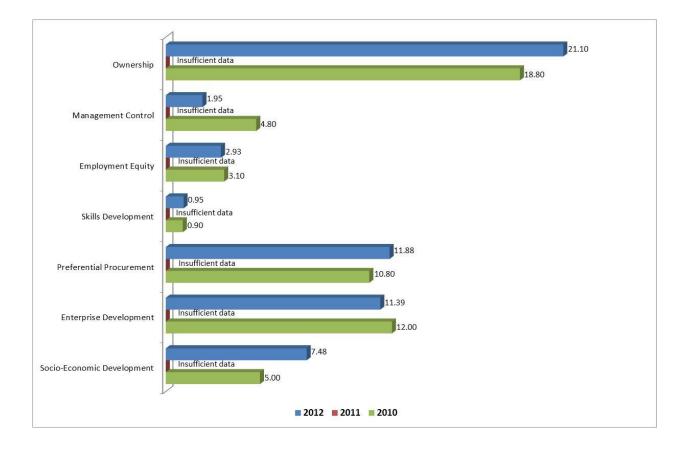


3.5 Mining Timber Companies

Data for 2012 reflects total coverage of the mining timber sector with data for both large enterprises included. Comparisons with previous years are therefore not directly possible due to an expansion of the sample constituents.

The sub-sector has achieved a total B-BBEE score in financial year 2012 of 58 (note point above). This has resulted in maintaining Level 5 for the sub-sector. Details are shown in the table and graph below.

Year	Total B-BBEE Score	B-BBEE Level
2012	57.67	5
2011	-	-
2010	55.40	5



In 2012, the sub-sector does particularly well in respect of the ownership element as well as preferential procurement and enterprise development. Management control and employment equity requires further attention.



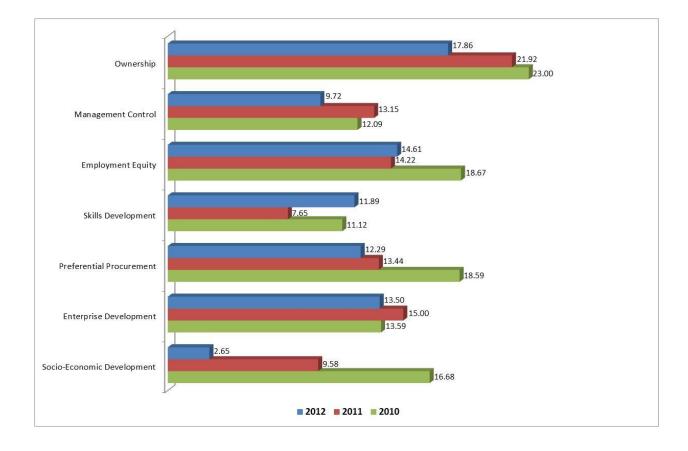
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3.6 Pole Treaters

The sub-sector has achieved a total B-BBEE score in financial year 2012 of 73, slightly down from 77 in the year before. This has resulted in a decline to Level 4 from Level 3. Details are shown in the table and graph below.

As a result of the large number of enterprises in this sub-sector, comparison on a constant sample basis remains problematic. The data, however, remains remarkably consistent despite variations in the sample constituents. It should be noted that the total score for pole treating enterprises is not equal to the sum of all element scores as only four element scores count in the case of QSEs.

Year	Total B-BBEE Score	B-BBEE Level
2012	73.03	4
2011	76.91	3
2010	73.42	4



As noted above, with variations in the sample, variations in the scores on each of the elements are also evident.

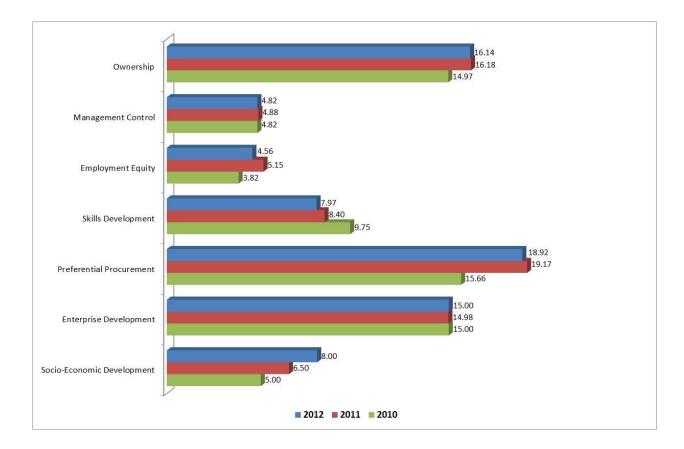


3.7 Pulp and Paper Companies

In 2012, total coverage of the pulp and paper sub-sector was achieved with all enterprises submitting data. This sub-sector shows good performance in most scores, with the exception of skills development. Improvement has been achieved in socio-economic development.

The sub-sector has achieved a total B-BBEE score in financial year 2012 of 75, similar to the year before. This has resulted in maintaining Level 3. Details are shown in the table and graph below.

Year	Total B-BBEE Score	B-BBEE Level
2012	75.39	3
2011	75.24	3
2010	69.02	4



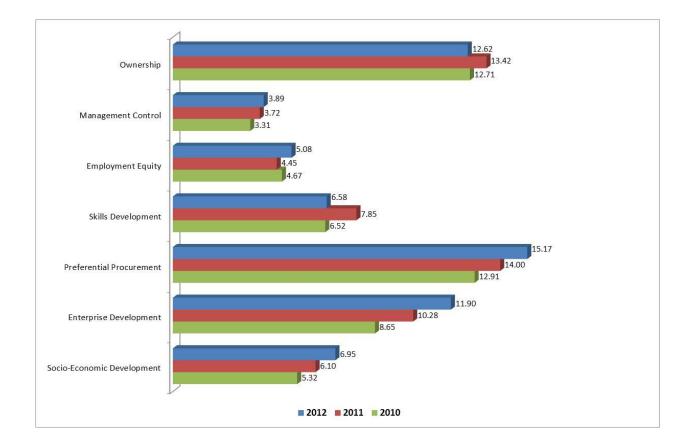


3.8 Large Sawmills

Data for 2012 reflects a good coverage (70%) of the sawmilling sub-sector. The data shows a comparison on a like-for-like basis, i.e. a constant sample.

The sub-sector has achieved a total B-BBEE score in financial year 2012 of 62, up from 60 in the year before. This has resulted in maintaining Level 5. Details are shown in the table and graph below.

Year	Total B-BBEE Score	B-BBEE Level
2012	62.18	5
2011	59.82	5
2010	54.09	6



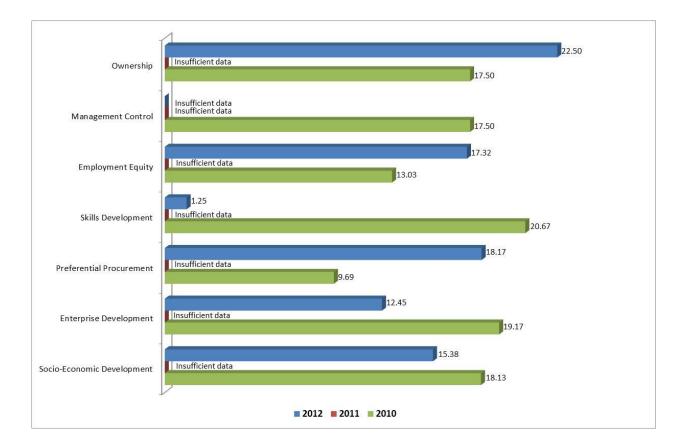
The sector has shown good improvement in preferential procurement, enterprise development and socio-economic development. Slight decreases in scores are evident in ownership and skills development.



3.9 Sawmills (QSE)

This sector is characterised by a very fragmented structure and year-on-year comparisons are problematic due to large variations in the sample. However, the score of 67 in 2012 shows an improvement over 2010, and Level 4 performance.

Year	Total B-BBEE Score	B-BBEE Level
2012	67.43	4
2011	-	-
2010	61.64	5





3.10 Scores by Element

In this section, progress towards the target score on each element is measured. As an example where the target score for a particular element is 15, and the actual scorecard result is 12, progress towards the target score is given as 80%. The analysis indicates to what extend there is still room for transformation in respect of all seven measurement elements.

3.10.1 Ownership

With regard to ownership, all large enterprises in the forestry sector have maintained progress towards the target score, with the exception of board producers (note again the sample variation in this sub-sector).

	Sub-Sector	Year	% of Target Score
		2012	65%
	Large Forestry	2011	66%
	Board Producers	2012	35%
	Board Producers	2011	48%
Ourorshin	Mining Timber	2012	>100%
Ownership		2011	-
	Pulp and Paper	2012	81%
		2011	81%
		2012	63%
	Large Sawmills		67%



3.10.2 Management Control

With regard to management control, all large enterprises in the forestry sector have shown similar performance on this element to the year before.

	Sub-Sector	Year	% of Target Score
		2012	55%
	Large Forestry	2011	52%
	Board Producers	2012	4%
	Board Producers	2011	6%
Management	Mining Timber	2012	19%
Control		2011	-
	Pulp and Paper	2012	48%
		2011	49%
	Large Sawmills	2012	39%
		2011	37%

3.10.3 Employment Equity

Overall, large enterprises in the forestry sector are on average at 27% in terms of progress towards the target score on employment equity, which is lower than the 2011 average of 34% (this is largely a result of the inclusion of the board products sub-sector score).

	Sub-Sector	Year	% of Target Score
		2012	33%
	Large Forestry	2011	36%
	Poard Producorc	2012	19%
	Board Producers	2011	35%
Employment	Mining Timber	2012	20%
Equity		2011	-
	Pulp and Paper	2012	30%
		2011	34%
		2012	34%
	Large Sawmills		30%



3.10.4 Skills Development

Overall, large enterprises in the forestry sector are on average at 41% in terms of progress towards the target score on skills development.

	Sub-Sector	Year	% of Target Score
		2012	56%
	Large Forestry	2011	67%
	Poord Producors	2012	48%
	Board Producers	2011	62%
Skills	Mining Timber	2012	6%
Development		2011	-
	Pulp and Paper	2012	53%
		2011	56%
	Large Sawmills	2012	44%
		2011	52%

3.10.5 Preferential Procurement

With regard to preferential procurement, most enterprises in the forestry sector have shown progress. Overall, large enterprises in the forestry sector are on average at 79% in terms of progress towards the target score on preferential procurement.

	Sub-Sector	Year	% of Target Score
		2012	82%
	Large Forestry	2011	82%
	Deard Draducare	2012	81%
	Board Producers	2011	59%
Preferential	Mining Timber	2012	59%
Procurement		2011	-
	Pulp and Paper	2012	95%
		2011	96%
	Large Sawmills	2012	76%
		2011	70%



3.10.6 Enterprise Development

Large forestry and pulp and paper enterprises have maintained progress regarding enterprise development, except board producers (note previous points). Overall, large enterprises in the forestry sector are on average at 80% in terms of progress towards the target score.

	Sub-Sector	Year	% of Target Score
		2012	79%
	Large Forestry	2011	77%
		2012	67%
	Board Producers	2011	100%
Enterprise	Mining Timber	2012	76%
Development		2011	-
_	Pulp and Paper	2012	100%
		2011	100%
	Large Sawmills	2012	79%
		2011	69%

3.10.7 Socio-Economic Development

Overall, all large enterprises in this sector have either achieved or exceeded the target score with regard to socio-economic development. This would imply expenditure on socio-economic development plans in excess of the minimum percentage required relative to after-tax profit.

	Sub-Sector	Year	% of Target Score
		2012	>100%
	Large Forestry	2011	>100%
	Poord Producers	2012	>100%
	Board Producers	2011	100%
Socio-Economic	Mining Timber	2012	>100%
Development		2011	-
	Pulp and Paper	2012	>100%
		2011	>100%
		2012	>100%
	Large Sawmills	2011	>100%



4. SUMMARY OF STATUS OF TRANSFORMATION

The scorecard results (overall scores and contribution level) for all of the sub-sectors covered in this research are summarised in the table below for the three financial years. In total, the sector as a whole is at Level 4 in 2012, similar to the previous year. The result has been calculated using the sub-sector weightings as described in Section 2.1 of this report. For EMEs, Level 4 has been assumed to calculate the overall result.

	20	12	2	011	20)10
Sector	B-BBEE Score	B-BBEE Level	B-BBEE Score	B-BBEE Level	B-BBEE Score	B-BBEE Level
Large Forestry	69.02	4	69.96	4	56.75	5
Board Producers	49.89	5	56.67	5	45.52	6
Chipping Plants	-	-	40.88	7	-	-
Contractors (QSE)	79.37	3	76.89	3	82.41	3
Mining Timber	57.67	5	-	-	55.40	5
Pole Treaters	73.03	4	76.91	3	73.42	4
Pulp and Paper	75.39	3	75.24	3	69.02	4
Large Sawmills	62.18	5	59.82	5	54.09	6
Sawmills (QSE)	67.43	4	-	-	61.64	5
TOTAL SECTOR		4		4		5

Other data that is presented on B-BBEE scorecards relates to ownership, and data for black ownership and black female ownership for each of the sub-sectors is presented in the table below. No supplementary information with regard to changes in the results over the analysis period is available and this would need deeper interrogation at enterprise level.

Sector	Black Ow	Black Ownership		e Ownership
Sector	2012 2011		2012	2011
Forestry	21.7%	23.6%	3.9%	4.0%
Board Producers	11.7%	14.2%	2.3%	2.8%
Mining Timber	41.9%	-	12.4%	-
Pulp and Paper	20.6%	20.3%	3.8%	1.8%
Large Sawmills	19.8%	20.4%	4.4%	5.2%

