

the improved understanding of the relations between environmental and human system can be supported in an indicator-based assessment approach. Social and economic developments are identified as Driving Forces (D), which exert Pressures (P) on the environment. As a consequence, the State (S) of the environment changes, such as the conditions for health, availability and quality of resources or maintenance of biodiversity. Finally, these changes lead to Impacts (I) on human health, ecosystems and materials that may elicit a societal Response (R) that feeds back on the Driving Forces, or on the state or impacts directly, through adaptation or curative action ([6], [5]). REFORMAN followed this scheme for the analysis of regional basic parameters.

2 Experimental Techniques and Methods

REFORMAN addressed planning and management support needs of regional forest managers in Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Czech Republic, Croatia, Germany, Slovenia and Serbia. Figure 1 shows the respective target area of REFORMAN, which was structured in three sub-areas according to their natural and socio-economic frame conditions and as background for the analysis of needs and preferences in supporting forest management.

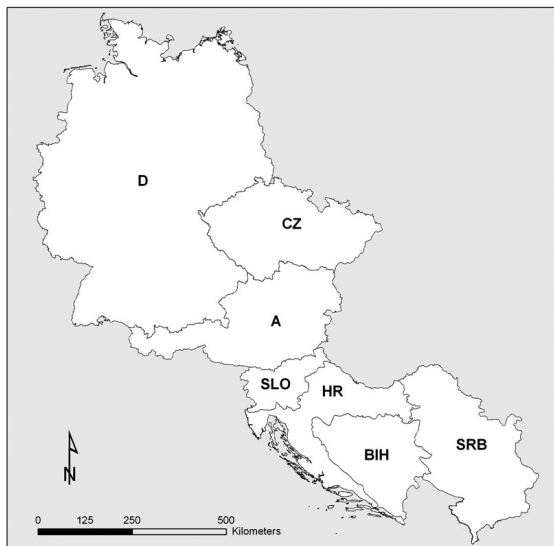


Figure 1: Target area of REFORMAN: Central European countries (Germany, Czech Republic), Alpine countries (Austria, Slovenia) and Submediterranean countries (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia).

The natural frame condition analysis was done on the basis of existing and freely available digital information on national and EU level (digital maps) and available reports on national / EU level. The analysis of the socio-economic frame conditions was based on similarly structured national contributions from the partner countries Germany for the region Central Europe, Austria and Slovenia for the Alpine region and Croatia and Serbia for the Submediterranean part of the REFORMAN countries. Possible conflict areas with and areas of interest for supporting forest management were analysed in a discursive