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Joint Committee/Commission matters

Food and Agriculture Organization

European Forestry Commission

Thirty-sixth session

Antalya, 10-14 October 2011

Review of activities and the programme of work for 2011

Note by the secretariat

Summary

This document briefly lists the activities undertaken in 2010-2011 to implement the programme of work. Outputs are presented by programme element of the Strategic Plan 2008-2013 and according to the ECE programme planning classification. This document also provides an indicative list of outputs for 2011-2012 for review and approval by the Timber Committee and the European Forestry Commission.

I. Activities for 2010-2011

A. Forest resources

1. Publications and Research:
 - Main report on the State of Europe's Forests 2011 (SoEF 2011), jointly with Forest Europe and FAO
 - Key Messages for the State of Europe's Forests 2011 (SoEF 2011) report
 - Refined version of the European Forest Types classification
 - Publication on Private Forest Ownership
 - Chapter on pilot implementation of European Forest Types for SoEF 2011.
2. Data collection and management:
 - Contribution to FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment 2010
 - SoEF 2011 output and analysis tables with quantitative data, with FAO
 - Collection and validation of 35 national reports on quantitative indicators SoEF 2011
 - Interactive Database for SoEF 2011 quantitative data, with Forest Europe and UNECE Statistical Division (in progress)
 - Collection and evaluation of 28 separate reports with data according to the new European Forest Types.
3. Guidance:
 - Guidance/Background documents on reporting on quantitative indicators for use by national respondents
 - Set of guidelines for SoEF 2011 writing, for use by authors
 - Guidance/Background documents on reporting using the European Forest Types.
4. Meetings and events:
 - Two meetings of the UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management
 - Two meetings of the Advisory Group on SoEF 2011 reporting
 - Meeting of the SoEF 2011 authors
 - Meeting of the SoEF 2011 reviewers for quantitative indicators
 - Workshop on implementation of European Forest Types
 - Seminar on State of Forests in UNECE Region (March 2011)

B. Forest policies and institutions

5. Publications and Research:
 - Discussion paper on ‘The Forest Sector in the Green Economy’
 - Draft Action Plan on the Forest Sector in a Green Economy
 - Finding forests: a sourcebook on international institutions and policy tools addressing the European forest sector.
6. Data collection and management:
 - Collection of data on developments in forest policies, legislation and institutions, including national forest programmes (for SoEF 2011)
7. Meetings and events:
 - Five meetings of the TC and EFC bureaux
 - Seminar on developing an international legal instrument - learning from the experience of the ECE Conventions and beyond
 - Stakeholder meeting to develop the Action Plan on ‘The Forest Sector in a Green Economy’
 - Orman 2011: Forests in a Green Economy (ECE Timber Committee and FAO European Forestry Commission joint session).
8. Other:
 - Contributions to the International Year of the Forest Campaign (including exhibits, events and media) that opened in January 2011
 - ECE/FAO Sustainable Forest Management Thesis Award
 - Participation in relevant Forest Europe meetings.

C. Markets and statistics

9. Publications and Research:
 - Forest Products Annual Market Review 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 publication
 - TC Market Statement 2010 and 2011
 - Two discussion papers on ‘The importance of China’s forest products markets to the UNECE region’ and on ‘Forest product conversion factors for the UNECE region’
 - Draft discussion paper on ‘Wood Energy in the UNECE region’
 - Publication of forest products data 2005-2009, including secondary products
 - Publication of forest products data 2009-2010, including secondary products
 - Timber Committee market forecasts for 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 - tables
 - Timber Committee market forecasts for 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 - market discussion graphs.

10. Data collection and management:
 - Collection and validation of 2008-2009 data on the trade, consumption, production of forest products (for UNECE and other databases, e.g. FAOSTAT)
 - Collection and validation of 2009 data on wood energy sources and uses in the UNECE region (Joint Wood Energy Enquiry)
 - Maintenance of price statistics on-line.
11. Meetings and events:
 - UNECE Timber Committee 2010
 - UNECE/FAO/WTO Workshop on Emerging Trade Measures in Timber Markets
 - Meetings of the Team of Specialists on Forest Products Marketing (Japan, Republic of Korea and Switzerland, 2010), (United States, 2011)
 - Workshop on Corporate Social Responsibility in the forest sector in south east Europe (Serbia, 2010)
 - Meeting of Inter-secretariat Working Group on Forest Sector Statistics
 - Contribution to workshop on Illegal Logging (Belgium, 2010)
 - Two annual sessions of the FAO/UNECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics (WPFES) in 2010.

D. Capacity building activities carried out under all work areas

12. Meetings and events:
 - Meeting of the UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Policy in Eastern Europe and Central Asia (Turkey, 2010)
 - Workshop on Improving forest products marketing to help drive sustainable rural economic development in southeast Europe (Macedonia, 2010)
 - Workshop on Policy Options for Wood Energy in CIS countries (Belarus, 2010)
 - Workshop on strengthening forest products marketing between environmental constraints and society needs in south east Europe (Slovenia, 2011).

E. Outlook studies and cross-sectoral component

13. Publications and Research:
 - UNECE/FAO European Forest Sector Outlook Study II
 - Discussion Paper on “Payments for Ecosystem services (PES): What role for a green economy?”

- Contribution to UNECE report on "MDGs in Central Asia: Achievements, Challenges and the Way ahead"¹.
14. Meetings and events:
- Two Annual Meetings of the UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists Forest Communicators Network (Sweden, 2010, Hungary 2011)
 - UNECE/FAO Forest and Water Week, 4-8 July 2011 including a workshop on Payments for Ecosystem services (PES): What role for a green economy
 - Meetings of: UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Sector Outlook; Core Group of Experts on Forest Sector Outlook; Forest Communicators Network; Joint ECE/FAO/ILO Expert Network to Implement Sustainable Forest Management; Team of Specialists on Forest Fire
 - Contribution to the 3rd International Conference of Forestry Training Centres organized by the ECE/FAO/ILO Expert Network (Austria, 2011).
15. Guidance:
- Good Practice Guidance on the Sustainable Mobilization of Wood in Europe publication with FAO, Forest Europe and the European Commission.
16. Other:
- Forest-related media event for World Environment Day.

II. Indicative list of activities for 2011-2012

A. Forest resources

17. Publications and Research:
- Contribution to the strategy of FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment (GFRA)
 - Contribution to the draft enquiry for GFRA 2015
 - Contribution to the electronic format of the FRA report
 - Web-based information Platform for SoEF 2011, jointly with Forest Europe (planned for 2011)
 - Educational material for students based on State of Europe's Forests 2011 report
 - Discussion paper on European Forest Types
 - Brochure on European Forest Types (planned, autumn 2011)
 - Design (with Forest Europe and EFI) of the process on the review of the pan-European Criteria and Indicators on SFM (tentative, depending on future decisions)

¹ http://www.unece.org/commission/MDGs/2010_MDG_Optimized.pdf

- Development of the concept of the pan-European reporting 2015 (tentative, depending on future decisions)
- Process of refinement of SFM advancement (together with the European Forest Institute and Forest Europe); including the development of a method for assessment of Sustainable Forest Management advancement
- Contribution to the EFI project on SFM application on a national level (participation in organisation of the series of sub-regional workshops)
- Contribution to the global initiative on Criteria and Indicator refinement (together with Forest Europe and the Montreal Process).

18. Meetings and events:

- Meeting of the UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management
- Last meeting of the Advisory Group on SoEF 2011 reporting.

B. Forest policies and institutions

19. Meetings and events:

- Preparing and servicing the meetings of the intergovernmental negotiating Committee (INC) to prepare a legally binding agreement on forests in Europe (LBA), including organization and servicing of INC bureau meetings (together with other partners)
- Meeting(s) to further refine the Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy.

C. Markets and statistics

20. Publications and Research:

- Publication of 2009 data on wood energy scheduled end of 2011 or early 2012
- Forest Products Annual Market Review 2011-12
- TC Market Statement 2012
- Improve wood pellets production and trade statistics
- Collection and validation of 2010-2011 data on the trade, consumption, production of forest products (for UNECE and other databases, e.g. FAOSTAT)
- Publication of forest products data 2007-2011, including secondary products.
- Timber Committee market forecasts for 2012-2013 - tables
- Timber Committee market forecasts for 2012-2013 - market discussion graphs
- Maintenance of price statistics on-line.

21. Meetings and events:

- FAO/UNECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics (WPFES) 2012
- Annual session of the UNECE Timber Committee 2012
- Meeting of the Team of Specialists on Forest Products Marketing
- Meeting of Intersecretariat Working Group on Forest Sector Statistics
- Initiation of 2011 data collection on wood energy sources and uses in the UNECE region (Joint Wood Energy Enquiry).

D. Capacity building activities carried out under all work areas

22. Meetings and events:

- Workshop on mobilizing “green” resources – the sustainable approach in Romania (planned for end of 2011)
- UNECE/FAO Workshop on: “Improving wood energy data in international statistics – based on the experiences from the Joint Wood Energy Enquiry”
- Workshop of the UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists for Forest Policy in Easter Europe and Central Asia (to be planned in 2012).

E. Outlook studies and cross-sectoral component

23. Meetings and events:

- Workshop on the impact of climate change on forestry work, organized by the ECE/FAO/ILO Expert Network on implementing sustainable forest management
 - Conference on forest fires
 - Meetings of: UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Sector Outlook; Core Group of Experts on Forest Sector Outlook; Forest Communicators Network; Joint ECE/FAO/ILO Expert Network to Implement Sustainable Forest Management; Team of Specialists on Forest Fire
 - Participation in and organization of various events for dissemination of SoEF 2011 and EFSOS II results.
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