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UNECE/FAO Action Plan

for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy

Food and Agriculture Organization

European Forestry Commission

Thirty-sixth session

Antalya, 10-14 October 2011

Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy

Note by the secretariat

Summary

This document contains information on the process that led to the development of the Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy, which will be at the basis of the five roundtables to be held at “Orman 2011: Forest in a Green Economy”, the joint meeting of the Timber Committee and the European Forestry Commission in Antalya and suggests the way forward for the further development of the Plan. The document also contains information on the Plan and, in annex, the text so far developed, which will be updated as a result of the information gathered in Antalya.

Introduction

1. In 2010, the bureaux of the ECE Timber Committee and the FAO European Forestry Commission discussed the possibility of developing an Action Plan for the Forest Sector in the Green Economy in the ECE region to address challenges and possible actions to enhance the contribution of the forest sector. It was decided to initially gather information and suggestions through consultations with relevant stakeholders. The first input was indeed provided through replies to a questionnaire the secretariat circulated via various forest-related mailing lists. The secretariat received 31 answers which were compiled in the first draft of the Action Plan. Subsequently, the secretariat organized a meeting of stakeholders in May 2011 to which several member States, other international organizations and non-governmental organizations actively participated. The results of those consultations are contained in the annex to this document.
2. The Plan is by no means negotiated language and it is a living document. At the moment it provides a comprehensive picture and directory of actions that are being or could be implemented at the national and international levels to enhance the contribution of the forest sector to a green economy and its sustainability.
3. The Action Plan is presented and discussed through a series of thematic roundtables at the “Orman 2011: Forests in a Green Economy” joint meeting of the Timber Committee and the European Forestry Commission. Further useful information for the Action Plan would be gathered during these discussions. At the stakeholder meeting it was also suggested to hold another stakeholder meeting, possibly back to back with another ECE/FAO meeting, to continue developing and refining the Action Plan. The Committee and Commission bureaux, further to a proposal from the stakeholder meeting, also decided to present and discuss the Action Plan in Rio in 2012, at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, and use this opportunity to continue the discussions and exchanges with relevant stakeholders.
4. The underlying idea was to continue the discussion, development and refinement of the Action Plan in parallel with the review of the joint ECE/FAO Programme of Work, and to present a final draft for adoption by member States at the joint TC and EFC session in 2013. Indeed, both the stakeholder meeting and the bureaux that followed also suggested to consider the Action Plan as the basis for the identification of relevant topics to be covered by the Joint ECE/FAO Timber and Forestry Programme of Work during the review process (see document ECE/TIM/2011/9 – FO:EFC/2011/9).
5. Moreover, the stakeholder meeting requested to start collecting already existing case studies and relevant experiences in the region of actions in support of the green economy in ECE forests, and create a searchable database on the ECE/FAO Forest and Timber Section’s website. This idea was endorsed by the bureaux.

I. Goals of the Action Plan

13. The Action Plan is intended to stimulate action to improve the contribution of the forest sector of the UNECE region to the emerging green economy. In particular it is intended to:
 - (a) Define the ways in which the ECE region forest sector can or could contribute to the development of a green economy, and monitor progress;
 - (b) Share and promote best practice in this field, building on cooperation between all the actors in the field, at the national and international level;

(c) Promote the development and implementation of policies for the forest sector which are effective in achieving society's goals, efficient in the use of resources and equitable between the various actors inside and outside the sector;

(d) Communicate the achievements of the forest sector in the ECE region, to the public, policy makers and to other sectors.

14. The Action Plan addresses not only green economy dimensions of the forest sector, but also specific contributions the forest sector can make to developing a broader green economy

II. Scope and nature of the Action Plan

19. The Action Plan proposes a series of objectives for the forest sector in the ECE region, and possible actions to achieve these objectives, to be implemented by international organizations, governments of member states, the private sector, civil society and all other stakeholders.

20. The Plan is not a work programme for those bodies but includes actions to be carried out by all actors, including governments, research, private sector and civil society and international governmental and non-governmental organizations. Indeed the "possible actions" are not attributed to any specific organization or actor: many will probably be implemented by ad hoc partnerships. It is meant to inspire action and provide the basis for many organizations plans and activities to focus on forests in a green economy.

21. It focuses exclusively on the forest sector in the UNECE region, and does not address how countries of the region can contribute to solving global challenges, notably that of deforestation in the tropical regions. The "forest sector" is defined as forest management, as well as the production and consumption of forest products.

22. Within the UNECE region there are many important international forest sector related initiatives and instruments, including FOREST EUROPE, the EU Forest Action Plan, the Montréal Process, and the International Model Forest Network, each with its own specific objectives and resources. The special feature of the present Action Plan is that it addresses the whole of the UNECE region, and is focused on the forest sector's contribution to the green economy, not on the broader question of sustainable forest management. It is also intended to be a contribution to the movement to a green economy at the global level, by articulating and developing the potential of the forest sector.

III. Structure of the Action Plan

23. There are five topics in the Action Plan, each with a number of areas of activity, which are set out in the annex:

1. Sustainable production and consumption of forest products
2. The low-carbon forest sector
3. Decent green jobs in the forest sector
4. Valuation of and payment for forest ecosystem services
5. Monitoring and governance of the forest sector.

IV. Recommendations

The Timber Committee and the European Forestry Commission may wish to endorse the above proposals and in particular:

1. ***Welcome the Action Plan as the basis for discussion at the session and as reference for action at the national and international levels;***
2. ***Organize a one-day stakeholder meeting in the margins of the Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics in March 2012 to further develop the plan, in particular to identify actions and related actors;***
3. ***Present the Action Plan during the Conference in Rio in 2012 and further gather inputs from stakeholders participating in that meeting;***
4. ***Continue to refine the Action Plan in the margins of relevant ECE/FAO meetings in 2012 and 2013 in order to present a final Action Plan ready for adoption at the joint TC-EFC joint session in 2013;***
5. ***Use the Action Plan as the basis for identifying relevant topics to be covered by the Joint ECE/FAO Timber and Forestry Programme of Work during the review process;***
6. ***Develop a web-based database of relevant case studies and experiences in the ECE on the forest sector in a green economy to be collected from member States and relevant organizations.***

The Areas of activity under the topics

<i>Topic/Area of activity</i>	<i>Objective</i>	<i>Possible actions</i>	
		<i>International</i>	<i>National and EU</i>
1. Sustainable production and consumption of forest products	To encourage patterns of consumption and production of forest products which are truly sustainable.	<p>Hold high level conference on sustainable consumption patterns for forest products: challenges and opportunities.</p> <p>Ensure that forest sector is appropriately represented at all international forums on sustainable consumption.</p> <p>Transform Forest Products Annual Market Review into <i>Annual Review of Sustainable Production and Consumption of Forest Products</i>.</p>	<p>Develop strategies for sustainable production and consumption (including, but not only, forest products).</p> <p>Promote the use of all types of forest products (solid, reconstituted, fibre, products of biorefineries) in all sectors</p> <p>Set targets for share of forest products in certain markets.</p>
1.1 Certification and labelling of sustainable forest management, and other standards for sustainable forest management	<p>To ensure that consumers are fully and accurately informed whether the forest products they purchase come from sustainable sources.</p> <p>To ensure that certification and labelling systems encourage the sound and sustainable use of wood and forest products.</p>	<p>Maintain monitoring of developments in certification and labelling, preferably with more analysis of impact of certification and labelling.</p> <p>Conference (governmental, but with major stakeholder input) on 15 years of forest certification: what differences has it made, and what are the next challenges?</p> <p>Promote policy instruments which discourage non-sustainable products (wood and non-wood).</p> <p>Consider policy framework for unified labelling and certification systems for forest products.</p> <p>Evaluate risks and benefits of including genetically modified trees in sustainable forest management, and encourage public dialogue on the question.</p>	<p>Further develop national standards which satisfy more than one certification system.</p> <p>Collect feedback from stakeholders, notably forest owners, processing industries and consumers, on their experience with certification: has it changed silvicultural practice? Are the costs bearable? Has it opened new markets or developed old markets?</p>
1.2 Procurement practices, public and private	To help public and private buyers of forest products to develop and implement procurement rules which encourage sustainable practices.	<p>Create an inventory of public procurement rules in ECE member states which encourage sustainable forest management, including an analysis of the consequences of these rules for forest products markets.</p> <p>Link the development of procurement policies to existing legislation and practice on sustainable consumption and production (referring to international standards).</p>	<p>Harmonise public procurement policies and practice to ensure that sustainability considerations are adequately taken into account and do not discriminate against forest products.</p> <p>Encourage officers responsible for public procurement to prefer forest products from sustainable sources (“Green Public Procurement”), and provide reference material to support this task.</p> <p>Encourage private bodies procuring forest products to align their practice with that of</p>

Topic/Area of activity	Objective	Possible actions	
		International	National and EU
1.3 Wood mobilisation and increasing the potential sustainable wood supply	To ensure that wood supply from the region's forests, is sufficient to satisfy, on a sustainable basis, society's needs for renewable raw materials and sources of energy.	<p>Review implementation of <i>Good practice guidance on sustainable mobilisation of wood in Europe</i> (2009): which recommendations have been implemented and what has been successful?</p> <p>Carry out research into the social and economic drivers of wood supply (derive supply curves for wood in the ECE region)</p> <p>Carry out research on motives and values of non-traditional forest owners.</p>	<p>public procurement and not to discriminate against forest products.</p> <p>Implement recommendations of <i>Good practice guidance on sustainable mobilisation of wood in Europe</i> fully and rapidly.</p> <p>Carry out national studies on opportunities to increase sustainable potential wood supply.</p> <p>Invest in infrastructure for mobilisation</p> <p>Build capacity in sustainable forest management.</p> <p>Increase outreach to non-traditional forest owners.</p>
1.4 Innovation in forest management and in production and use of forest products	To promote innovation in forest management and in production and use of forest products, so that the forest sector is a competitive supplier of renewable and sustainably produced goods and services.	<p>Organise a regular forum/market to showcase innovative uses of wood and forests, possibly linked with Schweighofer prize for forest innovation.</p> <p>Carry out a study of the framework conditions necessary for successful innovation in the forest sector.</p> <p>Assess potential and impact of biorefineries.</p> <p>Review and promote innovation intended to improve efficiency of material use in manufacture and processing of forest products, and the competitiveness of the sector.</p>	<p>Promote conditions conducive to innovation (policies, framework conditions and changed attitudes).</p> <p>Forest industries, working with forest owners/managers, encourage and support innovative approaches .</p>
1.5 Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)	To promote the use of LCA data for all materials at all stages of manufacturing, use and recycling, to support decision making at all levels	<p>Hold a policy forum to present and discuss LCA outcomes: Do they really support the idea that forest products are in general "lower carbon" than their competitors? If so, what are the consequences for policy?</p> <p>Promote the development and use of LCA assessment tools beyond the carbon/energy/pollution footprint to include also assessment of the influence of the life cycle of a given material on biodiversity, human health, the workforce and other social aspects.</p> <p>Ensure forest sector represented at UNEP/SETAC Life Cycle Inventory (LCI) Programme.</p> <p>Promote the development and use of environmental</p>	<p>Use LCA tools in accordance with ISO standards to assess options in a comprehensive way, and take this into account in decision making (Governments, private sector and civil society).</p> <p>Take tangible action to develop an environmental LCA.</p>

<i>Topic/Area of activity</i>	<i>Objective</i>	<i>Possible actions</i>		
		<i>International</i>	<i>National and EU</i>	
1.6	Policies and standards for green building	To contribute to the development of green building standards and promote the equitable treatment of all materials in terms of sustainability.	<p>Forest stakeholders to join the UNEP Sustainable Building and Climate Initiative (SBCI) steering committee and the Technical Advisory Committee on materials.</p> <p>Establish task force to monitor and analyse the developments and bring important trends and issues (e.g. the alleged unfair treatment of forest products) to the attention of policy makers, and monitor whether green building codes, standards and programmes constitute barriers to trade in forest products.</p> <p>Study the advantages of including in green building standards the footprint of the construction materials as well as the use of the building¹ and promote the conclusions of the study.</p> <p>Inform forest sector stakeholders and stakeholders from other sectors about developments for green building.</p>	Promote the development and implementation at a national level of green building standards which treat all materials equitably (active participation of Governments and all stakeholders).
1.7	Trade in wood and forest products	To ensure that only sustainably and legally produced forest products enter the market.	<p>Exchange national experiences on regulations on illegal logging.</p> <p>Carry out analysis/hold a workshop on long term consequences of Lacey Act and EU timber trade regulation on the sector (inside and outside the region), with participation from other regions.</p> <p>Carry out a synthesis study on the impact of the new carbon accounting scheme on international trade in wood and forest products.</p>	Implement agreed international measures rapidly and in full. Provide necessary support to stakeholders (information, guidance etc.)
2	The low carbon forest sector	To ensure the forest sector makes the best possible contribution to mitigation (sequestration, storage and substitution) of, and adaptation to, climate change	Analyse the emerging climate change regime from the viewpoint of the forest sector, to ensure that it is balanced (notably between sequestration and substitution) and compatible with the other dimensions of sustainable forest management.	Review national climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies to ensure that the forest sector is playing an optimum role, with the right balance between carbon sequestration and substitution of non-renewable fuels and materials. Likewise ensure national forest programmes address climate change issues adequately,

¹ The present European Building Directive only considers the footprint of the building in use and not the footprint of the construction materials used.

<i>Topic/Area of activity</i>	<i>Objective</i>	<i>Possible actions</i>	
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			and that the two policy areas are consistent.
2.1 Substitution of non-renewable materials and energy	To encourage the reduction of emissions of greenhouse gases by substituting wood from renewable sources for non-renewable materials and energy	<p>Identify markets where the use of forest products instead of competitors would cause a significant reduction in carbon emissions, using LCA. (For instance low carbon housing)</p> <p>Promote this analysis, in cooperation with the private sector.</p> <p>Continue to monitor developments for wood energy (supply and trade), and compare developments with policy targets.</p> <p>Put demand for wood energy in context of overall forest sector trends and potential (inside and outside the ECE region).</p> <p>Provide guidelines and recommendations for developing national action plans for energy efficiency and material efficiency in buildings (not only for forest products).</p> <p>Promote the use of wood in construction</p> <p>Compare national experience for use of wood in construction (benchmarks, policy measures, legal frameworks).</p>	<p>Incorporate cost of non-renewability into all products and fuels to encourage increased use of renewable materials and sources of energy, including wood.</p> <p>Develop a communication strategy to promote use of wood as contribution to climate change mitigation.</p> <p>Promote use of low carbon energy and materials over high-carbon/non-renewable alternatives.</p> <p>Promote wood mobilization by improving the functioning of the wood energy market.</p> <p>Carry out national studies on wood use in building construction.</p> <p>Establish targets for the use of wood in construction.</p>
2.2 Efficient production and use of wood: eliminating waste from forest to consumer	To promote the most efficient production and use of wood raw material, notably by ensuring that forest products are used, re-used and recycled, and used for energy when other uses have been considered, with an optimal balance of these pathways.	<p>Analyse advantages and disadvantages of the “cascade” approach.</p> <p>Develop and/or improve technologies to increase the efficiency and profitability of producing wood-based renewable energy while minimizing environmental impacts.</p> <p>Carry out research on the potential and use of bio-based products, including biochar.</p>	<p>Develop productive uses for landscape care wood and recovered wood products, including consideration of the framework conditions necessary for their application.</p> <p>Avoid wherever possible landfill as a final destination for wood and paper waste.</p>
2.3 Adaptation of the forest to a changing climate	To improve the capacity of the forest sector to adapt to climate change and manage the risks associated with a changing climate	<p>Hold scientific/policy conference on Adaptation of Forests and Forest Management to Changing Climate in the ECE region, to review progress since the global conference on the same topic in 2008.</p> <p>Develop an international research project into extent and</p>	<p>Develop strategies for the use of forests as a tool for adaptation of society and the environment to climate change.</p> <p>Develop and implement risk management and adaptation strategies for forests at national level and by forest</p>

<i>Topic/Area of activity</i>	<i>Objective</i>	<i>Possible actions</i>	
		<i>International</i>	<i>National and EU</i>
		likelihood of future risk to the region's forests.	type/region.
		Promote international cooperation and experience sharing on development of specific adaptive management regimes	
		Commission research into options for forest managers to manage risk.	
		Commission research into changes in demands on forests directly or indirectly due to changing climate.	
		Stimulate cooperation on improved monitoring and early warning of forest pests and diseases in the region.	
		Maintain and strengthen fire monitoring and management systems.	
		Commission research on forest resilience (e.g. to pests, storms, fires) in relation to the impacts of climate change.	
2.4	Carbon sequestration and storage	To promote the sequestration and storage of carbon in forest ecosystems and harvested wood products	
		Contribute to the development of a climate change regime which provides appropriate incentives to maintain or increase carbon stocks in the forest ecosystem (including soil carbon) and harvested wood products, while preventing adverse environmental impacts.	Construct a national legal and institutional framework which makes it possible for forest owners and industries to be rewarded for carbon sequestration and storage
		Improve monitoring of carbon stocks in forests and harvested wood products, for instance by improved national greenhouse gas inventories, combined with forest inventories.	Incorporate incentives for carbon sequestration and storage into planning and operations (forest owners and industries).
		Analyse how chain of custody systems for forest products can contribute to monitoring of harvested wood products, and create incentives to develop this approach possibly with cooperation of certification bodies.	Analyse influence on national and local harvest levels and silvicultural objectives of present and possible future climate change regimes.
		Commission research on consumer perceptions and requirements regarding the increased use of long-lived wood products.	Improve forest management to optimise carbon sequestration and storage without endangering other forest functions.
		Commission study of carbon in wood products (accounting, flows, consequence of new climate change regime).	
3	Decent green jobs in the forest sector	To ensure that the workforce is able to implement sustainable forest management, and that	
		Round table on forest sector workforce, launching detailed work on topics below.	Review forest sector workforce issues to fix priorities and communicate their importance including wide stakeholder consultation (social partners, NGOs and

<i>Topic/Area of activity</i>	<i>Objective</i>	<i>Possible actions</i>	
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	the forest sector contributes to achieving the social goals of the green economy by providing decent jobs		researchers).
3.1 A skilled workforce	To ensure that the workforce has the necessary skills to carry out the increasingly complex tasks associated with sustainable forest management	<p>Describe the forest sector workforce in detail, (using SoEF data and equivalents) and propose improvements in monitoring and analysis.</p> <p>Hold a workshop/forum to discuss the main threats to sustainability (workforce too old, badly educated, career prospects considered unattractive etc.), and possible countermeasures: promotion of careers in forestry, higher profile of forest work etc.</p> <p>Update the earlier ECE/FAO/ILO study of profession, skills and training.</p> <p>Include regular sessions on “new forest jobs in the green economy” at high level forest sector meetings.</p>	<p>Develop tripartite (government/unions/employers) approaches to green jobs in the forest sector using tools such as regulations, minimum standards, certification etc.</p> <p>Increase investment in education and training of contractors, forest workers and forest owners.</p> <p>Encourage associations, such as contractors associations, as a means to improve access to training.</p>
3.2 Safety and health of the forestry workforce	To reduce the levels of illness and injury experienced at present by the forestry workforce, taking into account the changes in technology and their implications for occupational health and safety due to the transition to the Green Economy.	<p>Raise level of political will to improve the safety and health of the workforce, by study of the status and trends, with national comparisons, and analysis of the differences.</p> <p>Establish and maintain a set of comparable data on occupational safety and health (at present the data are not comparable) and put in place capacity building for improved reporting on social indicators.</p> <p>Monitor implementation of the FAO code of practice on forest contractors</p>	<p>Enforce relevant legislation, develop regulations if necessary to take account of changing technology (vibration hazard) and social conditions (self-employed contractors, migrant workers)</p> <p>Fund extension work to make employers and workers sensitive to safety and health issues, and implement campaigns to promote a culture of preventative occupational safety and health.</p> <p>Radically improve statistics and monitoring, to enable meaningful analysis and preventive action, notably by improving coverage of contractors, farmers, migrant labour etc.</p>
3.3 Forest operations	To review the work methods used for harvesting and silviculture, determine whether they need to be improved and to ensure that best practice is applied everywhere	<p>Develop and share best practice for energy- and carbon-efficient forest operations.</p> <p>Hold workshop on changes in forest operations which might be necessary for sustainable forest management.</p> <p>Provide guidance for on-the-ground forest managers. How can they respond to the rapid changes and increasing complexity of their job?</p>	Organise round table/consultation on status of forest operations (challenges and dilemmas, is there sufficient operational capacity for sustainable forest management?).

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3.4 Socio-economic impacts of Green Economy policies	To promote application of tools to assess socio-economic impacts of Green Economy policies on the forest sector	<p>Monitor impact of green economy policy on employment in forest sector.</p> <p>Include social dimensions in LCA.</p> <p>Discuss outcomes in future policy fora.</p>	Integrate socio-economic assessment in country decent work programmes or national employment programmes.
4 Valuation of and payment for forest ecosystem services	To identify and value forest functions and to establish PES transactions, encouraging sustainable production and consumption patterns.	Review and develop approaches to valuation of and payment for different forest ecosystem services, in the UNECE region, involving research and policy bodies.	
4.1 Valuation of forest ecosystem services	To support the assigning of economic value to non-marketed forest goods and services and to enhance the understanding and recognition of the public goods generated by forests.	<p>Estimate forest ecosystem values at the national and regional levels.</p> <p>Encourage research linked to policy objectives on the valuation for ecosystem services, and possible sources of financing for ecosystem services.</p> <p>Undertake a comparison of the value of marketed and non-marketed goods and services of the forest, and recommendations as to how academic valuation could be transformed into payment systems.</p> <p>Organize a policy forum on emerging dilemmas for forest managers and policy makers, focusing on identifying critical trade-offs between forest functions.</p> <p>Organize a policy forum, based on survey and analysis, leading to concrete recommendations on the valuation of the public goods provided by forests such as human health and well-being.</p> <p>Cooperate with other communities such as health, biodiversity, climate change, energy, agriculture to exchange knowledge on valuation methodologies.</p> <p>Establish and maintain online platforms where research institutions could validate and exchange research results</p>	<p>Undertake national review of forest ecosystem services and assess their values using, as appropriate, the results of existing valuation studies (value transfer) and possibly from other sectors.</p> <p>Encourage the participation of researchers, forest managers and consumers of forest ecosystem services in the review and assessment of valuation methods.</p> <p>Undertake and fund research projects to quantify and value (preferably using internationally compatible methods) all forest ecosystem services.</p> <p>Develop mechanisms for incorporating the results of forest ecosystem valuation into national accounting frameworks.</p> <p>Promote disclosure of values of environmental services at the corporate level.</p>

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		on the value of forests and forest products.	
4.2 Payment for forest ecosystem services: moving from theory to practice	To promote best practice to develop and implement PES to ensure the continued provision of forest environmental services.	<p>Review and compile experience on payment for forest ecosystem services, and monitor progress², taking into account existing material.</p> <p>Review and analyse relevant information in State of Europe's Forests.</p> <p>Share experiences on the different enabling conditions amongst countries, including on ownership patterns and their implications for PES design and implementation.</p>	<p>Identify opportunities for payments for ecosystem services.</p> <p>Review experience and incorporate into existing strategies, as appropriate. Disseminate information on PES case studies and build capacity for PES development and implementation.</p> <p>Enhance policies and instruments for setting the framework for PES.</p> <p>Identify potential funding options.</p> <p>Promote partnerships between forest owners and other actors/stakeholders, for instance to develop forest tourism/ecotourism.</p>
4.3 Forests and human health	To review ways in which forests contribute to human health and well being, and ascertain whether this information is properly incorporated into policies and practices	<p>Organise a regional forum on forests and human health to review the situation, opportunities and challenges, and make recommendations for future work, at the international and national level. This would constitute a resource for health and planning authorities etc.</p> <p>Study on wellbeing in wooden buildings vs. buildings with other structures.</p>	(to be developed, notably in the light of the regional forum on forests and human health)
5 Monitoring and governance of the forest sector	To ensure that the forest sector in the region has policies and institutions which promote sustainable forest management, that policy making is evidence-based, policy instruments are effective, efficient and equitable, and that monitoring is adequate in order to mainstream the green economy in forest-sectoral policies.	<p>Carry out national forest sector policy reviews, with peer review, along the lines of the environmental performance reviews carried out by ECE.</p> <p>One stakeholder recommended "policy score cards".</p>	Review national forest sector governance and adequacy of available supporting information (when such a review has not been undertaken recently).
5.1 Implementation and	To ensure that the information	Maintain and develop present inter-organisation	Produce regular fact based reports on sustainable forest

² So far PES has progressed mostly at the theoretical level, although some public subsidy schemes are equivalent to PES in some ways. Now is the time to bring together experience, for a wide range of forest ecosystem services and of national situations, compare them and perhaps draw up practical guidelines.

<i>Topic/Area of activity</i>	<i>Objective</i>	<i>Possible actions</i>	
		<i>International</i>	<i>National and EU</i>
improvement of criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management	available is comprehensive and comparable, structured according to the regional criteria and indicators sets, at the appropriate spatial resolution for decision making, that analysis of the outlook makes it possible to assess the consequences of policy choices, and that policy makers make use of the best available information and analysis	<p>cooperation on State of Europe's Forests and forest sector outlook studies, set up appropriate task forces to address challenges of particular indicators.</p> <p>Develop capacity so that all countries can supply usable data for all indicators.</p> <p>Develop forest sector contribution to broader green economy indicator sets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - explore how "forest sector" indicators can be used to report on green economy - discuss with other sectors how they want to report on their contribution to a green economy - adjust current C&I and/or develop new ones (in dialogue with other sectors). <p>Ensure that forest sector indicators for green economy monitoring are consistent with other forest sector indicators, notably of sustainable forest management.</p>	management in the country, based on international and national C&I sets.
5.2 Assessment of sustainable forest management in the region	To develop an agreed method for assessing sustainable forest management at the international level, based on criteria and indicator sets, and apply this method, to provide forest sector and other policy makers with clear information on whether forest management is sustainable or not	<p>Develop agreed methodology to assess sustainability of forest management, possibly building on SOEF 2011 experience, and implement it.</p> <p>Encourage cooperation between FOREST EUROPE and the Montréal Process.</p>	<p>Assess sustainability of forest management at the national level.</p> <p>Develop capacity for reporting on indicators of sustainable forest management, at national and international level.</p>
5.3 Policy instruments for the forest sector in a green economy leading to institutional framework	<p>To review existing forest sector policy instruments in the light of the requirements of a green economy, and, if necessary, make proposals for a new approach.</p> <p>To improve synergies at the international level</p>	<p>Prepare detailed and objective study at the regional level of policy instruments in place and whether they are appropriate for a green economy, leading, if appropriate to proposals for improvement.</p> <p>Include green economy as the main topic of programmes of work of relevant forest sector organisations and institutions.</p> <p>Analyse conditions in which policies are set, to overcome limitations</p> <p>Create European forest partnership on a voluntary basis</p>	Prepare detailed and objective study at the national level of policy instruments in place and whether they are appropriate for a green economy, leading, if appropriate to proposals for improvement.

<i>Topic/Area of activity</i>	<i>Objective</i>	<i>Possible actions</i>	
		<i>International</i>	<i>National and EU</i>
		to improve coordination and cooperation between international organisations in Europe.	
5.4 Communication and promotion of sustainable forest management and the green economy	To improve communication with the public and policy makers about the forest sector's actual and potential role in the green economy and facilitate public participation in the debate on the green economy	<p>Improve the sector's capacity to communicate, by developing national and international capacity and funding, and sharing experience.</p> <p>Communicate so that public opinion and legislators consider wood an "ecologically preferred" construction material.</p>	
5.5 Communication and outreach to and cooperation/coordination with other parts of the green economy	To communicate lessons learned in the forest sector to other sectors, and to learn from other sector's experience	<p>Monitor developments in the ECE region forest sector in the green economy and ensure that organisations active on global green economy issues, such as UNEP, are aware of them.</p> <p>Carry out a comparative analysis of the concept of "sustainable forest management" as it appears in work from different backgrounds such as REDD+, LULUCF, forest sector, criteria for bio-energy etc.</p> <p>Ensure participation of forest stakeholders in cross-sectoral processes and initiatives related to green economy.</p>	<p>Establish cross-sectoral working groups, develop contacts with other green economy sectors, and share experience (also international).</p> <p>Highlight good examples of cross-sectoral coordination/cooperation and identify success factors. Try to cover both private and public actors as strategies might be different (also international).</p> <p>Add "forest & green economy" to the educational curriculum.</p>