

# **Forests and Climate Change Working Paper 8**

## **Forests and Climate Change in Eastern Europe and Central Asia**

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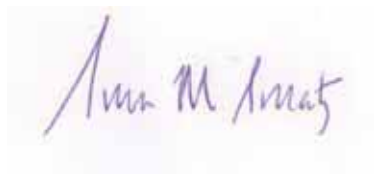
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## Foreword

This document is part of the publication series of FAO's Forest and Climate Change Programme. The programme works to strengthen countries' capacities to mitigate and adapt to climate change through actions consistent with sustainable forest management and to promote regional cooperation and international policy development related to forests and climate change.

The primary objective of this document is to provide an overview of forest and climate change issues, actions and areas for cooperation in the Eastern European and Central Asian countries. The country reports included within were prepared and presented at the FAO workshop on "Climate change impacts on forest management in Eastern Europe and Central Asia", which was held in Sopron, Hungary from 14-16 April 2010. The workshop was co-sponsored by FAO's Sub-Regional Office for Central and Eastern Europe, the University of West Hungary (through the project TAMOP 4.2.2), and the Northern Eurasia Earth Science Partnership Initiative. It was also supported by the FAO Sub-Regional Office for Central Asia, the UN-ECE/FAO Timber Section, and FAO Headquarters. The workshop provided an opportunity to take stock of the situation in the region regarding forests and climate change and offered a venue for country representatives and others to exchange experiences, discuss areas of common interest and identify areas for potential collaboration. The proceedings of the workshop are available at: [www.fao.org/regional/SEUR/events/sopron/sopron\\_en.htm](http://www.fao.org/regional/SEUR/events/sopron/sopron_en.htm)

The countries covered in this publication are highly diverse ecologically and socio-economically, but share two distinct features that make them particularly vulnerable to climate change: the transition zone between closed forests and woodlands and forest steppe – a zone highly susceptible to drought - runs through these countries; and, with the exception of Turkey, these countries are in a phase of social and economic transition. Despite these facts, these countries are underrepresented in joint research programmes and international deliberations on climate change. It is hoped that the publication will raise awareness of the specific needs of these countries regarding forests and climate change, in particular regarding climate change adaptation but also mitigation, and will provide a point of departure for identifying and catalyzing regional action to complement and enhance national efforts. We hope that this publication will be of use to specialists and policy-makers in forestry and climate change in the Eastern European and Central Asian countries as well as forest managers, the academic community and the general public interested in learning more about forests and climate change in this region.



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## Acronyms

A/R	Afforestation/Reforestation
CCCM	Canadian Climate Centre Model
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism
COP	Conference of the Parties
DNA	Designated National Authority
ERPA	Emission Reduction Purchase Agreement
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FNC	First National Communication
FPUA	Forest and Pasture User Association
GDF	General Directorate of Forest [Turkey]
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GHG	greenhouse gas
GFDL	Geophysics Fluid Dynamics Laboratory
GIS	geographical information system
GISS	Goddard Institute for Space Studies
ICP	International Co-operative Programme
INC	Initial National Communication
INTAS	International Association for the promotion of co-operation with scientists from the Newly Independent States of the former Soviet Union
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
IUFRO	International Union of Forestry Research Organizations
KazNIIK	Kazakh Ecology and Climate Research Institute
LULUCF	Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry
MAFRD	Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Rural Development [Kosovo]
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MEP	Ministry of Environment Protection of the Republic of Kazakhstan
MOE	Ministry of Environment Protection and Natural Resources of Georgia
MoEF	Ministry of Environment and Forest [Turkey]
MoEFWA	Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Administration [Albania]
MRV	Measurable, Reportable and Verifiable
NAMA	Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action
NAP	National Action Plan [Albania]
NCBCC	National Coordination Board on Climate Change [Turkey]
NCCSAP	Netherlands Climate Change Studies Assistance Programme
NES	National Energy Strategy [Albania]
NGO	non-governmental organization
NRDP	Natural Resources Development Project
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PDD	project design document
PIN	project idea note
REDD	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
REU	Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia
SFM	Sustainable Forest Management
SNC	Second National Communication
TACIS	Technical Aid to the Commonwealth of Independent States
TNA	Technology Needs Assessment
UKMO	United Kingdom Meteorological Office
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
US CSP	US Country Studies Program
VCM	Voluntary Carbon Market
WG	Working Group
WMO	World Meteorological Organization