

ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Green Jobs in the Forest Sector (ILO/ECE/FAO Joint Expert Network)

Reference to Integrated Work Programme:

Work Area 4, “Capacity-building”

A. Objectives

1. Advise and support the secretariat on the implementation of the ECE/FAO Integrated Programme on employment-related issues such as: jobs, needed competencies, education and training for the forest sector in the context of a green economy.

B. Activities

1. Contribute to, and support the secretariat in, the implementation of activities in the Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy under Pillar C (decent green jobs) by:

a. Contributing to improving the monitoring and analysis of the forest sector workforce (including occupational health and safety);

b. Reviewing forest sector workforce issues at all levels (policy, management, operations etc.) and discussing the main threats to the sustainability of the workforce;

c. Providing recommendations for the consideration of parent bodies to develop preventive and remedial actions, including ways to attract young people to work in the forest sector.

2. Assess and disseminate existing tools and, when appropriate, contribute to developing new tools to train the existing and future forest workforce and certify competencies in the forest sector;

3. Advise and support the secretariat on the organization of meetings related to forest competencies and training;

4. In collaboration with International Union of Forest Research Organisations (IUFRO) and International Forestry Students Association (IFSA), map and describe forestry education curricula and identify present and future skill requirements for forestry professionals in the region;

5. Contribute to the capacity building activities (work area 4) that are related to forest competences and training;

6. Disseminate information on the network’s activities and results.

C. Expected major outputs

1. Recommendations, developed in close cooperation with the Team of Specialists on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management, on ways and means to improve data collection and analysis on jobs, health and safety in the forest sector in order to support better policy making (including for indicators 6.5 and 6.6 of the Pan-European Criteria and Indicators);

2. Assessment of the relevance of a recommendation on a framework for national action plans for decent green jobs in the forest sector (e.g. development and enforcement of occupational safety and health regulations, communication campaigns targeting potential

candidates, training) with examples and case studies and, if appropriate, the development of this recommendation;

3. One meeting to review and formulate recommendations to address main forest sector workforce issues, including training, education and gender issues;

4. Assessment and dissemination of information on existing competency certification schemes such as ConCert (Certification of Competency for forestry entrepreneurs), ECC (European Chainsaw users' Certification), WETNet (Wood Energy Training Network) and other tools that could be developed by EFESC (European Forestry and Environmental Skills Council), while extending the competency approach to the whole ECE region.

D. Background

Established/Approved by: The ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry, and the FAO European Forestry Commission, Rovaniemi, Finland, December 2013

Duration: The mandate of the team was renewed for the term 2016-2017.

Methods of work: Annual meeting. Other methods to be determined by the Team.

Reporting: Annually, to the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management.

Team leader: To be elected at first Team meeting.