



Team of Specialists on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management



Geneva, 17.06.2014





Activities since previous WP

June 2014

Member countries:

Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, The Netherlands, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uzbekistan





Meetings

The 20th meeting of the Team (last under the previous Terms of Reference) was held on 18 October 2013 in Geneva, Switzerland;

The 21st meeting of the Team (first under the new Terms of Reference), was held on 13-15 May 2014 in Izmir, Turkey.





Topics covered

20th Meeting (18.10.2013):

The Team discussed and commented on the reporting tables and procedures for the pan-European reporting 2015, with special emphasis on reporting through international data providers. The questionnaire tables were finalized and the reporting was officially launched by FOREST EUROPE and UNECE/FAO in November 2013.





Topics covered

- Guidelines and launching of questionnaire for pan-European reporting
- Reporting through international data providers:
 - Deposition of air pollutants
 - Soil condition
 - Genetic resources
 - Landscape pattern
 - Consumption of wood
 - Contribution of the forest sector in GDP
 - Forest sector workforce





Topics covered

21st Meeting (13-15.05.2014):

The Team discussed its future work and initiated its work plan for the coming two years, provided several comments to develop the Forest Ownership Enquiry and discussed possible indicators related to Sustainable Development Goals.





Topics covered

- Presentation of the ECE/FAO Integrated Programme of Work 2014-2017, related documents and guidelines, including Terms of Reference for the Team
- Discussion on the work of the Team of Specialists on Monitoring SFM
- Review of the draft questionnaire on forest ownership in the UNECE region
 - Time frame
 - Clarification of information
 - Data availability
 - Structuring
 - Avoid redundancies





Topics covered

- Sustainable Development Goals; discussion on a proposal for forest related indicators
- The participants of the Team of Specialists were divided into 3 working groups. Each Working group was working on a specific goal. The participants were asked to develop one to two indicators for each target of the considered goal.

Goal 1: Social and cultural benefits from forests and trees improved

Goal 2: Resilience and ecosystem benefits of forests enhanced

Goal 3: Green economy contribution of forests and trees increased





Outputs and impacts expected for coming year

- The next meeting of the Team is scheduled for 21-23 October 2014 in Geneva.
- The meeting will discuss the study on achieving the Global Objectives on Forests in the UNECE region and review the second draft of the Forest Ownership Enquiry.





Issues for the attention of the Working Party

The Team found several points in the Forest Ownership Enquiry that need further elaboration to guarantee good quality data. The Team agreed to process the next version of the Forest Ownership Enquiry in the next meeting that is planned for October 2014. It is foreseen that the enquiry can be launched in early 2015.

The Team is also very interested to work on the assessment method of sustainable forest management and to support UNECE secretariat and FOREST EUROPE Liaison Unit in evaluation of data provided by IDPs for the State of Europe's Forests report, as well as to support the report production in general.





Election of officers

- Team leader:
 - Stein M. Tomter, Norway
- Vice-leaders:
 - Annemarie Bastrup-Birk, Denmark
 - Kari T. Korhonen, Finland
 - Adrian Lanz, Switzerland





Comments, lessons learned

In the 21st meeting it was agreed that the Team need to develop a prioritized and more detailed work plan with clear time lines and goals.

The Team noted unbalanced participation, in particular underrepresentation of experts from South East Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia. The Team considered organisation of a separate, capacity building workshop for experts from those regions.







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