

Draft outline

As of 19/3/2012

Forests and economic development in the UNECE region

Introduction (1/2 page)

Objective of paper: to describe how forests contribute to economic development in the UNECE region, and major trends. On this basis to identify major policy challenges, and the factors which may inform policy makers' choices.

Background (1 page)

Overview of forest cover, regional forest distribution, forest area per head, with comparison to other regions. (SoEF 2011, FRA, map)

How do forests contribute to economic development in the UNECE region? Situation around 2012 and trends over last 20 years. (10 pages, one standard page format¹ for each theme)

Introduction, stressing multi-functionality, multiple sources of income and varied contributions of forests to economic development.

Forests create wealth and income

Share of forestry and forest industries in GDP, value of marketed goods and services (SoEF 2011, FRA). Trends in removals and production, volume and value (FPAMR). Net revenue of forest owners (Partial data from SoEF 2011)

The forest sector provides employment and livelihoods

Number employed, by sector, relative importance, forest ownership, trends (SoEF 2011, FRA)

Wood is an important renewable raw material and fuel

Consumption per head, trends, share of wood in total and renewable energy. (JWEE, FPAMR, SoEF 2011). Discussion of sustainability of wood supply: how to measure, influencing factors, trends (SoEF 2011, FRA)

The forest sector is low waste, with high recycling and recovery of products

Share of residues in raw material consumption, importance of recovered paper and wood products, landscape care wood etc., trends. (EUWood, EFSOS)

The UNECE region supplies other regions with forest products from renewable sources

Regional trade balances and trends (e.g. to increased net exports for the region as a whole) (FPAMR, data base)

¹ Main message, one paragraph of explanation, one graph/map and one table

Forest derived goods and services contribute much more to society than their reported value

Discussion of valuation of non-marketed goods and services (list sequestration, biodiversity, landscape, recreation, protection, water supply, etc.). Estimates of approximate values (total or per hectare) (SoEF 2011, FRA)

The public contributes significant funds to promote sustainable forest management

Government expenditure on forests (SoEF 2011, FRA). Discussion of whether policies and instruments in place address main policy challenges effectively, and efficiently?

The way ahead: outlook and major policy challenges (9 pages – also with a page-per-issue format)

Outlook for the UNECE region forest sector

Synthesis/summary of EFSOS II, NAFSOS (and RUFOS, if anything available)

Can future wood demand be satisfied on a sustainable basis?

Compare EFSOS/NAFSOS results with sustainability criteria (EFSOS II, chapter 4).

How much can the UNECE region forest contribute, on a sustainable basis, to the supply of renewable energy?

EFSOS energy scenario, NAFSOS. Quantify potential and put in context. Mention risks/threats to sustainability.

Developing a sustainable workforce

Project future workforce needs on the basis of production scenarios, describing problems to obtain adequately skilled workforce.

Developing and implementing payment for forest ecosystem services

Concept of PES, which is important to ensure balance between forest management objectives, and ensure that sufficient economic resources are available for SFM. Potential and challenges in moving from theory to practice.

Promoting innovative forest products

Innovative forest products and how they can contribute to the green economy (based on the innovation scenario of EFSOS II and on NAFSOS and FPAMR)

Demonstrating and communicating sustainable forest management.

Reference to assessing sustainable forest management and certification, as well as Life Cycle Assessment. Importance of communicating with, and understanding, other sectors, notably energy and environment.

Establishing wood as a central part of the green economy

Action Plan for forest sector in the green economy.

Conclusion (1 page)

How the UNECE region sector must change to contribute fully to a green economy and to enhance its role in economic development.

Sources:

SoEF 2011: State of Europe's Forests 2011 – most recent and comprehensive overview of sustainable forest management in pan-European region. Does not include North America

FRA: Global Forest Resource Assessment, recent and authoritative, covers North America. If necessary, supplement FRA data with US/Canada national sources, to achieve similar coverage as SoEF 2011.

FPAMR: Forest Products Annual Market Review (new title forthcoming): trends, and analysis of markets

JWEE: Joint Wood Energy Enquiry – latest data on use of wood for energy

EFSOS II: European Forest Sector Outlook Study, 2011. Scenarios around policy relevant challenges.

NAFSOS: North American Outlook Study 2012. (to be issued shortly) Also has policy relevant scenarios.

RUFOS: Russian Forest Sector Outlook Study – in preparation, not clear whether results will be available in time.