Towards Decent Green Jobs in the Forest Sector

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Forests in a Green Economy Need Decent Green Jobs

Pillar C of the Rovamei Action Plan

Sustainable Forestry needs a Sustainable Workforce!

Social Stakeholders’ Mission Statement in Vienna 2003
Green jobs in the forest sector are decent jobs which are related to:

➢ the management and use of forest ecosystems respecting the principles of Sustainable Forest Management,

➢ environmentally friendly production processes based on goods and services from sustainably managed forests.”

Forest Europe Workshop on Green Economy and Social Aspects of SFM, Santander (Spain) on 29-30 April 2014
The Challenge:
Maintain a competent and motivated workforce for the forest sector!

Problem areas:
• ageing workforce
• lack of young entrants to the forestry professions particularly for forest operations, enforced by the demographic change
• insufficient training and education of forest workers in parts of Europe
• persisting high accident risks and emerging health risks for operators of forest machines continuing gender imbalance in forestry professions
• low profitability of forest operation services
To cope with the emerging challenges ...

• better, more accurate and more detailed data are needed
  • to understand the relevance and dimension of the actual and emerging problems
  • to enable coherent
    – political decisions and
    – action planning

Recent analysis shows:
• Many data on social aspects are weak in terms of accuracy and consistency
• In many countries data are not or insufficiently available (e.g. accident statistics)
Criteria for assessing if jobs are decent and green

- Employment
  - total numbers - type of employment (direct empl., contractor, self-empl., part-time, family members, migrant labour …)
  - Age - Gender
  - Skills levels - Position in the enterprise (worker, staff, management)

- Gender equality

- Safety and Health
  - Accident frequency
  - Occupational deseases - Work related deseases

- Skills development

- Family and Social Values

- Entrepreneurship
  - economic performance - investment - innovation

- Social Protection and Remunerative Employment

- Social Dialogue

- Greenness
For assessing if jobs are decent and green we need:

• Improved indicators
• Improved data collection instruments
• Identification of reliable information sources on national level
  – e.g. in collaboration with health insurance, national labour inspection
  – Collaboration with labour representatives
• Capacities for improved reporting on social indicators
  – national: research capacities on social aspects
  – pan-European: Resources for co-ordination and review
• Capacities for data review and monitoring
A skilled and motivated workforce is a prerequisite for „greening“ the forest sector!

To enable coherent policies and actions we need better information about employment and working conditions!

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Thank you for your attention!