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Chair of the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management
Outline

- Overview
- Workshop
- Guidance by Work Area
- Self-assessment
- Roundtable discussion
- UNFF infographic
- Data and place of next meeting
Overview

- Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management held its thirty-seventh session in Geneva from 18 to 20 March 2015

- 21 member states attended the meeting

- Three main parts:
  i. Secretariat + ToS reporting on achievements by Work Area and feedback and guidance provided by member states
  ii. Roundtable discussion
  iii. Self-assessment of the Working Party
Workshop

“Threats to the Sustainability of the Forest Sector Workforce”

➢ Workshop moderator Thorsten Arndt reported

➢ Challenges:
  ➢ low profitability of many (small) businesses
  ➢ forest work not regarded as desirable, esp. to young people
  ➢ hazardous profession

➢ Recommendations:
  ➢ Improve data on forest sector workforce
  ➢ Analyse changes in the sector
  ➢ Put emphasis on education and positive communication
Guidance by Work Area

- WA1: data, monitoring and assessment
- WA2: policy dialogue and advice
- WA3: communication and outreach
- WA4: capacity building
Secretariat reported on

- Global and regional reporting (FRA 2015, quant. Pan-European Indicators, SEMAFOR, forest ownership enquiry, report for UNFF)
- Forest products statistics (JFSQ, Timber Forecast Q, HS revision)
- Forest products markets (FPAMR)
- Wood energy (JWEE)

ToS on Monitoring SFM: Stein Tomter informed about

- Geneva meeting, Oct. 2014: review draft report for UNFF and draft questionnaire on forest ownership
- Planned Engelberg meeting: review of results of 2015 reporting processes, incl. SEMAFOR
ToS on Forest Products Statistics: Branko Glavonjic informed about
  o 17\textsuperscript{th} March meeting: JFSQ, test survey on game meat

ToS on Sustainable Forest Products: Eoin O’Driscoll informed that
  o Planned workshop in Montenegro (postponed to December 2015)
  o Team members reviewed the FPAMR

ToS on Wood Energy: Kasimir Nemestothy informed about
  o 2\textsuperscript{nd} meeting, 11-13 March, Vienna: JWEE methodology, conversion factors, wood balances, possible wood energy publication, plan to organise a JWEE training workshop
Work Area 1 cont.

➢ Feedback & recommendations by Member States
  o Parallel manner of global and regional reporting was welcomed
  o Pilot character of SEMAFOR was stressed
  o Forest ownership enquiry was welcomed, but increasing number of enquiries raised concerns about reporting burdens
  o WP welcomed the study “Forests in the ECE region” and recommended sharing it with UNFF-11
  o Delegations expressed concerns about the reduction in JFSQ data validation at Eurostat
  o WP requested the Forest Products ToS to think about linking its work more directly with the work of the Joint Section
  o Wood energy publication and training workshop idea was welcomed
Work Area 2

- Secretariat reported on
  - Green Economy incl. the RAP, first results of the wood construction study, developments related to SDGs and the timeline for a new Outlook study (identification of policy options + budget plan 2015, decision on scope based on available funds 2016, modelling 2017, report 2018)

- ToS on Forest Policy: Marta Gaworska informed about
  - 1st meeting, Sept. 2014, Krakow: means and ways to implement the RAP at national levels
  - 2nd meeting, Oct. 2015, Prague: should continue to support RAP implementation through exchange of experiences and information

- ToS on Forest Sector Outlook: Jeff Prestemon informed about
  - Ispra meeting in Jan. 2015: Forest Sector Outlook study
Feedback & recommendations by Member States

- The work on the study «Promoting sustainable building materials and the implication on the use of wood in building» was welcomed, also the idea to present the outcomes to the Committee on Housing and Land Management
- WP welcomed the intention to further harmonize the outlook studies in the ECE sub-regions
- WP noted the timeline for a future outlook study
- WP requested the secretariat to ensure good coordination between different studies, to avoid replicating existing studies and to coordinate well with ongoing studies
Work Area 3

➢ Secretariat informed about

- Forest Communicators Network activities:
  - A Task Force meeting in Engelberg in Feb. 2015 elaborated communication recommendations for Silva 2015.
  - regular meeting in May 2015 in Barcelona

- the International Day of Forests 2015 programme of events, which took place at the Palais des Nations on 20 March under the banner «Forests for Food – Food for Forests»
Work Area 4

➢ Secretariat informed about
  ○ The status of the UNDA project «SFM for Greener Economies in the Caucasus and Central Asia» (implemented until July 2015)
  ○ A new UNDA funded capacity-building project in CCA for 2016-2017

➢ ToS on Green Jobs: Andreas Bernasconi informed about
  ○ 1st meeting in June in Geneva + team leader meeting in Oct. 2014: action plan 2014-2016 was developed
  ○ Organisation of the workshop on 17 March 2015
  ○ Planned activities: 2nd meeting 24-25 March 2015 in Geneva, side-event in Engelberg 4 Nov. 2015, workshop in Ireland 2016
Work Area 4 cont.

- Feedback & recommendations by Member States
  - Current work on capacity building and green jobs was welcomed
  - The importance of positive communication on addressing the challenges related to jobs was stressed
Self-assessment

- Achievements and shortcomings were assessed in two groups.
- Each group presented conclusions and recommendations.
- The recommendations can be found in Annex I of the report.
- The WP agreed that the secretariat present progress made in implementation of these recommendations during next WP session.
Roundtable discussion

- In-session 2 hours roundtable discussion on «Approaches to the valuation of forest ecosystem services in the ECE region»
- Participants found that the value of wood products account for more than 80% of the monetised value generated.
- The issue of valuing ecosystem services is receiving increasing policy attention.
- Despite many scientific studies undertaken in this field, data are often not of sufficient quality of coverage for use in statistics.
- It was recognized that there are many important values that are not currently incorporated in our valuation system and many challenges remain.
Date and place of next meeting

The Working Party agreed to hold its next meeting in the week of the International Day of Forest 2016.

Following dates are foreseen:

- Celebration of the IDF on 21 March
- Workshop on 22 March
- Working Party from 23 to 24 March
THANK YOU!

For more information please see ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2015/2 or contact the secretary of the Working Party: Mr. Florian Steierer