

Work Area 2: Policy Dialogue and Advice

38th session of the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest
Statistics, Economics and Management

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Policy Dialogue and Advice

1. Joint COFFI and EFC session in Engelberg,
Silva2015
2. Green Economy – Rovaniemi Action Plan
3. Global Policy Processes: Agenda 2030 and
SDG, UNFF etc.
4. Team of Specialist (ToS) on Forest Policy
5. Forest Sector Outlook





Joint COFFI and EFC Session –Silva 2015

The secretariat provided substantive documentation informing the policy making process:

- Global and regional forestry policy developments and their possible impacts on the forest sector in the region
- Forest ecosystem services and their role in financing sustainable forest management (SFM)
- Forest ecosystem services within the scope of (i) disaster risk reduction and watershed management; (ii) biodiversity maintenance; and (iii) climate change mitigation, substitution and adaptation.





Green Economy – Rovaniemi Action Plan

Follow up and dissemination of information

- **Report from implementation of RAP presented** at Silva2015 - based on a voluntary survey among member States, the FAO, and the section input.
- **RAP presented** at a round table “The multiple values of European mountain forests: which perspectives in a green economy?”, at EXPO 2015, “Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life”, in Milan, Italy in June 2015.
- **RAP presented** at a side event Forest Governance – From Global Initiatives to National Experiences” during the World Forestry Congress, in Durban, South Africa, on 7 September 2015 “organised jointly with the UNFF and the Governments of Finland and Switzerland.



Green Economy – Rovaniemi Action Plan

Follow up and dissemination of information cont.

- **RAP to be presented** at a side event during the Ministerial Conference Environment for Europe in Batumi 8-9 June 2016
- **RAP to be implemented** (Pillar D, Pillar E) through a regional workshop on the contribution of the forest sector to a green economy. It will review:
 - Green economy reporting/accounting approaches developed by other sectors,
 - Systems of environmental-economic accounting,
 - Approaches to the valuation of forest capital, products and ecosystem services,
 - Synergies among the monitoring systems in the forest sector for the needs of a green economy.





Global Policy Processes

Follow up and dissemination of information

- **Agenda 2030 and SDG**
 - **Monitoring** of developments and dissemination of information
 - **Contribution** through FAO and UNECE channels as relevant
- **UNFF**
 - **Contribution** to a country-led initiative “INTERLAKEN+10, Governing forest landscapes: Lessons learnt from ten years of experience and the way forward post-2015”,
 - **Contribution** to UNFF11 - a regional study entitled “Forests in the ECE Region: Trends and Challenges in Achieving the Global Objectives on Forests”,
 - **Contribution** to the work on the UNFF Strategic Plan and the quadrennial programme of work





National Forest Policy Dialogues NFPDs

- National Forest Policy Dialogues (NFPDs)

The aim of NFPDs is to share the information and knowledge generated under COFFI and the EFC with national experts and to draw on national experience for international work by exchanging information about the state of forests, forest product markets, wood energy, the Forest Sector Outlook, and other topics as relevant.

NFPDs are considered an important tool for capacity-building and implementation of the Integrated Programme of Work.



Team of Specialists on Forest Policy

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Ms. Marta Gaworska/ March 23/24, 2016



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ToS Forest Policy

38 members + Secretariat

- Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, Uzbekistan (20)
- CEPF, EUSTAFOR, EFI, FSC, EU/EC, PEFC

Since 2014 new mandate and extended scope

Leader: Ms. Marta Gaworska (Poland)

Deputy (3) : Ms. Leire Salaberria, (Spain) Mr Tomas Krejzar (Czech Republic), Mr Stefan Karlsson (Sweden).

Secretary: Ekrem Yazici





Outputs and achievements

1. ToS 2nd meeting held in October 2015 in Prague, Czech Republic

- 15 participants : 8 country delegates, 4 experts from organisations and 3 secretariat members
- 9 forest policy experts from EECCA countries (participated in some parts of the programme)



Organisers:

- the Ministry of Agriculture of Czech Republic
- the Czech State Forest Enterprise

2. FAO workshop on Forest Management and Climate Change in Europe April 2015 in Bialowieza, Poland

(<http://www.fao.org/forestry/climatechange/89648/en/>)





ToS Meeting Prague - focus

- ToS assessed complexity of the international forestry policy landscape in the view of the most recent global and regional policy developments:
 - the outcome of UNFF 11
 - Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development
 - FOREST EUROPE Ministerial Conference
 - expected outcome of COP21 in Paris
- ToS continued to exchange of experiences on the implementation of the Rovaniemi Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy
- Presentation of the Team Leader of UNECE/FAO ToS on Forest Sector Outlook, on forest policy scenarios in the next round of Forest Sector Outlook Studies





Topics relevant to a national and/or regional level

- how global forest-related SDGs and targets could be translated to the national /regional levels?
- how could UNECE/FAO support MS in the implementation of forest-related SDGs and targets?
- what could be the role of this ToS in this process?
- how could UNECE/FAO support MS in the implementation of the Forest Instrument and the four Global Objectives on Forests?
- how could means of collaboration between regional institutions and UNFF be improved?
- how can UNECE/ FAO contribute to the UNFF's strategic plan development?



Tos members

- **stocktaking exercises** to clarify the relevance of the forest-related SDGs and targets
- exchange of information as regards **implementation practices** (e.g. collection of regional experiences regarding the SDGs implementation)
- Identification of **capacity building materials and meetings** relevant for SDGs implementation
- development of **guidelines for implementation** that contains e.g. clear definitions and examples.

Experts from EECCA

- **development of a regional plan** (similar to the Rovaniemi Action Plan) to design national strategies for SDG implementation
- **guidance** on how to incorporate forest strategies into broader policy frameworks
- creation of a **regional UNFF focal point** that ensures the dissemination of information
- **permanent expert groups** to share information
- **capacity building** for development of methodologies for data collection

- Input to Silva “Silva 2015” held in Engelberg, Switzerland, Nov 2015
- Input to the joint contribution by COFFI and EFC to the UNFF Strategic Plan and the quadrennial programme of work





ToS work in the coming year

- 3rd meeting planned in autumn 2016 (looking for a hosting country)
- Support to the implementation of the RAP through the exchange of experiences and information, with special attention to:
 - collection of reliable data and conducting bench marking studies,
 - detailed discussions on forestry policy issues as well as emerging ones,
 - exploring tailored tools for communication within and outside the forest sector as well as material to support innovation and capacity-building in the countries.
- Support to further work on SDGs
 - „act“ as a platform to support the exchange of information, implementation practices and needs for further developments (guidance, regional plan)
 - support capacity building proces for EECCA
- Cooperation with ToS on Forest Sector Outlook and engaging in review process in due course of development of EPSOS II (possibly joint meeting)





Issues for the attention of WP

- ToS Members addressed the issue of balanced attendance and contribution from all members, including experts from EECCA.
- ways to help to improve participation and engagement among ToS members should be discussed at the broader UNECE/FAO forums
- encourage further support and assistance from interested bodies and from the Member States **to evolve the activities as well as strengthen the network and its capacity**
- Secretariat to secure resources (development of possible studies, hiring a consultant, coordination of work)

Comments, lessons learned:

- Need for better communication and more structured ways of cooperation and exchange of information about activities among relevant ToSs, in particularly with ToS on Forest Sector Outlook





Key questions for guidance and discussion

The Working Party is invited to:

- ***Provide guidance and advice on how the Section could support the country implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the development of forest-related SDG indicators;***
- ***Provide guidance and advice on how the Section could support the development of the UNFF Strategic Plan and its next programme of work;***
- ***Provide guidance and advice to the ToS on Forest Policy on the priorities of its proposed work.***

