

# Green Jobs in the Forest Sector

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

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# ToS on Green Jobs in the Forest Sector

Report to the thirty-eighth session  
of the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party



# Introduction

- Team of Specialists on Green Jobs in the Forest Sector:  
«Advise and support the secretariat on the implementation of the ECE/FAO Integrated Programme on employment-related issues such as: jobs, required competencies, education and training for the forest sector in the context of the green economy.»
- Resource-efficient green economy and EU Policies; Forest Policies in a Green Economy
- Forest Trends, Strategies and Forestry Programmes; New EU Forest strategy, the Rovaniemi Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy adopted at ECE/FAO



# Decisive Challenges

Decisive Challenges for the near future with crucial impacts on Green Forest Jobs will be

- (a) climate change and adaptation strategies,
- (b) society and the forest in a changing world (e.g. health aspects, recreation, ecotherapy, and other non timber benefits (NTBs) and
- (c) Forest energy production, bioethanol from forest residues, CO<sub>2</sub> and sustainable consumption, mycoforestry.



# Goals

The general goal of the ToS-activities is stated as follows:

**To Identify and list the existing and potential Green Forest Jobs in the forest sector.**

Based on the analysis of the actual situation and future challenges the following targets are proposed:

By the end of **2016** the different areas of potential green jobs in the forest sector will be ***identified*** and by the end of **2017 *recommendations*** will be presented to the member states.



# What has been done?

- Workshop Threats to sustainability of the Forest Sector Workforce 17th March 2015 in Geneva
- 24 - 25 March 2015, meeting of the Team of Specialist on Green Jobs in the Forest Sector (ILO/UNECE/FAO Joint Expert Network)
- Meeting ToS on Green Forest Jobs 8-9th September 2015 in La Bastide/F by the ToS ECE/FAO
- 8 September 2015, Side event at the World Forestry Congress with PEFC and Building and Wood Workers' International
- Side-Event on Green Forest Jobs 4th November 2015 in Engelberg (SILVA2015) / Meeting ToS
- 8 - 10 December 2015, Workshop: Forest Products Markets and Forest Sector Workforce in the Balkans





# Deliverables 2015

1. newsletters on ongoing activities of the ToS,
2. report about the potential of Green Forest Jobs (presented in November in Engelberg),
3. side-event about Green Forest Jobs in Engelberg,
4. Presentation during Workshop on Forest Product Markets in Montenegro.



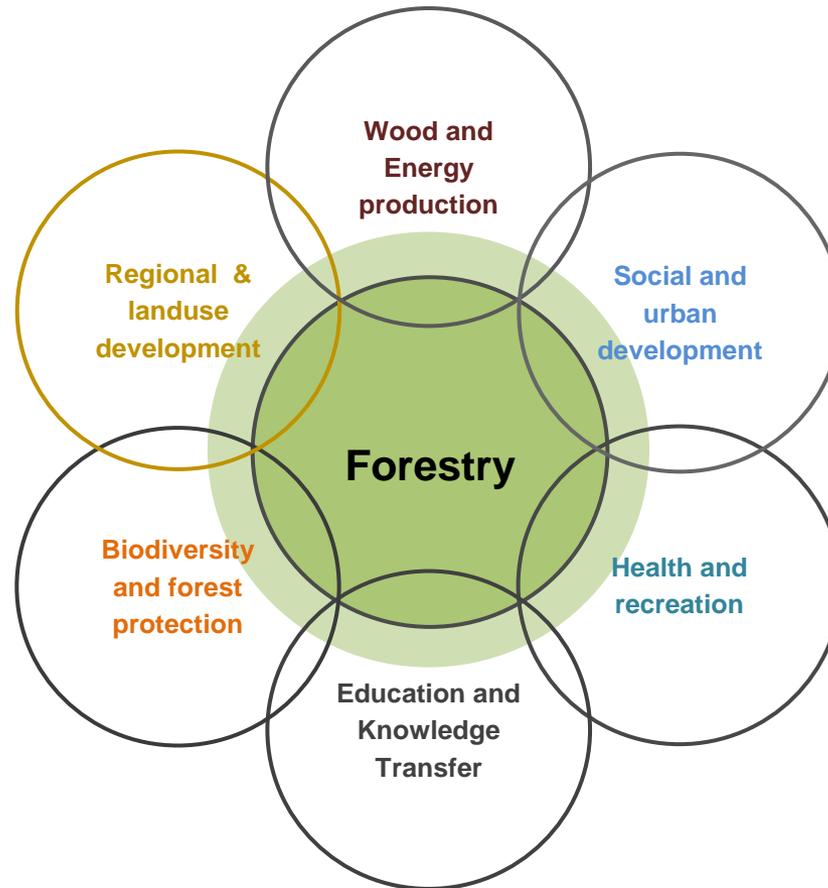
# What is a «Green Forest Job»?!

*A green forest job ...*

- *... complies with the principles of Sustainable Forest Management*
- *... contributes to the green economy,*
- *... and is involved in the value chain of forest products and/or in the performance of forest services.*



# Green Forest Jobs and its context





# Thematic area: Education & Knowledge Transfer

## Example / Field of activity Forest Education

➤ **Forest education is a hands-on exciting learning experience.**

➤ **Germany: > 1'000 forest kindergardens (320 in Baden Württemberg)**

**Forest excursions with > 300'000 people every year (Bavaria)**

(forest youth & adventure centres, 16 national park centres ...)

**❖ *Forest educators need additional didactic and pedagogic education to best transfer knowledge and to improve their communication skills.***

### Education

#### *Skills, Expertise and Green Forest Professions*

- Teachers in the forest
- University lecturers, forest instructors
- Forest interpreters
- Forest Guided Walk Leaders
- Nature Study and Outdoor Pursuits Professionals
- See also: "Culture and Forests".





Thematic area: Wood & Energy Production

Example / field of activity **Energy Production**

## Energy Production

### *Skills, Expertise and Green Forest Professions*

- Forest energy producers
- Specialist in Biomass Marketing and Logistics
- Experts in energy wood procurement
- Experts in trade and communication
- Forest entrepreneurs and operators

➤ **Forest based fuels are sufficient to heat 2 million single houses in Sweden**

(wood based )

➤ **Forest biofuel production has doubled within 1 year**

(from 2011 to 2012)

***❖ A new integrated work perspective: Collaboration intentions, excellent logistic abilities and negotiating skills will be required!***



# Thematic area: Regional & Landuse Development

## Example / Field of activity Mountain Forestry



### Mountain Forestry

#### *Skills, Expertise and Green Forest Professions*

- Specialists in mountain forestry
- Specialists in natural hazard management
- Soil bio-engineers

➤ **>130'000 buildings, 1'000s of km roads & tracks are protected by Swiss mountain forests**

(against natural hazards)

➤ **49% of CH-forests are protection forests with special management restrictions**

❖ ***Risk management will be one of the main tasks for mountain foresters: Risk analysis, valuation and action planning***



Thematic area: Biodiversity & Forest Protection

Example / Field of activity **Forest Protection & Contingency Planning**



**Forest Protection and Contingency Planning**

*Skills, Expertise and Green Forest Professions*

- Continous knowledge about species and characteristics.
- Forest pathologists and entomologists.
- Specialists in laboratories for analysis.
- Specialists on forest disease and insect identification.
- Specialist on surveying, monitoring and control.

➤ **The invasive EAB is feeding on all of the 5 ash species in Ontario with a 100% mortality-rate.**

(*Agrilus planipennis* / Emerald Ash Borer)

➤ **The ALB destroyed approx. 17'000 hardwood trees in Ontario**

(*Anoplophora glabripennis* / Asian Longhorn Beetle)

❖ ***Forest Contingency Planners need to think global and will develop and implement new insect & disease management strategies.***



# Thematic area: Health & Recreation

## Example / Field of activity Forest Ecotherapy

### Forest Ecotherapy

#### *Skills, Expertise and Green Forest Professions*

- Research and dissemination of knowledge about forest healing effects.
- Forest Ecotherapists
- Medical Doctors working in forest therapy centres
- Sports professionals, forest health coaches
- Forest Educators and guided walks leaders...

### ➤ Healing by $\alpha$ -Pinene and Limonene

(volatile organic compounds within forests)

### ➤➤ 44 accredited „Forest Bathing“ areas in Japan

(they are spreading all over the world)

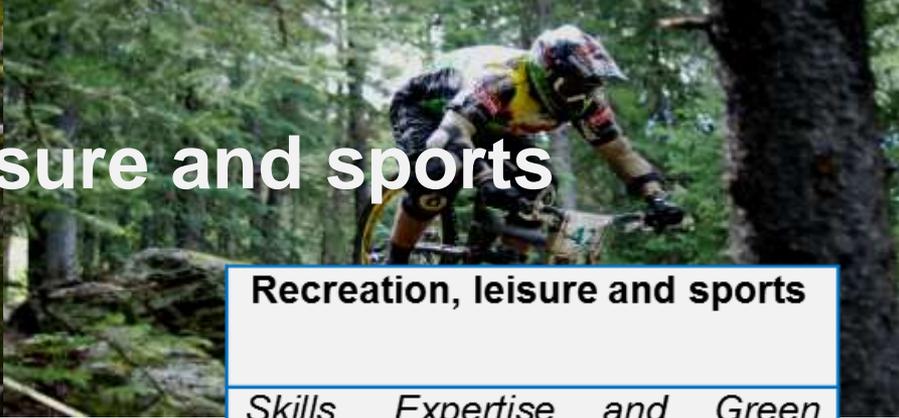
❖ ***Forest Ecotherapists are promoting non-timber forest health benefits by combining new forest health research with a basic knowledge of medical issues.***



Thematic area: Health & Recreation

Example / Field of activity

# Recreation, leisure and sports



## Recreation, leisure and sports

*Skills, Expertise and Green Forest Professions*

➤ **252 - 350 Mill. annual day visits to GB woodlands; tendency is increasing.**

(survey data from 1998 to 2003)

➤ **650 special forest recreation sites with different recreation facilities in Great Britain.**

(parking, information, refreshments, visitor shops, ...)

❖ ***Working in that field one is responsible for balancing forest and visitor needs and engaging in important public relations, information & communications work.***

- Recreation foresters
- Forest rangers
- Forest tourist guides
- Outdoor Pursuits Activities Organisers



# Thematic area: **Social & Urban development**

## Example / Field of activity **Urban Forestry**

➤ **The > 70,000 trees of Melbourne city are valued at \$650 million.**  
(incl. health, amenity and microclimate effects)

➤ **Melbourne`s trees receive letters of love.**  
(instead of those reporting damages)

❖ ***Urban foresters have to handle the special needs & demands of urban society as well as the special needs of urban trees associated with harsh and extreme growing conditions.***

### Urban forestry

#### *Skills, Expertise and Green Forest Professions*

- Urban Foresters
- Forest landscape gardeners
- Urban Forest Planners / Green urban Infrastructure Managers



# Reliable basis

The Team of Specialists aims to present recommendations to the Member States during European Forest Week 2017. As a basis for these recommendations and in order to strengthen ongoing programmes such as e.g. the Rovaniemi Action Plan the Team of Specialists proposes to further investigate the situation in Europe by

- (a) conducting a study Green Forest Jobs,
- (b) starting with the open handbook on Green Forest Jobs and
- (c) organising two workshops on Green Forest Jobs with some invited international experts.



# Study on Green Jobs in the forest sector (a)

- This study on potential and actual Green Forest Jobs aims to investigate best practice examples, national policies and action plans in the fields of the creation, implementation and promotion of these jobs in the forest sector.
- The objective of the study is to collect information and increase the knowledge on existing policies, action plans, communication campaigns, framework conditions, strategies and education curricula concerning the general understanding and awareness about Green Forest Jobs.
- The concept of the study will be developed in collaboration with the team of specialists. As a result the paper will identify the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats and challenges associated with the creation of Green Forest Jobs and will provide information to facilitate subregional cooperation.
- The study will also yield information about new green jobs developed in the last 5- 10 years as well as older ones. The evaluation will be an open and public call for participation by UNECE and FAO as well as by ILO.





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# Open handbook on Green Forest Jobs (b)

- The results of the above mentioned studies will be made available on an open internet platform
- which will show examples, best practice and experiences.
- An overview on ongoing initiatives will also be presented.



# Seminars on Green Forest Jobs (c)

- In late June a workshop will take place in Salsona (Spain) focusing on topics linked to skills and training: What skills are needed? What are the implications on forestry training?
- In Autumn a workshop with some invited international experts on the green economy, statistics and the non-timber benefits of forests will be organised in Ireland (?) in order to bring together different expertise and disciplines to develop a framework for future action.



# Outlook: Deliverables 2016

1. Update of the report about the potential of Green Forest Jobs
2. Workshop in Salsona (E) with international experts on forestry training concurrent with a meeting of the ToS Steering Committee
3. Workshop on Green Forest Jobs with some invited international experts. Autumn (Ireland?)
4. Report on the review of education curricula, policies and action plans
5. Start of the open handbook on Green Forest Jobs,
6. First draft of recommendations.





# Outlook: Deliverables 2017

1. Consultation on the recommendations,
2. Update of the open handbook,
3. Final version of recommendations on Green Forest Jobs to be presented during the 4th European Forest Week in Poland and communication of the results.



# Enhancing the European Think Tank on Future Green Forest Jobs

- The above mentioned activities will all enhance the European Think Tank on future green forest jobs: The proposed Open Network of interested people and organisations will exchange experiences and ensure optimal knowledge transfer.
- The ToS on Green Jobs, institutionally linked to ECE/FAO wants to promote the important exchange of knowledge.
- In order to broaden the network of expertise results should be presented and discussed in different networks and institutions.

