

**Economic and Social Council**Distr.: General
8 August 2016

Original: English

Economic Commission for Europe**Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry****Seventy-fourth session**

Geneva, 18-20 October 2016

Item 5(b) of the provisional agenda

**Reporting on and implementation of the 2014-2017 Integrated Programme of Work
and related decisions****Review of 2016 activities, and activities planned
for 2017****Note by the Secretariat***Summary*

This document describes how the 2014-2017 ECE/FAO Integrated Programme of Work was implemented in 2016, and provides a tentative list of activities for 2017, the implementation of which is subject to the availability of funds.

I. Review of 2016 activities**A. Work Area 1: Data, monitoring and assessment****1. Forest resources**

- (a) **Collection, validation and dissemination of statistics on forest resources, functions and services, sustainable forest management (SFM) and the contribution of the forest sector to a green economy**
- Pan-European 2015 reporting: successful launch of the third edition of the interactive database (quantitative indicators - <http://w3.unece.org/PXWeb/en>);
 - Reporting on forest ownership in the region: 32 member States submitted reports, and data were checked, validated and compiled in a preliminary forest ownership file. The data submitted have been made available to the project partners and authors of the study.

GE.16-12469(E)



* 1 6 1 2 4 6 9 *

Please recycle The recycling symbol, consisting of three chasing arrows forming a triangle.



(b) Analysis and assessment of the state of the forests and the sustainability of forest management; and monitoring of the role of the forest sector in a green economy

- Reporting on forest ownership in the region: ECE/FAO/COST Action FACESMAP (Forest Land Ownership Changes in Europe: Significance for Management and Policy) prepared the final concept note for the study; held a meeting of the Core Group on Forest Ownership Reporting, in Geneva, Switzerland, in November 2015; organized a meeting with stakeholder groups in Brussels, Belgium, in June 2016; and contributed to the final meeting of COST Action FACESMAP in Vienna, Austria, in September 2016, which served as a meeting with the authors of the study;
- Pilot reporting on the sustainability of forest management: a pilot study on the System for the Evaluation of the Management of Forests (SEMAFOR) has been finalized and is in press as Discussion Paper No. 67.

(c) Cooperation with, and support to, international processes in SFM, including regional criteria and indicators (C&I) processes

- Review of the process and results of the 2015 cycle of reporting on forests and SFM in the region: a joint Forest Europe/ECE/FAO enquiry on the reporting on the State of Europe's Forests 2015 was launched; and a contribution was made to the FAO review process on the Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) 2015;
- Contribution to the organization of the next cycle of the FRA, including participation in the meetings of the Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire (CFRQ) stakeholders (July 2016) and the FRA Advisory Group (October 2016), in Rome, Italy;
- Contribution to the inter-agency SFM/SDG indicators process, including participation in its third informal meeting, in July 2016, in Rome, Italy;
- Contribution to the work of international processes (e.g. Forest Europe, the Montréal Process, etc.), including:
 - attending the international expert workshop on strengthening collaboration on C&I to promote and demonstrate SFM, and, as an observer, the 16th Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of the Montréal Process (both held back-to-back in May 2016 in Ottawa, Canada);
 - cooperation with the Forest Europe Liaison Unit Bratislava, including participation in the Forest Europe Expert Level Meeting in April 2016, in Bratislava, Slovakia, on the preparation and establishing of the next cycle of the pan-European forest reporting;
- Support to forest information related work in countries and organizations in the region, including participation in the 3rd meeting of the Eurostat Task Force on Integrated Economic and Environmental Account on Forestry, on 16-17 March 2016, in Luxembourg and the DIABOLO (Distributed, Integrated and Harmonised Forest Information for Bioeconomy Outlooks) General Assembly on 19-20 April, in Copenhagen, Denmark;
- Organization of the fourth meeting of the Team of Specialists (ToS) on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management, in Zagreb, Croatia, on 14-16 September 2016.

2. Forest products and markets

(a) Collection, validation and dissemination of statistics on production, trade, consumption and prices of forest products

- Preparation of data on forest products, species trade, and prices;
 - Data provided to FAOSTAT in December 2015 and July 2016;
 - Unit price statistics published in January 2016;
 - Secondary products and species trade data published in March, for the first time in several years;
 - Price statistics updated in July 2016;
 - Long-term data series (1964-2014) published in February 2016;
 - Initial 2015 data collected in summer 2016, final data planned for end-2016.
- Continued work on wood balance tables, including its integration into the data verification process;
- Jointly with the FAO and the ITTO, development and issuance of a questionnaire on conversion factors;
- Trial game meat survey launched for the ECE region in May 2016.

(b) Analysis of markets for forest products, notably relevant policy aspects, including the Forest Products Annual Market Review (FPAMR) and annual Market Discussions

- Publication of an advanced draft of the FPAMR in mid-August 2016, with hard copy to follow in October;
- Publication of the statistical annex for the FPAMR, including trade flow and forest products production and trade (August 2016);
- Country market statements have been requested, are being collected and will be published on website (September 2016);
- Data collection (with International Softwood Conference) and the preparation of tables and graphs for Market Forecasts and their website publication (October 2016);
- Preparation of the COFFI Market Discussion and Market Statement (October 2016).

(c) Support to national and international processes in forest products

- Hosted the meeting of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Forest Sector Statistics (February 2016);
- Market presentation: “A Global Perspective on Market Opportunities”, at the Institute of Chartered Foresters National Conference 2016, The Timber Supply Chain – Dynamics and Opportunities, in April 2016, in Newcastle, United Kingdom;
- Review of international classifications and the provision of input to relevant international organizations, such as the World Customs Organization and the UN Statistics Division;

- ToS meeting on Forest Products Statistics on 22 March 2016 in Geneva, Switzerland, and two short meetings of the ToS on Sustainable Forest Products on 22 March 2016 in Geneva, Switzerland and 3 November 2015 in Engelberg, Switzerland.

3. Wood energy

(a) Collection, validation and dissemination of statistics on wood energy

- Maintenance of database on wood energy;
- Publication of Joint Wood Energy Enquiry (JWEE) 2013 data analysis and online database;
- Preparation of JWEE 2015, including consultations with countries.

(b) Analysis of energy-related issues, including demand for and supply of wood energy

- Work on the publication of a wood energy report: preparation of the concept and table of contents, setting up of the authors' team, organization of the work and compilation of the first draft of the study.

(c) Support of international processes in wood energy

- Presentation of the wood energy work at relevant international meetings and cooperation with relevant processes (e.g. International Energy Agency, International Renewable Energy Agency, etc.);
- Meeting of the ToS on Wood Energy, in June 2016, in Zagreb, Croatia.

B. Work Area 2: Policy dialogue and advice

(a) Follow-up to the Rovaniemi Action Plan (RAP) for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy

- Monitoring of the implementation of the RAP in the ECE region.
- Dissemination and presentation of the RAP at relevant meetings:
 - Side event at the Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference, "Towards a Green Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development: Practical Tools for the Forest Sector", on 9 June 2016, in Batumi, Georgia;
 - Dissemination of the RAP through the regular work of the implementation of the Integrated Programme of Work (IPoW) (studies, meetings, events);
- Preparation of a background paper and the workshop on "Measuring the value of forests in a green economy", to be held on 21 October 2016;
- Preparation of a website and a preliminary draft of the study "Forests and Water: Valuation and Payments for Forest Ecosystem Services";
- Organization of a meeting of the ToS on Forest Policy, on 7-9 October 2015, in Prague, Czech Republic.

- (b) **Contribution to the policy-related components of activities under Work Areas 1, 3 and 4**
- Policy chapter of the FPAMR;
 - Policy chapter of the wood energy study;
 - Policy elements of the forest ownership study.
- (c) **Forest Sector Outlook**
- Preparation of a workshop on “Streamlining the next round of Forest Sector Outlook studies”, on 24-25 November 2016, in Moscow, Russian Federation.
- (d) **Green Jobs in the Forest Sector**
- Meeting of the ILO/ECE/FAO ToS on Green Jobs in the Forest Sector - Steering Committee, 18 May 2016, Geneva, Switzerland;
 - Meeting of the ILO/ECE/FAO ToS on Green Jobs in the Forest Sector, 14 September 2016, Geneva, Switzerland;
 - Preparation of the advanced draft of the Forest Sector Workforce study.
- (e) **Monitoring and support of international processes relevant to policymaking for the forest sector**
- Cooperation with Forest Europe, including a series of consultations and participation in the Forest Europe Expert Level Meeting, 11-12 May 2016, in Bratislava, Slovakia, on the organization of cooperation for the implementation of the Forest Europe Work Programme;
 - Participation at the Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference, in Batumi, Georgia, in June 2016;
 - Monitoring of intergovernmental consultations on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
 - Participation in, and contribution to, side events organized alongside the 23rd session of the FAO Committee on Forestry (COFO), 18-22 July 2016, Rome, Italy;
 - Participation in the workshop “Bioeconomy and ecosystem services – synergy or conflict? - Horizontal and vertical policy analysis, modelling and orchestration in practice”, in September 2016, in Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium;
 - Contribution to the work on the UNFF Strategic Plan and the quadrennial programme of work in line with ECOSOC Resolution 2015/33, including participation in the Expert Meeting on Enhancing Regional and Subregional Involvement in the Work of the International Arrangement on Forests, in September 2016, in Tehran, Iran.

C. Work Area 3: Communications and outreach

- (a) **Organization of events and campaigns in support of SFM and forest products and services**
- International Day of Forests 2016. A workshop was held on 21 March 2016 in Geneva, Switzerland, with the theme “Forests and Water”.

- (b) **Dissemination of information via policy briefs, press briefs and ad hoc studies, whenever results are available and new information is released**
- Regular update of the media/public relations contact list;
 - Maintenance of the website and improvement of its design;
 - Preparation and dissemination of press briefs/releases on relevant topics issued in 2016;
 - Regularly issuing the Forest Information Billboard.
- (c) **Outreach activities beyond the forest sector, disseminating information that highlights the relevance of forests and forest products to other sectors (e.g. energy events, biodiversity and environment meetings, sustainable construction and building, etc.)**
- Affordable and clean energy: the successful launch of the film “More heat with less wood”, funded by the Climate Fund of the Federal Foreign Office of Germany. The original version was translated by partner organizations into Albanian, Georgian and Turkish, and translation into Hungarian, Serbian and Romanian is currently in progress by local partners;
 - Meeting of the ToS on Forest Communication (Forest Communicators’ Network) - Task Force, on 11-12 April 2016, in Vienna, Austria;
 - Meeting of the ToS on Forest Communication (Forest Communicators’ Network), on 29 August-1 September 2016, in Portland, Oregon, United States.

D. Work Area 4: Capacity-building

- (a) **Organization of capacity-building workshops**
- Forest Products Markets and Forest Sector Workforce in the Balkans, held in December 2015 in Podgorica, Montenegro.
- (b) **Preparation, implementation and follow-up of the United Nations Development Account (UNDA) projects: SFM for greener economies in the Caucasus and Central Asia (2013-2015); and Accountability systems for SFM in the Caucasus and Central Asia (2016-2019)**
- Evaluation of the project (2013-2015) and preparation of a project report;
 - Launch of the new project (2016-2019) with website and invitations;
 - Preparation of training material on forest monitoring;
 - Preparation of the inception workshop for the project (2016-2019), to take place in Yerevan, Armenia, on 15-18 November 2016 (to be confirmed).

E. Monitoring and management of the Integrated Programme of Work

- (a) **Intergovernmental meetings**
- Seventy-fourth session of the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (COFFI), on 18-20 October 2016, in Geneva, Switzerland;

- Organization of the meeting of the Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management, on 23-24 March 2016, in Geneva, Switzerland.
- (b) **Bureaux meetings**
- Organization of the Bureaux meetings: 22 March 2016, Geneva, Switzerland; 21 June 2016 (COFFI Bureau), Geneva, Switzerland; next meeting planned for 17 October 2016, Geneva, Switzerland.
- (c) **Evaluations and reviews**
- ECE evaluation on the assessment of the relevance of the 2014-2017 IPoW: assessment report;
 - Strategic Review (SR) of the IPoW: survey was launched in July 2016.

II. Tentative list of activities for 2017

A. Work Area 1: Data, monitoring and assessment

1. Forest resources

- (a) **Collection, validation and dissemination of statistics on forest resources, functions and services, SFM, and the contribution of the forest sector to a green economy**
- Reporting on forest ownership in the region: database of forest ownership data published;
 - The 2015 cycle of the Forest Europe/ECE/FAO reporting on forests and SFM in the region: organization of the reporting process, and coordination of the data collection with the global reporting;
 - Global FRA and CFRQ: cooperation with the FAO and other CFRQ partners on the establishment and organization of the regional contribution to the 2020 reporting cycle;
 - Contribution to the development of the draft questionnaire for the next global and regional reporting cycle to maximize the compatibility and integration of regional and global reporting;
 - Collaboration with relevant organizations and actors regarding forest related indicators of Sustainable Development Goals.
- (b) **Analysis and assessment of the state of forests and the sustainability of forest management; and the monitoring of the role of the forest sector in a green economy**
- Reporting on forest ownership in the region: final report of the “Study on forest ownership in the ECE region” published by the ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section and COST Action FACESMAP.

(c) **Cooperation with, and support to, international processes in SFM, including regional C&I processes**

- Contribution to the work of international processes (e.g. Forest Europe, Montréal Process);
- Support to forest information related work in countries and organizations in the region;
- Contribution to capacity-building on C&Is at national, subregional, regional and global levels;
- Organization of the meeting(s) of the ToS on Monitoring SFM.

2. Forest products and markets

(a) **Collection, validation and dissemination of statistics on production, trade, consumption and prices of forest products**

- Preparation of data on forest products, species trade, and prices;
- Improvement of the existing database;
- Development of procedures for estimating wood balance, including conversion factors;
- Analysis of the results of the trial game meat survey in the ECE region.

(b) **Analysis of markets for forest products, notably relevant policy aspects, including the FPAMR and annual Market Discussions**

- Publication of the FPAMR;
- Preparation of data and the statistical annex for the FPAMR;
- Preparation of tables and graphs for the Market Forecasts;
- Preparation of the Market Discussion and the Market Statement;
- Publication of a topical market analysis.

(c) **Support of international processes in forest products**

- Participation in the Intersecretariat Working Group on Forest Sector Statistics and attendance at other international meetings;
- Review of international classifications;
- Organization of the meeting(s) of the ToS on Forest Products Statistics and the ToS on Sustainable Forest Products.

3. Wood energy

(a) **Collection, validation and dissemination of statistics on wood energy**

- Maintenance of database on wood energy;
- JWEE 2015 data collection, validation, analysis and dissemination;
- Compilation of the results of the conversion factor questionnaire for publication by the FAO.

(b) Analysis of energy-related issues, including demand for, and supply of, wood energy

- Finalization of the publication of a wood energy report, explaining the data collection process, analysing trends in the supply of, and demand for, wood energy, including national case studies on wood energy data collection as appropriate.

(c) Support of international processes in wood energy

- Presentation of the wood energy work at relevant international meetings and cooperation with relevant processes (e.g. International Energy Agency, International Renewable Energy Agency, etc.);
- Meeting of the ToS on Wood Energy, spring 2017, Washington, United States.

B. Work Area 2: Policy dialogue and advice

(a) Follow-up to the RAP for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy

- Monitoring of the implementation of the RAP in the ECE region;
- Dissemination and presentation of the RAP at relevant meetings;
- Organization of the meeting(s) of the ToS on Forest Policy.

(b) Contribution to the policy-related components of activities under Work Areas 1, 3 and 4

- Policy chapter of the FPAMR;
- Policy chapter in the finalized wood energy and forest ownership publications.

(c) Forest Sector Outlook

- Holding of a workshop on “Streamlining the next round of Forest Sector Outlook studies”, in November 2016, in Moscow, Russian Federation;
- Development of a concept note, including a detailed description of the outline, possible scenarios, timelines and funding requirements, for the future European Forest Sector Outlook Study;
- Fundraising for Outlook studies;
- Organization of the meeting(s) of the ToS on Forest Sector Outlook.

(d) Green Jobs in the Forest Sector

- Organization of the meeting(s) of the ILO/ECE/FAO ToS on Green Jobs in the Forest Sector;
- Organization of a workshop on forests and health (potential new jobs in the forest sector);
- Finalization of the publication on the forest sector workforce and future green jobs.

- (e) **Monitoring and support of international processes relevant to policymaking for the forest sector**
- Monitoring of developments, and contribution, as relevant, to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
 - Monitoring of developments, and contribution, as relevant, to the UNFF Strategic Plan and the quadrennial programme of work;
 - Monitoring of developments, and contribution, as relevant, to the Forest Europe process and its Work Programme.
- (f) **Tools for policymaking - studies and publications**
- Finalization and publication of a study, “Forests and Water: Valuation and Payments for Forest Ecosystem Services”;
 - Finalization and publication of a study to contribute to the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) for forests (UN Statistics Division framework for ecosystem accounting).

C. Work Area 3: Communication and outreach

- (a) **Organization of events and campaigns in support of SFM and forest products and services**
- International Day of Forests: 21 March 2017, with the theme “Forests and Energy”;
 - Other relevant events.
- (b) **Dissemination of information via policy briefs, press briefs and ad hoc studies, whenever results are available and new information is released**
- Regular update of the media/public relations contact list;
 - Maintenance of the website and improvement of its design;
 - Preparation and dissemination of press briefs/releases on relevant topics in 2017;
 - Regularly issuing the Forest Information Billboard.
- (c) **Outreach activities beyond the forest sector, disseminating information that highlights the relevance of forests and forest products to other sectors (e.g. energy events, biodiversity and environment meetings, sustainable construction and building, etc.)**
- Preparation and dissemination of information to international mailing lists once a new language version of the film “More heat with less wood” becomes available (e.g. Hungarian, Serbian and Romanian);
 - Preparation and dissemination of press releases on forest products markets;
 - Organization of the meeting(s) of the ToS on Forest Communication.

D. Work Area 4: Capacity-building

- (a) **Organization of capacity-building workshops on:**
- Forest ownership;
 - Wood Energy Information (related to the JWEE), planned for December 2016;
 - Emerging issues.
- (b) **Implementation of the UNDA project: Accountability systems for SFM in the Caucasus and Central Asia (2016-2019)**
- Organization of advisory missions and capacity-building workshops.

E. Monitoring and management of the IPoW

- (a) **Intergovernmental meetings**
- Organization of the joint session of the COFFI and the FAO European Forestry Commission;
 - Organization of the meeting of the Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management (May 2017).
- (b) **Bureaux meetings**
- Organization of the Bureaux meetings as appropriate.
- (c) **Evaluations and reviews**
- Organization of the Strategic Review process, including organization of the stakeholders workshop on the Strategic Review of the IPoW, November 2016;
 - Conclusion of the Strategic Review of the IPoW: proposal for the 2018-2021 IPoW.
-