



Swiss Agency for
the Environment,
Forests and
Landscape SAEFL



Second Announcement

Forests – Common Benefits, Shared Responsibilities, Multiple Policies

Riga, Latvia, October 17-19, 2005

The workshop is organized by the MCPFE, Liaison Unit Warsaw in cooperation with UNECE Timber Committee, FAO European Forestry Commission and the Governments of Switzerland and Latvia, following the Vienna Resolution 1: “Strengthen Synergies for Sustainable Forest Management in Europe Through Cross-sectoral Co-operation and National Forest Programmes”.

1. Introduction

In recent years, the necessity to enhance cross-sectoral cooperation in sustainable forest management (SFM) has been addressed at most, if not at all international forest policy forums. Consequently, the term “cross-sectoral cooperation” has become ubiquitous in policy documents related to forestry, environment and sustainable development. The importance of cross-sectoral cooperation has also been stressed in the ECE/FAO European Forest Sector Outlook Study (EFSOS). The study points out the influences of other sectors’ policies and developments on the forest sector and vice versa. Up to date these cross-sectoral interactions have not been well understood, although they are often referred to in the documents. Thus, forest and non-forest policies are still being formulated in a suboptimal way with too little use of potential synergies.

The workshop aims to tackle the complex cross-sectoral issues at a level of policy formulation. It intends to show why planning SFM has to be developed into broad activities linked to many new policy areas. We would like to look at and discuss a role of forest sector in other sectors and vice versa. In order to stimulate a discussion at this meeting we invited not only foresters but also specialists and experts from other fields, such as: energy, agriculture and rural development, nature conservation, water management, financial sector, and trade & globalization.

2. Objectives of the workshop:

- Improve understanding of major political developments as well as changes outside and within the forest sector that have led to the necessity of cross-sectoral networks,
- Enhance understanding of how policies and strategies, developed in other sectors, influence the forest sector and vice versa,

- Analyse selected cross-sectoral issues, actors and interactions, especially concerning the forest sector and policies for energy, nature conservation, trade and globalization, financial sector, agriculture and rural development.
- Identify ways of coordination, cooperation or integration for each selected policy sector,
- Explore examples of cross-sectoral networks, processes and partnerships.

3. Participants

The workshop will gather policy and decision makers representing public administration and private sector, experts and specialists on forestry, forest policy and other sector policies

4. Venue

The workshop will take place at the Reval Hotel Latvija, Riga, Latvia.
Additional information on the hotel is available at : <http://www.revalhotels.com/eng/latvija>

5. Accommodation

Accommodation for participants of the workshop can be provided at the venue hotel. The rooms have been already reserved at a special rate: single - 93.00 Euro per night. All of the rooms are very comfortable and have beautiful views of the Old City. For further details on booking please contact Ms. Gunta Liepina:
Gunta.Liepina@apollo.lv; Gunta.Liepina@zm.gov.lv

6. Meeting

The working sessions will be held on 17-18 October, 2005. A field trip is planned on 19 October. A detailed agenda is being prepared and will be distributed in due time.

7. Registration

Please find attached the registration form for the workshop. Please return it by e-mail (Gunta.Liepina@apollo.lv ; Gunta.Liepina@zm.gov.lv) or fax (+371 702 7096) to Ms. Gunta Liepina.

8. Travel assistance

Limited financial assistance is available to facilitate participants' attendance in the workshop. For the eligibility of countries the same criteria apply as for the MCPFE Expert Level Meetings. As no reimbursements can be made, requests for travel assistance and daily allowances need to be addressed directly to Cynthia de Castro (Cynthia.De.Castro@unece.org) by **8th of September, 2005**.