

Agenda for the regional workshop on Sustainable Forest Management for Greener Economies in the Caucuses and Central Asian Region

Kazzhol Hotel, Astana, Kazakhstan, 8th to the 11th of April 2014

Globally governments have increased the pace of change towards more sustainable development through policies for greener economies. According to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), a green economy is low carbon, resource efficient, and socially inclusive. Unlocking the full potential of sustainable forestry can deliver a range of economic, social and ecological functions that play a key role in greening the economy. There are many opportunities from forestry related to increasing sources of renewable materials and energy, environmental services, more green jobs and improved livelihoods whilst enhancing biodiversity, water and soil. To fully realise the potential of forestry requires a responsive and inclusive forest sector, enabling policies and supportive institutions to help broaden opportunities related to forest management, products and services.

In October 2013, United Nations Economic Commission of Europe (UNECE) and the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) launched a capacity development project which aims through training and policy advisory services to assist countries in the region develop context specific strategies to more fully harness the potential of sustainable forest management for greener economies. More information on the initiative is available from <http://www.unece.org/forests-welcome/areas-of-work/forestsforestpolicieswelcome/capacity-building-in-central-asia-and-caucasus.html>

To launch this initiative a 3 day regional workshop has been organised for representatives from 7 target countries in Central Asia and the Caucasus, namely: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. The workshop will focus on a range of topics including;

- Principles of greener economies and sustainable forest management
- Stakeholder engagement in forest policy processes
- Forestry data gathering and management
- Bioenergy generation from wood
- Green economy action planning for country contexts and training delivery

Target audience: Those with influence over forestry decision making or implementation. For example policy makers and implementers from key government agencies including those focussing on forestry, but also from related sectors such as environment and nature protection, agriculture/grazing, energy and finance. In addition those from private sector, non-government organisations, training and academic institutions are welcome.

Expectations for participants: All participants must be available for the duration of the workshop. They must also be willing and able to support the replication /adaptation of this training workshop to their national context and as well as to support changes in forestry to further enhance sustainable forest management for greener economies.

Language and approach: Workshop is in English but with interpretation and materials provided in Russian. The workshop approach will be informal and interactive.

Workshop agenda (Tentative)

	8 th of April	9 th of April	10 th of April
A M	I. Preliminaries and Green Economy and Sustainable Forest management Principles. 1. Start sharp at 8.30. Opening remarks, introductions and objectives. 8.30 – 9.30 2. Key principles of Sustainable Forest Management for the Green Economy. <i>Presentation.</i> 9.30 to 10.15 Break 10.15-10.45	Start 8.30 8. Training approach recap. <i>Presentation.</i> 8.30-8.45 Spotlight on forest data gathering and management; rationale, principles and practice. 8.45 - 10.00. <i>Presentation, Q and A.</i> 10. Gap analysis on information gathering and management according to key Green Economy criteria. <i>Multi-country group work.</i> 10.00 -10.15 Break 10.15 -10.45	Start 8.30 15. Training approach recap. <i>Presentation.</i> 8.30-8.45 16. Intro presentation on effective forest policy formulation. <i>Presentation.</i> 8.45-9.15 17. Exercise on coherent policy statement development to support SFM for Greener Economies. <i>Exercise.</i> 9.15- 10.15 Break 10.15 – 10.45
	II. Forestry Context Analysis 3. Presentation of forestry context analysis exercises and assessment of forestry sectors against Green Economy criteria. 10.45 – 12.30 <i>Exercise – country team sharing.</i>	10. Contd. 10.45 – 11.30 11. Presentation of gap analysis for peer review. <i>Participant presentation.</i> 11.30 – 12.30	17. Contd. 10.45-11.30 18. Presentation of policy statements for peer review – examining the policy statement from different stakeholder perspectives. <i>Exercise.</i> 11.30 to 12.30.
	Lunch 12.30 to 13.30	Lunch 12.30 – 13.30	Lunch 12.30-13.30
P M	4. Effective forestry context analysis methods. <i>Presentation.</i> 13.30 – 14.00 5. Stakeholder analysis; problem analysis; rights, revenues and responsibilities analysis and Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats analysis. <i>Exercise – multi-country group work.</i> 14.00 – 15.15 Break 15.15- 15.45	III. Policy development. 12. Spotlight on wood energy; rationale, principles and practice. <i>Presentation. and Q and A.</i> 13.30 -14.45 13. Policy negotiation exercise – with focus on fuel wood policy. <i>Exercise.</i> 14.45 – 15.15 Break 15.15-15.45	IV. Planning next steps. 19. Intro to action planning. <i>Presentation.</i> 13.30- 14.00 20. Intro to effective training delivery. <i>Presentation.</i> 14.00-14.15 21. Development of capacity development plans for replication of the training in participating countries. <i>Exercise.</i> 14.15-15.15 Break 15.15-15.45
	5. continued. 15.45 to 16.30 6. Presentation of methods outputs for peer review. <i>Presentation by participants.</i> 16.30 – 17.30 7. Training reflection team review. <i>Exercise.</i> After training meeting	13.Contd.15.45 – 17.30 14. Training reflection team review. <i>Exercise.</i> After training meeting.	22. Presentation of training delivery plans for peer review. <i>Participant presentation.</i> 15.45 -17.00 23. Workshop evaluation, closing remarks and next steps. <i>Participant and organiser reflections and comments.</i> 17.00-17.30
	Close 17.30	Close 17.30	Close 17.30

Note that on the 11th of April a trip will be organised to enable further discussion of Green Growth strategies in Kazakhstan. Details to be provided later.