

Wood Energy in the UNECE region

Launch event organized on the margins of the thematic session on residential heating and air pollution

Fifty-sixth session of the Working Group on Strategies and Review

24 May, Thursday, 14:30 – 15:00, room XXV

The Joint UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section invites delegates to attend the launch event for the new UNECE study on “Wood Energy in the UNECE region” during the lunch break of 24 May 2018. The short presentation will start at 14:30 and will be followed by a Q&A session with the project coordinator. The presentation will highlight the main findings of the six chapters (The multiple functions of wood energy; Wood energy data: the Joint Wood Energy Enquiry; Wood fuels; Public policy instruments to support sustainable wood energy; Outlook for future wood fuel markets; Sustainable levels of wood fuel removals).

The Joint UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section monitors the state of forests in the region, helps in developing evidence-based policies for sustainable forest management, communicates about the many products and ecosystem services provided to society and assists countries to monitor and manage forests. Wood energy is the most important single source of renewable energy in the UNECE region. This is a great challenge and opportunity for forest resources as well as the air quality in the region. Improving the efficient use of solid biofuels and reducing the pollution associated with burning firewood are important objectives. The Joint Section will provide a short update to the plenary on how the UNECE is providing support directly to member States to change consumer behaviour. Many emissions can be avoided and the pressure on local forests can be reduced if consumers respect basic rules.