SEC/SEU Joint Forestry Initiative on “Climate Change impacts on Forest Management in Eastern Europe and Central Asia”

Hubert Nimród INHAIZER
Forestry Consultant

Benczur utca 34, H -1068 Budapest, Hungary
Tel: +36-1-461 20 00    Fax: +36-1-351 70 29
hubert.inhaizer@fao.org
Responsibilities of the Decentralized Offices

- Contribute to the implementation of the joint UNECE/FAO forestry strategy
- Respond to the identified priority areas of the member countries
- Providing and facilitating technical assistance
- Promoting the technical cooperation between countries in transition and other partnership programmes
- Supporting and organization of regular programmes and events, i.e. workshops and conferences
**Major forestry Workshops in 2010** (supported by SEU)

- **Best practices of private forestry in Central and Eastern European Countries**
  Hissarja, Bulgaria 18-20 January 2010

- **Institutional Needs for Sustainable Non-Wood Forest Product Sector in SEE**
  Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina 10-12 February 2010

- **Climate Change impacts on Forest Management in Eastern Europe and Central Asia**
  Sopron, Hungary 14-16 April 2010

- **Policy Options for Wood Energy in CIS Countries**
  Minsk, Belarus 1-4 June 2010

- **2nd Meeting of the Team of Specialists on Forest Policy in Eastern Europe and Central Asia**
  Istanbul, Turkey September 2010

For detailed information on the events please visit:

SEC/SEU Joint Forestry Initiative on “Climate Change impacts on Forest Management in Europe and Central Asia”

- Analyse actual stage of the national research initiatives, legalization and communication developments with 15 national experts;
- Provide platform for the member countries to exchange information about Climate Change and Forest Management;
- Explore policy options for developing Climate Change adoption and mitigation measures, taking into account the national political framework;
- Identify the fields for potential FAO technical assistance and
- Establish a network and channels of communication for continued information exchange on Climate Change and Forestry in Europe and Central Asia.
Analyze actual status at national level
(Assessment of the national reports)

- Readiness and willingness to take measures;
- Lack of specialized monitoring systems;
- Inadequate research on climate change impacts of forest ecosystems;
- Shortage of financing, facilities and experts;
- Capacities in the forestry sector in relation to climate change are weak and
- Missing bilateral and multilateral cooperation.
Conclusions and main findings

- Countries are already experiencing significant impacts of climate change on their forest ecosystems, although insufficiently assessed due to lack of adequate monitoring;
- The ecosystems of the region are extremely vulnerable to the impacts of climate change but countries have dedicated limited attention to the issue;
- There is a lack of awareness among policymakers, the public and forestry research on the actual and potential roles of forests in climate change adaptation and mitigation;
- Research on forests and climate change in the region is still very limited and
- There is a clear demand for adjustment of national forestry policies and legislation and develop strategies in line with international obligations.
Recommendations and follow up

• Network should be maintained and extended to facilitate the sharing of information and experiences among countries in the region on forests and climate change;

• Establish a regional training centre in order to secure the sufficient capacity building of forestry professionals to develop and implement climate change strategies;

• Strengthen capacities of countries and initiate cooperation projects to develop forest inventory methodology and forest carbon accounting;

• Should raise awareness of the forestry research needs of the region related to climate change, and explore the potential of increasing research through existing forest research networks and

• Taking the impact of energy on climate change into account, more attention should be given to wood energy.
Thank you for your attention!

Hubert Nimród Inhaizer

Forestry Consultant
FAO Subregional Office for Central and Eastern Europe
Benczur ut. 34, H-1068 Budapest, Hungary
www.fao.org/regional/seur/for_en.htm
hubert.inhaizer@fao.org