

Notes for ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Products Statistics

As of 15 May 2019

Tuesday, 26 March 2019, Palais des Nations, Geneva
10 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Leader: Branko Glavonjic

Deputy Leader: Graça Louro

1) Welcome and agenda, introductions

The Team was welcomed by the Leader and Secretary. There were 15 countries represented and four organizations and two international organizations (in addition to ECE and FAO). The draft agenda was approved.

2) Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire

The Team reviewed the JFSQ 2017 results.

Removals were discussed in the context of windthrown or pest-infected wood that is harvested without being used. The definition should be **improved to more clearly indicate when removal is considered to occur** – when it reaches roadside even if it is not sold. Most countries seem to use a consumption model for determining removals.

It was noted veneer figures had not changed despite the change in definitions. This should be brought to correspondents' attention. **The meeting urged that the change in definition be reflected in disseminated data and metadata.**

Recovered wood should be a total, for both energy and other uses. **ECE was asked to compare recovered wood in JFSQ with that in JWEE.** In the future the JWEE would be prefilled with JFSQ recovered wood.

A question was asked about how far back a data revision should go. Preferably as far as possible with limited effort, 5 years as a minimum.

FAO presented information on MDF/hardboard data problems. **It was agreed that this would be pursued with the countries most concerned.** Austria provided information on production.

3) Timber Forecast Questionnaire

Markus Stolze presented an analysis of estimation accuracy in the forecast questionnaire which is available on meeting website (<http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/timber/meetings/2019/20190326/stolze-forecasts.pptx>). He agreed to provide **data by country to the correspondents.**

4) Initial result of Engineered Wood Products (EWP) questionnaire

The Team reviewed the results of the EWP work. Despite difficulties in collecting the data the team encouraged further development as the products are seen as

increasingly important. Several countries indicated this had helped to improve understanding of the industry in their countries. Additional data could be expected later this year, **the secretariat would send a reminder to non-responding countries**. No production should be indicated by 0. **After discussion it was recommended to issue the questionnaire again requesting 2018 data towards the end of 2019.**

Several participants encouraged adding new CN codes as soon as possible rather than waiting for HS changes. In this connection Germany indicated after the meeting that national production codes existed as from 2019:

- 1623 19 002 * - - @aus Brettschichtholz (Glued laminated timber)
- 1623 19 003 * - - @aus Balkenschichtholz/Lamellenholz (Glued solid timber)
- 1623 19 004 * - - @aus Brettsperholz (Cross laminated timber, Xlam)
- 1623 19 005 * - - @aus Furnierschichtholz (Laminated veneer lumber, LVL)

5) HS 2022

FAO presented the current status of the HS proposals. The Team thanked the Intersecretariat Working Group on Forest Sector Statistics (IWG) for its work.

6) Statistical systems

ITTO briefed the Team on the results of the IWG meeting in Yokohama. He underlined the principle that the same data should be in all databases. The Team welcomed the continued and improving cooperation between the organizations responsible for global forest products statistics.

ITTO pointed out the need to have information on production and trade of certified forest products.

The Team discussed the recent articles (Buongiorno and Maarit, Kallio, Solberg - see team website <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=50820>) about discrepancies in international statistics. This underlined the importance of the wood balance which should be improved and expanded and could be used more extensively as a tool for checking JFSQ data.

7) Updates from countries

Austria announced first results from the 2016 – 2021 inventory with a 3,400 ha per year growth and 88% utilization rate. See annex for more information.

France explained the upcoming revision of its main removals and sawmilling questionnaire with additions in diseased, windthrown wood and spruce-fir distinction being added.

Serbia said its second forest inventory was now underway with preliminary results expected in 2020.

Finland presented information on development of a renewed prices statistics database “The Roundwood Markets in the Baltic Sea Region” –

(<http://px.luke.fi/PXWeb/pxweb/en/metsa/?rxid=801ea9e5-0f6f-48ac-840b-50ae8ff15c0c>). This could be linked to the ECE price database.

Publications and links to country forestry statistics information are in the annex. Additions are welcome.

8) *Updates on ECE/FAO projects*

The secretariat explained the status of the conversion factors study which is nearing completion with over 30 responses. Those interested in reviewing the study were asked to contact the secretariat.

FAO provided information on the just published *Guidelines for the incorporation of a woodfuel supplementary module into existing household surveys in developing countries* (<http://gsars.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/GS-WOODFUEL-GUIDELINES-06.pdf>), *Guidelines on data collection for national statistics on forest products* (<http://gsars.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/GS-NFP-GUIDELINES-EN-06.pdf>) and the forthcoming *Classification of Forest Products*.

The secretariat provided an update on JWEE 2017 which appears to be having an even higher response than last round. More information was subsequently presented at the Working Party (<http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/timber/meetings/2019/20190327/2019-41-wp-item-08a-steierer-glazenapp.pdf>).

A correspondents meeting is being planned for Serbia for September.

9) *Priorities for new developments in statistics and improving synergies*

The secretariat presented four topics for further work: doublecounting of production, survey of removals definitions and methodologies, wood chips, and the wood balance.

Latvia presented an informal market survey of chip grades by end use

	Energy	Pulp	Industry
Size	8 – 80 mm	13-45 mm	10-25mm
Bark	Up to 10%	Less than 1%	Up to 3%
Ash	Up to 6%	0.5% or less	Up to 2%
Sawdust	Up to 7%	Up to 1%	Up to 5%
Moisture	40-50%	50-60% (freshly cut)	45-55%

Several participants pointed out price was a useful indicator distinguishing low value energy from high value pulp chips. Others indicated this varied based on subsidies and physical properties.

The Team suggested using this information in proposing changes to trade classifications. The secretariat **agreed to pursue this in discussions with Bioenergy Europe and CEPI.**

It was agreed that wood balances were important and should be pursued. The doublecounting and removals survey was postponed for further discussion.

10) Next meeting, topics, timing and location

The next meeting is tentatively planned for Monday, 23 March 2020, just prior to the next Working Party meeting on 24-25 March. This day will also mark International Day of Forests.

Participants suggested an expanded annotated agenda would be useful in preparing for the meeting.

The Team thanked Mssrs. Surendra Joshi and Martti Aarne for their strong contribution to the work on forest products statistics.

Links and reports

Austria

Austrian NFI 2016-2021 published in January first results (2016-2018) after having assessed half of the total sample plots: <https://bfw.ac.at/rz/bfwcms.web?dok=10485>

Forest area: 4.02 Mio ha (+3400 ha/y)

Annual increment: 29.7 Mio m³

Annual fellings: 26.2 Mio m³

Utilisation rate increased from 85% to 88%.

Standing volume: 1,173 Mio m³ (after 1,135 Mio m³ in 2008)

Tree species: spruce 49.2% of production forest (was 50.7%)

Finland

- A brand new publication “Finnish forest statistics”, bilingual (Finnish, English), published in Dec 2018, online version free of charge: https://stat.luke.fi/en/finnish-forest-statistics-2018_en
- “Finnish bioeconomy in numbers”, updated to include the 2017 data
<https://www.luke.fi/en/natural-resources/finnish-bioeconomy-in-numbers/>

France

- Composition de la forêt française : surface, propriété, stock de bois, diversité...
 - o Institut National de l'Information Géographique et Forestière (IGN)
 - o Publications, études, recherche et services en ligne dont tableaux de résultats, données brutes et cartographie interactive
 - o <https://inventaire-forestier.ign.fr>
- Données statistiques sur la filière bois : études, publications et données statistiques en ligne
 - o études, publications et tableaux statiques :

<http://agreste.agriculture.gouv.fr/thematiques/bois-et-forets-884/#Récolte de bois, Productions de sciages>

o tableaux dynamiques :

<https://stats.agriculture.gouv.fr/disar-web/disaron/?searchurl=searchUiid/search.disar>

Germany

Project on Wood Resource Monitoring finalized in 2018 : Identifying material and energetic use for wood :

- <https://www.thuenen.de/en/wf/projects/resource-monitoring-for-wood/>

Data of re-calculation of wood removals and fellings in Germany online :

- <https://www.thuenen.de/en/wf/figures-facts/production-and-use/fellings-and-roundwood-use/>

Ireland

www.agrculture.gov.ie and www.coford.ie

- <http://www.coford.ie/news/woodflowandforest-basedbiomassenergyuseontheislandofireland2017.html>
- Woodflow data combines JFSQ and JWEE reporting for Ireland. This data series is the public face of JFSQ and JWEE reporting in Ireland and now has been published by COFORD on an annual basis for over 12 years.
- Input and output data for all wood fibre use is provided by woodflow reports on a rolling 3 year basis for both Northern Ireland and for the Republic of Ireland.
- The third National Forest Inventory (NFI) for Ireland as below was published in June 2018.

<https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/nfi/nfifthirdcycle2017/nationalforestinventoryresultsdata2017/>

JRC

Wood resources balance info

https://ec.europa.eu/knowledge4policy/publication/wood-resource-balances_en?page=1

https://ec.europa.eu/knowledge4policy/publication/forestry-sankey_en