



Informal Discussion

Teams of Specialists – Item 3b



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Virtual

18 June 2020



Teams of Specialists under the WIPoW

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- The ***Warsaw Integrated Programme of Work 2018 – 2021*** contains the Terms of References for eight Teams of Specialist [ECE/TIM/2017/2-FO:EFC/2017/2]; 7 mandates were extended to 2021, a new ToS was established in 2019;
- Each single ToR of the ToS' highlights that the ***lifetime of the ToS' are limited*** (Duration: From January 2018 to December 2019. Renewable to 2021);
- The Teams of Specialists are reviewed after two years, and the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party of Forest Statistics, Economics and Management provides recommendations to the Committee and the Commission for updating the Terms of Reference of the Teams of Specialists and for their extension or discontinuation.



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Team of Specialists on	At the Joint Session of ECE COFFI and FAO EFC in 2019:	Contribution to the WIPOW
... Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management	Existing mandate was extended to 2021	WA 1, WA 2 and WA 4: to focus on sustainable forest management monitoring for different ECE and FAO studies and reviews, sustainable forest management assessment and work on criteria and indicators.
... Sustainable Forest Products	Existing mandate was extended to 2021	WA 1 and WA 4: to focus on forest products and markets, market statements.
... Forest Products Statistics	Existing mandate was extended to 2021	WA 1 and WA 4: to support work on statistics in the JWP.
... Wood Energy	Existing mandate was extended to 2021	WA 1, WA2, and WA4: to support the development of data and relevant advice on wood energy in the region.
... Forest Sector Outlook	Existing mandate was extended to 2021, ToS on Forest Policy was integrated	WA 1, WA 2, and WA 4: to support the development of Outlook Studies; to focus on forest policies in the region and provide capacity-building
... Forest Communication	ToS Merged with FAO global Forest Communicators' Network	WA 3 and WA 4: to provide advice in support of relevant events, campaigns and PR efforts; support dissemination of results of other ToS
... Green Jobs in the Forest Sector	Existing mandate was extended to 2021	WA 2 and WA 4: to focus on green jobs and capacity-building activities in support of SFM
... Boreal Forests	Established new ToS with mandate until 2021	WA 1 and WA 2

ToS on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management

Highlighted outputs achieved since 2018

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- FAO Global Forest Assessment 2020
 - Questionnaire and data collection - the highest ever rate of responses from the UNECE region
- Joint UNECE/FAO/FOREST EUROPE 2020 reporting of forests and SFM
 - Questionnaire and data collection - joint repository with the global FRA database
- Forest ownership in the ECE region
 - Questionnaire and data collection - online database
 - Publication "Who owns our forests?"
- UNDA Project on C&I in the Caucasus and Central Asia
 - Support to countries of the project and publication "Guidelines for the C&I Development"
- Planned/Ongoing:
 - Forest damage/disturbance assessment
 - UNECE/FAO forest assessment website

Tbilisi 2018

Vienna 2018

Copenhagen 2019

Larnaca 2020 (tbc)

...



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ToS on Sustainable Forest Products

Highlighted outputs achieved since 2018

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- Contribution to the Forest Products Annual Market Review 2018, 2019 and 2020.
- Provide speaker for the Market discussions of COFFI and EFC



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ToS on Forest Products Statistics

Highlighted outputs achieved since 2018

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- Engineered wood products – development of questionnaire, definitions, conversion factors, data collection and publication
- Reviewing and improving Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire items and definitions
- Technical problems in data collection
- Work on doublecounting, distinguishing energy and material use of wood chips, removals definitions



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ToS on Wood Energy

Highlighted outputs achieved since 2018

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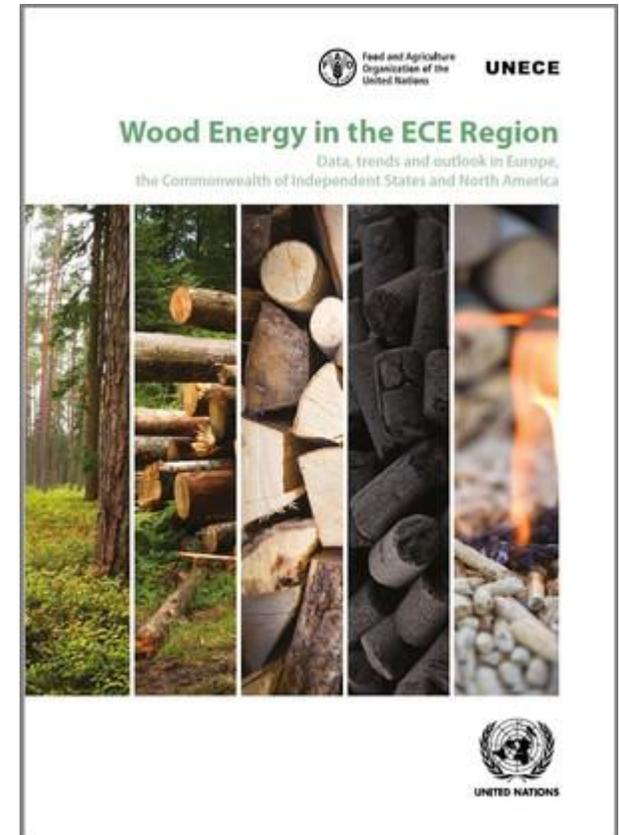


Publication of the study on Wood Energy in the ECE Region: Data, trends and outlook in Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States and North America (May 2018);

- Joint Wood Energy Enquiry (JWEE)
- Successful collection and dissemination of data on wood energy for the reference years 2015 and 2017.

Planned output in 2020 and 2021:

- JWEE2019 data collection and dissemination of information;
- Factsheets on wood energy related issues.



ToS on Forest Sector Outlook

Highlighted outputs achieved since 2018

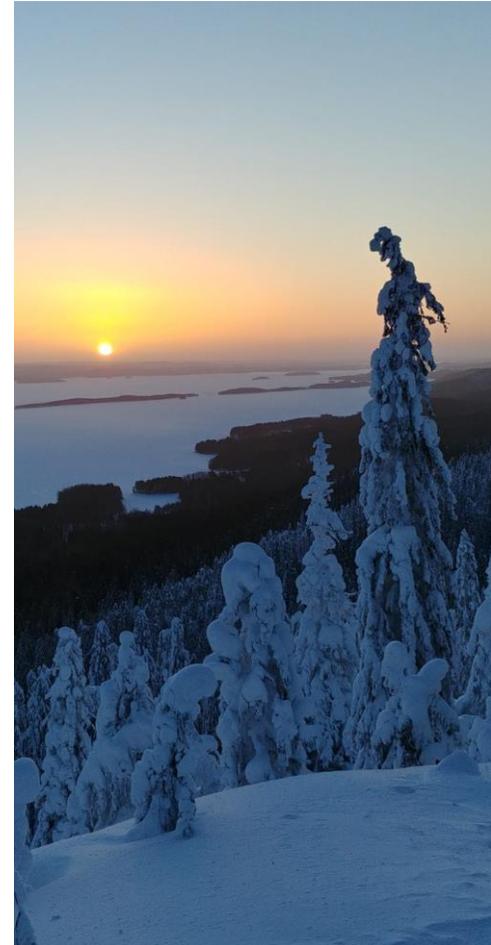
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- Preparation of the next Forest Sector Outlook in a transparent and participatory way (e.g. brainstorming workshop in January 2018, exchange of experiences in Forest Sector Outlook Studies in 14 February 2019 and the discussion of preliminary results during the Joint Working Party in 2019);

Planned output in 2020 and 2021:

- The Forest Sector Outlook Study in the ECE region is expected to be published in Q4 of 2020;
- Policy Brief on Forests and SDGs



ToS on Forest Communication

Highlighted outputs achieved since 2018

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- Promoting the revision of the Strategic Framework for Forest Communication in Europe;
- Promoting a survey among European Communicators on common messages within forest communication in the UNECE region;
- Input to the International Day of Forests;
- Promoting work on updating public perception research.

ToS on Green Jobs in the Forest Sector

Highlighted outputs achieved since 2018

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- Contribution to the organization of two UNECE/FAO knowledge - sharing workshops (2018 and 2019) on "Green Forest Jobs – Exploring opportunities and increasing capacity of ECE member States"
- Organisation of two side events on the importance of green jobs:
 - at the COFFI F session in Vancouver, 2018
 - At the COFFI/EFC session in Geneva, 2019
- Advice to the work on "Guidelines on the promotion of the green jobs in forestry" (to be published end of 2020)

ToS on Boreal Forests

Outputs achieved during the last year

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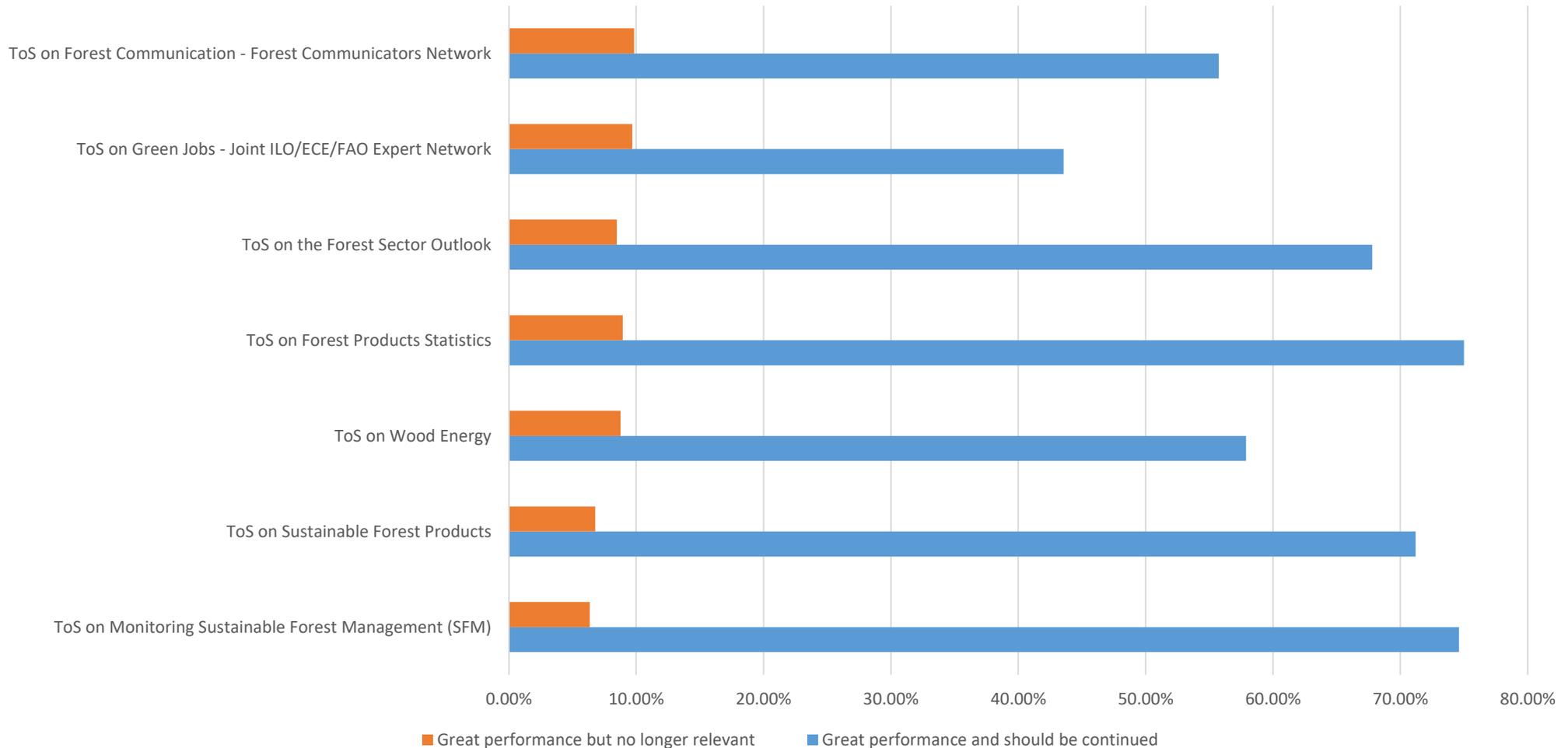
- First official meeting was postponed due to COVID-19 – now scheduled for November 2020;
- Preparatory meeting held virtually in April 2020;
- Boreal fact sheet inputs collected from member States – will feed into a background document for the first meeting.

Performance of Teams of Specialists

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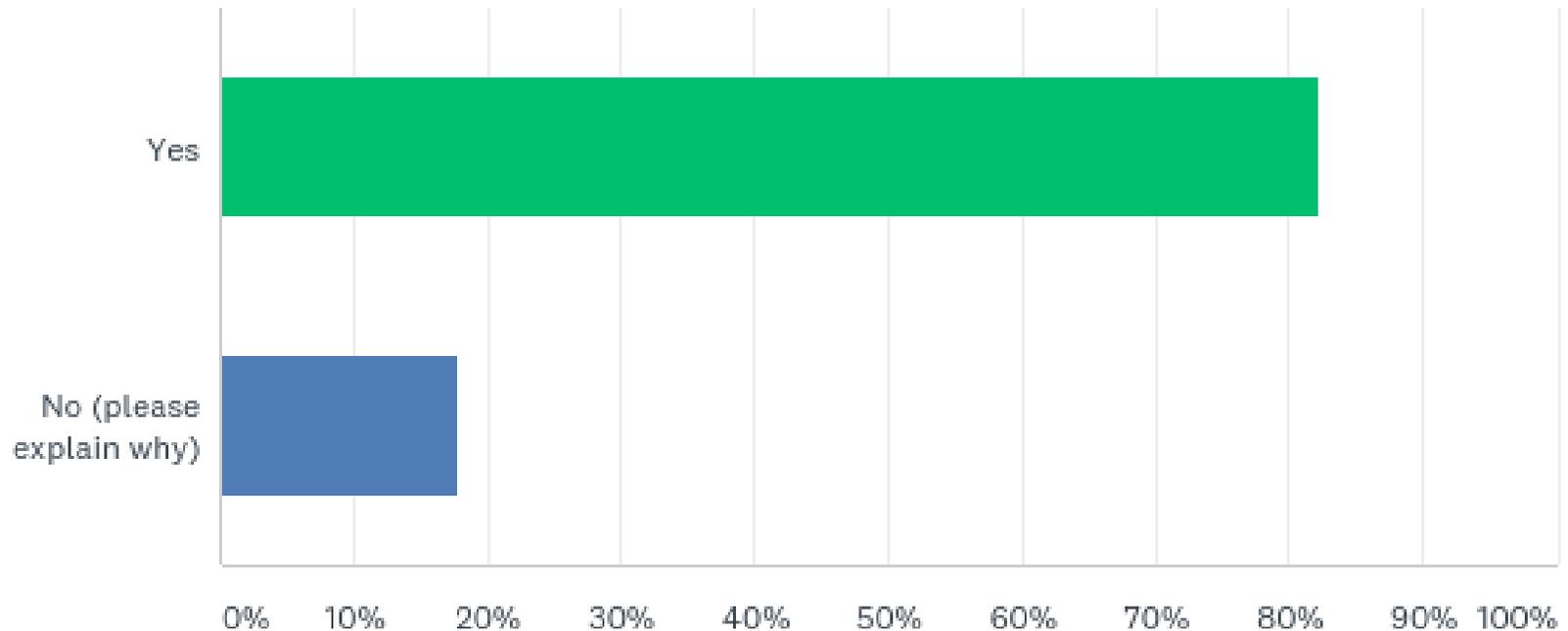


Rate performance of each Team of Specialists



Is the support by the Secretariat to the ToS adequate?

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- Progress on some issues can be frustratingly slow, with little progress made between meetings.
- Should provide funding for delegate travel to meetings.

Specific suggestions regarding work of ToS

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- The priorities, plan of work and the membership of ToS on Boreal forests should be agreed upon after its first official meeting, which should be held in the face-to-face manner;
- Forest Communication ToS overlap with FAO and unclear what they do;
- No need to start preparation of a new Outlook study during the next IPoW, but there should be some simplified tool instead, which should be focused on potential wood supply and their changes;
- The ToS on green jobs has done its work and should be discontinued;
- Strengthen link between Teams of Specialists mandates within the next IPoW;
- Mode of communication between members of ToS could be improved, as well as outreach and visibility on the web;
- Apart from academics, involve people with "field experience";
- ToS on Wood Energy requires better harmonization with energy statistics;
- Perhaps we could make the deliverables clearer and work towards joint (scientific) articles with our ToS.



Thank you!



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UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section

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