

**Roundtable discussion on
potential implications of UNFCCC COP21
for forests and the forest sector.**

Thursday 24 March 2016, Palais des Nations, room VIII

The twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC took place in December 2015, in Paris, France. The Paris Agreement and the outcomes of the UNFCCC COP21 cover all the essential areas, including those related to forests and the forest sector. The Agreement stipulated that countries were obliged to take action to conserve and enhance, as appropriate, sinks and reservoirs of GHGs including forests. Furthermore, countries were encouraged to take action to implement and support sustainable management of forests and the enhancement of forest carbon sinks in developing countries through: results-based payments; policy approaches and positive incentives for activities relating to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, and conservation, sustainable management of forests, and the enhancement of forest carbon sinks.

The aim of the roundtable discussion is to present the details of UNFCCC COP21 in relation to forests and the forest sector in the ECE region. After the introduction of the topic, experts on the issue and delegates are invited to discuss possible implications of the COP21 decisions on forests and the forest sector in the region.

Outcomes of UNFCCC COP21 related to forests

Mr. Dirk NEMITZ	Programme Officer United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
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Forest related policy developments in member states after UNFCCC COP 21 - Finland

Mr. Heikki GRANHOLM	Director Natural Resources Department Finnish Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
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Forest management strategies for climate change mitigation after UNFCCC COP 21 - Poland

Prof. Tomasz ZAWIŁA-NIEDŹWIECKI	Deputy Director General Polish Directorate General of the State Forests
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Potential implications of UNFCCC COP21 on forest related research and science

Prof. Gert-Jan NABUURS	Professor European Forest Resources Alterra / Wageningen University and Research
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Potential implications of UNFCCC COP21 on harvested wood products

Mr. Sebastian RÜTER	Senior Researcher Thünen Institute of Wood Research
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Potential implications of UNFCCC COP21 on FAO's future work on forests

Ms. Thais LINHARES-JUVENAL	Head Forest Economics and Statistics Food and Agriculture Organization
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Discussion and statements

Summing up