



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

Report by the Chair of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (COFFI) to the Executive Committee (EXCOM)

The Integrated Programme of Work (IPoW) of COFFI and the FAO European Forestry Commission (EFC)



FORESTS



Dr. Guy Robertson, Chair
103rd meeting of the Executive Committee
1 February 2019, Geneva, Switzerland



Achievements of 2018

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■ WA1: Data, monitoring and assessment

Outputs

- Studies: *Forest Products Annual Market Review 2017-2018*; *Wood Energy in the ECE region: Data, trends and outlook in Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States and North America*, *JFSQ*, *Global Forest Reporting with FAO*
- Interactive database on *Forest Ownership in the UNECE Region*
- Global and regional reporting incl. training for national correspondents from Europe and CCA

Impact

- Unique set of data for forests in the region to support policymaking
- About 2,000 experts mobilized in the region through various reports, workshops and ToS



Achievements of 2018

FORESTS



■ WA2: Policy advice and dialogue

Outputs

- **Ministerial Roundtable** on Forest Landscape Restoration and the Bonn Challenge in the Caucasus and Central Asia
- **Mid-term Review** of Rovaniemi Action Plan → priority actions developed
- **National Forest Policy Dialogues** in Azerbaijan and Ukraine
- Studies: **Forests and Water – Valuation and payments for ecosystem services** – including the most comprehensive database of case studies on water-related payments for forest ecosystem services schemes in the UNECE region; **Green Jobs in the Forest Sector**

Impact

- **2.5 million ha of landscape** committed for restoration in the Caucasus and Central Asia
- Astana Resolution: committing the region to go beyond 2.5 million ha and strengthen partnerships and regional cooperation
- Countries are using guidance on key policy issues



Ministerial Roundtable on Forest Landscape Restoration in the Caucasus and Central Asia

21-22 June 2018 | Astana | Kazakhstan

Achievements of 2018

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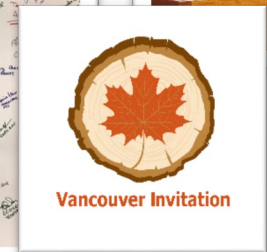
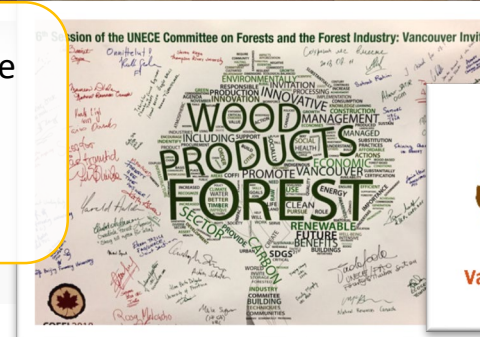
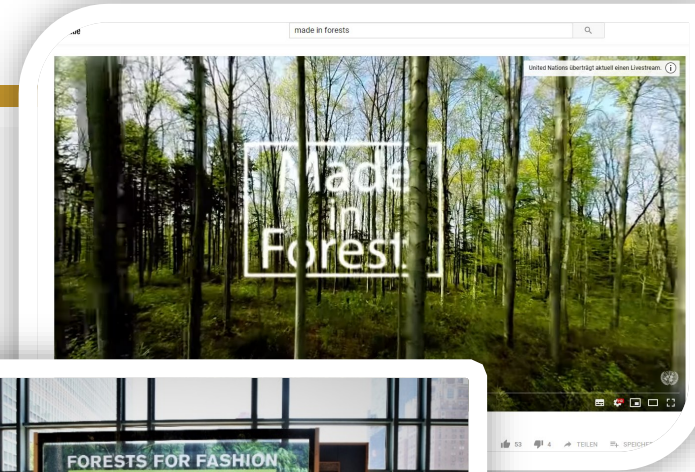
WA3: Communication and outreach

Outputs

- **International Day of Forests 2018: *Forests and Sustainable Cities* event**
- ***Made in Forests* movie production** - more than 4,000 views and presented to world leaders by UNDP Goodwill Ambassador Michelle Yeoh
- **Forests for Fashion Initiative** – exhibition at the High-Level Political Forum
- **Cartoon *The Three Little Pigs and Climate Change*** presented at COP24
- **COFFI session in Vancouver (first ever in NA) Vancouver Invitation on Forest Products for a Better Future,**

Impact

- Increased visibility outside the forest sector (through presence at HLPF and engagement of different audience at COFFI2018)
- Strengthened public support for value of wood-based products (through exhibitions, movie, celebrity endorsement, Vancouver Invitation)



Achievements of 2018

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■ WA4: Capacity-building

Outputs

- Implementation of UNDA project: **Accountability systems for SFM in the Caucasus and Central Asia (2016-2019)** through national workshops and guidelines for the development of national criteria and indicator sets for SFM
- Wood balances workshop to harmonize data

Impact

- National criteria and indicator sets in 5 Central Asian and Caucasian countries
- Streamlined forest reporting



Major activities planned for 2019 and beyond

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■ WA1: Data, monitoring and assessment

State of Europe's Forests and UNECE wide reporting

State of Forests in the Caucasus and Central Asia region

- Improve the visibility and understanding of the forest sector in the region to national policy makers and the international community
- Encourage regional dialogue and cooperation on forest related issues, and strengthen efforts to improve data quality

FSSQ and markets annual reporting

Joint Wood Energy Enquiry and wood energy study

- Improve knowledge about the relevance of wood energy in the region
- Provide member States with the best-available sources of information on the role that wood energy can play in various sectors to support environmental, energy, and socio-economic strategies towards a greener economy

IMPACT/ OUTPUT

**Open-source,
transparent,
reliable forest
sector data for the
ECE region**

Major activities planned for 2019 and beyond

FORESTS



■ WA2: Policy advice and dialogue

Forest Sector Outlook study

- Provide capacity building to member States to adapt and use the results for their respective national needs

Guidelines on Green Jobs in the Forest Sector

Monitoring of implementation of the Rovaniemi Action Plan

Ministerial Roundtable on Forest Landscape Restoration and the Bonn Challenge in Eastern Europe and the Balkans

- Planned to take place in Ukraine in 2019
- Expected to result in substantial reforestation commitments by countries in the region

Forest Policy Dialogues

- In Kazakhstan to develop a National Forestry Strategy
- In Azerbaijan to revise and update the National Forestry Strategy

IMPACT/ OUTPUT

- **Open-source forest sector outlook models**
- **New green jobs in the forest sector identified**
 - **Country commitments to forest landscape restoration under the Bonn Challenge**
- **National Forest Strategies developed**



UNECE



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Major activities planned for 2019 and beyond

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■ WA3: Communication and outreach

Forests and Education

- International Day of Forests 2019 and focus on SDG 4 Quality Education during the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the UNECE region → Forest Education and Pedagogy

Joint Session and 5th European Forest Week

- Preceded by JWP in March to discuss work of ToS

Promotion of Vancouver Invitation on Sustainable Forest Products for a Better Future

Promotion of Videos *Made in Forests* and of *The Three Little Pigs and Climate Change*

IMPACT/ OUTPUT

- **Positive communication on the forest sector reaches people**
- **Improved public image of forest products**

Major activities planned for 2019 and beyond

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■ WA4: Capacity-building

UNDA project on “Accountability Systems for Sustainable Forest Management in the Caucasus and Central Asia” (2016-2019)

- Regional Summit 28-31 May 2018 in Issyk Kul, Kyrgyzstan
- Publication of the Guidelines for the development of national criteria and indicator sets

Technical Cooperation activities

- Increase commitment towards forest landscape restoration
- Improve forest-data quality and accessibility across the region
- Provide a platform for forest policy dialogues

IMPACT/ OUTPUT

- **National criteria and indicator sets in 5 Central Asian and Caucasian countries**
- **Streamlined forest reporting**

Cooperation

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Food and Agriculture
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ecost
EUROPEAN COOPERATION
IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



**UN
DP**

*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*



**UNITED NATIONS
ESCAP**

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

UN
environment



COFFI 2018



**International
Energy Agency**
Secure
Sustainable
Together

giz

Deutsche Gesellschaft
für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

IUCN



ITTO

**Forest
Europe** growing life
Ministerial Conference on the
Protection of Forests in Europe

European Environment Agency

FSC

PEFC™

**— GLOBAL —
FOREST
— GOALS —**

**United Nations
Forum on Forests**

Key decisions from COFFI 2018

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- Full use of digitalization and application of IT technologies in every aspect of work
- COFFI approved the Vancouver Invitation on Sustainable Forest Products for a Better Future as contained in the Annex I of the meeting report (ECE/TIM/2018/2)
- COFFI adopted its Rules of Procedure as included in Annex III of the meeting report (ECE/TIM/2018/2)



DECISIONS FOR EXCOM

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EXCOM is invited to consider to **change the name of subprogramme 7 from “Forestry and Timber” to “Forests and the Forest Industry”** to align the name of the subprogramme with the Sectoral Committee and transmit its recommendation to the Economic Commission for Europe for consideration at its sixty-eighth session.



Thank you!



Guy Robertson
Chair

Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry

1 February 2019, Geneva, Switzerland

