

SPEAKERS GUIDELINE

Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management in the Caucasus and Central Asia UNECE/FAO, UNDA Regional Inception Workshop 15th to the 18th of November 2016

This document provides information and guidance to speakers/presenters during the workshop.

If you are invited to present a topic, case study, experiences, recommendations etc. please provide a **presentation** and a **handout** by Sunday **6 Nov 2016**. It would be highly appreciated if you can provide the presentation and handout in English and Russian. If this is not possible, we will try translating your presentation and handout to make them available in both languages. Any questions or requests regarding translation can be sent to Theresa Loeffler (theresa.loeffler@unece.org).

I. Presentation guide:

1. Timing: please keep presentation to 15-20 minutes maximum (with translation participants will lose interest quickly) there will be an additional 10 minutes for questions.
2. Include a short biography on yourself with background and key experiences/expertise.
3. Prepare presentation only on key messages (prepare details in concise and tailored handouts with more information and background, see II.)
4. Clarify useful definitions and acronyms. Please keep jargon and acronyms to a minimum (they often do not translate well) but where there is a jargon or acronym you cannot avoid, please spell out at first use.
5. Outline (a general guide):
 - a. Start with the “Why?” you are presenting on this topic, what is its intended purpose, as well as the context it originated from. Also, it is good to mention what resources (time, financial, material and human) were available for its development, so that applicability can be discerned by participants.
 - b. It is often good to provide a historical timeline.
 - c. Process and principles description. It is often extremely important that participants are made aware of the process and principles followed, e.g. who was involved and how? What process milestones were there etc. highlighting the Criteria and Indicator (C&I) processes, are they universal? This is especially useful for countries where process planning is in an early stage. **It is important to link the outcomes back to both the process and the context.**
 - d. Great to have photos of the process – bringing it to life.
 - e. Key lessons learned in the process– strengths and challenges.
 - f. Recommendations and key questions for participants to ask themselves, determining if this is appropriate for their country.
 - g. Please provide brief reference to the handout you will provide.

II. Handouts of particular relevance to the target audience:

1. Handouts should be a practical guide that participants can take away. They should provide a summary of the most important take-home-messages of the presentation, as well as a list of links to further relevant reading and an explanation why they are useful.
2. The handouts can be of immediate relevance for group work, where groups will be tasked with analysing what is relevant and what is not for their country contexts. During the group work more detailed verbal guidance should be given by the speakers.
3. Please include your E-mail address and invite further contact.

III. Further specific information for the regional context:

It is important to get participants not to “copy and paste” either processes or outcomes, but to initiate thinking about the form and function of C&I processes and outcomes needed in their own countries. Forest functions are important because national forest departments in the past collected and sent data (often emphasizing the positive information) to central planning units, where analysis was done, forest plans were developed and dispatched to countries. The idea of countries defining their own functions for forest monitoring based on current and future actual needs and trends is rather new, especially with engaging a wide range of stakeholders in defining the functions and visions for forestry.

Take into consideration some specifics in the country contexts. In the past they were more focussed on meeting productivity goals, rather than meeting economic and social needs. The ‘democratisation’ of forestry is in its infancy, with many challenges related to tenure, governance, and an enabling environment for private sector engagement in forestry etc. Most countries are very familiar with quantitative statistics and inventories from centralised forest planning systems. Qualitative aspects of forestry are rather new. Also most countries have limited resources, so they might have to think of ways of prioritising and cutting corners. The focus should be towards a participatory, multi-stakeholder process and away from centralized planning.