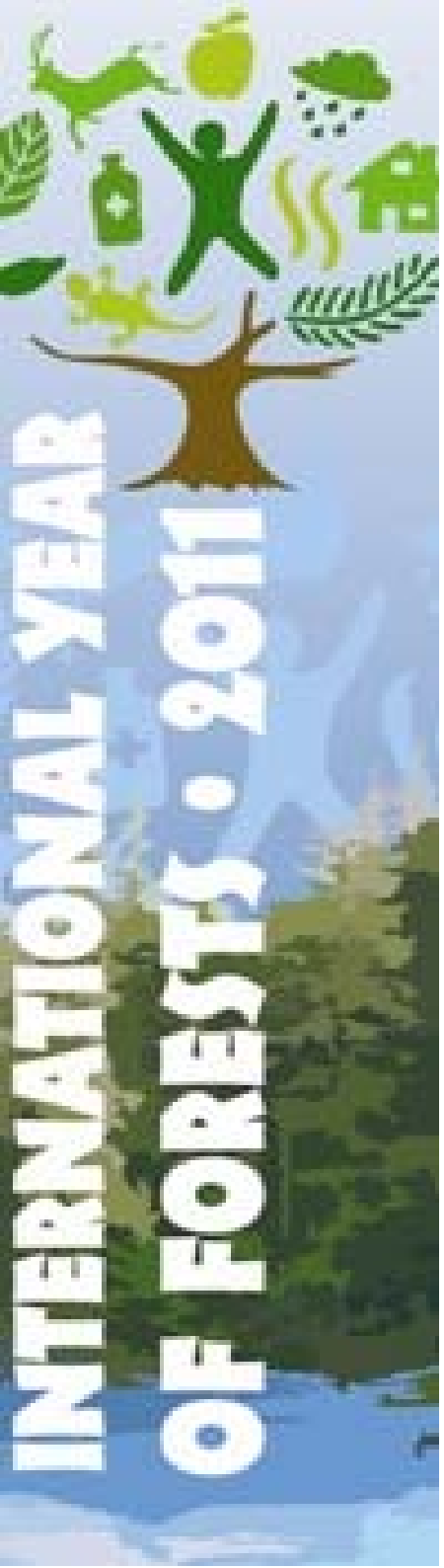


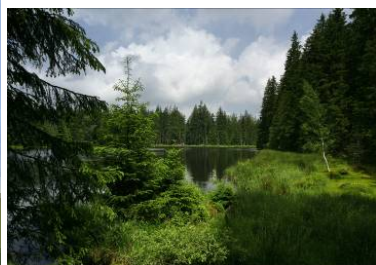
INTERNATIONAL YEAR
OF FORESTS • 2011



Regional Forest Information Week

Joint FAO/UNECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics

Palais des Nations, Geneva, 23-24 March 2011



Review and Guidance of Work Area 5 - Policy and Cross Sectoral Issues ToS on Forest Policy in EECA



By Jana Jovanovska, vice leader, ToS Forest Policy in EE and CA



Content

- Members of the Team
- Mandate and objectives
- Review of work accomplished (lessons learned)
- Issues
- Future activities
- Web site dissemination



Members of ToS

- Representatives from EE and CA region
- Representatives from Austria, Finland, CEPF, WB, UNEP, University of Tuscia
- Secretariat FAO Budapest, supported by UNECE/FAO Timber section and FAO HQ
- Leader:
 - Prof. Anatoly P. Petrov, Russia
- Vice leaders:
 - Alisher Shukurov, Uzbekistan
 - Jana Jovanovska, Macedonia



Mandate and objectives

- To enhance effectiveness of international activities intended to support and contribute to sustainable development of the forest sector in EE ad CA

Objectives:

- Exchange information and experiences on forest policy formulation and implementation,
- Identify priority issues in EE CA countries,
- Promote a transparent regional discussion of priorities and best practices in reforming policies and institutions in the sector,
- Integrate countries into existing policy networks.



Work Accomplished

- Share and discuss national experiences on forest policy challenges and success stories, based on reports prepared by Team members, and consider possible bilateral cooperation activities (“matching experiences”) – subgroup 1
- Discuss English and Russian terms and definitions related to forest policy on the basis of the glossary prepared by the Team and Secretariat – subgroup 2
- Learn from and discuss with international experts about forest policy developments and emerging topics in the region, their activities in the region and their possible support to eastern European and central Asian countries.



Priority areas of work

- Development and implementation of National Forest Programmes,
- Cross-sectoral forestry development and integration of forestry policy into sustainable development strategies,
- Dialogue between science and policy, as well as strengthened research capacities in EE and CA region
- Participatory approaches,
- Legal and institutional reforms,
- Law enforcement
- Multi-functional planning, forest monitoring and assessment, forests and forest biodiversity conservation, as well as rehabilitation of degraded forest land and combating desertification through sustainable watershed management, forest fires management system
- Bringing priority issues to higher political level through statement made at COFO



Role of the Team for the EE and CA region

- Team is going through a learning process and developed for exchanges of experience, play an important role. The work of the Team since 2009 had advanced significantly and country reports on both challenges and success stories were produced for meeting priority issues and Glossary on Russian English terms and definitions was created
- Importance of focusing on policy implementation and readiness to share experiences on the topics defined by team members.
- EFC at it 35th session requested continuation of ToS EECA addressing the needs with regard to the implementation of SFM including climate change



Issues

- Limited expertise on policy issues and implementation processes – creating ToR for membership
- In times with limited budget, the value added of the ToS has to be evident, as donor funding needs to be secured
- Need for countries' support, in sustaining established network and update of information



Addressing climate change

- <http://www.forestandclimate.gov.tr/>,
- forest and climate change webpage developed on the basis of recommendation made at the Regional Workshop on “*Climate Change Impacts on Forest Management in Eastern Europe and Central Asia*” held in Sopron, Hungary, 14-16 April 2010.



Future Tasks (1)

Frequency of ToS meetings:

- bi-annual events with concrete activities,
- regional workshops on commonly defined topics in-between

(1) Developing Effective Forest Policy

(2) Forest administrations at a cross-road: meeting the challenges of a changing world

This will:

- (i) give concrete practical meaning to the ToS;
- (ii) will bring to efficient budget use, strengthened networks etc.



Future Tasks (2)

- Review of forest policy implementation, with a focus on specific policy issues relevant for the region
- Review the exchange and transfer of experiences undertaken on the basis of matching exercise, with each country reporting on its progress; develop project proposals and consider how to help to approach donors
- Glossary: Review the revised version, with countries input; discuss the approach as well as particular terms and definitions that require clarification
- Straighten the cooperation with other ToS's on specific issues for the region



Web addresses:

<http://timber.unece.org/index.php?id=182>

<http://www.fao.org/europe/activities/forestry/tos/en/>

<http://web.ogm.gov.tr/diger/teamofspecialistsmeeting/Sayfalar/default.aspx>



Thank you!



FAO/UNECE 33rd Working Party, March 2011, Geneva Switzerland

