Joint Session of the ECE Timber Committee and the FAO European Forestry Commission

Location, Turkey – 10-14 October 2011

Assessing sustainability of forest management:

a new approach for SOEF 2011 and beyond

Kit Prins

Outline

- Why assess sustainable forest management?

- What are the qualities of a good assessment method?

- How did SOEF 2011 assess the sustainability of forest management in Europe?

- Results of the SOEF 2011 assessment of SFM in Europe

- Next steps.

Why assess sustainable forest management?

- To make a mass of data meaningful for decision makers and the general public

- To bring together developments in the different dimensions of SFM

- To present forest status and trends to other sectors, and fit into broader indicator sets

- To measure progress towards objectives, taking corrective action if necessary

- To help to answer the question « How sustainable is forest management? » in an objective way

What are the characteristics of a good assessment method for Europe?

- Based on objective and documented official data (e.g. SOEF)

- Comprehensive (all countries, all indicators)

- Transparent, not « size-dependent »

- Provide usable & clear outputs

- Leave space for commentary to take account of national/regional circumstances

The SOEF 2011 approach to assessing sustainability of forest management in Europe

- Start point: MCPFE indicators cover all aspects of SFM in the region

- One key parameter for each MCPFE indicator (table 85) e.g. annual change in GS/ha, area protected as % of FOWL

- One to five « trees » assigned, using thresholds in table 85

- Assessment more objective for quantitative than qualitative indicators

- No data => one tree

- Assessments aggregated by region (weighted by land area). No assessment by country published

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Results by country group

NB:

Tendency for ratings to converge at country group/criterion level

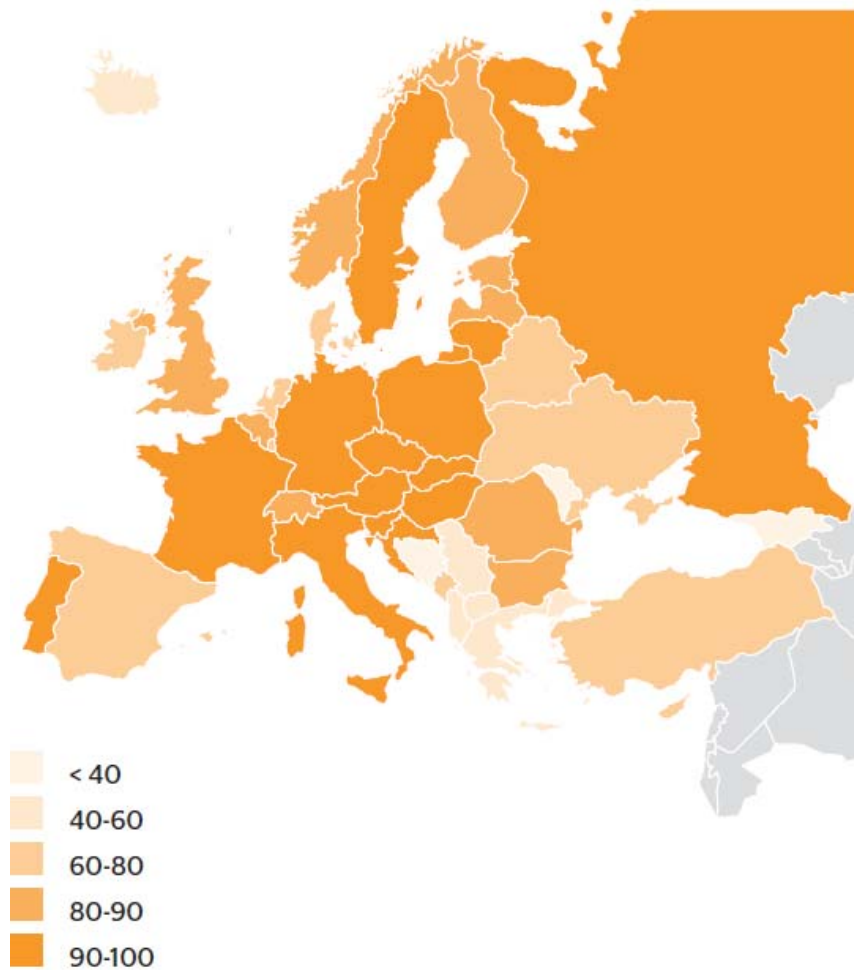« Areas of concern » are those indicators with two « trees » or less, at country group level.

Data availability
(% of key parameters for which data available)

Legend:
- < 40
- 40-60
- 60-80
- 80-90
- 90-100

Sustainability of forest management in Europe, 2010

	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	Part A	Part B
	Forest resources and global carbon stock	Health and vitality	Productive functions	Biodiversity	Protective functions	Socio-economic functions	Overall policies, institutions and instruments for sustainable forest management	Policies, institutions and instruments by policy area
Russian Federation	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲🌲
North Europe	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲🌲
Central-West Europe	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲	🔶🔶	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲🌲
Central-East Europe	🌲🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲	🔶🔶	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲
South-West Europe	🌲🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲	🔶🔶
South-East Europe	🌲🌲🌲	🔶🔶	🔶🔶	🔶🔶	🌲🌲🌲	🔶🔶	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲
European Union	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲	🌲🌲🌲

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Russian Federation

			Areas of concern
C1	Resources and carbon	🌲🌲🌲	Decline in OWL, possible decrease in carbon stock
C2	Health and vitality	🌲🌲🌲	Weak data on soils condition and defoliation
C3	Productive functions	🌲🌲🌲	Low per hectare values for marketed roundwood, NWGS
C4	Biodiversity	🌲🌲🌲	Low % protected, gene conservation. ND landscape pattern
C5	Protective functions	🌲🌲🌲🌲	All indicators positive at country group level
C6	Socio-economic functions	🌲🌲🌲	Low revenue and government expenditure, small share of wood energy
A	Policies and institutions, overall	🌲🌲🌲	Little quantitative information on public expenditure
B	By policy area	🌲🌲🌲🌲	Objectives with regard to wood consumption not clear

North Europe

			Areas of concern
C1	Resources and carbon	🌲🌲🌲	All indicators positive at country group level
C2	Health and vitality	🌲🌲🌲	Eutrophication risk, C/N ratio in 2 countries
C3	Productive functions	🌲🌲🌲	Weak data on marketed roundwood and NWGS
C4	Biodiversity	🌲🌲🌲	Weak data on threatened species, low % of forest protected for biodiversity in some countries
C5	Protective functions	🌲🌲🌲	Unable separate protection for soil/water from protection for infrastructure
C6	Socio-economic functions	🌲🌲🌲	Partial information on government expenditure, cultural/spiritual sites
A	Policies and institutions, overall	🌲🌲🌲	All indicators positive at country group level
B	By policy area	🌲🌲🌲🌲	All indicators positive at country group level

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Central-West Europe

			Areas of concern
C1	Resources and carbon	🌲🌲🌲	All indicators positive at country group level
C2	Health and vitality	🌲🌲🌲	Eutrophication, C/N ratio
C3	Productive functions	🌲🌲🌲🌲	All indicators positive at country group level
C4	Biodiversity	🌲🌲🌲	Landscape pattern and fragmentation. Weak data on threatened species
C5	Protective functions	🌲🌲	Unable to separate protection for soil/water from protection for infrastructure
C6	Socio-economic functions	🌲🌲🌲	Negative net revenue in some countries,, negligible wood energy in a few, small share of forest workforce
A	Policies and institutions, overall	🌲🌲🌲	All indicators positive at country group level
B	By policy area	🌲🌲🌲🌲	All indicators positive at country group level

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Central East Europe

			Areas of concern
C1	Resources and carbon	🌲🌲🌲🌲	Decline in forest cover in one country
C2	Health and vitality	🌲🌲🌲	Eutrophication, C/N ratio. High defoliation in one country
C3	Productive functions	🌲🌲🌲	Weak data, low per ha values for marketed NWGS
C4	Biodiversity	🌲🌲🌲	Fragmentation, weak data on landscape pattern
C5	Protective functions	🌲🌲🌲	All indicators positive at country group level
C6	Socio-economic functions	🌲🌲	Weak data/low values on net revenue and government expenditure. Small share of forest workforce. Low consumption. Wood energy low. Weak information on recreation, spiritual/cultural values
A	Policies and institutions, overall	🌲🌲🌲	Weak information on financial instruments
B	By policy area	🌲🌲🌲	Several countries did not report on land use objectives

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South-West Europe

			Areas of concern
C1	Resources and carbon	🌲🌲🌲🌲	Missing data on age class structure
C2	Health and vitality	🌲🌲🌲	Eutrophication risk. Fire.
C3	Productive functions	🌲🌲🌲	No data on marketed forest services
C4	Biodiversity	🌲🌲🌲	Data missing on regeneration, deadwood. Fragmentation, negatve trends for landscape
C5	Protective functions	🌲🌲🌲	All indicators positive at country group level
C6	Socio-economic functions	🌲🌲🌲	Data missing on share of GDP, wood energy, visits
A	Policies and institutions, overall	🌲🌲🌲	All indicators positive at country group level
B	By policy area	🌲🌲	Incomplete or missing data for many indicators

South-East Europe

			Areas of concern
C1	Resources and carbon	🌲🌲🌲	One country with steep fall in forest cover. Weak data on age class structure
C2	Health and vitality	🌲🌲	Eutrophication risk. Data missing on soil condition. Fire
C3	Productive functions	🌲🌲	Fellings >NAI in one country. Low value for marketed NWG, weak data on services
C4	Biodiversity	🌲🌲	Several countries high share of single species stands. Data missing on deadwood and threatened species. Low share of protected forests
C5	Protective functions	🌲🌲🌲	All indicators positive at country group level
C6	Socio-economic functions	🌲🌲	Data missing on many parameters. Low wood consumption
A	Policies and institutions, overall	🌲🌲🌲	Weak quantitative data on economic support of sector
B	By policy area	🌲🌲🌲	Several large countries did not reply, or did not formulate objectives and instruments

Next steps

- Cross-check national data and scores

- Communicate results to policy makers

- Discuss broad assessment concept: useful or not? Repeat for next SOEF?

- Discuss method: choice of parameters, thresholds, aggregation etc.

- Communicate with national and global forest sector, other indicator work, outlook

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

Kit.prins@gmail.com