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Federal Department of the Environment,
Transport, Energy and Communications DETEC

Federal Office for the Environment FOEN
Forest Division



State Forest Resources
Agency of Ukraine

The Lviv Forum on Forests in a Green Economy Vision and Messages for Action





Objectives of the Forum



1. To understand key trends and issues in: forest goods and services; income generation from forest-based activities; energy demands on forests; the role of forests in carbon economies; biodiversity conservation; the sustainable use of forests; and related topics
2. To strengthen cooperation & to enhance partnerships among countries and key stakeholders
3. To recommend actions to strengthen forest policies, institutions and practices that support the Green Economy.

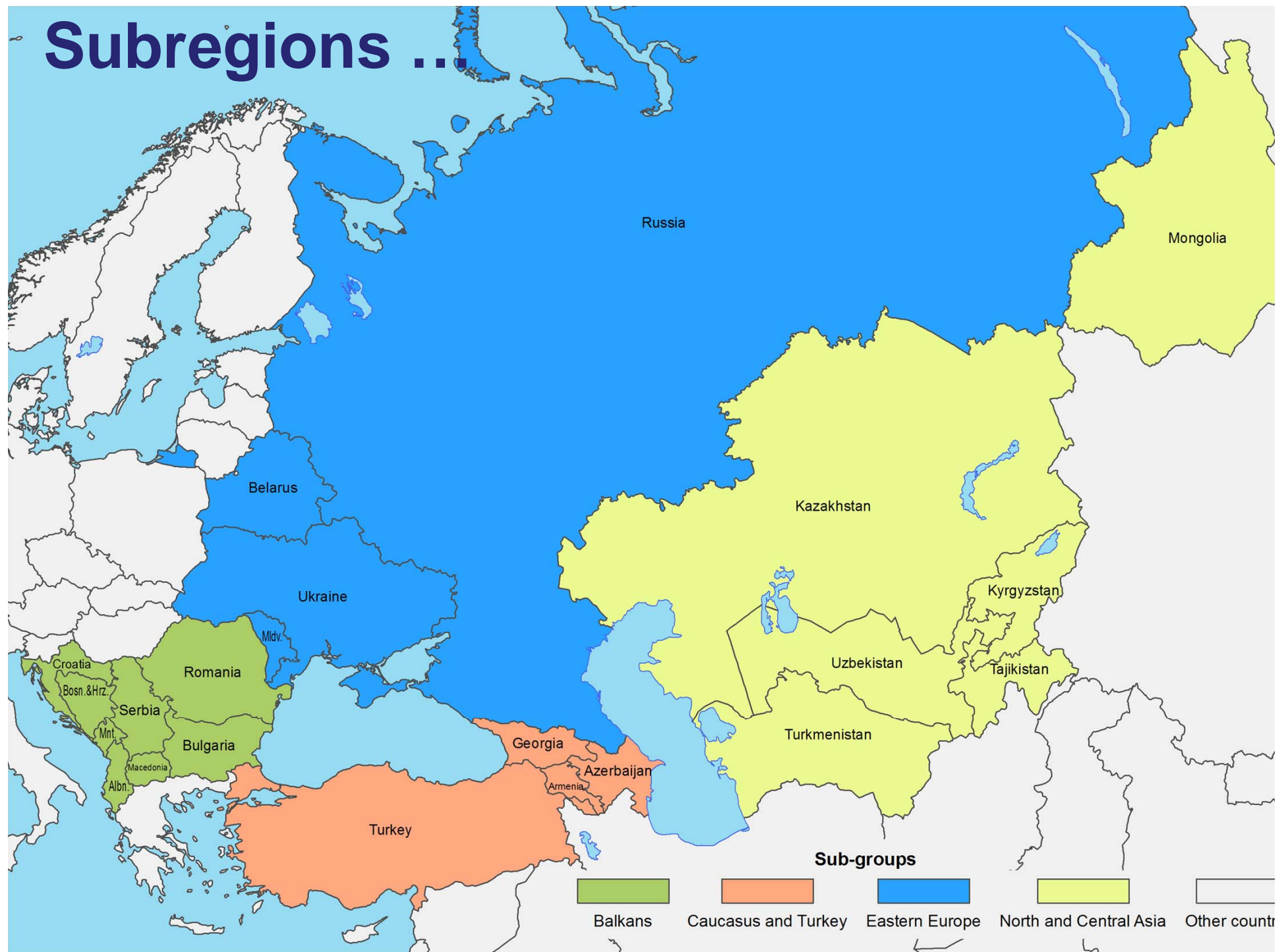


Focus on.....



- Countries of Eastern Europe, Northern and Central Asia – 150 participants
- Country Led Initiative CLI in support to UNFF, by Governments of Ukraine and Switzerland
- Partners in organisations: UNECE/FAO, Forest Europe, Profor, Forza
- 4 subthematic groups – governance; forest ecosystems and low carbon economy; forest industry; employment and livelihood.
- 4 working groups - Eastern Europe, Balkans, Ukraine, Northern and Central Asia

Subregions ...





Considered following questions:



Forest ecosystem services and the role of forests in low carbon economies

- To what extent does the forest sector (i.e. including forest industries and consumption of forest products as well as forest management) in your country contribute to the low carbon economy?
- How effectively and efficiently are forest ecosystem services managed in your country?

Sustainable forest industries and products

- How sustainable is the level of industrial wood harvest in your country?
- How sustainable is wood energy supply in your country?



Considered following questions:



Employment and livelihood opportunities in the forest sector

- To what extent is the forest sector workforce in your country able to contribute to achieving sustainable forest management?

Forest governance in a green economy

- How ready is your country's forest sector for the emerging green economy?
- How meaningfully are stakeholders, inside and outside the sector, involved in policy formation?



Main problems determined



- Low public awareness on forest and forestry problems.
- Weak intersectoral cooperation.
- Lack of a clear understanding of value of forest ecosystem services.
- Necessity to improve the quality of forest education and training especially in North and Central Asia.
- Low level of social protection for the forest sector.



Direction of field trip

- Close to nature forestry
- Ecotourism
- Wood processing





1. Capture the true values of forests



Possible actions include:

- Identify parameters and collect data which will better capture the entire spectrum of monetary and non-monetary values of forests and their functions, products and their markets, as well as services.
- Use this information to develop policies and management plans.
- Target public and private investment to stimulate forests and forest sector and develop structural regional plans to realize all the priorities and potential of forests.



2. Use all resources efficiently



Possible actions include:

- Identify the economic, social and environmental functions which can be provided by forests
- Develop strategies to develop and integrate systems for payment for ecosystem services.
- Invest in transport infrastructure.



3. Be energy-wise



Possible actions include:

- Develop a national energy policy, including the framework for wood energy and ensure that potential use and relative scarcity of wood fuel are addressed depending on each country's situation.
- Adopt modern and clean energy technology, with high efficiency and with low emissions of micro-particles



4. Make jobs decent and green



Possible actions include:

- Put in place effective control of implementation of labour law and regulations.
- Improve social conditions of those employed in the forest sector.
- Improve occupational safety and health, notably for forest workers.



5. Address threats to forests



Possible actions include:

- Include adaptation of forests to climate change, and their contribution to climate change mitigation, in forest management planning, research and implementation.
- Enhance trans-boundary cooperation in forest protection.



6. Define governance principles and stick to them



Possible actions include:

- Decentralize decision making power to the local level as appropriate.
- Implement the commitments of the St Petersburg Declaration on Forest Law Enforcement and Governance in Europe and North Asia.
- Draw up criteria for evaluating governance performance.
- Combat illegal logging and related trade.
- Modernise the legal and regulatory framework for the forest sector in the region.



7. Update skills



Possible actions include:

- Reform and implement comprehensive training and education programmes which reflect all values and functions of forests at the national level.
- Strengthen and raise the level of vocational training in the region



8. Innovate and build partnerships



Possible actions include:

- Facilitate and support new cross-sectoral partnerships through initiatives in priority areas such as agriculture, wood-related energy and water.
- Facilitate the transfer of innovative technologies.



9. Cooperate across boundaries



Possible actions include:

- Develop regional guidelines for the forest sector in a green economy, based on the experience and deliberations of the Lviv Forum, and taking account of specific national circumstances



10. Make the case for the forest sector's role in the green economy



Possible actions include:

- Take the lead in raising awareness at all levels of society of the forest sector's potential and challenges.
- Contribute to implementing the Action Plan for a Forest Sector in a Green Economy



Thank you!

<http://www.lvivforumforestsingreeneconomy.info/home.html>

<http://www.unece.org/lviv-forum-2012.html>



THE LVIV FORUM ON FORESTS IN A GREEN ECONOMY