

**DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE OF  
UNECE/FAO TEAM OF SPECIALISTS ON  
Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management**

**Reference to proposed Integrated Work Programme:**

**Work Area 1: Data, monitoring and assessment**

Programme element: XXX

**A. OBJECTIVES:**

1. Strengthen the work on: (i) forest reporting, (ii) assessing the state of forests and sustainability of forest management and (iii) monitoring the role of the forest sector in the green economy in the ECE region;
2. Advise the ECE/FAO on the implementation of activities in Work Area 1 “Data, monitoring and assessment”, with regard to the collection, review, analysis and dissemination of quantitative information on forests and sustainable forest management (SFM) in the ECE region.

**B. ACTIVITIES:**

1. Provide contribution to the Global Forest Resources Assessment and the Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire 2015: support to the data collection process, analysis of the situation and trends, and drafting of the final report;
2. Assist in the process for the preparation of the report State of Europe’s Forests 2015: contribution to the reporting on quantitative indicators, analysis of information, coordination of inputs, authors’ contributions and dissemination of results;
3. Contribute to the pilot project on monitoring the sustainability of forest management;
4. Contribute to the work on criteria and indicators (C&I) for SFM by Forest Europe and the Montréal Process;
5. Contribute to the preparation of the report on forest ownership in the ECE region: development of concept, contribution to data collection, analysis of information and dissemination of results;
6. Contribute to the preparation of the report on the role of forest sector in a green economy: development of concept, contribution to data collection, analysis of information and dissemination of results;
7. Contribute to the development of the concept and modalities for the statistical data management system on forest resources, functions and services and SFM;
8. Support other WAs and ToSs on issues relevant to data, monitoring and assessment, including on related capacity building;
9. Support cooperation, communication and dissemination, including contribution to the forest information billboard.

**C. EXPECTED MAJOR OUTPUTS:**

- Ad. 1 Reviews of intermediate reports, documents and meetings’ agendas; reviews and inputs to the final reports based on the global reporting – in cooperation with FAO Rome FRA Team;
- Ad. 2 Reviews of reports, documents and meetings’ agendas; involvement in the organisation of the workshop for authors and National Correspondents in the ECE region; review of and, whenever possible, involvement in writing, the final report on state of Europe’s forests; involvement in dissemination of results;
- Ad. 3 Consultation and advice on the pilot project on reporting on sustainability of forest management;
- Ad. 4 Consultation and advice on issues relevant to the C&I processes in the ECE region – if requested;
- Ad. 5 Consultation and advice on the concept, enquiry and review of the report on forest ownership in the ECE region;
- Ad. 6 Consultation and advice on the concept, enquiry and review of the report on the role of forest sector in a green economy – in cooperation with other ToSs;
- Ad. 7 Consultation and advice on designing an improved statistical data management system on forest resources, their functions and services, and forest management;
- Ad. 8 Consultation and advice on the data-related work by Work Areas 1, 2, 3 and 4 – if requested;
- Ad. 9 Advice on communication activities, dissemination of information in countries/organisations and participation (sharing of information) through the forest information billboard.

**D. BACKGROUND:**

The ToS on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management continues the series of the teams working on assessment of forest resources and forest management since 1995. The scope of the teams' work has evolved over that period, by including new aspects of forest management. Now the team covers the whole scope of SFM in terms of quantitative information as well as selected aspects that are related to forest industries. The advice and contribution provided by the teams led to production of the reports of basic importance for the sector in the region. The ECE/FAO Temperate and Boreal Forest Resources Assessment 2000 - the first contemporary report on the state of forests in the region, the series of reports on the state of forests in Europe (prepared jointly with Forest Europe) and FAO Forest Resources Assessments should be mentioned as the most prominent outputs, compiled upon advice and with the assistance of the teams. In addition to the work on data collection, analysis and assessment, the ToS on Monitoring SFM serves as a forum for discussion and means for cooperation on the forest reporting related issues in the region.

<b>ESTABLISHED / APPROVED BY</b>	The UNECE Timber Committee [Committee on Forest and Forest Industry] and the FAO European Forestry Commission, Rovaniemi, Finland, 2013.
<b>DURATION</b>	<i>From January 2014 to December 2015. Renewable</i>
<b>METHODS OF WORK</b>	<p>The Team is expected to achieve the general objective by contributing to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Further developing regional and global systems for reporting, assessing and communicating on the state of forests and forest management in the ECE region;</li><li>2. Supporting the national systems of forest monitoring, assessment and reporting as well as improvement of countries' capacity in this regard;</li><li>3. Strengthening the international work and cooperation on monitoring of forest resources and sustainable forest management (SFM), in particular by:<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. supporting work on criteria and indicators (C&amp;I) for sustainable forest management in the ECE region;</li><li>b. maintaining and expanding the international network and forums for discussion on the subject;</li><li>c. enhancing institutional cooperation on monitoring of forests, including the European Union and other organisations in this area.</li></ol></li></ol> <p>Forms of ToS work include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Regular ToS meetings (including steering group and thematic sub-groups meetings);</li><li>2. Workshops with participation of the ToS members and the FRA national correspondents;</li><li>3. Direct and indirect (electronic) reviews and consultations;</li><li>4. Review and, if feasible preparation of background materials, discussion papers, enquiries.</li></ol> <p>Other forms of work can be determined by the ToS, if needed.</p>
<b>REPORTING</b>	Annually, to the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management
<b>TEAM LEADERS</b>	To be elected at the first Team meeting
<b>RESPONSIBLE SECRETARIAT MEMBER</b>	Roman Michalak