



# Report by ToS on Forest Policy

Marta Gaworska, Team Leader



37<sup>th</sup> Joint Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management  
18-20 March 2015, Geneva, Switzerland





# Characteristics of ToS

- 39 members
- Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, Uzbekistan (20)
- CEPF, EUSTAFOR, EFI, FSC, EU/EC, PEFC

## Since 2014 new mandate and extended scope

**Leader: Marta Gaworska (Poland)**

**Deputy: Leire Salaberria (USSE), to be elected.**

**Secretary: Arnaud Brizay/Ekrem Yazici**





# Outputs and impacts achieved during last year:

- 1st meeting of the ToS held in Sep, 2014 in Krakow, Poland
- 23 participants : 13 country delegates, 7 experts from organisations and 3 secretariat members

## In focus

- The Rovaniemi Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy adopted at “Metsä2013”
- Presentation of case studies: Spain on the Plan for an activation of the Spanish Forest Sector, Poland on Green Economy projects, the Alpine Convention on its Protocol on Mountain Forests
- Setting the framework for future cooperation

## Organisers:

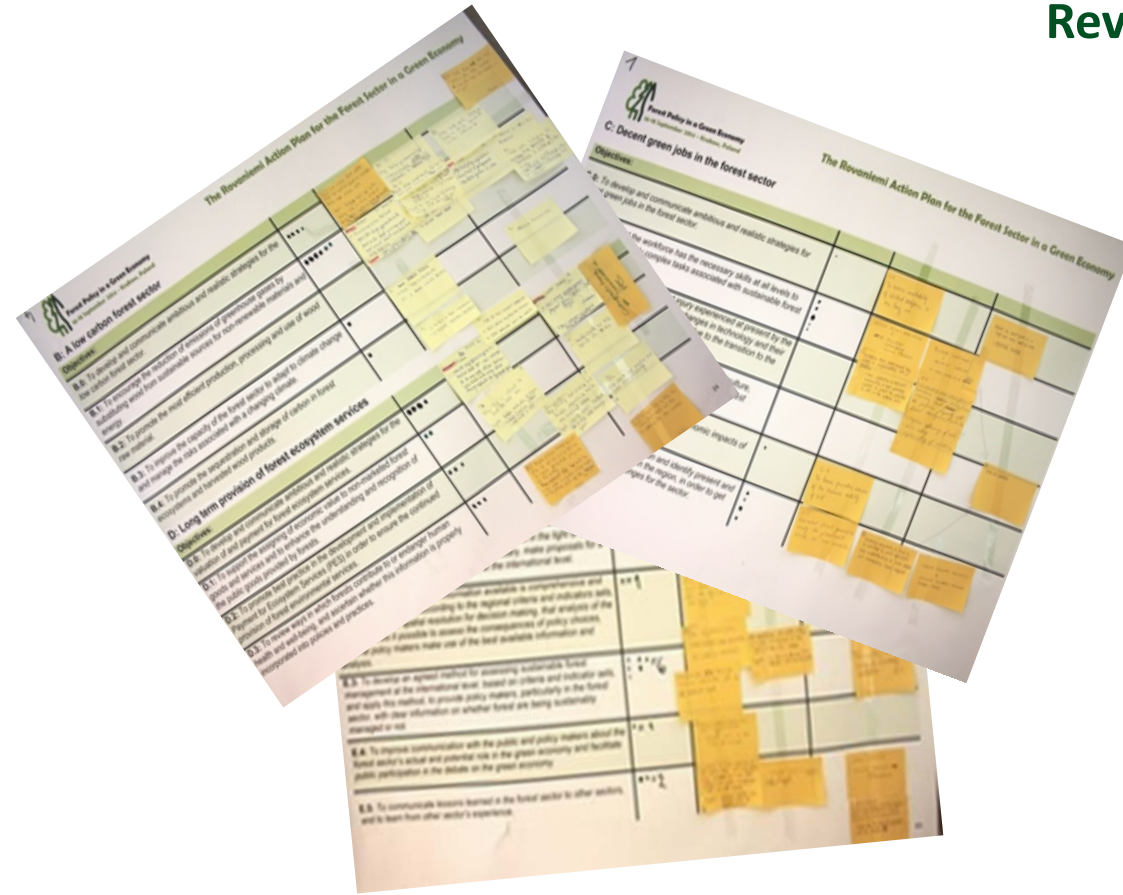


# Green Economy - a tool to gain visibility or an ultimate goal?

## Review of the RAP objectives

- What would be the most relevant objective(s) at a country level?
- Why is the objective relevant, what are the expected impacts?

Among the 29 objectives of the Action Plan, only 4 (A0, B4, C2 and E0) received less than 5% support.



# What kind of assistance could the Secretariat provide



WP1. Data  
& monitoring

WP2. Policy dialogue  
and advice

WP3. Communication  
and outreach

WP4. Capacity  
building

The ECE/FAO integrated programme of work

Expected assistance :

- relevant information and reliable data
- opportunities to discuss traditional issues as well as emerging ones
- tailored tools for communication
- material for innovation
- training for capacity-building

... over 60 proposals



# Comparing two forest policy approaches in the context of Green Economy

## The sectoral approach



Ensures a holistic approach to forests as well as use of reliable data and technical expertise as developed by the forestry community

Highlights what forests can offer to society in terms of products and services.

Creates a sense of ownership and probably higher commitments

Follow-up work and local initiative are often overlooked, as a result - disappointment and lack of interest

Isolates the forest sector

Limits the possibilities to face conflicting strategies from other sectors (environment, energy, agriculture...)

## The cross - sectoral approach

Provides a good way to highlight the multifunctionality of forests

Ensures better visibility for a sector where outputs are often underestimated e.g. vis-à-vis stronger sectors (energy, agriculture...)

Helps to disseminate the picture of healthy, rich and productive forests provided by forest monitoring and promote the use of wood

Requires intensive advocacy work to compensate its relatively small contribution to national economy in monetary and employment terms.

Forestry community must move beyond clichés and overcome the perception of being too conservative and only production oriented.

**Report available at: <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=35942#/>**





# Outputs and impacts achieved during last year:

- **ToS was briefed on recent global and regional developments relevant to forest policy in the region**
- **ToS provided support to the implementation of the RAP**
  - review of RAP objectives and assessed different ways of developing policies for the forest sector in relation to green economy
  - formulation of over 60 proposals to guide the Secretariat work (requires a priority setting exercise ).
  - press release on the results of the meeting published at UNECE website.
- **ToS provided inputs to 72nd session of the COFFI in Kazan, Russian Federation in 18-21 November 2014.**
- **ToS was consulted on policy issues that need to be reflected in a future forest sector outlook study (the ToS on Forest Sector Outlook)**
- **ToS was also consulted on a study on policies and incentives to promote wood in construction**



# Outputs and impacts expected for coming year:



## Setting priorities and developing work plan

- 2nd meeting will be held in the fall (October) 2015 in Czech Republic.
- ToS will continue supporting the implementation of the RAP through the exchange of experiences and information, giving special attention to:
  - collection of reliable data and conducting bench marking studies,
  - detailed discussions on traditional forestry issues as well as emerging ones,
  - exploring tailored tools for communication within and outside the forest sector as well as material to support innovation and capacity-building in the countries.
- ToS will explore options for:
  - stocktaking exercise to provide information on potential impacts of the global and regional processes on forest policy (including the IAF review, post 2015 development agenda)
  - organizing National Forest Policy Dialogues
  - enhancing interaction with others ToS, and particularly with the ToS on Forest Sector Outlook to support work on measurement and reporting on the role of forest sector in a green economy





# Issues for the attention of Secretariat and WP

- encourage further support and assistance from interested bodies and from the Member States **to evolve the activities as well as strengthen the network and its capacity so as to:**
  - explore ways to improve exchange of experiences and information as well as utilisation of the existing means in support of dissemination of policy related work at national and sub-national levels
  - secure resources to conduct a study (development of ToR, hiring a consultant, coordination of work)

## ➤ Comments, lessons learned:

- strong representation of the stakeholders and relevant professional organisations
- additional efforts are required to ensure balanced participation and to encourage contribution of experts from EECCA



For more information please contact: [marta.gaworska@lasy.gov.pl](mailto:marta.gaworska@lasy.gov.pl)  
or visit: <http://www.unece.org/forests/teamofspecialists.html>

