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## Economic Commission for Europe

### Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry

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Item 6(a) of the provisional agenda

**Reporting on and implementation of the 2018-2021 Warsaw Integrated Programme of Work and related decisions: Review of 2020 activities and activities planned for 2021**

## Review of 2020 activities, and activities planned for 2021

### Note by the Secretariat

#### *Summary*

This document lists the outputs from the 2018-2021 ECE/FAO Warsaw Integrated Programme of Work which were implemented by the joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section in 2020, and provides a tentative list of activities for 2021, the implementation of which is subject to the availability of funds.

Due consideration is given to the fact that men and women should have equal opportunities to participate in and benefit from all listed activities. This also applies to the respect of the rights of people with disabilities.

The Committee is invited to approve the activities for 2021.



## **I. Review of 2020 activities**

### **A. Work Area 1: Data, monitoring, reporting and assessment**

#### **1. Forest resources**

##### **(a) Collection, validation and dissemination of statistics on forest resources, functions and services, Sustainable Forest Management (SFM), and the contribution of the forest sector to a green economy**

- Finalization of the final repository of FRA data for the 2020 reporting cycle of the Global Forest Resource Assessment (FRA) and the Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire (CFRQ): cooperation with FAO and other CFRQ partners;
- Production of the interactive database coordinated with the FRA repository for the Joint 2020 pan-European reporting on forests (jointly with the Forest Europe Liaison Unit Bratislava, in coordination with the FAO FRA secretariat);
- Review of collection process, national questionnaire on forest ownership in the ECE region;
- Production of a website on forest and forest sector data in the ECE countries.

##### **(b) Analysis and assessment of the state of forests and the sustainability of forest management; and the monitoring of the role of the forest sector in a green economy**

- Assessment of forest condition and the impact of biotic and abiotic disturbances: review of formats for national reporting on forest disturbance; overview (based on existing data) of the extent and trends of forest damage;
- Supported FAO FRA secretariat in the finalization and dissemination of the main outputs from the 2020 reporting cycle of the Global FRA and CFRQ;
- Supported the Forest Europe Liaison Unit Bratislava and the FAO FRA secretariat in the finalization and dissemination of the main outputs from the Joint 2020 pan-European reporting on forests;
- Publication of a study “State of Forests of the Caucasus and Central Asia” in Russian and English;
- Publication of 8 bilingual (English and Russian) electronic studies on the state of forests and forest management in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan;
- Publication of a study “Who owns our forests? Forest ownership in the ECE region”;
- Publication of a study “Guidelines for the Development of a Criteria and Indicator Set for Sustainable Forest Management” in English and Russian;
- Publication of a study “National Reporting on Sustainable Forest Management in Caucasus and Central Asia”.

##### **(c) Cooperation with, and support to, international processes in Sustainable Forest Management, including regional criteria and indicator (C&I) processes**

- Support to the UNFF Secretariat on reporting the implementation of the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030;
- Cooperation with, and support to countries, organizations and international processes (e.g. Forest Europe, European Environment Agency) in the region on monitoring SFM;
- Contribution to capacity building on C&Is under the UNDA project (Armenia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan);
- Organization of meeting(s) of the ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Monitoring SFM.

## 2. Forest products and markets

### (a) Collection, validation and dissemination of statistics on production, trade, consumption and prices of forest products

- Issuance of Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire (with Intersecretariat Working Group on Forest Sector Statistics) and Timber Forecast Questionnaire;
- Preparation of historical data on forest products, species trade, and prices;
- Preparation of forecast data on forest products production and trade;
- Improvement of the existing database and expansion of available information;
- Dissemination through FAOSTAT and ECE websites.

### (b) Analysis of markets for forest products, notably relevant policy aspects, including the Forest Products Annual Market Review (FPAMR) and annual Market Discussions

- Publication of the FPAMR 2019-2020;
- Preparation of data and the statistical annex for the FPAMR 2019-2020;
- Preparation of tables and graphs for the Market Forecasts 2020-2021;
- Preparation of the Market Discussion 2020 and the Market Statement 2020;
- Dissemination of analysis at industry meetings;
- Assessment of impact of biotic and abiotic disturbances on forest products markets.

### (c) Support of international processes in forest products

- Participation in the Intersecretariat Working Group on Forest Sector Statistics and attendance at other international meetings;
- Organization of the meetings of the ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Products Statistics and the ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Products;
- Co-published a guide on Forest Products Conversion Factors with FAO and ITTO.

## 3. Wood energy

### (a) Collection, validation and dissemination of statistics on wood energy

- Preparation and issuance of the 2019 Joint Wood Energy Enquiry;
- Dissemination of the 2017 JWEE data at relevant international meetings;
- Increasing the visibility of ECE wood energy data.

### (b) Analysis of energy-related issues, including demand for, and supply of, wood energy

- Provided input on forests to the ECE Environmental Performance Reviews.

### (c) Support of international processes in wood energy

- Presentation of the wood energy work at relevant international meetings and cooperation with relevant processes (e.g. International Energy Agency, International Renewable Energy Agency, Wood Energy Days etc.);
- Organization of a webinar of the ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Wood Energy on “The Drax Biomass Carbon Calculator – background, scope and functionalities”, virtual, 11 June 2020.

## **B. Work Area 2: Policy dialogue and advice**

### **(a) National Forest Policy Dialogues**

- Organization of the National Forest Policy Dialogue for Kazakhstan to review the “Master Plan for the development of the Forest Sector of the Republic of Kazakhstan until 2030” and action plan for its implementation, Nur-Sultan, 4 March 2020;
- Monitoring of developments in global and regional forest policy processes (UNFF; Forest Europe, SDG) and contributions, as relevant, to these processes;
- Support to the continued implementation of the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests through organization of policy dialogues at the regional and national level;
- Support to the development and implementation of the Strategy for Landscape Restoration and Greening Infrastructure in the Caucasus and Central Asia.

### **(b) The role of the forest sector in a circular bio-economy**

- Preparing a stock-taking document on how the circular bio-economy concepts are related to the forest-based sector;
- Exploring the issue of wood-based value chains in a circular bio-economy;
- Promotion and dissemination of findings on the social dimension of the circular and bio-economy:
  - Study on the “Forest Sector Workforce in the ECE region”;
  - “Guidelines on the promotion of green jobs in forestry”.

### **(c) Contribution to the policy-related components of activities under Work Areas 1, 3 and 4**

### **(d) Forest Sector Outlook**

- Organization of the meeting(s) of the ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Sector Outlook;
- Publication and dissemination of the Forest Sector Outlook Study in the ECE region planned for late 2020;
- Organization of a capacity building activity in the area of forest sector outlook modelling.

### **(e) Monitoring and support of international processes relevant to policymaking for the forest sector**

- Organization of a preparatory meeting on Forest Landscape Restoration in support of the Bonn Challenge in Eastern and South-East Europe, 16-17 December 2019, Belgrade, Serbia;
- Organization of a virtual follow-up meeting on the implementation of Forest Landscape Restoration in support of the Bonn Challenge in the Caucasus and Central Asia (planned for September 2020).

### **(f) Boreal Forests**

- Organization of a preparatory meeting for the first official meeting of the ECE/FAO Team of Specialist on Boreal Forests in Geneva, Switzerland (23 April 2020);

### **(g) Tools for policymaking - studies and publications**

- Publication and dissemination of the study paper on “Forest Landscape Restoration in support of the Bonn Challenge in Eastern and South-East Europe” to support the preparation of restoration pledges in seventeen countries of Eastern and South-East Europe region in the run up to the Ministerial Roundtable on Forest Landscape

Restoration in support of the Bonn Challenge in Eastern and South-East Europe, which will take place in March 2021;

- Publication and dissemination of information on the “National Reporting on Sustainable Forest Management in Central Asia and the Caucasus”.

### **C. Work Area 3: Communication and outreach**

#### **(a) Organization of events and campaigns in support of SFM and forest products and services**

- International Day of Forests (IDF), 21 March 2020 (cancelled due to COVID-19 outbreak – some activities will be rescheduled to take place on the margins of COFFI 2020);
- Presentation of work related to Forest Landscape Restoration at the annual meeting of the Global Partnership on Forest Landscape Restoration;
- Communicating the potential of sustainable wood products in the circular bio-economy across sectors through organization of events and exhibitions;
- Communication campaigns (e.g. Trees in Cities Challenge, Forests for Fashion initiative);
- Organization of awareness-raising event about the ECCA30 initiative (planned on the margins of COFFI 2020).

#### **(b) Dissemination of information via policy briefs, press briefs and ad hoc studies, whenever results are available and new information is released**

- Press releases published in 2020 (as of 2 July 2020): “Turkmenistan’s 2.2 million pledge to the Trees in Cities Challenge bring the initiative to over 10 million trees (20 March 2020); “NATURE UNLOCKED: UNECE launches global photo contest showing flora and fauna during lockdown to celebrate World Environment Day (05 June 2020)”;
- News releases published in 2020 (as of 2 July 2020): “UNECE and FAO support Kazakhstan’s development of forest sector Master Plan” (04 March 2020); Turkmenistan’s 2.2 million pledge to the Trees in Cities Challenge brings the initiative to over 10 million trees (20 March 2020);
- Dissemination of information and promotion of the following publications through press releases, social media posts etc: “Guidelines for the development of a criteria and indicators set for sustainable forest management”, “State of Forests of the Caucasus and Central Asia” and “Forest Landscape Restoration in the Caucasus and Central Asia”, “National Reporting on Sustainable Forest Management in the Caucasus and Central Asia”, online bilingual (English/Russian) studies on state of forests in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan.

### **D. Work Area 4: Capacity-building**

#### **(a) Forest landscape restoration and the Bonn Challenge**

- Ongoing work to organize a regional meeting to follow-up on the implementation of the Bonn Challenge commitments in the Caucasus and Central Asia (planned for November 2020);
- Virtual meetings were held to share knowledge, exchange experiences and discuss funding opportunities related to Forest Landscape Restoration with representatives from Eastern and South-East Europe.

**(b) Organization of capacity-building workshops**

- Planning and organizing a capacity building workshop for national correspondents on wood energy (Joint Wood Energy Enquiry 2019);
- Organization of a capacity building workshop for national correspondents on forest products statistics (JFSQ) in coordination with FAO. Planned for November 2020 in Belgrade, Serbia.
- Organization of capacity building event on national forest sector modelling for experts from Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) countries. Further capacity building events related to forest sector outlook if resources allow.

**(c) Team of Specialists on Green Jobs in the Forest Sector**

- Organization of the meeting(s) of the ECE/FAO Team of Specialist on Green Jobs in the Forest Sector.

**(d) Implementation of the UN Development Account (UNDA) project: Accountability systems for SFM in the Caucasus and Central Asia (2016-2020):**

- Regional meeting for the Caucasus and Central Asia to strengthen capacity on data collection for indicators on Sustainable Forest Management (planned for November 2020);
- Planning and organizing virtual meetings to support the development of country-specific methodologies for data collection for national sets of Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management;
- Support to the development of factsheets for indicators under the national set of Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management;
- Development of the publication on “National Reporting on Sustainable Forest Management in the Caucasus and Central Asia”.

**E. Monitoring and management of the Warsaw Integrated Programme of Work****(a) Intergovernmental Meetings**

- Organization of the seventy-eighth session of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry in Geneva, Switzerland (4-6 November 2020).

**(b) Bureaux Meetings**

- Organization of Bureaux meetings, virtual (22 April 2020, 20 May 2020).

**(c) Strategic review 2020**

- Completion and dissemination of the Strategic Review survey analysis;
- Assessment of work and outputs by the Secretariat;
- Informal consultation about a preliminary analysis of survey results with Joint Bureaux and member States held virtually on 18 June 2020;
- The Secretariat’s first draft of the new IPoW was completed and the summary of survey results shared with Joint Bureaux and member States.

## II. Tentative list of activities for 2021

### A. Work Area 1: Data, monitoring, reporting and assessment

#### 1. Forest resources

##### (a) Collection, validation and dissemination of statistics on forest resources, functions and services, progress toward Sustainable Forest Management (SFM), and the contribution of the forest sector to a green economy

- Reporting on the Global Forest Resource Assessment (FRA) and the Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire (CFRQ): cooperation with the FAO and other CFRQ partners on the analysis of the 2020 reporting process and preparations for the next reporting cycle;
- Joint pan-European reporting on forests: cooperation with Forest Europe and FAO FRA secretariat on the analysis of the 2020 reporting process and preparations for the next reporting cycle;
- Dissemination of the results of the 2020 global and the pan-European reporting on forests and SFM;
- Dissemination of information on national forest data banks in ECE member States.

##### (b) Analysis and assessment of the state of forests and the sustainability of forest management; and the monitoring of the role of the forest sector in a green economy

- Assessment of forest conditions and the impact of biotic and abiotic disturbances; thematic study and review of formats for international reporting on forest disturbances - continuation of the project.

##### (c) Cooperation with, and support to, international processes in SFM, including regional criteria and indicator (C&I) processes

- Participation in the FAO FRA Advisory Group;
- Support to the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) secretariat on reporting the implementation of the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030;
- Cooperation with, and support to countries, organizations and international processes (e.g. Forest Europe) in the ECE region on monitoring SFM;
- Contribution to capacity building on forest monitoring in countries of the Caucasus, Central Asia, Eastern and South-East Europe;
- Organization of the meeting(s) of the ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Monitoring SFM.

#### 2. Forest products and markets

##### (a) Collection, validation and dissemination of statistics on production, trade, consumption and prices of forest products

- Preparation of historical data on forest products, species trade, and prices;
- Preparation of forecast data on forest products production and trade;
- Improvement of the existing database and expansion of available information;
- Dissemination through FAOSTAT and ECE websites.

##### (b) Analysis of markets for forest products, notably relevant policy aspects, including the Forest Products Annual Market Review (FPAMR) and annual Market Discussions

- Publication of the FPAMR 2020-2021;
- Preparation of data and the statistical annex for the FPAMR 2020-2021;

- Preparation of tables and graphs for the Market Forecasts 2021-2022;
- Preparation of the Market Discussion 2021 and the Market Statement 2021;
- Dissemination of analysis at industry meetings;

**(c) Support of international processes in forest products**

- Participation in the Intersecretariat Working Group on Forest Sector Statistics and attendance at other international meetings;
- Organization of meetings of the ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Products Statistics and the ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Products.

**3. Wood energy**

**(a) Collection, validation and dissemination of statistics on wood energy**

- Analysis of results of the Joint Wood Energy Enquire (JWEE) 2019;
- Issuance of a new database on wood energy with 2019 data;
- Dissemination of the 2019 JWEE data at relevant international meetings;

**(b) Analysis of energy-related issues, including demand for, and supply of, wood energy**

- Preparation of new information materials on wood energy, such as policy brief, short study, etc. on topics such as wood energy and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), wood energy and climate change and wood energy and air quality;
- Input on forests to the ECE Environmental Performance Reviews.

**(c) Support of international processes in wood energy**

- Presentation of the wood energy work at relevant international meetings and cooperation with relevant processes (e.g. International Energy Agency, International Renewable Energy Agency, World Sustainable Energy Days etc.);
- Organization of meetings of the ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Wood Energy.

**B. Work Area 2: Policy dialogue and advice**

**(a) Contribution to the policy-related components of activities under Work Areas 1, 3 and 4**

- Organization of National Forest Policy Dialogues (NFPD) workshops in interested countries (Armenia, Turkmenistan and possibly others);
- Monitoring and developments in global and regional forest policy process (UNFF; Forest Europe, SDG) and contributions, as relevant, to these processes;
- Support the continued implementation of the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests by providing policy dialogues at the regional and national level.

**(b) The role of the forest sector in a circular bio-economy**

- Preparation of a stock-taking document on how the circular bio-economy concepts are related to the forest-based sector;
- Exploration of the issue of wood-based value chains in a circular bio-economy;
- Preparation of communication materials on the role of the forest sector in the circular bio-economy (e.g. video or brochure, depending on availability of funds);
- Promotion and dissemination of the social dimension of the circular bio-economy.

**(c) Forest Sector Outlook**

- Continuation of the dissemination of the Forest Sector Outlook Study in the ECE region;



- Presentation of the results of the Forest Sector Outlook Study at relevant international meetings and cooperation with relevant stakeholders at national, regional and international levels;
- Organization of meeting(s) of the ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Sector Outlook;
- Organization of capacity building in the area of forest sector outlook modelling.

**(d) Monitoring and support of international processes relevant to policymaking for the forest sector**

- Organisation of the Ministerial Roundtable on Forest Landscape Restoration in support of the Bonn Challenge in Eastern and South East Europe in Antalya, Turkey (March 2021)
- Organisation of a follow-up meeting for the Caucasus and Central Asia on Forest Landscape Restoration in the region and implementation of the Strategy for Landscape Restoration and Greening Infrastructure.

**(e) Boreal Forests**

- Organization of meeting(s) of the ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Boreal Forests;
- Specific activities and outputs will be defined by the ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Boreal Forests during its first meeting;

## **C. Work Area 3: Communication and outreach**

**(a) Organization of events and campaigns in support of SFM and forest products and services**

- International Day of Forests (IDF), 21 March 2021 (to be celebrated on 22 March 2021) Geneva, Switzerland;
- Side event at the fifteenth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF16), May 2021, New York, United States of America;
- Organizing awareness-raising events on the dissemination of information on ECCA30;
- Side event on Forest Landscape Restoration and ECCA30 at the IUCN World Congress, 7-15 January 2021, Marseille, France;
- Communicating the potential of forest landscape restoration in ECE region through various events and exhibitions;
- Communicating the potential of sustainable wood products in the circular bio-economy across sectors through various events and exhibitions;
- Communication campaigns (e.g. ECCA30, Trees in Cities Challenge, Forests for Fashion initiative);

**(b) Dissemination of information via policy briefs, press briefs and ad hoc studies, whenever results are available and new information is released**

- Promotion and dissemination of studies and publications, including of the study on National Reporting on Sustainable Forest Management in the Caucasus and Central Asia and Forest Landscape Restoration in Eastern and South-East Europe;
- Promotion of the web page on forest-statistics.

**(c) Press releases will be published to present the outcomes of workshops, events and publications. Outreach activities beyond the forest sector, disseminating information that highlights the relevance of forests and forest products to other sectors (e.g. energy events, biodiversity and environment meetings, sustainable construction and building, etc.)**

- Events organized in the margins of main forest related as well as cross-sectional meetings.

## **D. Work Area 4: Capacity-building**

### **(a) Forest landscape restoration:**

- Capacity building on implementation of forest landscape restoration in the ECE region in support of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (including commitments under the Bonn Challenge and national efforts in countries);
- Capacity building on the implementation of the Strategy on Landscape Restoration and Greening Infrastructure of the Caucasus and Central Asia.

### **(b) Organization of capacity-building workshops on:**

- Capacity building workshop for national correspondents on wood energy (Joint Wood Energy Enquiry 2019);
- Capacity-building workshop on monitoring Sustainable Forest Management in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) countries;
- Capacity building workshop on natural disturbances;
- Capacity-building workshop on developing financing strategy for implementation of the Bonn Challenge commitments in Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia;
- Organization of a capacity building event (s) on national forest sector modelling for experts from CIS countries.

### **(c) Team of Specialists on Green Jobs in the Forest Sector**

- Organization of meeting(s) of the ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Green Jobs in the Forest Sector.

## **E. Monitoring and management of the Warsaw Integrated Programme of Work**

### **(a) Intergovernmental Meetings**

- Organization of the 42<sup>nd</sup> session of the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management in 2021;
- Organization of the Joint Session of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and European Forestry Commission in 2021.

### **(b) Bureaux Meetings**

- Organization of the Joint COFFI and EFC Bureaux meetings upon request of the Chairs of COFFI and EFC.

### **(c) Strategic review 2020-2021**

- Organization of consultations and workshop(s) on the review of the Warsaw Integrated Program of Work and drafting of the Integrated Programme of Work 2022-2025 and preparation of further drafts of the new Integrated Programme of Work.

### III. List of publications for 2021

<b>Title</b>	<b>English</b>	<b>French</b>	<b>Russian</b>
Forest Products Annual Market Review 2020-2021	E-600	[F-50]	R-150
Outlook for Forest Products Markets (2021)	English only, online publications		
Forestry and Timber Publication (2021)	E-600	[F-200]	R-200
Forestry and Timber Publication (2021)	E-600		R-150
Forestry and Timber Publication (2021)	English only, online publications		
Forestry and Timber Publication (2021)	English only, online publications		
Forestry and Timber Publication (2021)	English only, online publications		