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ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry Matters

**Programme of work for 2022 and recommendations on key
components of the Programme of work 2023**

Food and Agriculture Organization**European Forestry Commission****Forty-first session**

Rome, 22-25 November 2021

**Draft programme of work of the Forests and Forest Industry
subprogramme for 2022****Note by the Secretariat***Summary*

The present document sets out the draft programme of work of the Forests and Forest Industry subprogramme for 2022.

The Committee is invited to review and adopt the draft programme of work of the Forests and Forest Industry subprogramme for 2022 and recommend it to the Executive Committee for approval.



I. Introduction

1. The present document sets out the draft programme of work of the Forests and Forest Industry subprogramme (“the subprogramme”) for 2022. The Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (“the Committee”) is invited to adopt it and recommend to the Executive Committee (Excom) for approval. Any subsequent additional, discontinued or carried over outputs will be reflected in UN Umoja system used by the Secretariat for planning, monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the programme.
2. The draft programme of work applies a results-based management (RBM) approach, a broad management approach which establishes logical relationship between the hierarchical results (deliverables – objectives – impact) known as ‘results chain’, the resources (human and financial) known as ‘inputs’ and the external factors (strategic, governance, operational, financial) which can prevent from achieving the objective.
3. The objective, the most significant planned result and the deliverables in the draft programme of work correspond to those contained in the ECE proposed programme budget for 2022. The objective of the subprogramme is aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In attaining its objective, the subprogramme builds on cross-sectoral collaboration with other subprogrammes in relevant ECE nexus areas where multiple SDGs converge¹. This type of collaboration enables the subprogramme to maximize existing synergies, increase the efficiency of its work and have a multiplying effect on the impact of its actions to support countries to implement SDGs. The deliverables of the subprogramme fall into the following main categories: (a) facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies; (b) generation and transfer of knowledge, including technical cooperation projects, training events, seminars, workshops, and publications; (c) other substantive deliverables, and (d) communication deliverables.
4. The details of the proposed publications are provided in Annex I. The overall ECE legislative mandates and those specific for the subprogramme are listed in Annex II.

II. Objective

5. The **objective**, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to strengthen the sustainable management of forests and enhance the contribution of forests and forest products to sustainable development in the ECE region.

III. Strategy

6. The responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Forests, Housing and Land Management Division.
7. The **strategy** of the subprogramme is based on the implementation of the core interlinked functions, namely, analytical and normative work, international policy dialogue, capacity-building and communication. Through its work, the subprogramme will contribute to the ECE nexus area on the sustainable use of natural resources. As part of its implementation strategy, the subprogramme will carry out its work in partnership with FAO and other relevant organizations and processes (e.g., International Union for Conservation of Nature, World Agroforestry Centre and Forest Europe).
8. To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will continue to assist and promote cooperation with member States, regional entities and other partners for sustainable forest management, forest landscape restoration and the sustainable use of forest products. The subprogramme also plans to collect, validate and disseminate information and results of research and analysis related to sustainable forest management and the sustainable production and consumption of wood products. The subprogramme will further facilitate the exchange of national experiences and best practices and monitor progress on achieving sustainable

¹ The ECE nexus areas are as follows: 1) Sustainable use of natural resources; 2) Sustainable and smart cities for all ages; 3) Sustainable mobility and smart connectivity; and 4) Measuring and monitoring SDGs.

forest management using key forest sector indicators, which will help member States to make progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, notably Goals 12 (responsible consumption and production) and 15 (life on land), as well as in implementing the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 (General Assembly resolution 71/285).

9. The subprogramme plans to support member States on issues related to COVID-19 by providing information in presentations and panel discussions during sessions of its Committee and Working Party, publications such as the outlook study and subregional studies, and webinars on how the forest sector is and will be affected by the global pandemic and how it can contribute to building back better economies and more resilient communities.

10. The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:

(a) Healthy forest ecosystems in the ECE region that are sustainably managed and provide important ecosystem goods and services to benefit society;

(b) An increased and efficient use of sustainable forest products that contribute to a green and circular economy and replace less sustainable alternatives such as fossil-fuel based products.

11. The planned support on issues related to COVID-19 is expected to result in the enhanced ability of stakeholders to take well-informed decisions on how forests can play a key role in building back better during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

IV. Planned results for 2022

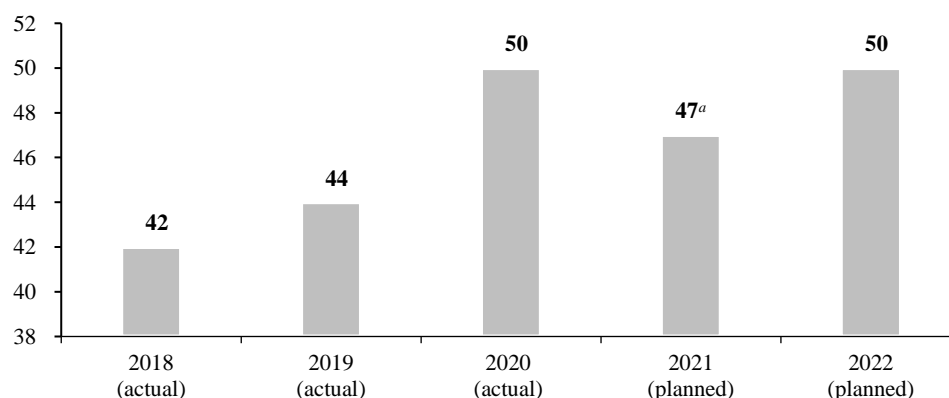
12. The planned results for 2022 include results 1 and 2, which are updates of results presented in the preceding proposed programme plans and therefore show both the programme performance in 2020 and the proposed programme plan for 2022. Result 3 is a new planned result.

Result 1: Are we there yet? Measuring sustainable forest management under Sustainable Development Goal 15² (result carried over from 2020)

13. The subprogramme will continue the work related to the planned result, in line with its mandate. To contribute to further progress towards the objective, the subprogramme will aim at maintaining the high number of reporting countries and continue to work with partner organizations and countries towards improving the completeness and quality of reporting data. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below.

Table 1

Performance measure: total number of Economic Commission for Europe member States that report data on targets 15.1 and 15.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals (cumulative)



^a To maintain accountability for initial programme plans, the 2021 target is carried forward from the programme budget for 2021 and reflects best estimates at that point in time before the COVID-19

² As reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020 (A/74/6(Sect.20)).

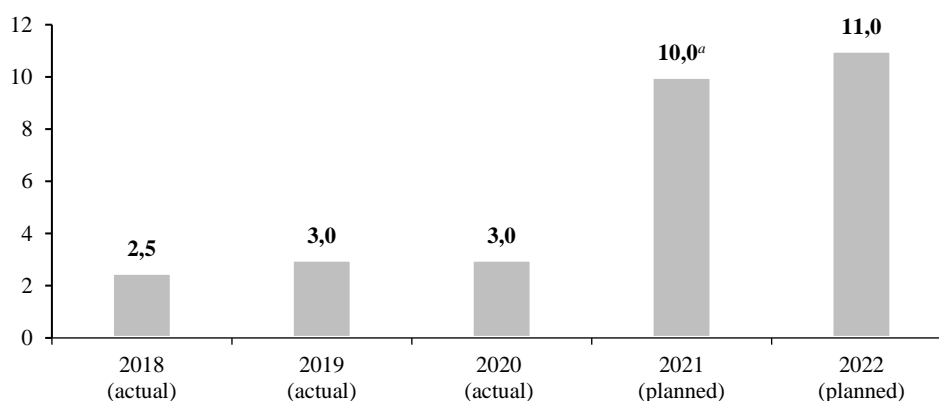
pandemic. Programme performance for 2021 will be reported in the proposed programme budget for 2023.

Result 2: Strengthening capacity and political commitment for ecosystem restoration in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe³ (result carried over from 2021)

14. The subprogramme will continue the work related to the planned result, in line with its mandate. To contribute to further progress towards the objective, the subprogramme will expand geographic coverage and work with additional countries in Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. It will also provide policy advice and capacity-building to enable further forest landscape restoration. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below.

Table 2

Performance measure: commitments to ECCA30 (Millions of hectares)



^a To maintain accountability for initial programme plans, the 2021 target is carried forward from the programme budget for 2021 and reflects best estimates at that point in time before the COVID-19 pandemic. Programme performance for 2021 will be reported in the proposed programme budget for 2023

Result 3: increased access to forest product information to support evidence led policymaking for the sustainable production and consumption of forest products

15. Proposed programme plan for 2022: Sustainably produced wood is a global commodity and widely used for a number of important key products. ECE member States account for some 40 per cent of global forest resources and more than 60 per cent of wood harvested globally for the manufacturing of wood products (excluding wood energy). Sustainably produced wood has the potential to substitute products manufactured from fossil and finite raw materials such as concrete, steel and petroleum-based products. The subprogramme contributes to achieving its objective by annually collecting data from member States on their production, trade and consumption of wood and wood-based products. The subprogramme further assesses the main drivers behind the market trends (e.g., impact of policies, economic drivers or biotic and abiotic disturbances of forests) and discusses possible further developments by consulting with policy, trade and industry experts and ministries in member States and by conducting desktop studies.

Lessons learned and planned change

16. The lesson for the subprogramme was that the current assessment of information on forest products does not include all forest products and the full life cycle of wood-based products. The subprogramme was therefore not in a position to provide member States with a full assessment of the extent to which the forest-based industries contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 12 by member States. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will supplement the annually collected information to also cover additional products and flows, such as post-consumer wood, paper, paperboard and wooden packaging, wood energy or engineered wood products. With this enhanced methodology, the subprogramme will be in a better position to provide ECE member States with more precise

³ As reflected in the programme budget for 2021 (A/75/6/Add.1).

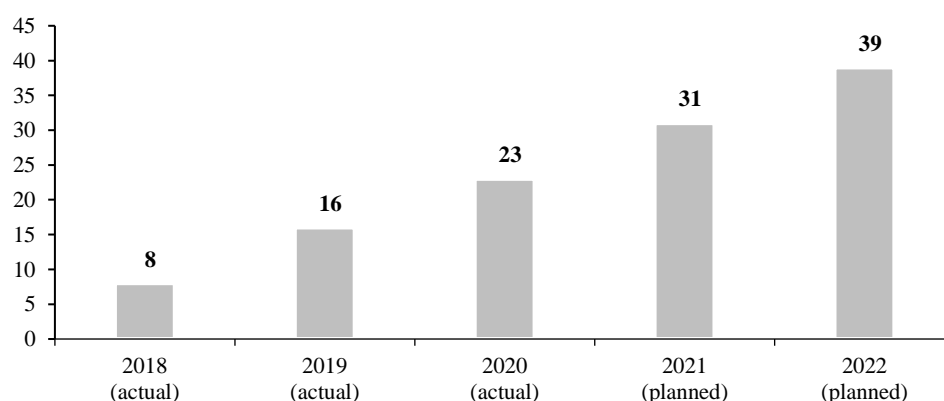
assessments of the role of the forest and forest products sector in terms of employment, volumes of wood harvested and traded, impacts on the sustainable management of the forest resources and how forest products can further improve the sector's role in contribution to achieving Goal 12.

Expected progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

17. This work is expected to contribute to the objective, as demonstrated by a steadily increased number of wood-based commodities that are assessed with regard to their production, trade and consumption. Progress towards the objective is exemplified by wood pellets that are produced from residues of the sawn wood production and are used for energy generation. Wood pellet production increased from 15 million tonnes in 2010 to more than 40 million tonnes in 2020. Another example is the use of cross-laminated timber, an innovative solid wood board for construction, which grew from an experimental product to a globally traded product in the past 10 years. In both cases, the assessment prepared by the subprogramme was the first to provide freely accessible and fact-based information and recommendations for member States, thereby contributing significantly to the development of these innovative products, which minimize wood waste and are substitutes for energy-intensive, finite materials.

Table 3

Performance measure: total number of wood-based commodities assessments available to member States with specific information regarding their production, trade and consumption (cumulative)



V. External factors

18. The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objective on the assumption that there is continued:

- (a) active country and stakeholder participation;
- (b) partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), including the provision of staff and non-staff resources, to implement the integrated ECE/FAO programme in this field; and
- (c) in kind and cash support from member States to the implementation of planned activities.

VI. Deliverables to be implemented in 2022

19. The below table lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for 2022 that are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

2022

planned

Quantified deliverables

A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies

Parliamentary Documentation (number of documents)

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| 1. Documentation for the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry/European Forestry Commission | 16 |
| 2. Documentation for the Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management | 10 |

Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings) **6**

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| 3. Meetings of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry/European Forestry Commission | 22 |
| 4. Meetings of the Bureau of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry | 6 |
| 5. Meetings of the Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management and of Teams of Specialists | 2 |

B. Generation and transfer of knowledge **14**

Seminars, workshops, and training events (number of days)

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| 6. Capacity-building events for policymakers, experts and relevant stakeholders from countries in the ECE region on topics related to the ECE/FAO integrated programme | 15 |
|--|-----------|

Publications (number of publications) **15**

- | | |
|---|----------|
| 7. Forest Products Annual Market Review | 7 |
| 8. Publication on sustainable forest management and forest products | 1 |

6

C. Substantive deliverables

Consultation, advice and advocacy: forest policy dialogues at the request of countries and support for forest policy issues, for up to 3 member States.

Databases and substantive digital materials: update and maintenance of ECE region databases on forest resources; forest policies and institutions; forest products; production, consumption and trade, including prices; and wood energy for global access.

D. Communication deliverables

Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: organizations of activities and events celebrating the International Day of Forests; brochures and information material on different forest-related topics; presentations at round tables and discussions at international forest-related events.

External and media relations: press releases for the subprogramme; compilation and dissemination of the Forest Information Billboard newsletter providing relevant news from the forest sector in one place to approximately 4,000 subscribers.

Digital platforms and multimedia content: update and maintenance of the website of the subprogramme; videos on forest-related topics.

Annex I: Details of proposed publications and promotional material for 2022

A. Recurrent publications

<i>Item no.</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Mandate (to be adopted in November 2021)</i>	<i>Print and/or electronic</i>	<i>Trim size</i>	<i>No. of pages</i>	<i>Original language(s)</i>	<i>Translated language(s) and Source of funding (RB or XB)</i>	<i>No. of copies and language(s)</i>
1	Forest Products Annual Market Review 2021-2022	ECE/TIM/2021/2	Print	A4	206	E	F, R (all RB)	600E, 50F, 150R

B. Non-recurrent publications

<i>Item no.</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Mandate (to be adopted in November 2021)</i>	<i>Print and/or electronic</i>	<i>Trim size</i>	<i>No. of pages</i>	<i>Original language(s)</i>	<i>Translated language(s) and Source of funding (RB or XB)</i>	<i>No. of copies and language(s)</i>
2	COFFI Forecast for Forest Products Markets (2022) 129	ECE/TIM/2021/2	Electronic		44	E		
3	Forestry and Timber Publication 130	ECE/TIM/2021/2	Print	A4	147	E	R, F (all RB)	600E, 200F, 200R
4	Forestry and Timber Publication 131	ECE/TIM/2021/2	Print	A4	147	E	R	600E, 150R
5	Forestry and Timber Publication 132	ECE/TIM/2021/2	Print	A4	118	E		600E
6	Forestry and Timber Publication 133	ECE/TIM/2021/2	Electronic		118	E		
7	Forestry and Timber Publication 134	ECE/TIM/2021/2	Electronic		118	E		

Annex II: Legislative mandates

A. Overall ECE legislative mandates

1. Resolutions of the General Assembly

<i>Res No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
66/288	The future we want
67/10	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community
67/290	Format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum on sustainable development
69/277	Political declaration on strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations
69/313	Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda)
70/1	Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
71/14	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization
71/16	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization
72/237	South-South Cooperation
72/279	Repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
73/10	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Central European Initiative
73/195	Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration
74/122	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly
74/128	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly
74/144	Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto: accessibility
74/216	Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

<i>Res No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
74/231	Development cooperation with middle-income countries
74/235	Women in Development
74/271	Progress towards an accountability system in the United Nations Secretariat
74/297	Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 71/243 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
74/306	Comprehensive and coordinated response to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic
75/8	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM
75/9	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Commonwealth of Independent States
75/12	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization
75/216	Disaster risk reduction
75/221	Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
75/233	Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

2. Resolutions of the Economic and Social Council

<i>Res No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
1998/46	Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields
2006/38	Workplan on reform of the Economic Commission for Europe and revised terms of reference of the Commission
2013/1	Outcome of the review of the 2005 Reform of the Economic Commission for Europe

3. Economic Commission for Europe decisions

<i>Res No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
A (64)	The Work of the Economic Commission for Europe
A (65)	Outcome of the review of the 2005 reform of ECE
A (66)	Endorsement of the High-level statement on the post-2015 development agenda and expected sustainable development goals in the ECE region
A (68)	High-level statement

B (68) Extension of the mandate of the Regional
Forum on Sustainable Development

B. Legislative mandates specific to the subprogramme

1. Resolutions of the General Assembly

<i>Res No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
62/98	Non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests
67/200	International Day of Forests
71/285	United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030
71/286	United Nations Forest Instrument
73/284	United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021–2030)
75/213	Promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, building on Agenda 21
75/219	Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its contribution to sustainable development

2. Resolutions of the Economic and Social Council

<i>Res No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
2015/33	International arrangement on forests beyond 2015
2017/4	United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 and quadrennial programme of work of the United Nations Forum on Forests for the period 2017–2020
2020/14	Outcome of the fifteenth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests
