



# Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General  
30 July 2021

Original: English only



## Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

### Economic Commission for Europe Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry

### Food and Agriculture Organization European Forestry Commission

#### Seventy-ninth session

Rome, 22-25 November 2021

Item 4(b) of the provisional agenda

**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**

#### Forty-first session

Rome, 22-25 November 2021

## Outline of key components of the programme of work of the Forests and Forest Industry subprogramme for 2023

### Note by the Secretariat

### Introduction

1. This document presents an outline of key components (objective, strategy and deliverables) of the programme of work of the Forests and Forest Industry subprogramme (“the subprogramme”) for 2023. These components are based on the subprogramme-related section of the ECE proposed programme budget for 2022, with modified or new elements highlighted in track changes.
2. The Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry Matters (“the Committee”) is invited to consider this information and provide recommendations on these components, as necessary. Those modifications and/or member States’ recommendations agreed by the Committee and included in its decisions will be reflected in the proposed programme plan of the subprogramme for 2023. It will be prepared by the secretariat at the end of 2021 and included in the ECE proposed programme budget for 2023.

## Outline of key components of the programme of work

### I. Objective

3. 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.

### II. Strategy

4. The responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Forests, Housing and Land Management Division.

5. 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).

6. 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-based products. The subprogramme will further facilitate the exchange of national experiences and best practices and monitor progress on achieving sustainable 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).

7. 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.

8. 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<sup>1</sup> and circular economy and replace less sustainable alternatives such as fossil-fuel based products.

9. 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.

### III. Deliverables to be implemented in 2023

10. The below table provides an outline of deliverables that are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

<i>Deliverables</i>	<i>2022 planned</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>
<b>A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies</b>		
<b>Parliamentary Documentation (number of documents)</b>	<b>[16]</b>	<b>[16]</b>
1. Documentation for the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry/European Forestry Commission	[10]	[10]
2. Documentation for the Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management	[6]	[6]
<b>Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)</b>	<b>[22]</b>	<b>[22]</b>

<sup>1</sup> The Secretariat wishes to inform that the Committee of Programme and Coordination (CPC) of the General Assembly has recommended to the General Assembly to replace “green” with “sustainable” in the 2022 Proposed programme budget (A/76/16, Programme 17, para. 357). The General Assembly will decide in December 2021, upon review by the Fifth Committee.

<i>Deliverables</i>	<i>2022 planned</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>
3. Meetings of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry/European Forestry Commission	[6]	[8]
4. Meetings of the Bureau of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry	[2]	[2]
5. Meetings of the Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management and of Teams of Specialists	[14]	[12]
<b>B. Generation and transfer of knowledge</b>		
<b>Seminars, workshops, and training events</b> (number of days)	<b>[15]</b>	<b>[12]</b>
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]	[12]
<b>Publications</b> (number of publications)	<b>[7]</b>	<b>[7]</b>
7. <i>Forest Products Annual Market Review</i>	[1]	[1]
8. Publication on sustainable forest management and forest products”	[6]	[6]
<b>C. Substantive deliverables</b>		
<b>Consultation, advice and advocacy:</b> forest policy dialogues at the request of countries and support for forest policy issues, for up to 3 member States.		
<b>Databases and substantive digital materials:</b> 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.		
<b>D. Communication deliverables:</b>		
<b>Outreach programmes, special events and information materials:</b> 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.		
<b>External and media relations:</b> 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.		