



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

Forestry activities of the FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia

Ekrem Yazici, Forestry Officer, FAO SEC

Geneva, 24 May 2024





Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

UNECE/FAO Joint Working Party on Forest Products Statistics, Economics and Management

45th Session

Geneva, 22–24 May 2024



Decentralized FAO Offices in the Region

- **Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia (REU)**
Budapest, Hungary
- **Subregional Office for Central Asia (SEC)**
Ankara, Turkiye
- **Country offices**
Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia,
Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan
- **Partnership and Liaison offices**
Brussels, Belgium / Geneva, Switzerland /
Moscow, Russian Federation

Europe and Central Asia Region (REU)

	Forest cover (in 2020)	Annual change (2000-2020)	Other wooded land (in 2020)	Growing stock (in 2020)
FAO REU	39.2 %	+0.09 %	4.2 %	112.8 m3/ha
REU Europe	46.0 %	+0.07 %	4.5 %	114.4 m3/ha
REU Central Asia	7.6 %	+0.47 %	2.5 %	67.3 m3/ha

Challenges for Forestry in the Region

REU

- Climate change impacts on forests and land resources
- Pest and diseases, invasive species
- Forest fires
- Biodiversity loss
- Forest and Landscape degradation

Challenges for Forestry in the Region

SEC

- Forest governance (policy, legal and institutional structures)
- Biodiversity loss and decline
- Forest/tree resources assessment and monitoring system
- Land-tenure security and forest ownership
- Deforestation and degradation of forests (fuelwood, grazing)
- Restoration and sustainable management of mountain and riparian forests
- Climate change impact on forests and land resources

Regional Priorities 2024-2025

- Ensuring food security and addressing all forms of malnutrition (overarching priority);
- Formulating effective policies, promoting digital innovation and facilitating sustainable rural transformation, with emphasis on smallholders and youth;
- Promoting food systems transformation, including nutrition-sensitive value chains and healthy diets, through the alignment of trade, food safety and sanitary and phytosanitary policies and facilitating One Health;
- Promoting sustainable natural resources governance, preserving biodiversity and building resilience to climate change and disasters in agriculture, forestry, fishery and other land-use sectors.

FAO Technical Assistance to Countries

- **Regular programme**
 - Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP/TCPf)
- **Extra-budgetary programme**
 - Government Cooperative Programme (GCP)
 - Unilateral Trust Fund (UTF)
 - Special Fund for Emergency and Rehabilitation (SFERA)
- **Entry point:** Decentralized FAO offices

Thematic Areas

- Forest Health
- Sustainable Forest Management
- NWFPs – Non-Wood Forest Products
- National forest monitoring (including MRV)
- Ecosystem Conservation, Biodiversity and Climate Change

Forest Health

- Publication of a „Guide for contingency plans for forest pests in Europe and Central Asia” (2023/24 - REU)
- Development and publication of a „Pocket guide to monitor important bark and wood boring forest insects in Europe and Central Asia” (2023/24)

Forest Health

- Development of a Virtual Learning Course on “Application of biological control for management of chestnut blight” (2023/24 - Georgia)
- TCPF: Strengthen capacities and information base for the management of key forest pests and diseases (2022/24 - Azerbaijan)

Sustainable Forest Management

- Sustainable Forest and Rangelands Management in the Dryland Ecosystems of Uzbekistan (FSP - 2022/26 - Uzbekistan)
- Sustainable management of forests in mountain and valley areas (2018/25 - Uzbekistan)

Sustainable Forest Management

- TCPf: Technical Assistance for strengthening the national capacity of the forest service (TCP/MCD/3903) (2023/24 – North Macedonia)
- Technical assistance for Sustainable Forest Management (TCP/MNE/3902) (2023/25 - Montenegro)
- Technical assistance for Sustainable Forest Management in Montenegro (2023/24 - Montenegro)

Sustainable Forest Management

- Complementary support to Implementation of the Forest Policy and Strategy in Kosovo UTF/KOS/006/KOS (2016/2025 - Kosovo)
- Kazakhstan Resilient Agroforestry and Rangeland Project (2023/27 - Kazakhstan)

NWFPs

Non-Wood Forest Products

- Improving the knowledge of member states on value chain development in Wood and NWFPs through developing guidelines and organizing relevant training on improving value chain and market access for NWFp in the CA Sub-region (2024/2025)
- Development of a publication on the legislative background and collection of NWFPs (2023/24 - REU)
- Sustainable Chestnut Value Chain Development (OCOP) (2023/25 - Albania)

National forest monitoring (including MRV)

- Enhance strategic frameworks for AFOLU sectors and development of the 2nd National Forest Inventory (2025/27 - Montenegro)
- Assistance for effective field-level forest monitoring (TCP/ARM/3904) (2023/25 - Armenia)

Ecosystem Conservation, Biodiversity and Climate Change

- Developing guidelines on mainstreaming forest biodiversity into national strategies and action plans in the SEC region and organizing relevant training on the guidelines. (2024/2025)
- Integrated NRM for Improved Ecosystem Conservation and Biodiversity Preservation (PPG) (2021/25 - Uzbekistan)

Ecosystem Conservation, Biodiversity and Climate Change

- Carbon Sequestration through Climate Investment in Forests and Rangelands in Kyrgyz Republic (2021/29 - Kyrgyzstan)
- Integrated Water Resources Management for Agroforestry Restoration in the Syrdarya River Basin (PPG) (2025/28 - Kyrgyzstan)

Ecosystem Conservation, Biodiversity and Climate Change

- Forest resilience of Armenia, enhancing adaptation and rural green growth via mitigation (GCP/ARM/008/GCF) (2021/29 - Armenia)
- Support to strengthening sustainable and multipurpose forest management to improve rural livelihoods and address climate change in Kosovo (GCP/KOS/007/SWE and GCP/KOS/008/EC - 2019/25 and 2022/25 – Kosovo)

Ecosystem Conservation, Biodiversity and Climate Change

- Enabling environment at policy, field and market levels for Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) to achieve Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) in Serbia (MSP) (GCP/SRB/007/GFF) (2022/25 - Serbia)
- Enhancing the resilience of Serbian forests and their carbon storage potential (2023/24 - Serbia)
- Enhancing the resilience of Serbian forests to ensure energy security of the most vulnerable while contributing to their livelihoods and carbon sequestration (2025/32 - Serbia)

Ecosystem Conservation, Biodiversity and Climate Change

- Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity: Strengthening Azerbaijan's system of protected areas through improved governance and management (2021/25 - Azerbaijan)
- Inclusive, competitive and sustainable value chain development in agriculture, fisheries and forestry (GCP/UKR/012/EC) (2021/25 - Ukraine)

Ecosystem Conservation, Biodiversity and Climate Change

- Biodiversity conservation and sustainable forest management in Kaz Daglari (2022/27 - Türkiye)
- Post-Fire Restoration Activities of Forest and Maquis Ecosystems in Mugla Province (2022/24 - Türkiye)
- Enhancing the Capacity of the Turkish International Forestry Training Centre (2023/26 - Türkiye)

Ecosystem Conservation, Biodiversity and Climate Change

- Forest Restoration Improvement for Environmental Development and Sustainability in Central Asia – FRIENDS (2022/25 – Subregional)
- Improving Biodiversity and Sustainable Forestry (2024/27 - Subregional)



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

Thank you

Ekrem.Yazici@fao.org

Geneva, 22–24 May 2024



Copyright: 24 May 2024, Ekrem Yazici, all rights reserved.

For reproduction permission and all other issues, please contact ekrem.yazici@fao.org