Team of Specialists on Forest Product and Wood Energy Statistics

3rd Meeting

Team of Specialists on Forest Products and Wood Energy Statistics, 20-21 May 2024
Agenda

1) Welcome, introductions.
2) Adoption of agenda
3) Presentation of ECE/FAO activities
4) Intersecretariat Working Group on Forest Sector Statistics (IWG)
5) Ad Hoc Task Groups
6) Emerging Topics and Updates
7) ToS Priorities for 2024-2025
8) Peer Exchange
9) Next meeting, topics, timing and location
10) Election of Team Leader and Deputies
3) ECE/FAO activities

a) Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire
b) Timber Forecast Questionnaire
c) Joint Wood Energy Enquiry
d) Statistical Systems
JFSQ Replies

JFSQ Replies 2000 - 2023

Number of Replies


Total Replies  Linear (Total Replies)
JFSQ 2023

- JFSQ Questionnaire issued 9 April 2024
- The UNECE JFSQ Manual was updated
- UNECE and Eurostat Deadline: 10 June
- Data Sharing with ITTO as received
- FAOSTAT upload August and December
- ECE Resources not available for data checking due to UN liquidity crisis
Revisions to the JFSQ 2023

Changes agreed by the Intersecretariat Working Group

• Updated some JFSQ product codes
• Updated some product definitions
• Updated correspondence with other classifications (annex 1-4)
• Added list of tropical countries and territories for JFSQ reporting on tropical timber
Revisions to the JFSQ 2023

• Reported items

Item 5 “Wood pellets and other agglomerates” was renamed as “Wood pellets, briquettes and other agglomerates”.

Item 5.2 “Other agglomerates” was renamed as “Wood briquettes and other agglomerates”.

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<td>WOOD BRIQUETTES AND OTHER AGGLOMERATES</td>
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Revisions to the JFSQ 2023

- Reported items

Item 15 (Glulam and CLT) from the JFSQ for 2022 data was eliminated.

Glulam, CLT and I-Beam numbering was changed from 15.1, 15.2 and 16, respectively, to 13.4.1, 13.4.2, and 13.4.3, respectively.
Revisions to the JFSQ 2023

• Reported items

Item 15 (Glulam and CLT) from the JFSQ for 2022 data was eliminated.

Glulam, CLT and I-Beam numbering was changed from 15.1, 15.2 and 16, respectively, to 13.4.1, 13.4.2, and 13.4.3, respectively.

Item 13.4 Builder’s joinery and carpentry of wood includes Glulam, CLT and I-beams.
• Reported items

JQ3 items 13 (secondary wood products) and 14 (secondary paper products) were reformatted so that no data are requested for these aggregates.
Revisions to the JFSQ 2023

• HS codes

Wood charcoal: inclusion of HS2022 code 4402.20 (of shell or nut) in wood charcoal aggregate.

• Annexes

Annex 1 JQ1 – CPC 3.0
Annex 2 JQ2 (products 1-12) – HS and SITC
Annex 3 JQ3 (products 13-14) – HS and SITC
Annex 4 JQ2+JQ3 (all products) – HS + remarks
List of tropical countries and territories
Revisions to the JFSQ 2023: Definitions

→ Item 13.4 Builder’s joinery and carpentry of wood includes Glulam, CLT and I-beams.

→ Revised the footnote for tropical roundwood and tropical Sawnwood
  • Revised for JQ2 and ITTO1 items 1.2.NC.T and 6.NC.T
  • Added for JQ2 and ITTO1 items 7.NC.T, 8.1.NC.T and (for JQ2 only) 8.1.1.NC.T

“correspondents are requested to check bilateral trade and include non-coniferous non-tropical species exported by tropical countries or imported from tropical countries or areas if the wood is credibly sourced from the tropical country or area”

• A list of tropical countries and territories for JFSQ reporting was added as Annex 5
• Conversion factors: added a link to ITTO country specific conversion factors for products 1.2.NC.T and 6.NC.T.
Common Problems and Processing Issues

- Unit values
- Annual Fluctuations
- Managing missing / inaccurate data
- Negative apparent consumption
- Aggregate (total) items not matching subitems
- Blank cells (use “…” for not available)
- Not clear what is done with “ex” code items
• 28 countries replied to the TFQ in 2023 an increase of 7 compared to 2022.

• The number of datapoints was consistent with previous years, although some replies provide little forecast data.

• The forecasts tables were made available at the COFFI meeting and published online in Excel and PDF formats.

• For the past four years, the published forecasts contained data for the responding countries only.

• Therefore, the totals are not comparable with the actual total production as reported in the FPAMR or other sources.
Timber Forecast Questionnaire 2024

- Data is only published for reporting countries.
- The proposed deadline for TFQ 2024 is 1 October 2024.
- The questionnaire will be sent by **30 August 2024**.
a) Mr. Sebastian Glasenapp
Statistical Systems

a) ECE Database Update
b) INForest
c) Data exchanges
JFSQ Statistical System

- Annual data collection exercise
  - Excel-based data collection, processing and validation
  - The UNECE version of the JFSQ for 2023 data requests 888 data points
  - Access database created in 2002 is used for storage
  - Data UNECE website (Excel File) and provided to FAO for upload to FAOSTAT.

- High share of manual work
  - National replies individually checked in Excel
  - Summary log of changes drafted for validation by correspondents
  - Significant data processing required after exporting data from Access to develop output tables (e.g. for FPAMR)
Each product code is reviewed in Excel using checks based on:

- Apparent Consumption or Net Trade
- Change from prior year/historical values and ratios
- Regional Average Unit Price
- Discrepancies between aggregates and disaggregates
- Missing Quantities
- Unit and conversion factor errors
- Wood balance
- Third party sources (COMTRADE)
- Exchange with national correspondents

Changes are documented in a log shared with the national correspondent
Central Data Platform

• The Secretariat is developing a replacement to the existing JFSQ Access Database. The pilot version is expected in late 2024.

• Modernized, tailored central data platform, with some degree of automation, seeks to unlock significant efficiency gains in data:
  • Collection
  • Data Checking, Correction and Validation
  • Evaluation
  • Publication

• Long term funding is critical to enhance and ensure the sustainability of the platform
Central Data Platform

• Improved data collection, processing, validation, storage and dissemination linked to the JFSQ will:
  • Strengthen capacity for timely data processing and quality assurance
  • Make use of automated data exchange (receiving and sharing)
  • Be more flexible for partial data set submission, updating and publication (as data is available)
  • Allow for easier revision of datapoints and historical data
  • Provide more detailed metadata
  • Allow for automatic update of graphs and tables (INForest, other platforms)
  • Allow for more flexible assessment of trends and their drivers
  • Enhance the possibility for more systematic data analytics for publication
INForest
Your data and knowledge platform for forests in the UNECE region

Key Indicators  Country Data  About Us
4) Intersecretariat Working Group on Forest Sector Statistics

a) Definition and Classification Review

b) Update on HS2028
Definition and Classification Review

i. Fibreboard, Plywood, and Engineered Wood Products. Are HS 44.11/12/18 definitions aligned with today’s industry?

ii. Wood chips and particles: addressing definitional challenges, production missing in statistics, and differentiation by end use
Fibreboard, Plywood, and Engineered Wood Products. Are HS 44.11/12/18 definitions aligned with today’s industry?

• Fibreboard (44.11):
  - MDF defined by thickness vs “Other” defined by density
  - Currently our export/import data for fibreboard include laminate flooring. This represents trade flows worth in $ billions.

• Plywood (44.12):
  - Large variations in quality a problem for unit prices
  - Engineered Wood Products: Is LVL designed to support structural loads?

• Builders Joinery (44.18)
  - Includes Assembled Flooring Panels
Update on HS2028 process

a) Mr. Arvydas Lebedys, FAO
19:00 Optional Dinner (own expense)

Les Brasseurs: Place de Cornavin 20 · 1201 Geneva
8) Peer Exchange

a) Removals data collection case study: Germany

b) Wood energy data collection case study: France
5) Ad Hoc Task Groups

a) Ad Hoc Task Group on Removals

b) Ad Hoc Task Group on Wood Energy Statistics
Ad Hoc Task Group on Removals

Review of statistics regarding removals to share information, identify gaps and inconsistencies in definitions and methodologies

Coordinators:
Mr. Michal Synek
Ms. Graça Louro
a) Small Group Discussion
   a) Question 1: 20 Minutes
   b) Question 2: 20 Minutes
b) Plenary Discussion: 30 Minutes
Ad Hoc Task Group on Wood Energy Statistics

Review of methods of data collection to better respond to policy questions on wood energy supply-chain

Coordinators:
Ms. Consuelo Brandeis
Mr. Sebastian Glasenapp
Ad Hoc Task Group on Wood Energy: Discussion

a) Small Group Discussion: 20 Minutes

b) Plenary Discussion: 50 Minutes
**Theme A:** Improving current draft document. While addressing the questions below, please keep in mind the document’s aim which is to describe data gathered through the JWEE and their value to help address policy questions. We are using the four policy areas identified by our ToS as examples for application of JWEE data, through the identification of metrics.

**Group A1:**
- Anything missing or needing clarification?
- Any other feedback to improve the document?

**Group A2:**
- Something that could be presented differently (e.g., table/graph display, organization)?
- Any other feedback to improve the document?
Theme B: Data quality improvement

Group B1:

• How could we handle existing data gaps (historical data)? Do we explore filling in missing data points? Yes/no, why?

• If yes to above, what options could we explore? (e.g., searching other data reporting sources, applying statistical methods to impute, a combination of those)

Group B2:

• What would be potential options to address missing data moving forward?

• Do we need a process (or need to improve existing process) to evaluate and address data quality issues?
Exapanding the link of JWEE data to inform policy questions.

- If we were to expand the analysis work what could be some relevant research questions to consider?
- What would the pros and cons from surveying policy staff to gain a better understanding of needs/current policy questions?

Enhancing the ToS on FPWES.

- Potential ways to improve awareness of JWEE data availability/coverage?
- Discuss potential ways to publish the ToS’s output.
Lunch: 12:30 – 14:00

Bon Appetit!
6) Emerging Topics and Updates

- Statistics on wood in construction
- FAOSTAT Flags
- Evolving use cases: linkages to the System of Environmental and Economic Accounting
- Remote sensing: removals statistics
7) ToS Priorities for 2024-2025

- Small Group Brainstorming (20 minutes)
  - The Entire ToS will split into 4 small groups. Each group will discuss a question related to the priorities of the ToS.

- Plenary Discussion of next steps (40 minutes)
  - The entire ToS will reconvene. Each small group will report back on the outcomes of the discussion. The entire ToS will then discuss and agree on the priorities for the ToS over the coming 1-2 years.
7) ToS Priorities for 2024-2025

• Small Group Brainstorming (20 minutes)

Groups 1 and 2:
• What are the main uses / who are the main users of JFSQ, JWEE and TFQ data? Are the uses and user needs evolving or changing?
• If so, are there priority emerging use needs that the Team should work to address, and why are they important?

Groups 3 and 4:
• What are the main challenges with JFSQ, JWEE and TFQ data collection, reporting and dissemination?
• What are the priorities for the team to improve forest products and wood energy statistics?
7) ToS Priorities for 2024-2025

• Plenary Discussion of next steps (40 minutes)
  
  • The entire ToS will reconvene. Each small group will report back on the outcomes of the brainstorming.
  
  • The entire ToS will then brainstorm the priorities for the ToS over the coming 1-2 years and agree on next steps.
9) Next Meeting, topics, timing and location

a) Team members are invited to propose possible locations for the next ToS meeting

b) Ad hoc task groups: Coordinators will provide and update on planned meetings of the ad hoc task groups
10) Election of Team Leader and Deputies

• The Team is established under the Integrated Programme of Work 2022-2025.

• Its mandate may be renewed by COFFI in the Integrated Programme of Work 2026-2029.

• For every 2-year cycle the Team is requested to choose/confirm its leadership in accordance with the Guidelines for the ECE/FAO Teams of Specialists (ToS).

• The Team may choose to renew the mandate of the current Team Leader and Deputies for the period 2024-2025, if there is agreement by the Team and if the candidates confirm their ability to serve another term.

• Otherwise, the Secretariat will ask for nominations for the Team Leader and Deputy(ies) for the period 2024-2025 and hold a vote at this time.
THANK YOU

Mr. Daniel Griswold
Secretary, Team of Specialists on Forest Products and Wood Energy Statistics

UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section