UNECE (TIM) (Timber)

2.4.1 Agriculture, forestry, fisheries

Activity 11.1: Collection, processing and dissemination of forest sector statistics

Description and objectives

Collection and dissemination of data on forest resources, production and trade of forest products, and indicators of Sustainable Forest Management (SFM).

Activities and output

• Provide timely and relevant forest statistics, including data on forest resources, production and trade of forest products, wood energy and indicators of SFM.
• Collect and disseminate data on production and trade of forest products, through the Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire (JFSQ), in cooperation with FAO, Eurostat and International Tropical Timber Organisation (ITTO).
• Work on European Forest Outlook Study to collect, review and prepare data for inclusion in models (EFI, Alterra, Hamburg University)
• Data collection/data management:

- Qualitative and quantitative indicators on sustainable forest management for next State of Europe's Forests (SoEF);

- work with International Data Providers (IMF, Eurostat, ILO) to locate and use data for SoEF;

- Forest Products Statistics, including prices of forest products;

- Wood Balance.

- Dissemination of statistical products:

- Timber Committee's website: http://timber.unece.org/index.php?id=84 in Excel, PDF and HTML formats;

- CD-ROMs;

- On-line data on "State of Forest and Sustainable Forest Management in Europe 2007" available through the UNECE Statistical Database;

- FRA 2010 results to official meetings, contacts in countries, other fora;

- Joint Wood Energy Enquiry (JWEE) to energy and forest sector, including database and analysis, including at meetings;

- Publications, e.g. the Forest Products Annual Market Review;

- Reports to governing bodies, particularly the Joint Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics.

Organizations and groups involved

FAO
UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Management and the Team on Forest Sector Outlook
Eurostat
International Tropical Timber Organisation (ITTO)
Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (MCPFE)

Activity 11.2: Analytical and methodological work on forest sector statistics

Description and objectives

Analytical and methodological studies on different issues in the area of forest sector statistics, including Forest Sector Country Profiles. Methodological improvements in areas such as forest resource assessment and wood balances. Analysis of forest resources, sustainability of forest management, and forest products markets.

Activities and output

Analytical products:

• UNECE regional input to the global Forest Resource Assessment (FRA) 2010 (to be published by FAO);
• Forest Products Annual Market Review, published as a Study Paper;
• Forest Sector Country profiles, published as Discussion Papers;
• Outlook Study.

Methodological work:
• Activities by the Team of Specialists on Eastern Europe on forest resources and sustainable forest management, on forest products markets and marketing, on policies and institutions.
• Discussions with Member States at the Joint FAO/UNECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics on methodological issues.
• Create and maintain terms and definitions, specifications and classifications in consultation with partners and stakeholders, in particular for the FRA.
• Provide inputs to international statistical classifications, e.g. Harmonised System, International Standard Industrial Classification.
• Establish a concept of National Wood Resource Balance.
• Pursue conversion factor work to improve understanding of relationships between products and standing timber.
• Develop methodology and definitions for Joint Wood Energy Enquiry with IEA, FAO and Eurostat.
• Cooperate with Joint Research Centre (JRC) which is carrying out work in real-time analysis of fires and increasing use of national forest inventory information.
• Organization of the meetings of the Joint FAO/UNECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics (annual sessions, intergovernmental, usually in March).
• Organisation of the annual meetings of the Inter-secretariat Working Group on Forest Sector Statistics (membership: UNECE, FAO, Eurostat, ITTO, OECD, EEA, CEC).
• Organisation of the meetings of the Inter-Secretariat Working Group on Forest Policies and Institutions (membership: UNECE, FAO, MCPFE).
• Organisation of the meetings of the Teams of Specialists.

Organizations and groups involved

Commission for Environmental Cooperation
European Environment Agency
Eurostat
FAO
International Energy Agency
ITTO
JRC
OECD
Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (MCPFE)

Activity 11.3: Technical cooperation on forest sector statistics

Description and objectives

Capacity building in member countries through workshops and meetings of national correspondents, and through the guidelines for the implementation of international projects, like Forest Resource Assessment (FRA).

Activities and output

• Work with member countries through Team of Specialists to complete replies to State of Europe's Forests report.

Organizations and groups involved

European Environment Agency
FAO
Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (MCPFE).