

# INFORMATION

## Assessment and monitoring

14 OCTOBER  
World Standards Day

Criteria and indicators serve as standards for measuring progress towards sustainable forest management. Recent FAO regional initiatives to recognize excellence in sustainable forest management applied a mix of such criteria to evaluate nominated forests. The forest shown here, in the Peruvian Amazon, was selected as an exemplary case in Latin America and the Caribbean in part for its contribution to local development and poverty reduction, in accordance with the criterion of the Tarapoto Process relating to local socio-economic benefits.

CESAR SABOGAL



International trade of forest and wood products can result in the inadvertent spread of invasive insect pests and diseases. The International Plant Protection Convention establishes standards to prevent such spread. FAO is preparing a guide, to be published in 2011, to help foresters implement phytosanitary standards to ensure the health of forests worldwide. Wood packaging material is a potential source of infestation.

FORESTRY COMMISSION/1013425/FORREST LIFE  
PICTURE LIBRARY

Accurate and reliable forest information is critical to support national policies and decision-making. Information gathered at the national level also contributes to more far-reaching assessments such as FAO's periodic Global Forest Resources Assessment, supporting international negotiations and decisions in all forest-related matters, including on such topical issues as food security and climate change. (Forest inventory, Malaysia.)

FAO/WALTER KOLLERT



Young civil servants take part in intensive training on mapping and remote sensing as part of an FAO project that is helping Angola establish a long-term forest monitoring, management and information system. Forests cover almost half of Angola's territory and are of major food security and economic importance for the population. FAO/ANNE BRANTHOMME

# INFORMATION

## Information and communications

17 MAY  
World Information Society  
Day (formerly World  
Telecommunication Day)

24 OCTOBER  
World Development Information  
Day

Modern hand-held devices, often combined with global positioning systems (GPS), are used to measure distances and inclinations, mark precise positions, and enter and transmit data, changing the way forest inventory and other types of fieldwork are done in the twenty-first century.



A new species, *Pseudpinus telephonyensis*? In some countries, cellular transmission towers are dressed as trees to mask their unwelcome appearance in the landscape.

9 OCTOBER  
World Post Day

A series of stamps from China urge citizens to "Plant trees and make the country green".

