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

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Item 2(e) of the provisional agenda

**Joint Committee/Commission matters:****Review of 2017 activities, and activities and publications  
planned for 2018****Food and Agriculture Organization****European Forestry Commission**

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**Review of 2017 activities, and activities and  
publications planned for 2018****Note by the Secretariat***Summary*

This document describes how the 2014-2017 ECE/FAO Integrated Programme of Work was implemented in 2017 by the ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber section, and provides a tentative list of activities and publications for 2018, the implementation of which is subject to the availability of funds. The Committee and the Commission are invited to take note of results and approve the tentative list of new activities.

**I. Review of 2017 activities****A. Work Area 1: Data, monitoring and assessment****1. Forest resources**

- (a) **Collection, validation and dissemination of statistics on forest resources, functions and services, Sustainable Forest Management (SFM), and the contribution of the forest sector to a green economy**

- *Reporting on forest ownership in the region:* database of forest ownership data;

- *The 2020 cycle of the Forest Europe/ECE/FAO reporting on forests and SFM in the region*: reporting process organized in coordination with the global reporting;
  - *Global Forest Resource Assessment (FRA) and Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire (CFRQ)*: regional contribution to the 2020 global reporting cycle in cooperation with CFRQ partners;
  - Contribution to the development of the questionnaire for the next global reporting cycle in cooperation with CFRQ partners;
  - Fundraising for the reporting platform in coordination with CFRQ partners;
  - Revised questionnaire on the joint Forest Europe/ECE/FAO reporting (qualitative and quantitative indicators), fully integrated with the global one;
  - Contribution to the preparation of the interactive reporting tool for both, global and regional processes;
  - Contribution to the development of a global core set of forest-related indicators for sustainable forest management, the forest related SDGs, targets and other internationally agreed goals on forests, and the UN Strategic Plan for Forests.
- (b) **Analysis and assessment of the state of forests and the sustainability of forest management; and the monitoring of the role of the forest sector in a green economy**
- Reporting on forest ownership in the region: draft of the “Study on forest ownership in the ECE region” by the ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section and European Cooperation in Science and Technology Action Forest Land Ownership Changes in Europe (COST Action FACESMAP).
- (c) **Cooperation with, and support to, international processes in SFM, including regional C&I processes**
- Contribution to the work of international processes and organizations (e.g. Forest Europe, Montréal Process);
  - Support to forest information related work;
  - Capacity building support on Criteria and Indicators (C&I) at national (Armenia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan under the UNDA project), subregional, regional levels (Forest Europe);
  - Meeting of the Team of Specialists (ToS) on Monitoring SFM in Tromsø, Norway (22 to 24 May 2017).

## 2. Forest products and markets

- (a) **Collection, validation and dissemination of statistics on production, trade, consumption and prices of forest products**
- Preparation of data on forest products, species trade, and prices;
  - Improvement of the existing database;
  - Development of procedures for estimating wood balance, including conversion factors;
  - Publication of the results of the pilot game meat questionnaire in the ECE region.

- (b) **Analysis of markets for forest products, notably relevant policy aspects, including the Forest Products Annual Market Review (FPAMR) and annual Market Discussions**
- Publication of the FPAMR;
  - Preparation of data and the statistical annex for the FPAMR;
  - Preparation of tables and graphs for the Market Forecasts;
  - Preparation of the Market Discussion and the Market Statement;
  - Publication of a topical market analysis.
- (c) **Support of international processes in forest products**
- Participation in the Intersecretariat Working Group on Forest Sector Statistics and attendance at other international meetings;
  - Review of international classifications;
  - Organization of the meeting(s) of the ToS on Forest Products Statistics and the ToS on Sustainable Forest Products.

### **3. Wood energy**

- (a) **Collection, validation and dissemination of statistics on wood energy**
- Maintenance of database on wood energy;
  - Joint Wood Energy Enquiry (JWEE) 2015 data collection, validation, analysis and dissemination;
  - Compilation of the results of the conversion factor questionnaire for publication by the FAO.
- (b) **Analysis of energy-related issues, including demand for, and supply of, wood energy**
- Finalization of the publication of a wood energy report, explaining the data collection process, analysing trends in the supply of, and demand for, wood energy, including national case studies on wood energy data collection as appropriate.
- (c) **Support of international processes in wood energy**
- Presentation of the wood energy work at relevant international meetings and cooperation with relevant processes (e.g. International Energy Agency, International Renewable Energy Agency, etc.);
  - Organization of meeting of the ToS on Wood Energy in Durham, North Carolina, United States (17 to 19 May 2017).

### **B. Work Area 2: Policy dialogue and advice**

- (a) **Follow-up to the Rovaniemi Action Plan (RAP) for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy**
- Preparation of the mid-term review of the RAP;

- Dissemination and presentation of the RAP at relevant meetings;
  - Organization of the meeting(s) of the ToS on Forest Policy in Geneva, Switzerland (28 March 2017).
- (b) **Contribution to the policy-related components of activities under Work Areas 1, 3 and 4**
- Policy chapter of the FPAMR;
  - Policy chapter in the finalized wood energy and forest ownership publications.
- (c) **Forest Sector Outlook**
- Workshop on “Streamlining the next round of Forest Sector Outlook studies”, in November 2016, in Moscow, Russian Federation;
  - Development of a concept note, including a detailed description of the outline, possible scenarios, timelines and funding requirements, for the future European Forest Sector Outlook Study;
  - Fundraising for Outlook studies;
  - Organization of meeting(s) of the ToS on Forest Sector Outlook and the core group of the ToS in Geneva, Switzerland (23 March 2017) and in 2018.
- (d) **Green Jobs in the Forest Sector**
- Organization of the meeting(s) of the ILO/ECE/FAO ToS on Green Jobs in the Forest Sector in Geneva, Switzerland (29 March 2017);
  - Organization of a workshop on promoting green jobs in the forest sector jointly with Forest Europe;
  - Finalization of the publication on the forest sector workforce;
  - Finalisation of the publication on future green jobs.
- (e) **Monitoring of forest policies and support to international processes relevant to policymaking for the forest sector**
- Monitoring of developments, and contribution, as relevant, to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
  - Monitoring of developments, and contribution to the development of the UN Strategic Plan on Forests (UNSPF) and the quadrennial programme of work;
  - Monitoring of developments, and contribution, as relevant, to the Forest Europe process and its Work Programme.
- (f) **Tools for policymaking - studies and publications**
- Finalization and publication of a study, “Forests and Water: Valuation and Payments for Forest Ecosystem Services”.

### **C. Work Area 3: Communication and outreach**

- (a) **Organization of events and campaigns in support of SFM and forest products and services**
- International Day of Forests under the theme “Forests and Energy” (21 March 2017);
  - 4<sup>th</sup> European Forest Week under the theme “Forests, our common goods” (9 to 13 October 2017).
- (b) **Dissemination of information via policy briefs, press briefs and ad hoc studies, whenever results are available and new information is released**
- Regular update of the media/public relations contact list;
  - Maintenance of the website and improvement of its design;
  - Preparation and dissemination of press briefs/releases on relevant topics in 2017;
  - Regular issues of the Forest Information Billboard.
- (c) **Outreach activities beyond the forest sector, disseminating information that highlights the relevance of forests and forest products to other sectors (e.g. energy events, biodiversity and environment meetings, sustainable construction and building, etc.)**
- Preparation and dissemination of information to international mailing lists once a new language version of the film “More heat with less wood” becomes available (e.g. Hungarian, Serbian and Romanian);
  - Preparation and dissemination of press releases on forest products markets;
  - Organization of the meeting(s) of the ToS on Forest Communication in Malaga, Spain (30 May to 1 June 2017).

### **D. Work Area 4: Capacity building**

- (a) **Organization of capacity building workshops on:**
- Workshop on wood balances to analyse consistency between available information on wood resources growth, use and processing (comparing FRA and Joint Forest Sector Questionnaires, JFSQ) and use this information to reduce inconsistencies (planned for December 2017 in Geneva).
- (b) **Implementation of the UN Development Account (UNDA) project: Accountability systems for SFM in the Caucasus and Central Asia (2016-2019)**
- “Guidelines for the development of a C&I set for SFM” in Russian and English;
  - National coaching workshops on C&I for SFM to identify the national status, analyse needs and benefits, and to draft a preliminary set of national C&I for Kyrgyzstan (15 to 17 March 2017), Kazakhstan (28 to 30 June 2017), Uzbekistan (2 to 4 August 2017), Armenia (13 to 15 September 2017), Georgia (15 to 17 November 2017);
  - National coaching workshops are organized back-to-back together with an advisory mission to the involved ministry to discuss national project implementation.

(c) **Other capacity building activities**

- Development of concept notes and project proposals on capacity building activities in the region for possible funding, in particular UN calls for proposals.

**E. Monitoring of implementation and management of the Integrated Programme of Work (IPoW)**

(a) **Intergovernmental meetings**

- Organization of the joint session of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (COFFI) and the FAO European Forestry Commission (9 to 13 October 2017);
- Organization of the meeting of the Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management in Geneva, Switzerland (29 to 31 March 2017).
- Organization of the meeting “Marianske Lazne +70” to celebrate 70 years of UNECE/FAO cooperation on forests, including a roundtable on forest certification and a high-level panel on the past and future of the forest sector in the region.

(b) **Bureaux meetings**

- Organization of the Bureaux meetings in Geneva, Switzerland (30 and 31 March 2017).

(c) **Evaluations and reviews**

- Conclusion of the Strategic Review of the IPoW: proposal for the 2018-2021 IPoW.

**II. Tentative list of activities for 2018**

**A. Work Area 1: Data, monitoring and assessment**

**1. Forest resources**

(d) **Collection, validation and dissemination of statistics on forest resources, functions and services, SFM, and the contribution of the forest sector to a green economy**

- Reporting on forest ownership in the region: database of forest ownership data;
- *2020 reporting cycle of the Global FRA and CFRQ*: cooperation with FAO and other CFRQ partners on the organization of the data collection process, integrated with the 2020 cycle of the Forest Europe/ECE/FAO reporting on forests and SFM in the region; regional inputs to the global meeting for FRA national correspondents;
- *Data collection for the 2020 global and regional reporting on forests*: coordination of the overall process and provision of the support to national

correspondents from the UNECE region; organization (jointly with FAO and Forest Europe) of a regional capacity building workshop for national correspondents from the region and support to the review process;

- Collaboration with relevant organizations and actors on forest related indicators for SDGs.
- (e) **Analysis and assessment of the state of forests and the sustainability of forest management; and the monitoring of the role of the forest sector in a green economy**
- Reporting on forest ownership in the region: publication of the “Study on forest ownership in the ECE region” (jointly with Section and COST Action FACESMAP).
- (f) **Cooperation with, and support to, international processes in SFM, including regional C&I processes**
- Contribution to the work of international processes (e.g. Forest Europe, Montréal Process);
  - Support to forest information related work in countries and organizations in the region;
  - Contribution to capacity building on C&Is at national (Armenia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan under the UNDA project), subregional and regional levels;
  - Organization of the meeting(s) of the ToS on Monitoring SFM.

## 2. Forest products and markets

- (a) **Collection, validation and dissemination of statistics on production, trade, consumption and prices of forest products**
- Preparation of data on forest products, species trade, and prices;
  - Improvement of the existing database;
  - Revision of the JFSQ (adjust to Harmonised System rev. 2017 and new products).
- (b) **Analysis of markets for forest products, notably relevant policy aspects, including the FPAMR and annual Market Discussions**
- Publication of the FPAMR 2017-2018;
  - Preparation of data and the statistical annex for the FPAMR 2017-2018;
  - Preparation of tables and graphs for the Market Forecasts 2017-2018;
  - Preparation of the Market Discussion and the Market Statement;
  - Publication of a topical market analysis.
- (c) **Support of international processes in forest products**
- Participation in the Intersecretariat Working Group on Forest Sector Statistics and attendance at other international meetings;
  - Review of international classifications, support to HS 2022 revision;

- Organization of the meeting(s) of the ToS on Forest Products Statistics and the ToS on Sustainable Forest Products.

### **3. Wood energy**

- (a) **Collection, validation and dissemination of statistics on wood energy**
  - Maintenance of database on wood energy;
  - Dissemination of the 2015 JWEE data at relevant international meetings;
  - JWEE 2017, preparation and issuance of the questionnaire.
- (b) **Analysis of energy-related issues, including demand for, and supply of, wood energy**
  - Publication of a study on wood energy in the ECE region and dissemination of the outcomes at relevant international meetings.
- (c) **Support of international processes in wood energy**
  - Presentation of the wood energy work at relevant international meetings and cooperation with relevant processes (e.g. International Energy Agency, International Renewable Energy Agency, etc.);
  - Organization of meeting of the ToS on Wood Energy.

## **B. Work Area 2: Policy dialogue and advice**

- (a) **Follow-up to the RAP for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy**
  - Monitoring of the implementation of the RAP in the ECE region;
  - Dissemination of the results of the mid-term review of the RAP;
  - Dissemination and presentation of the RAP at relevant meetings;
  - Organization of the meeting(s) of the ToS on Forest Policy.
- (b) **Contribution to the policy-related components of activities under Work Areas 1, 3 and 4**
  - Policy chapter of the FPAMR.
- (c) **Forest Sector Outlook**
  - Organization of the meeting(s) of the ToS on Forest Sector Outlook.
  - Organize a workshop with member states to prioritize possible scenarios and to provide guidance to the ToS on Forest Sector Outlook for the next round of forest outlook studies;
  - Development of detailed outline for the next round of forest outlook studies;
  - Fundraising for Outlook studies;
  - Organization of the meeting(s) of the ToS on Forest Sector Outlook.



- (d) **Green Jobs in the Forest Sector**
  - Organization of the meeting(s) of the ILO/ECE/FAO ToS on Green Jobs in the Forest Sector;
  - Dissemination and promotion of the publication on the forest sector workforce;
  - Dissemination and promotion of the publication on future green jobs.
- (e) **Monitoring and support of international processes relevant to policymaking for the forest sector**
  - Monitoring of developments, and contribution, as relevant, to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
  - Monitoring of developments, and contribution, as relevant, to the UNFF Strategic Plan and the quadrennial programme of work;
  - Monitoring of developments, and contribution, as relevant, to the Forest Europe process and its Work Programme.
- (f) **Tools for policymaking - studies and publications**
  - Dissemination and promotion of the study, “Forests and Water: Valuation and Payments for Forest Ecosystem Services”;

### **C. Work Area 3: Communication and outreach**

- (a) **Organization of events and campaigns in support of SFM and forest products and services**
  - International Day of Forests (21 March 2018);
  - Other relevant events.
- (b) **Dissemination of information via policy briefs, press briefs and ad hoc studies, whenever results are available and new information is released**
  - Maintenance of the website and improvement of its design;
  - Preparation and dissemination of press/news releases on relevant topics in 2018;
  - Forest Information Billboard (four times a year).
- (c) **Outreach activities beyond the forest sector, disseminating information that highlights the relevance of forests and forest products to other sectors (e.g. energy events, biodiversity and environment meetings, sustainable construction and building, etc.)**
  - Preparation and dissemination of press/news releases on forest products markets;
  - Organization of the meeting(s) of the ToS on Forest Communication.

### **D. Work Area 4: Capacity building**

- (a) **Organization of capacity building workshops on:**
  - Capacity training of national experts on international models on forest growth and forest products trade.

- (b) **Regional capacity building workshop (jointly with FAO and Forest Europe) in support of the global and regional reporting on forests and SFM (Geneva, Switzerland, 17 to 19 April 2018); Implementation of the UNDA project: Accountability systems for SFM in the Caucasus and Central Asia (2016-2019)**
- Organisation of an intermediate regional conference for all five project countries (Armenia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan) to assess the status, exchange experience, mutually review and stimulate the further work.
  - Organisation of national workshops to advance the development of national C&I sets, discuss the feasibility of assessment and plan the further implementation in all five project countries.

## E. Monitoring and management of the IPoW

- (a) **Intergovernmental Meetings**
- Organization of the meeting of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry;
  - Organization of the meeting of the Joint FAO/UNECE Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management.
- (b) **Bureaux Meetings**
- Organization of the Bureaux meetings as appropriate.

## III. List of publications for 2018

Title	English	French	Russian
Forest Products Annual Market Review 2017-2018	E-600	F-50	R-50
Outlook for Forest Products Markets (2018)	English only, online publications		
Forestry and Timber Study Paper (2018)	E-400	F-50	R-50
Forestry and Timber Discussion Paper (2018)	E-400	F-50	R-50
Forestry and Timber Discussion Paper (2018)	English only, online publications		
Forestry and Timber Discussion Paper (2018)	E-500	F-50	R-50