



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Global Forest Resources Assessment 2020

Report of the Regional workshop for Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia

Geneva, Switzerland, 18-20 April 2018

With the support of





Background

FAO is conducting a series of regional and sub-regional workshops as part of the preparatory work for the country reporting process to the Global Forest Resources Assessment 2020 (FRA 2020). The workshops respond to requests made by National Correspondents to increase FAO's support for capacity building in forest resources assessment.

Objectives of the workshop

The objective of the workshop was to provide National Correspondents with technical support for the finalization of the FRA 2020 Country Reports, due in October 2018. The workshop aimed also to provide an opportunity to assess the status of the compilation of the Country Reports and review data and information already entered in the reporting platform.

This will ensure that data and information provided is as complete, consistent and transparent as possible and it will improve the quality and reliability of the FRA 2020 estimates.

Summary

The workshop was organized jointly by UNECE, FAO and FOREST EUROPE and held in the premises of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) in Geneva, Switzerland, from 18 to 20 April 2018. In total, 40 people participated in the workshop, among which 33 National Correspondents from 29 countries of Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia, together with representatives from UNECE, FAO and FOREST EUROPE (list of participants is in Annex 2).

Outcomes of the workshop

The objectives of the workshop were fully achieved. Main outcomes of the workshop are listed below:

- Technical assistance for the use of the on-line reporting and review platform and the compilation of the FRA 2020 country reports was provided;
- Outstanding issues that National Correspondents faced in the compilation of the country reports were identified and addressed;
- A learning platform for National Correspondents to interact and share experience on forest related reporting was provided;

- Countries were informed about the FRA Remote Sensing Survey and FRA Geospatial tools;
- Interlinkages of the joint regional Pan-European and the global FRA reporting were explained.

Structure of the workshop

Wednesday 18 April

Mr Anssi Pekkarinen and Mr Roman Michalak officially welcomed the participants and thanked the National Correspondents for attending the workshop.

During the first day of the workshop, Mr Anssi Pekkarinen introduced the participants, who could not attend the global technical meeting in Mexico, to the FRA 2020 process, reporting content, terms and definitions as well as the new reporting platform. Furthermore, the participants got acquainted with the FRA 2020 Remote sensing survey, its methodology and pilot results.

Thursday 19 April

Ms Paola Deda, Mr Anssi Pekkarinen and Mr Rastislav Raši gave welcoming remarks, highlighting the importance of the National Correspondents' contribution.

The second and third day of the workshop were focused on the substantive matters of the FRA 2020 reporting and the Pan-European 2020 data collection, which is done jointly with the global process. The participants were divided into working groups that discussed the reporting content, methodology and platform functionalities in a detailed manner with the reviewers. The four working groups went through the FRA 2020 reporting tables on the Platform to identify potential difficulties, which were then addressed in each group under the guidance of the reviewers.

After that the groups met in plenary to discuss and solve any particular reporting issues. The participants familiarized themselves with the reporting requirements and process using the reference documents, such as 'Terms and Definitions', 'Guidelines' and 'FRA 2020 Platform Manual'. Most of the presented issues were solved during group and plenary sessions, while others were forwarded to the FRA Secretariat in Rome for further clarification.

All participants obtained access to the online reporting Platform and had the opportunity to exchange experiences, which allowed to progress in the unification of the criteria, clarification of definitions and improvement of the coherence between the various reports of the countries in Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia.

Mr Rastislav Raši and Mr Roman Michalak presented interlinkages of FRA and the Pan-European 2020 reporting content for criterion 1 (forest resources, growing stock and carbon).

Mr Stein M. Tomter presented interlinkages of FRA and Pan-European 2020 reporting content for criteria 2 and 5 (forest damage and degradation, protective functions).

Mr Matej Schwarz presented interlinkages of FRA and Pan-European 2020 reporting content for criterion 4 (biodiversity).

Friday 20 April

Mr Roman Michalak, Mr Rastislav Raši and Mr Florian Steierer presented interlinkages of FRA and Pan-European 2020 reporting content for criterion 6 (socio-economic functions).

Mr Alex McCusker, Mr Roman Michalak and Mr Rastislav Raši presented interlinkages of FRA and Pan-European 2020 reporting content for criterion 3 (productive functions of forests).

The meeting website and presentations can be found at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=48388>.

Annex 1: Agenda

Wednesday 18 April 2018	
09:30	<i>Registration of participants</i>
10:00-11:00	1. Welcome remarks and introduction to FRA 2020 Mr Anssi Pekkarinen, <i>FAO</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What has changed and why ○ FRA and forest related SDG indicators ○ FRA 2020 reporting platform (incl. geospatial tools)
11:00-11:30	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:30-12:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ FRA 2020 reporting content ○ Discussion
12:00-12:15	2. Introduction to FRA 2020 working groups
12:15-13:00	3. FRA 2020 working groups
13:00-14:00	<i>Lunch break</i>
14:00-15:30	4. Continuation of FRA 2020 working groups
15:30-16:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
16:00-17:30	5. Continuation of FRA 2020 working groups
17:30-18:00	6. FRA 2020 Remote Sensing Survey: methodology and pilot results <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr Anssi Pekkarinen, <i>FAO</i> ○ <i>Questions and answers</i>

Thursday 19 April 2018	
10:00-10:15	<p>6. Launching the workshop</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Welcome remarks - Ms Paola Deda, UNECE ○ Opening address - Mr Anssi Pekkarinen, <i>FAO</i> ○ Opening address - Mr Rastislav Raši, <i>FOREST EUROPE</i>
10:15-10:25	<p>7. Introduction to FRA 2020 – Mr Anssi Pekkarinen, <i>FAO</i></p> <p><i>Questions and answers in plenary</i></p>
10:25-10:35	<p>8. Introduction to the Pan-European 2020 reporting - Mr Rastislav Raši, <i>FOREST EUROPE</i>, Mr Roman Michalak, <i>UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Quantitative indicators ○ Qualitative indicators <p><i>Questions and answers in plenary</i></p>
10:35-11:00	<i>Coffee break and group picture</i>
11:00-11:30	<p>9. FRA and pan-European 2020 reporting content – Criterion 1 (Forest resources, growing stock and carbon) - reporting forms, linkages between FRA and pan-European reporting, definitions (A. Pekkarinen, R. Michalak, R. Raši, M. Schwarz, S. Tomter)</p> <p><i>Questions and answers in plenary</i></p>
11:30-11:35	<p>10. Introduction to Working groups: FRA and pan-European reporting – Ms Roksolana Shelest, <i>UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section</i></p>
11:35-13:00	<i>Working groups – discussion between reviewers and National Correspondents</i>
13:00-15:00	<i>Group photo and lunch break</i>
15:00-16:00	<p>11. FRA and pan-European 2020 reporting content - Criteria 2, 4 and 5 (forest damage and degradation, biodiversity and protective functions) - reporting forms, linkages between FRA and pan-European reporting, definitions (A. Pekkarinen, R. Michalak, R. Raši, M. Schwarz, S. Tomter)</p> <p><i>Questions and answers in plenary</i></p>
16:00-16:30	<i>Coffee break</i>
16:30-18:00	<i>Working groups – discussion between reviewers and National Correspondents</i>
19:00-20:00	<i>Dinner</i>

Friday 20 April 2018	
9:30-10:15	12. FRA and pan-European 2020 reporting content - Criterion 6 (socio-economic functions) reporting forms, linkages between FRA and pan-European reporting, definitions (A. Pekkarinen, R. Michalak, R. Raši, M. Schwarz, S. Tomter) <i>Questions and answers in plenary</i>
10:15-10:30	<i>Coffee break</i>
10:30-12:00	<i>Working groups– discussion between reviewers and National Correspondents</i>
12:00-12:30	11. FRA and pan-European 2020 reporting content - Criterion 3 (Productive Functions of Forests) reporting forms, linkages between FRA and pan-European reporting, definitions (A. Pekkarinen, R. Michalak, R. Raši, M. Schwarz, S. Tomter) <i>Questions and answers in plenary</i>
12:30-13:30	<i>Lunch break</i>
13:30-15:00	<i>Working groups – discussion between reviewers and National Correspondents</i>
15:00-15:30	13. Plenary feedback session from the working groups - Mr Rastislav Raši, FOREST EUROPE 14. FRA 2020 next steps - Mr Anssi Pekkarinen, FAO 15. Wrap up and closing of the meeting - Mr Roman Michalak, UNECE
15:30	<i>Closure of the meeting</i>

Annex 2: List of participants

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