

Welcome

Welcome to FRA News, the FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment E-Newsletter.

In this issue, you will find important updates on the FRA process, publications and FRA-related meetings.

Contents

1. Country reporting for FRA 2015
2. FRA 2015 and GFW side event during COFO 22 and WFW4
3. CFRQ Partnership - progress on reducing reporting burden and sharing results
4. Meetings
5. Save the date: 7-11 September 2015, Durban, South Africa

1. Country reporting process for FRA 2015

The process of submission and review of FRA 2015 country reports is now completed. Thanks to the efforts of the National correspondents and their national teams, we have a total of 157 Countries reports completed, representing 99% of the world's forest area!

For countries that did not submit any report, we have compiled desk studies based on updated available information and on information previously submitted to FRA 2010.

We would like to thank once more all the National correspondents for their excellent work and their dedication to the FRA 2015 reporting process!

We would also like to take this occasion to acknowledge the CFRQ partners, the colleagues in the regional offices and all the other forest experts that, through the on-line system FRIMS, provided an important contribution to the process of review of the FRA 2015 Country Reports and whose expertise has been crucial to guarantee the reliability and consistency of the reported figures.

Collected data have now been revised by subject specialists and a preliminary data set has already been sent to the authors of the special journal on forest ecology and management, for a first round analysis. The special journal on the forest ecology and management, together with the desk reference and the FAO Forestry paper, will be released in September 2015 at the XIV World Forestry Congress (WFC) in Durban, South Africa.

2. FRA 2015 and GFW Side event during COFO 22 and WFW4

On the occasion of the 22nd session of the Committee on Forestry (COFO) and the fourth World Forest Week (WFW4), a side event on FRA and Global Forest Watch (GFW) took place on Thursday 26 June. The event was attended by more than 60 participants, among COFO delegates, representative of NGOs and forest experts from all over the world.



FRA and GFW side event, Rome 26 June 2014

The side event organized jointly by FRA and GFW had the objective to illustrate the main process of FRA and GFW, highlighting key differences, synergies and investigating for possible future collaborations. More information about COFO and side events at: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/57758/en/>

3. CFRQ Partnership - progress on reducing reporting burden and sharing results

Representatives from the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), The Observatory of the Forest of Central Africa (OFAC), the Montreal Process, the United Nations Economic Commission (UNECE), the Forest Europe and FAO, met in Rome on the 25th of June on the occasion of the 22nd session of COFO, to evaluate progress on reducing reporting burden and sharing results through the Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire (CFRQ) and to agree on future steps toward the analysis and dissemination of the results. Particularly, the meeting focused on planning a joint participation to the XIV WFC in Durban in September 2015, when main results from FRA 2015 and CFRQ exercise will be released.

Partners also agreed on joint efforts for the publication and dissemination of the FRA 2015 Desk Reference, the FAO Forestry Paper and the special volume in the journal Forest Ecology and Management dedicated to FRA 2015.



CFRQ Partners meeting, Rome 25 June 2014

4. Meetings

FRA Advisory group meeting, 3-5 October, Salt Lake City

The focus of the meeting will be to review the FRA 2015 publications, which will all be in preparation at the time of the meeting. This includes the FRA 2015 Desk Reference, the 60-page FAO Forestry Paper synthesis and the Special Volume of Forest Ecology and Management plus text for a brief preliminary findings document for the International Forest Day in early 2015.

The meeting will be an excellent opportunity to get detailed Advisory Group members input to these products which need to be in production by the second quarter of 2015 for simultaneous release in September 2015.

5. Save the date: XIV World Forestry Congress, Durban, South Africa 7-11 September 2015!

The 14th World Forestry Congress, hosted by the Republic of South Africa, will bring together the global forestry community to review and analyze the key issues and to share ways of addressing them. The Congress is inclusive of people from all countries, regions and sectors, whether they belong to a government organization, NGO, private company, scientific or professional body, a forestry society, or simply have a personal interest in attending. The broad participation and inclusive discussion on forestry issues will facilitate their mainstreaming in global agendas on sustainable development as well as building new partnerships.

FRA 2015 will provide an important contribution to the Congress with the release of the main results and simultaneous dissemination of the three main publications, the FRA 2015 Desk Reference, the FAO Forestry Paper synthesis and the Special Volume of Forest Ecology and Management.



WFC2015
XIV World Forestry Congress