

## Welcome

Welcome to this new issue of the FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment E-Newsletter, the FRA News.

In this issue, you will find important updates on the FRA process, on the “Improved Information to Promote Forest Management for Protection of Soil and Water” Project and upcoming meetings.

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### 1. FRA Advisory Group

The FRA Advisory Group meeting was held in Salt Lake City (US) from 3-5 October.



Main outcome of the meeting was an in-depth review of the content and layout of the first drafts of the FRA 2015 publications, the Synthesis report, the FRA 2015 Desk Reference and the Special Volume of Forest Ecology and Management.

Inputs from the Advisory Group Members will soon be incorporated into the publications that are scheduled to be put into production next year and to be simultaneously released in September 2015 at the XIV World Forestry Congress (WFC) in Durban, South Africa.

### 2. The “Improved Information to Promote Forest Management for Protection of Soil and Water” Project

The International Workshop on improved information to promote forest management for protection of soil and water, has been successfully conducted in Guadalajara, Mexico, from October 14th to 17th 2014. The workshop was organized in collaboration with the National Forestry Commission of Mexico (CONAFOR) and the support of the Chapingo University.

Around 30 participants from Mexico, Vietnam, and Japan and experts from FAO (Rome) discussed and revised the four methods adopted by the pilot countries (Nepal, Vietnam and Mexico) for the collection of data on the protection of soil and water. Main outcome from the workshop was the selection of the best method, out of the four discussed, for future adoption into broader and international context. Another important outcome was the harmonization of the data analysis in order to obtain results that can be compared among the three pilot studies.



### 3. Meetings

#### [UN Climate change Conference 2014 \(COP 10\)](#)

The 20th session of the Conference of the Parties and the 10th session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol will be held from 1 to 12 December. COP 20/CMP 10 will be hosted by the Government of Peru, in Lima, Peru.

### 4. Save the date: WFC, Durban, 7 September 2015!

The 14th World Forestry Congress, hosted by the Republic of South Africa, will take place from 7-11 September 2015. The central theme of WFC XIV is Forests and People: Investing in a Sustainable Future. The aim is to show that investment in forestry is an investment in people and, in turn, an investment in sustainable development. WFC XIV will emphasize the role of forests in income generation, employment creation and equity and the vital links between forests and climate change, biodiversity conservation and sustainable water resources. It will explore the governance structures that best promote implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests.

On 7th September FRA 2015 will provide an important contribution to the congress by releasing the results of the latest FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment FRA 2015. On that day the main FRA 2015 publications will be released and the data made available online. This will include the release of a Special Volume of Forest Ecology and Management (available via open access online), a Synthesis report and the FRA 2015 Desk Reference.

We hope you can be there at the plenary event - and that you will be early users of all of the FRA 2015 information resources.