



**Forestry Department**

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

**FORESTRY  
REPORTING REQUESTS  
BY FAO**

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## Abbreviations

ACPWP	Advisory Committee on Paper and Wood Products
Bio-DeC	Biotechnologies in developing countries
C&I	Criteria and indicators
CEPI	Confederation of European Paper Industry
COFO	Committee on Forestry
CSO	Civil Society Organization
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe
EUROSTAT	Statistical Office of the European Communities
FORC	Forest Conservation, Research and Education Service
FPMIS	Field Project Management Information System
FRA	Forest Resources Assessment
GFMC	Global Fire Monitoring Center
GI	General Affair and Information Department
IFFN	International Forest Fire News
ILO	International Labour Organization
IPC	International Poplar Commission
ISDR	International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
ITTO	International Tropical Timber Organization
IUFRO	International Union of Forest Research Organizations
JFSQ	Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire
NFP	National forest programme
NGO	Non Governmental Organizations
NWFP	Non Wood Forest Product
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
PAIA	Priority Area for Inter-disciplinary Action
REFORGEN	Information System on Forest Genetic Resources
SFM	Sustainable forest management
ToR	Terms of References
UNEP	United Nation Environment Programme
WEIS	Wood Energy Information System
WETT	Wood Energy Today for Tomorrow

# 1 Introduction

Given its wide scope on the work on forests, FAO requests information from its member countries in many different ways, using various reporting formats and questionnaires. The collected information is used to produce several outputs such as databases, overviews, reports, case-studies and other analyses.

Below the flow of information from countries to FAO is sorted in two main categories:

1. Regular reporting requests and
2. Other reporting requests.

The regular reporting requests contain information regularly reported by countries to FAO. This means that the “reporting of information” is part of an official agreement between FAO and the member countries; it has a regular frequency and involves all FAO members. Other reporting requests do not show the same characteristics as the official requests; they may concern other issues reported for technical reports or analyses which are unofficial and/or not regularly collected.

## 2 Regular reporting requests by FAO

### 2.1 FRA (Forest Resources Assessment)

Since 1946, FAO has conducted various regional and global assessments of forest resources every five to ten years, on request from its member countries.

As knowledge on the forest resources has improved at national levels and as technology has advanced, the Global Forest Resources Assessments have increased in breadth and quality. FRA 2000 was the first assessment to use a homogeneous set of definitions globally and it is to date the most comprehensive assessment of the global forest resources. FRA 2000 was based on information provided and validated by the countries, supplemented by state of the art technology to verify and analyse the information.

Global variables for FRA 2005: The Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) does not have a fixed reporting format, but the Global Tables provided for the *Global FRA 2000 - Main Report* represent the format used in the last assessment. Work is underway for the preparation of a new and updated version of FRA Questionnaire for the year 2005. The planned set of Global variables for FRA 2005 describes the data items to be reported in the FRA main report, and for which data are requested from, and standardized for, all countries. Variables related to criteria of sustainable forest management are used as an overall framework for FRA reporting.

Criteria and indicators: In the next Global Assessment, FRA will use criteria for sustainable forest management (SFM) as a framework for the global reporting. The recent international meeting on C&I held in Guatemala (3-7 February 2003) acknowledged the following thematic areas of sustainable forest management common to all regional and international criteria and indicators processes, and COFO recommended that FAO use these in the overall framework for FRA 2005:

- 1 Extent of forest resources
- 2 Biological diversity
- 3 Forest health and vitality
- 4 Productive functions of forest resources
- 5 Protective functions of forest resources
- 6 Socio-economic functions
- 7 Legal, policy and institutional frameworks (this theme will not be covered by FRA 2005)

Thematic areas 1-6 are similar to those identified by the Kotka IV Expert meeting<sup>1</sup>.

FRA on the web: [www.fao.org/forestry/fra](http://www.fao.org/forestry/fra)

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<sup>1</sup> FAO expert consultation on "Global Resources Assessment – linking national and international efforts" referred to as 'Kotka IV' was held from 1 to 5 July 2002 in Kotka, Finland. It highlighted the alarming gaps in forest information in many countries and made proposals on suitable strategies for FAO to address this issue. The focus of the expert consultation was to identify strategies, methods and mechanisms for future global forest resources assessment.

## 2.2 Statutory bodies

### 2.2.1 Country reporting to Regional Forestry Commissions

Dialogue at the international (global) and regional level is an essential complement to the efforts of individual countries to develop appropriate forest policies, institutions and practices. FAO supports a number of statutory bodies specifically designed to provide neutral *fora* for discussion in the field of forestry.

Foremost among the FAO Forestry statutory bodies is the Committee on Forestry (COFO). Heads of forest services and other senior government officials meet at FAO headquarters every two years to identify emerging policy and technical issues, to seek solutions and to advise FAO and others on appropriate action. The work of the FAO Forestry statutory bodies is a combination of problem identification and policy and technical advice, to FAO, its members and others as appropriate.

FAO, through its decentralized forestry structure, supports six regional forestry commissions: Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, Europe, the Near East, and North America. These Commissions, composed of countries, generally meet every second year, and provide a forum for FAO member countries to discuss both technical and policy issues at the regional level. Drawing on regional experiences, the Commissions advise FAO on policy formulation and on priorities for its forestry programme. The regional Commissions also facilitate the participation of NGOs, particularly local organizations, and the private sector. The topics of reporting are always variable, according to the needs and the concerns of the reporting region at that moment.

Regional Forestry Commissions on the web.

<http://www.fao.org/forestry/foris/webview/forestry2/index.jsp?siteId=1400>

### 2.2.2 Country reporting in the context of selected technical Statutory Bodies

International Poplar Commission: Notwithstanding its name, the mandate of the International Poplar Commission (IPC) covers willows as well as poplars. The functions of the IPC are to study the scientific, technical, social and economic aspects of poplar and willow cultivation, to promote the exchange of ideas and material among research workers, producers and users, to arrange joint research programmes, to stimulate the organization of congresses and study tours, to report and make recommendations to the FAO Conference, and to make recommendations to National Poplar Commissions, through appropriate channels.

The IPC meets in session every four years. Between Sessions its affairs are run by an Executive Committee, which meets every two years. Working Parties fulfil the functions of the IPC to study and exchange ideas on all aspects of the cultivation of the Salicaceae, and make recommendations to the Executive Committee and Sessions in their fields of expertise.

Gene Panel: The FAO Panel of Experts on Forest Gene Resources, which regularly gathers 15 members representing a given region of the world, in their own capacity, reports to FAO on developments in the field of forest tree genetic diversity at regional level. Panel members collect information and data through their own network of personal contacts in individual countries. There is no direct request to the member countries and no questionnaire is despatched to countries for this purpose.

The Panel provides updated information on the state of the genetic diversity of the most important forest trees in the world's eco-regions, and help guide FAO's programmes in the methodology of global information collection and analysis. Reports of the Panel meetings are published and posted on the Internet.

FAO Forestry Statutory Bodies on the web:

<http://www.fao.org/forestry/foris/webview/forestry2/index.jsp?siteId=1400>

International Poplar Commission on the web: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/ipc>

Gene Panel on the web: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/gene-panel>

## 2.3 Forest products and trade

### 2.3.1 Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire

The publication of the *FAO Yearbook of Forest Products* and the FAOSTAT database are the main output in this field of products and trade. The publication of the FAO yearbook is made possible by the cooperation of the governments which supply most of the information in the form of replies to questionnaire. Beginning in 1999, information on production and trade was gathered using a Joint Forest Products Questionnaire supported by the Forestry Department of FAO, the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), the Statistical Office of the European Communities (EUROSTAT) and the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO). This joint questionnaire is in response to requests from member countries to rationalise the approach to the forest sector data collection and dissemination.

Forest products and trade on the web: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/trade>

## 2.4 FAOLEX

FAOLEX is a comprehensive and up-to-date computerized legislative database, the world's largest electronic collection of national laws and regulations, as well as treaties, on food, agriculture and renewable natural resources. The information on national laws on agriculture, forestry and fishery (mainly extracted from government gazettes) is request by FAO to the member countries annually by means of an official request.

FAOLEX is updated every day by the information coming from member countries. It is weekly updated on the web.

FAOLEX on the web: <http://faolex.fao.org/faolex/index.htm>

## 2.5 List of focal points

Through its standard normative work FAO Forestry Department is in contact with its 184 member country representatives on a regular basis. These representatives are collectively referred to as focal points. Some are very official as the top official responsible for forest issues in a country, while others are more technical. Through the FAO membership, member countries are obliged to furnish

details on various official focal points, the most official being the COFO country representative. This list is updated every second year, prior to COFO.

COFO national correspondent's page on the web is going to be published soon.

FRA national correspondents on the web: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/fra-nc>

### **3 Other reporting requests**

#### **3.1 Educational institutions and other**

##### ***3.1.1 Courses in Forestry database***

The database on courses in forestry provides information on short courses available worldwide on forestry and related subjects, such as watershed management, protected areas, wildlife management, conflict management and ecotourism. Users can search according to training area, institution, language and country. Besides providing information to students and people interested in forestry, the database gives education and training institutions the possibility to advertise the short courses they offer. There is no regular reporting asked from the institutions. Depending on their planning schedule they send the information once a year or each time they plan a new course. The main effort for the future will be to strengthen the database as a collection point for those who want to make know their activity in forestry short-courses and/or training and as an up to date global database for those searching the available information.

##### ***3.1.2 Education in Forestry database***

The education in forestry database collects global information on institutes/universities and other institutions which carry on education in forestry. On a regularly base the institutions have been asked to update the information every 2 years. In order to make the information as relevant and up to date as possible the amount of information of each institution will be reduced and institutions will be asked to inform us as soon as the information changes.

Courses and education in forestry on the web: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/education-db>

#### **3.2 Genetic resources**

##### ***3.2.1 State of Forest Genetic Resources***

In a growing number of countries and territories, detailed assessments on the state of forest tree genetic resources are available. The reports are made on ad hoc basis, prepared by national experts following a common methodology and outlines, which facilitate their comparison and compilation. Several country assessments are being written in the framework of the preparation of eco-regional workshops on forest tree genetic diversity, and their compilation and synthesis is used to prepare regional assessments of forest genetic resources.

Forest Genetic Resources by Region on the web:

<http://www.fao.org/forestry/foris/webview/siteview.jsp?siteId=2062&sitetreeId=5471&langId=1&geoId=-1>

Forest Genetic Resources by Country on the web:

<http://www.fao.org/forestry/foris/webview/forestry2/index.jsp?geoId=0&langId=1&siteId=2041>

### 3.2.2 REFORGEN

FAO continues the development of the worldwide Information System on Forest Genetic Resources, REFORGEN, in close collaboration with national institutes and relevant international organizations. The system, which stores data on tree species (and their use) and institutions, is intended to support policy and technical decisions for genetic conservation at national, regional and international levels. The basic information of the database was collected in 1995-96 by means of questionnaire filled by the countries. Actually the information is irregularly updated according to the specific needs, trying to cover periodically all the regions. Information and data gathered through the above process of country assessments is used to update REFORGEN.

### 3.2.3 State of genetic modification in forest trees

In addition to geographically based assessments, a number of thematic studies are also undertaken, to provide in-depth coverage of specific global issues. These studies are carried out in line with, and generally in the framework of Priority Area for Inter-disciplinary Action and FAO wide interdepartmental technical working groups, such as the ones on biotechnology, bio-security and biological diversity for food and agriculture. It is in this framework that a global review of the state of genetic modification in forest trees has been launched by New Zealand Forest Research Institute and FAO, and a questionnaire sent to individual scientists and private and public research institutions in May 2003. Similar studies are planned in the future, possibly through a combination of desk reviews and targeted questionnaires to scientific institutions, in collaboration with other FAO departments (for example, to contribute to update such databases, as the recently launched on Biotechnologies in Developing Countries, SD's Bio-Dec)

Genetic resources on the web: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/fgr>

## 3.3 Forest fire

Forest fire database: For more than 50 years, FAO has provided information and technical assistance in the area of forest fire management, including data collection and dissemination, preparation of guidelines on forest fire management, global fire terminology, status reports on forest fires and provision of direct advice to member countries. Special attention has recently been given to information and public awareness on related policy, legal and institutional issues as well as on preparation of International Agreements for crossborder collaboration.

FAO has long been involved in data collection and analysis, and is currently collaborating with the Economic Commission for Europe, the Global Fire Monitoring Center and a number of other agencies on Global fire databases for the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and developing countries. The FAO Global Forest Fire Assessment 1990-2000 is part of the *FAO Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) 2000*, published online (PDF) as Working Paper No. 55 (495 p.). The global fire assessment includes statistical data from a large number of countries. The data collection was made by means of a fire template filled by the member countries under FAO

request. The frequency is almost annual even though not all the countries regularly report. Within the framework of the Forest Resources Assessment 2005, additional studies on forest fires are being prepared, and they will be included in the new country profiles.

Under the Interagency Task Force Working Group Wildland Fire of the UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) the Global Fire Monitoring Centre established Regional Wildland Fire Networks to be used for information dissemination among the global fire community. The FAO/ECE/ILO Team of Specialists on Forest Fire is using these nine (9) Regional Wildland Fire Networks; established during the latter part of 2002, for relaying best practises in forest fire management globally.

The FAO/ECE/ILO Team of Specialists on Forest Fire is also publishing the *International Forest Fire News* (IFFN) in Freiburg, Germany. The bi-annual publication disseminates the latest global information received from within and outside FAO member countries (see: <http://www.fire.uni-freiburg.de/iffn/iffn.htm>).

Forest fire on the web: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/fire>

## 3.4 Forest products and trade

### 3.4.1 *Pulp and paper capacity*

The main activities related to pulp and paper consist in providing assistance and transfer of technology in the development, planning and management of wood-based industries, in developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

Other main tasks include the establishment of viable wood-based industries, the organization of training activities in planning and management of wood-based industries in developing countries, the support, collection and dissemination of information on wood-based industries, and the provision of technical services to the FAO Advisory Committee on Paper and Wood Products (ACPWP).

The *Pulp & Paper Capacity* report is based on information submitted by correspondents worldwide, most of them pulp and paper associations or, in their absence, paper companies. The survey presents only the results for countries that submitted answers to the annual questionnaires and no attempts have been made to estimate figures in the absence of returned information.

### 3.4.2 *Recovered paper*

*Recovered Paper Data*: FAO survey is an annual publication produced, in cooperation with the Confederation of European Paper Industry (CEPI) which supplied the necessary data relevant to its member countries (Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom) and its associate members (Czech Republic, Hungary, Norway, Slovak Republic, Switzerland). FAO collected data for the other countries.

The survey presents data on recovery, trade, and utilization of recovered paper. Historical data for the reference year is presented and some countries provide projections of recovery and use of recovered paper for the next 5 years.

Generally the countries that answer represent over 80 percent of the world paper and paperboard production, and the data presented can be considered representative of the recovery, use and trade of recovered paper in the world.

### *3.4.3 Non Wood Forest Product database*

The database on Non Wood Forest Products provides information on organizations and individuals involved with non-wood forest products including contact information, field of expertise, activities and geographical coverage. The data collection started in 1997-1998 and the data stored in that information system are based exclusively on replies to a questionnaire which was developed in 1996 (available from the database's web site). The database is continuously (but irregularly) updated.

Pulp and paper and wood industries on the web: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/industries>

Non wood forest products on the web: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/nwfp>

## 3.5 Mangrove forests

The general distribution of mangroves corresponds to that of the tropical forests, but they extend further North and South of the equator, sometimes beyond the tropics, although in a reduced form. High population pressure in coastal areas has led to the conversion of many mangrove areas to other uses and numerous case studies describe mangrove losses over time. However, scarce information exists on status and trends in mangrove areas at the global level.

A recent initiative by FAO aims at facilitating access to comprehensive information on the current and past extent of mangroves in all countries and areas in which they exist. This builds on an earlier assessment by FAO/UNEP in 1980, FRA 2000 and an extensive literature search.

More than 2800 national and sub-national data sets have been collected, covering 121 countries and areas where mangroves are known to exist, with the earliest estimates dating back to 1918. An updated list of the most reliable, recent estimate for each country has been prepared. Regression analyses based on earlier data provided estimates for 1990 and 1980 and an extrapolated estimate for 2000 for each country.

The statistics are available on the FAO Forestry web site, under “mangrove management” even if the work is still in progress.

Mangrove management on the web: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/mangrove>

## 3.6 National forest programmes

The expression national forest programme designates the wide range of approaches to the process of planning, programming and implementation of forest activities in a country to be applied at national and sub national levels, based on a common set of guiding principles as also agreed by the IPF/IFF process.

The purpose of the national forest programme is to establish a workable social and political framework for the conservation, management and sustainable development of all types of forests, which in turn will increase the effectiveness and efficiency of public and private operational and

funding commitments. National forest programme requires a broad inter-sectoral approach at all stages, including the formulation of policies, strategies and courses of action, as well as their implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

From 1999-1998 the work was done to review the existing data and their reliability, in collaboration with expert of the countries. There is neither regular reporting nor reporting format for this purpose. Each time the ToR defined the different field of data collection and analysis request to the country.

National forest programmes on the web: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/nfp>

### 3.7 NGOs/CSOs corporate database

A corporate data base is being developed that is intended to function also as a basis for monitoring the evolution of FAO-NGO/CSO relations and building a cumulative record of cooperation with individual organizations. It includes information on NGOs (non-governmental organizations) and CSOs (civil society organizations) regarding: the general structure of the organization and the contact persons; the type/category of the organization, including membership and networks to which it belongs; the main field of activity and countries of intervention; the cooperation with FAO; etc.

The database is being developed. The next step will be to make it accessible to public users through FAO-NGO/CSO web pages.

NGOs and CSOs on the web: <http://www.fao.org/tc/NGO/>

### 3.8 Insect and disease management

Insects and diseases are integral components of forest dynamics and their causative effects fulfil important roles. However, occasionally the populations grow rapidly to damaging proportions. Such sporadic outbreaks can have catastrophic impacts on forests and trees, in some cases leading to the complete destruction of large areas of natural and/or planted forests, loss or reduction of vital forest ecosystem functions, and considerable economic losses. In developing countries and countries in transition, severe outbreaks may compromise national economies, threatening local economic stability and food security.

Despite the significant adverse impacts and indications that outbreaks of forest insect pests and diseases are on the increase, there has been no attempt to systematically gather and analyse comprehensive information on the type, scale and impact of such outbreaks over time at the global level. Dissemination of information on successful protection and control strategies has also been limited.

Recent efforts by FAO to develop a global information system (database) on forest pest outbreaks and their impacts are aimed to help remedy the present lack of information and to assist countries through providing a basis for improved planning and decision making in this respect.

To date the data has been collected mainly through search of FAO documents related to forest health, and this will be verified by country contacts. In order to obtain reliable, comprehensive and updated information on the incidence and extent of forest pests over time, a questionnaire (in English, French and Spanish) has been developed in consultation with national experts from Chile, Malaysia, Slovakia, Thailand, and USA. The questionnaire is available through the FAO Forest Health website

and will eventually also be available through the IUFRO website. The questionnaire will also be distributed to FAO Member countries, using the network of country correspondents nominated within the framework of the FAO Forest Resources Assessment Programme and to forest health experts. Countries from all regions will be included in this phase of the work, with special attention given to developing countries and countries with economies in transition. Countries which have recently been seriously affected by pest outbreaks will be among those specifically targeted. Several test questionnaires have been sent to Chile, Lebanon, Malaysia, Morocco, Slovak Republic and Malaysia and responses from technical specialists have been entered into the database.

Once completed, the information system will be regularly updated and made widely available by electronic and printed means.

Pest management on the web: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/pests>

### 3.9 Planted forests

Plantation forests database: Data collection was made together with FRA data collection by means of a questionnaire. The response to the questionnaire was very poor, so plantation data collection depended heavily upon FAO HQ desk research from country documents, verified by regional and country focal persons. However, important parameters were missing such as: growth rate, rotation length; age classes, harvest yields, product outturns and differentiation between new and replanting rates.

A complementary analysis of references on the world's planted forests was made, in order to supplement the existing data on these topics, however data sets are incomplete and unreliable, so of limited usefulness for policy and planning purposes. A new questionnaire is proposed to verify existing data and collect further information on planted forests. The options are either to send it together with the global variables for the next FRA 2005 or to direct the questionnaire separately through the national correspondents to technical persons responsible for planted forests for their direct response.

It is proposed to post the initial version of the planted forest database on the FAO planted forest website in user friendly interactive options by mid 2003 and to have a comprehensive *Planted Forest Working Paper* (FP/25) available by 30 May, 2003. The database will be progressively updated and tested as supplementary data is available and applications demonstrated.

Planted forest on the web: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/planted-forest>

### 3.10 Research in forestry

Research database: In the beginning a questionnaire was used to collect information for the database on forestry research institutions. A sub-set of basic information (address and other contacts, main research areas, etc) was published in a directory every two years, and made available on the internet.

The most recent version of the database was hosted by GI and maintained by FORC through a web interface. Now it would need to be updated.

Previously the questionnaire was sent to the member countries almost every two years; now the database will be updated mainly through internet and e-mail, with questionnaires sent only to

institutions of those countries having poor access to internet or e-mail. The questionnaire is actually under revision. Only basic information will be included in this global database because the experience showed that it is very difficult (impossible) to update some specific information. More specific information is being included, and more relevant, in regional databases that are being established by regional forestry research networks in Europe and, with the assistance of FAO, in Africa and Asia.

Research on the web: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/research>

### 3.11 Wood energy

Wood Energy Information System database: The collection of wood energy data at national and local level in order to fill the current gaps and update and upgrade existing data bases constitutes one of the major challenges in the near future. Infrastructures, with properly trained personnel, are required in both the forestry and energy agencies of the countries for the collection, interpretation, collation, storage and presentation of wood energy data. In line with these requirements, FAO has initiated the implementation of a number of activities for the development of improved wood energy data bases, and for the provision of technical assistance to member countries in building capacities for the systematic collection, collation and analysis of information on wood energy aspects and issues.

The WEIS (wood energy information system) is an interactive database with wood energy data at national level derived from the FAO's Wood Energy Today for Tomorrow (WETT) studies. WETT constitutes the major mechanism for the collection and analysis of existing information and data on wood fuels and related energy aspects from various sources at national and regional levels, including production, consumption and trade.

Wood energy on the web: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/energy>

## References

The information collected in this working paper mainly comes from interviews with the Forestry Department staff and from the pages of its web site.

*FAO web site:* [www.fao.org](http://www.fao.org)

FRA web page: [www.fao.org/forestry/fra](http://www.fao.org/forestry/fra)

Wood energy web page: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/energy>

FAO Forestry Statutory Bodies web page:  
<http://www.fao.org/forestry/foris/webview/forestry2/index.jsp?siteId=1400>

International Poplar Commission web page: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/ipc>

Gene Panel web page: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/gene-panel>

Forest products and trade web page: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/trade>

FAOLEX web page: <http://faolex.fao.org/faolex/index.htm>

Short courses and education in forestry web page: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/education-db>

Genetic resources web page: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/fgp>

Forest fire web page: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/fire>

Pulp and paper and wood industries web page: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/industries>

Non wood forest products web page: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/nwfp>

Mangrove management web page: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/mangrove>

Pest management web page: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/pests>

Planted forest web page: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/planted-forest>

Wood energy web page: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/energy>

## Appendix

Summary table of all reporting to FAO, by categories: forest resources and management; products; institutional/regulatory frameworks; research, education and training

Reporting to FAO						
Reporting	Main topics	Regular/ official	Frequency	Format available	Data collection process	Comments
<b>Forest resources and management</b>						
<u>FRA 2000 Global Tables</u>	Basic country data, forest area, latest national statistics, volume and biomass, forest plantations and non-forest plantations, forest fires, forest management, removals, NWFP, forest occurring endangered species, forests by ecological zone, etc.	yes	Every 10 years	yes	Officially nominated National Correspondents provide information.	
<u>FAO Global Variables for FRA 2005</u>	Global variables related to forest capital such as: land use and land use change, ownership, biomass, growing stock, carbon stock, forest tree species, etc. Global variable related to good and services such as: NWFP supply, wood supply balance, socio-cultural sites, etc.	yes	Every 5 years	yes	Officially nominated National Correspondents provide information.	
<u>International Poplar Commission</u>	Regional lists of priority tree species, their main uses and priorities for action in exploration, collection, conservation and wise use of their genetic resources (including improvement and breeding).	yes	IPC sessions, every 4 years  The Executive Committee session is every 2 years	no	Panel members collect information and data through their own network of personal contacts and <i>ad hoc</i> experts.	
<u>Gene-Panel</u>	Forest products by type of forest (coniferous, non-coniferous, tropical and other) sorted in: round-wood removals; products; secondary wood products (production, import, export).	yes	Regularly updated but not specified	no	“	While the priority lists are based on country-derived information, special attention is paid to those tree species that are of actual or potential importance to more than one country and for which action thus has an international dimension.
<u>State of Genetic resources and REFORGEN database</u>	Detailed assessments on the state of forest tree genetic resources available. Data on tree species (and their use) and institutions, is intended to support policy and technical decisions for genetic conservation at national, regional and international levels.	no	The basic information of the database was collected in 95-96 by means of questionnaire filled by the countries. Actually the information is irregularly updated according to the specific needs, trying to cover periodically all the world regions.	no	“	The information requested and collected from experts ad hoc on the field doesn't seem to show overlapping with CBD reports.
<u>State of genetic modification in forest trees</u>	Information on the scientific and commercial activities which could lead to the deployment of genetically engineered trees in forestry (Organization's data, research and development, regulatory framework, future of GM trees, communications).	no	May 2003	yes	Questionnaire sent to individual scientists and private or public research institutions.	

Reporting to FAO						
Reporting	Main topics	Regular/ official	Frequency	Format available	Data collection process	Comments
<b>Forest resources and management</b>						
<u>Forest fire</u>	Forest fire area (sorted in forest, other wooded land, other land); number of forest fires, causes of fires, in the last decade (1990-1999).	no	The request for updating is almost annual even though not all the countries regularly report.	yes		The fire template is in Appendix 2 of the Global Forest Fire Assessment 2000.
<u>Mangrove database</u>	Mangrove area database with historical and recent references on the extent of mangrove areas. The database currently contains more than 2800 data sets (national as well as sub-national level data) for a total of 121 countries and areas.	no		no	Mainly literature reviews.	The result is going to be available as soon as possible on FAO web site.
<u>Insect and disease management</u>	Outbreak location and timing; forests and trees affected; control strategies applied; environmental and economic impact.	no		yes (only test version)	Mainly through search of FAO documents related to forest health (to be verified by country contacts in the future).	Test questionnaires have been sent to several countries and responses from technical specialists have been entered into the database. Once completed, the information system will be regularly updated.
<u>Plantation forests database</u>	Basic information on plantation area (by species, by owner, by use or purpose...) and non-forest plantations (by species and by owner).	no	Data collection was initially made together with FRA 2000 data collection by means of a questionnaire.	not yet	Mainly literature reviews. FRA National Correspondents may become involved.	A new questionnaire was developed to collect further information on planted forests, especially on more detailed issues as: age classes, growth rate, rotation length, harvest yield, etc. The database is going to be published soon.

Reporting to FAO						
Reporting	Main topics	Regular/ official	Frequency	Format available	Data collection process	Comments
<b>Products</b>						
<u>Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire</u>	Forest products by type of forest (coniferous, non-coniferous, tropical and other) sorted in: roundwood removals; products; secondary wood products (production, import, export).	yes	Annual	yes		
<u>Pulp and paper capacity</u>	Wood pulp for paper and paperboard, pulp of other fibre for paper and board, dissolving pulp, wood and other raw material, paper and paperboard.	no	Annual	yes excel format	The information is collected by correspondents worldwide (mainly pulp and paper associations and/or paper companies).	The <i>Pulp &amp; Paper Capacity</i> report is based on information submitted by correspondents worldwide, most of them pulp and paper associations or, in their absence, paper companies.
<u>Recovered paper questionnaire</u>	Production of paper and paperboard, net trade, recovered paper collected nationally, export/import of recovered paper, use of main types of recovered paper...	no	Annual (only year 2001)	yes		The FAO survey on " <i>Recovered Paper Data, 2001</i> " follows the same format as the previous year but since it is now an annual publication covers only the data year 2001.
<u>NWFP database</u>	Organizations and individuals involved with non-wood forest products including contact information, field of expertise, activities and geographical coverage.	no	The data collection started in 97-98 and the data stored in that information system are based exclusively on replies to a questionnaire developed in 1996. The database is still continuously (but irregularly) updated.	es	Continuously updated also by mail from the mailing list of NWFP organizations.	The large amount of contacts and data would need an update of the questionnaire itself, but the continuous flow of information from the organizations create some management problems...
<u>Wood Energy Information System</u>	Woodfuel consumption by country (in 1995 and 1997) sorted in: woodfuel, charcoal, black liquor, fuelwood.	no	Almost annual, but not properly regular.	yes		Only part of the information (on fuelwood and charcoal) is regularly collected every year by questionnaire asked to the member countries. Other info is provided by FAOSTAT and others (i.e. energy companies)

Reporting to FAO						
Reporting	Main topics	Regular/ official	Frequency	Format available	Data collection process	Comments
<b>Institutional/regulatory frameworks</b>						
<u>Regional Forestry Commissions</u>	The topics of reporting are always variable, according to the needs and the issues of the reporting region at that moment.	yes	Almost every 2 years	no	FAO correspondents support the work of six Regional Commissions.	
<u>FAOLEX</u>	Legislation on Agriculture, Fishery, Forestry from all the member countries.	yes	Approximately every year	no	Mainly literature search from Government Gazettes.	Information requested by an administrative circular.
<u>National Forests Programme</u>	Range of approaches to the process of planning, programming and implementation of forest activities in a country (at national and sub-national levels) based on a common set of guiding principles. The national forest programmes require information and data collection from countries on different topics.	no	There is neither regular reporting nor reporting format for this purpose.	no	National forest programmes require information and data collection from countries on different topics. In 1999-1998 the rework a review of existing data was done in collaboration with experts of the countries.	Since 1998 the work was done to review the existing data and their reliability, in collaboration with expert of the countries. Each time the ToR defined the different field of data collection and analysis request to the country.
<u>NGOs /CSOs</u>	Information on NGOs; contacts, category of organization, main areas of work and activities, produced material and cooperation with FAO.	no	There is neither regular request nor distributions of the format to the NGOs.	no	It is not a proper questionnaire but a field form also used for this kind of data collection.	A good way to distribute the format to the organizations in the future could be, during meetings and other important happenings.
<u>List of focal points</u>	Details on various official focal points (as in example contact persons).	yes	The list is updated every second year, prior to COFO.	no	Through the FAO membership, member countries are obliged to furnish details on various official focal points.	

Reporting to FAO						
Reporting	Main topics	Regular/ official	Frequency	Format available	Data collection process	Comments
<b>Research, education and training</b>						
<u>Research</u>	Forestry Research Institutions contact and information on their activities.	no	Previously, the questionnaire was sent to the member countries almost every 2 years	yes	The internet and mail communications are the main channel for updating.	The questionnaire format is under revision. Only basic data will be required because the most detailed information would need a more difficult updating. The questionnaire will be sent in the future only to those countries which have poor access to the Internet.
<u>Education in Forestry</u>	University and Institutes which carry on education in forestry.	no	At the beginning the information was collected directly asking to the countries to refer their activities on this field. A publication with the collected results was made every 2 years.	not yet	The Institutions themselves were asked to update (every 2 years) the information provided.	A new format is now under development. The final purpose is to reduce the amount of information in the database and to reduce the burden to FAO for a continuous updating.
<u>Short courses and training in Forestry</u>	Short courses available worldwide on forestry and related subjects, according to training area, institution and country.	no	There is no regular reporting asked to the countries, but the information is collected occasionally.	no	The Institutions, depending on their planning schedule, will send the information (ones per year or each time they plan a new course).	The main effort for the future will be to make known the database as a <i>collection point</i> for those who want to make know their activity in forestry short-courses and/or training.