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

Geneva, Switzerland, 18-20 April 2018
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09:30</td>
<td><strong>Registration of participants</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00-11:00</td>
<td>1. Welcome remarks and introduction to FRA 2020 Mr Anssi Pekkarinen, FAO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>○ What has changed and why</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>○ FRA and forest related SDG indicators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>○ FRA 2020 reporting platform (incl. geospatial tools)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00-11:30</td>
<td><strong>Coffee break</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30-12:00</td>
<td>○ FRA 2020 reporting content</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>○ Discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00-12:15</td>
<td>2. Introduction to FRA 2020 working groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:15-13:00</td>
<td>3. FRA 2020 working groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:00-14:00</td>
<td><strong>Lunch break</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:00-15:30</td>
<td>4. Continuation of FRA 2020 working groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:30-16:00</td>
<td><strong>Coffee break</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:00-17:30</td>
<td>5. Continuation of FRA 2020 working groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17:30-18:00</td>
<td>6. FRA 2020 Remote Sensing Survey: methodology and pilot results</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>○ Mr Anssi Pekkarinen, FAO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>○ Questions and answers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 10:00-10:15 | 6. Launching the workshop  
|           | - Welcome remarks - Ms Paola Deda, UNECE  
|           | - Opening address - Mr Anssi Pekkarinen, FAO  
|           | - Opening address - Mr Rastislav Raši, FOREST EUROPE |
| 10:15-10:25 | 7. Introduction to FRA 2020 – Mr Anssi Pekkarinen, FAO  
|           | Questions and answers in plenary |
| 10:25-10:35 | 8. Introduction to the Pan-European 2020 reporting – Mr Rastislav Raši, FOREST EUROPE, Mr Roman Michalak, UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section  
|           | - Quantitative indicators  
|           | - Qualitative indicators  
|           | Questions and answers in plenary |
| 10:35-11:00 | Coffee break and group picture |
| 11:00-11:30 | 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)  
|           | Questions and answers in plenary |
| 11:35-13:00 | 10. Introduction to Working groups: FRA and pan-European reporting  
|           | – Ms Roksolana Shelest, UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section  
|           | Working groups – discussion between reviewers and National Correspondents |
| 13:00-15:00 | Group photo and lunch break |
| 15:00-16:00 | 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>|           | Questions and answers in plenary |
| 16:00-16:30 | Coffee break |
| 16:30-18:00 | Working groups – discussion between reviewers and National Correspondents |
| 19:00-20:00 | Dinner |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:15-10:30</td>
<td>Coffee break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30-12:00</td>
<td>Working groups – discussion between reviewers and National Correspondents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00-12:30</td>
<td>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) Questions and answers in plenary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30-13:30</td>
<td>Lunch break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:30-15:00</td>
<td>Working groups – discussion between reviewers and National Correspondents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:00-15:30</td>
<td>13. Plenary feedback session from the working groups - Mr Rastislav Raši, FOREST EUROPE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14. FRA 2020 next steps - Mr Anssi Pekkarinen, FAO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15. Wrap up and closing of the meeting - Mr Roman Michalak, UNECE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:30</td>
<td>Closure of the meeting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Annex 2: List of participants

COUNTRIES

ALBANIA
Ms Eneida Rabdishta
Specialist
Ministry of Tourism and Environment, Politics and Strategy Department
Rruga Norbert Jokl, nr. 23, Tirana

ARMENIA
Mr Vahe Matsakyan
Head of the Department
Ministry of Nature Protection “Hayantar” SNCO
Yerevan

AUSTRIA
Mr Johannes Hangler
Deputy Head of Division
Federal Minister for Sustainability and Tourism
Division III/1 - Forest Policy and Forest Information
Marxergasse 2, Vienna

AZERBAIJAN
Mr Sadig Salmanov
Head of Subdivision
Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, Baku

BELGIUM
Mr Jean-François Plumier
Attaché qualifié
Direction des Ressources Forestières
Service Public de Wallonie/DGO3/Département de la Nature & des Forêts
Avenue Prince de Liège 7, Jambes

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
Mr Alojz Dundjer
PIU Director
Ministry of Agriculture, Water-Management and Forestry
Marka Marulića br 2, Sarajevo

BULGARIA
Ms Albena Bobeva
Chief Expert
Executive Forest Agency
International Cooperation, Sofia

CROATIA
Ms Ivana Pesut
Head of Department
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry Sector, Zagreb

CYPRUS
Mr Antonis Sarris
Forest Officer
Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment, Department of Forests
Planning and European Union Sector
6, Louki Akrita Avenue, Nicosia

DENMARK
Mr Thomas Nord-Larsen
Senior Scientist
University of Copenhagen, Department of Geosciences and Natural Resource Management
Rolighedsvej 23, Frederiksberg C

ESTONIA
Mr Mati Valgepea
Leading Specialist
Estonian Environment Agency
Data Management Department
Suigi, Põvvatu Küla, Luunja vald

FINLAND
Mr Kari T. Korhonen
Principal Scientist
Natural Resources Institute Finland
Forest Planning and Forest Resources
Yliopistokatu 6, Joensuu

FRANCE
Mr Antoine Colin
Responsable du département d’expertise forestière
Institut national de l’information géographique et forestière – IGN, Direction interrégionale Nord-Est
France, 1 rue des blanches terres, Champigneulles

GEORGIA
Mr Merab Matchavariani
Coordinator of International Relations and Projects
Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture
National Forestry Agency
Gulua str. 6, Tbilisi
GERMANY
Mr Friedrich Schmitz
Desk Officer
Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture
Sustainable Forest Management, Timber Market
Rochusstrasse 1, Bonn

KAZAKHSTAN
Mr Nural Suleimenov
Deputy Director
Kazakh Forest Inventory Enterprise, Astana

KAZAKHSTAN
Mr Rashid Askarov
Chief Expert
Forestry and Wildlife Committee Ministry of Agriculture, Astana

KYRGYZSTAN
Ms Venera Surappaeva
Head of Department of Monitoring, Forest Management and Information Systems
The State Agency on Environment Protection and Forestry of the Kyrgyz Republic
str. L. Tolstoy 3, Bishkek

ITALY
Mr Enrico Pompei
Dirigente
Ministero delle politiche agricole, alimentari e forestali
Via XX Settembre 20, Roma

LITHUANIA
Mr Darius Vižlenskas
Head of Department
State Forest Service, Department of Forest Use and Statistics
Pramones av. 11a, Kaunas

MONTENEGRO
Mr Novica Tmusic
Advisor in Forestry Sector
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
Direction for Monitoring in Forestry and Hunting
Rimski Trg. Bb, Podgorica

NETHERLANDS
Mr Jan Oldenburger
Senior Adviser
Stichting Probos, Wageningen

NORWAY
Mr Stein Michael Tomter
Senior Scientific Adviser
Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research
PO Box 155, Aas

POLAND
Mr Marek Jabłoński
Head of Department
Forest Research Institute, Department of Forest Resources Management
Braci Leśnej 3, Sękocin Stary

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA
Mr Ion Platon
Deputy General Director
State Agency for Forestry "Moldsilva"
ave Stefan cel Mare, 123, Chisinau

SLOVENIA
Mr Robert Rezonja
Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food
Forestry, Hunting and Fisheries Directorate
Forestry Division
Dunajska 22, Ljubljana

SWEDEN
Mr Svante Claesson
Deputy Head
Swedish Forest Agency, Policy and Analysis Division
Valigatan 8, Jönköping

TAJIKISTAN
Mr Hukmatullo Ahmadov
Researcher
Tajik Forestry Agency
Dushanbe

THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA
Mr Jurant Dika
Head of Unit for Planning and Utilization of Forests (chargé d'affaires)
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy, Department of Forestry and Hunting
2 Aminta Treti str., 1000 Skopje
THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA
Mr Borce Bojcovski
Deputy Director
*Public Enterprise for Management of State Owned Forests “Macedonian forests”*
Mladinska br 27
2326 Pehcevo

TURKEY
Mr Mustafa Çiftci
Forest Engineer
General Directorate of Forestry, Forest Management and Planning Department
Beştepe Mahallesi Söğütözü Caddesi 8/1, Ankara

TURKEY
Mr Murat Cevirme
Head of Department
Forest Management and Planning, Ankara

UKRAINE
Mr Volodymyr Romanovskyi
Head
State Forest Resources Agency of Ukraine
Forest Management Department
9A Shota Rustaveliy str., Kyiv

UZBEKISTAN
Mr Abduvokhid Zakhadullaev
Head
State Committee on Forestry, Department of I&R Export and Ecotourism
Katartal str 8-21, Tashkent

UNECE

Ms Paola Deda
*Chief of Forestry and Timber Section*
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNECE
8-14, Avenue de la Paix, CH-1211, Geneva

Mr Roman Michalak
*Economic Affairs Officer*
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNECE
8-14, Avenue de la Paix, CH-1211, Geneva

Mr Florian Steierer
*Economic Affairs Officer*
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNECE
8-14, Avenue de la Paix, CH-1211, Geneva

Mr Alex McCusker
*Statistical Assistant*
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNECE
8-14, Avenue de la Paix, CH-1211, Geneva

Ms Roksolana Shelest
*Consultant*
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNECE
8-14, Avenue de la Paix, CH-1211, Geneva
FAO

Mr Peter Pechacek
Forestry Officer
FAO, SEC
Ivedik Cad. No. 55, 06170 Yenimahalle
Ankara

Mr Anssi Pekkarinen
Senior Forestry Officer/Team Leader
Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA)
FAO, FRA
Room C378, Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153
Rome

Ms Alexandra Zmachynskaya
FRA Programme Support Consultant
FAO, FRA
Room C380, Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153
Rome

FOREST EUROPE

Mr Rastislav Raši
Policy adviser
FOREST EUROPE Liaison Unit Bratislava
c/o National Forest Centre
T.G. Masaryka 22, SK-960 92, Zvolen

Mr Matej Schwarz
Policy Adviser
FOREST EUROPE Liaison unit Bratislava
c/o National Forest Centre
T.G. Masaryka 22, SK-96092, Zvolen

Mr Igor Viszlai
Communication Expert
FOREST EUROPE Liaison Unit Bratislava
c/o National Forest Centre
T.G. Masaryka 22, SK-960 92, Zvolen