

Working group on remote sensing assessment

Terms of Reference

Working group session: Wednesday, June 14 10:30-12:00 and 13:30-15:15
Plenary session: Wednesday, June 14 15:30-17:30

The Kotka V expert consultation is expected to provide recommendations on the proposed 2010 remote sensing assessment (RSA). To do this appropriately the following questions are expected to be discussed in the remote sensing assessment working group:

1. Is an RSA useful and needed? Should it be implemented within the FRA 2010 framework?
2. If so, what should be the scope of the RSA? Which variables should be included and assessed? How? (Refer to the outcomes of the working groups dealing with forest area and forest area change, forest characteristics, forest designation, management and use and to potential variables for the other thematic areas which may lend themselves to remote sensing)
3. Which partner institutions should be invited to collaborate on the RSA?
4. Which suggestions does the group have regarding the type and number of interpretation nodes and hubs? (Kotka might be a good venue to start assessing the technical capacity as well as number of national and regional interpretation centres that are ready to participate in the 2010 RSA.)
5. Decentralized RSA implementation: Is the proposed Information Framework considered an appropriate and operational execution and dissemination platform for the 2010 RSA?
6. Any other matters of interest related to the theme.

Expected output

A written report, containing a summary of discussions and recommendations. The report should be presented by the group at the plenary session.