

# EVALUATION OF FAO'S GLOBAL FOREST RESOURCES ASSESSMENT 2005

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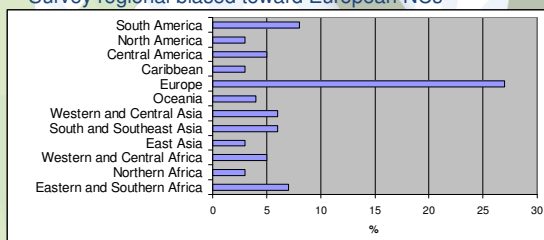
## Basis for the evaluation

1. Compilation of experiences and lessons learned throughout the whole FRA 2005 process
2. Three surveys with different target groups
  - National Correspondents (80 responses)
  - FAO staff, FAO consultants and FRA advisory group (44 responses)
  - FRA team and regional & subregional FRA focal points (6 responses)

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## National correspondent survey

- 80 responses
- Survey regional biased toward European NCs



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## The FRA 2005 process

- > Global workshop
- > Regional/subregional workshops
- > Supporting FRA documents
- > Interaction with focal points
- > Discussion forum and FAQ site
- > Compilation of country reports
- > Review of country reports

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## Global workshop

### Fulfillment of workshop objectives

56% of the responding NCs participated in the global workshop

#### Workshop objectives

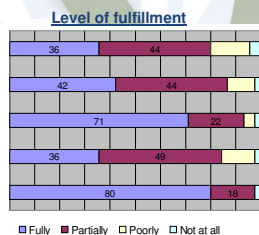
Provided an opportunity to develop national and regional work plans for implementation of FRA 2005

Facilitated the compilation of the country report

Provided an opportunity to exchange experience with colleagues from other countries

Provided an opportunity to influence the content and design of FRA 2005

Provided an opportunity to learn about the FRA process



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## Regional/subregional workshops

66% of the responding NCs participated in a regional or subregional workshop

#### Workshop objectives

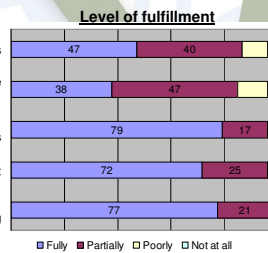
Strengthened the regional network of NCs

Standardized the reporting methodology in the region

Provided an opportunity to exchange/share experiences with colleagues from other countries

Facilitated compilation of the country report

Provided a better understanding of the specifications and the guidelines for reporting



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## Supporting FRA documents

- Specification of national reporting tables
- Guidelines for country reporting
- Template for country reports.

75 % of the NCs found the documents very useful for the compilation of the country report

### Suggestions for improvements:

- Additional and more detailed examples on table reporting
- More flexible tables leaving space for national differences
- More precise definitions

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## Interaction with focal points

The FRA secretariat established regional focal points as the main channel for direct communication with the NCs during the reporting process

84% of the NCs found it useful to have a focal point at the FRA secretariat to communicate with

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## Discussion forum and FAQ site

### Discussion forum

- Most of the respondents did not make use of the discussion forum
- Those few who used it found it useful or very useful

### FAQ site

- 58 % of the respondents did not make use of the site
- Those who used it mainly found it useful or useful to a minor extent

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## Compilation of country reports

On average the country reports were compiled over a period of 4-8 months

### The main time consuming steps were:

- Collection and compilation of data
- Establishing contact with relevant institutions and stakeholders
- Calibration and conversion of data

### Estimated number of person-days spend:

10-30 days: 28%	30-50 days: 23%
50-100 days: 18%	1-10 days: 16%
> 100 days: 15%	

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## The review process

91% found the review process useful

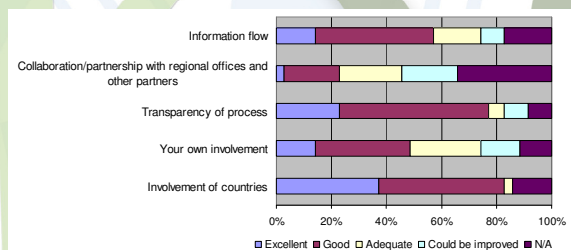
### Suggestions for improvements:

- Enhance sharing of information and collaboration among stakeholders (national institutions, NCs and FAO)
- Improve timing of the review process

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## Additional inputs from staff and advisory group

### Rating of the FRA 2005 process



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## Additional inputs from staff and advisory group

### Suggestions for improvements of the process:

- More regional workshops
- Improved collaboration with regional offices
- Improved collaboration with other organizations in order to promote exchange of data and avoid overlapping data collection
- Support to countries with low capacities or resources constraints

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## Lessons learned

- The network of dedicated NCs and the high degree of country involvement with a clear sense of ownership of the information submitted to FAO
- Transparency of the reporting process
- Comprehensive review process to detect data gaps and inconsistencies and, together with NCs, find viable solutions.

### ➤ IMPROVED DATA QUALITY

...but...

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## Lessons learned

- FRA 2005 did constitute a significant reporting burden on the countries. Despite intentions to harmonize reporting, still more can be done.
- The increased country involvement required an intensive support from FAO (workshops, training, direct contacts, etc.) which in turn required adequate funds.

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## Lessons learned

Furthermore, a large number of technical issues have been identified. These are summarized in the background papers and will be discussed by the working groups on Tuesday and Wednesday.

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