



GLOBAL

Networking

Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA)



Scope

Expert consultations are fundamental parts of the FRA process of designing future global forest resources assessments as well as evaluating the assessments carried out.

Since 1987 five expert consultations have taken place in the city of Kotka in Finland jointly organised by FAO, UNECE and the Finnish Forest Research Institute, Metla.

Approach

Each consultation has had a slightly different focus:

Kotka I, 1987: The assessment of change

Kotka II, 1993: Common definitions and a focus on environmental aspects

Kotka III, 1996: Indicators of sustainable forest management

Kotka IV, 2002: Linking national and international efforts

Kotka V, 2006: Collaboration with other forest related reporting processes



Weaving knowledge into development

The consultations have resulted in:

Improvement and harmonization of definitions and classifications at regional and global levels;

Expansion of the scope of global assessments to meet new information needs;

A clear link to the thematic elements of sustainable forest management;

Increased collaboration with other forest-related processes and organizations;

The establishment of an Advisory Group.