



GLOBAL FOREST RESOURCES ASSESSMENT

2010

Climate change, poverty, water shortages, species loss ...

More than ever, the world needs forests.

Forests store carbon, contribute to food security, generate livelihoods, produce wood and non-wood products, supply clean water and provide habitat for half the species on the planet.

More than ever, we need reliable global information on forests.

How much forest is there? How well is it managed? How much is being lost?

FAO and its partners have been carrying out Global Forest Resources Assessments (FRAs) for over 60 years. Stronger support, advances in technology and expanding global communications will make the next assessment, FRA 2010, the most comprehensive and reliable yet.

The work is starting now – and your help is needed.

Partners

In producing FRA 2010, FAO will work closely with:

- Governments and national institutions
- ▼ Secretariat of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity
- Secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests
- Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
- United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre
- International Tropical Timber Organization
- United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
- World Conservation Union
- Statistical Office of the European Communities
- Group on Earth Observations
- Joint Research Centre of the European Commission
- South Dakota State University
- Jena University
- Global Terrestrial Observing System
- Global Observation of Forest and Land Cover Dynamics
- Satellite data providers

How you can help

FRA 2010 is an exciting and ambitious undertaking that requires substantial funding and institutional support. Most importantly, it needs the assistance of experts in government, NGOs, civil society, universities and industry worldwide.

If you wish to contribute to FRA 2010, please contact your national focal point (the list can be found at www.fao.org/forestry/site/fra-nc), one of our partner organizations, or:

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Photos: FAO



Mandate

FRA 2010 has been requested by 192 countries through the Conference of FAO. No other process has such a strong mandate for the collection of global forest information.

Collaboration

FRA 2005 was produced with the help of more than 800 people, including teams in 172 countries. FRA 2010 will involve even more people, more countries and closer partnerships with governments, intergovernmental agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

A list of some of FRA's major partners is at the back of this brochure.

Reliability

The quality of the information generated by FRA 2010 will be better than ever. Data will be collected using consistent methodology worldwide and reviewed by hundreds of national and international experts in regional and global workshops. The process will be guided by an external advisory group and by FAO member countries through the FAO Committee on Forestry and FAO's six Regional Forestry Commissions.

Innovation

One of the most exciting components of FRA 2010 will be a new and ambitious **global remote sensing survey**.

Using satellite data from 1975, 1990, 2000 and 2005, forest cover will be surveyed across the planet in about 13 500 plots, providing a sampling intensity of 1 percent of the global land surface. This survey will generate unprecedented information on global forest change – deforestation, afforestation and natural forest expansion. It will provide insight into the land uses that are replacing forests. It will identify changes in biomes that transcend national boundaries. And it will improve understanding of the global contributions of forests to greenhouse gas emissions and reductions.

FRA 2010 will also include a special study on **trees outside forests**, which are of increasing importance for food security, local environmental benefits and carbon sequestration, a survey of the area of forest under **sustainable forest management**, and data on **forest laws, policies and institutions**.

Benefits

FRA 2010 will provide a basis for reporting on progress towards:

- the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity's target of reversing biodiversity loss by 2010
- the Millennium Development Goals
- the Global Objectives of the United Nations Forum on Forests
- the International Tropical Timber Organization's Objective 2000

It will also help countries report on land use and land use change for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol, with the remote sensing survey providing a common measurement baseline.

FRA 2010 will help boost country expertise (where needed), provide opportunities for sharing information and experiences, raise the profile of forests within countries, and assist national forest-related decision-making. It will also help countries view their forest sectors in a regional and global context and inform international deliberations on forests.