



Global Land Cover Network

GLCN



8 August 2006

Dear Colleagues,

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) launched the Global Land Cover Network (GLCN) with the objective to improve the availability of global information on land cover and its dynamics, harmonizing land cover mapping and monitoring at national, regional and global levels. GLCN generates essential data needed for sustainable development, environmental protection, food security and humanitarian programmes at both the national and international level.

The MAR project ("Strengthening Monitoring, Assessment, and Reporting (MAR) on Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) in Asia") is organized in FAO Forestry Department in Rome. It is a five year project that was launched in January 2006 with the financial support of the Government of Japan. The objective of the project is to contribute directly to the improvement in the sustainable forest management (SFM) regimes in the Asia Pacific region.

GLCN, MAR and a number of other partners will be organizing a workshop on the harmonization of forest and land cover classifications using LCCS for Asia Pacific Region to be held in Dehradun, India, from the 4 to 8 December 2006.

The scope of the workshop is to review the forest classifications in Asia Pacific countries and initiate discussion and dialogue on their harmonization/standardization. The workshop will provide training to land mapping experts, especially forestry professionals dealing directly with remote sensing based estimation of forest cover and or national forest inventories, in use of the GLCN technologies including the Land Cover Classification System (LCCS). The purpose of the training is to assist in the harmonizing and standardizing the estimation of forest cover using remote sensing among Asian countries. The benefits of LCCS in allowing standardization of mapping legends will be demonstrated and participants will discuss the generation of standard classes for FRA 2010. In addition the workshop will also be an opportunity to train participants on 2D/3D data visualization techniques and information requirements of CBD 2010, like degradation (change in density), deforestation and fragmentation (based on an agreed LCCS classification).

Participants will be invited from the following countries: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, DPR Korea, Laos, Maldives, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan (to be confirmed), Philippines, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste (to be confirmed) and Vietnam.

If you are interested in attending the workshop please complete the interest form on the workshop Web page: www.fao.org/gtos/meetLCCS5.html.

Please inform colleagues who may be interested in attending this event.

Yours Sincerely,

John Latham
GLCN Programme Coordinator (FAO)

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Senior Forestry Officer (FAO)

Workshop Details

Name: GLCN/FRA land cover classification awareness and training workshop.

Web site: details on the workshop can also be obtained at www.fao.org/gtos/meetLCCS5.html

Dates: 4-8 December 2006

Location: Indian Institute of Remote Sensing (IIRS: www.iirs-nrsa.gov.in) Dehradun, India. Information on local logistics will follow shortly.

Language: Please note that the workshop will be conducted in English

Scope and purpose: The scope of the meeting is to provide training of land mapping experts, especially forestry professionals dealing directly with remote sensing based estimation of forest cover and or national forest inventories, in use of the GLCN technologies including the Land Cover Classification System (LCCS). The purpose is to assist in harmonizing and standardizing the estimation of forest cover using remote sensing among Asian countries. The benefits of LCCS in allowing standardization of mapping legends will be demonstrated and participants will discuss the generation of standard classes for FRA 2010. In addition the workshop will also be an opportunity to train participants on information requirements needed for FRA 2010, including forest cover, degradation (change in density), deforestation and fragmentation (based on an agreed LCCS classification). See separate documents for additional details on GLCN, LCCS and FRA 2010.

Agenda: See separate document.

Requirements (participants to send by the 1 October 2006): To reach the objectives of the workshop highlighted above it is fundamental that the GLCN Secretariat receives well in advance of the workshop details of current mapping activities and especially the full descriptions of legend classes being used. These legends will be translated into LCCS before the meeting and will be used in discussions between the participants (please see separate document for examples and additional details on the information required).

Provisional list of countries to be invited (to be finalized): Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, DPR Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan (to be confirmed), Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste (to be confirmed) and Vietnam.

Additional countries: Australia, Japan, Republic of Korea and New Zealand

Contact Points

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