



Workshop on Capacity Building in Sharing Forest and
Market Information
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Forest Policy Instruments and Institutions

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Outline

- Do policies and institutions matter?
- Some main issues
- What ECE/FAO does
- Conclusions

Policies and institutions

- Forest law
- National forest policy/programme
- Forest service
- Policies for industry, trade, energy, environment etc.
- Rural/regional development strategies
- Overall framework: property rights, commercial law ...

Trends in policies and institutions

- Explicit recognition of equal importance of 3 pillars of sustainable forest management: economic, ecological, social
- Role of the state: separation of « Authority » and « Enterprise » roles
- Transition from centrally planned structures: market prices, ownership changes, decision making by market players (not ministries) etc.
- Financial pressures

Main issues for policies and institutions

- Defining sustainable forest management in practice
- Managing the transition process
- Helping « new » forest owners
- Communicating with society and policy makers
- Understanding and influencing trends in other sectors: energy, agriculture etc.

Effective policies and institutions:

- Stable
- Based on broad social consensus (not only foresters!)
- Access to sufficient resources
- Backed by political will

ECE/FAO's role in monitoring and analysing policies and institutions

- Regular review at EFC session (Zvolen, May 2006)
- Forest sector country profiles
- Reporting on « qualitative indicators of SFM » with MCPFE
- Periodic « policy forum »
- Team of specialists on south east Europe and CIS (November, Budapest)

European Forest Sector Outlook Study (EFSOS)

- Scenarios for markets and forests to 2020
- Emphasis on cross sectoral dimension
- « Shift of forest sector to the east »
- Policy recommendations
- Does not cover Caucasus or Central Asia (lack of data)

Benefits of ECE/FAO work

- Follow « big picture »
- Identify major issues for global fora
- Exchange of experience (e.g. on dealing with transition issues)
- Provide guidance on implementing sustainable forest management