

Summary of Group work

Global Forest Resources Assessment 2010
Technical meeting – Rome, March 3-7, 2008



Scope

- Good discussions, many valuable suggestions and comments, including proposals for changes in definitions and reporting tables.
- No changes will be made on tables and definitions
- Focus on common questions and issues raised that will improve understanding and reporting

Process

- Deadline for submission of country reports
- Need to increase awareness of FRA at regional levels
- Data availability is an issue. Need for FAO support expressed by many countries
- List or link to focal points to other reporting processes (CBD, UNFCCC, etc. www.fao.org/forestry/site/11448/en)

Methodology

- FRA definitions vs National definitions
- Reporting units (how to avoid 0 and n.s.?)
- Different national classifications, how to handle?
- Notes to the tables
- Translations

T1 Extent of forest and OWL

- Inland water bodies
- Palm plantations
- Compatibility FRA definition with other reporting

T2 forest ownership and management rights of public forest

- Indigenous / tribal ownership vs local ownership
- Overlap indigenous land and protected areas
- Complex land tenure regimes
- Data availability an issue for this reporting table
- Sub-categories add up



T3a Primary designated functions

- Functions vs designations
- Level of designation
- When to report multiple use
- Why are IUCN Categories V-VI excluded?



T3b Special designation and management categories

- Permanent Forest Estate (PFE)
- SFM vs management plan
- Doing nothing = Sustainable management?
- Protected area and illegal logging...



T4a Characteristics

- Introduced species / naturalized species
- Planted forest (difficult to differentiate)?
- Forest fallows
- Primary forest vs protected areas



T5 Forest establishment and reforestation

- Afforestation vs Reforestation
- Reforestation FRA / UNFCCC
- Natural regeneration not included
- Enrichment planting




T6 Growing stock

- Biomass to Growing stock
- How to report on Bamboo?
- Growing stock of commercial species vs volume available for wood supply
- Fuelwood species commercial?
- Volume of trees in protected areas?




T7 Biomass & T8 Carbon

- Conversion factors
- Lack of data a recognized issue
- Should the same figures be reported as UNFCCC figures?



T9 Forest fire

- Total area affected by fire difficult to report on for many countries
- Planned fire vs Wildfire
- One fire may cover different categories or occur several times on the same area




T10 Disturbances

- When does a damage become a disturbance?
- Link defoliation and damage
- Woody invasive species
- Data availability an issue




T11 Removals and value of removals

- Point of measure (road side)
- "Industrial" round wood
- Illegal / informal removals
- Portable mills, charcoal etc.
- Self consumption and given away for free, how to value?




T12 NWFP removals and values

- Include services, water, ecotourism, recreation, hunting, carbon etc.?
- Ornamental plants and crops growing under tree cover
- Honey, Christmas trees
- Value refers to raw material
- Grazing vs fodder collection



T13 Employment

- Reporting on employment in T13, T15 and T16 are mutually exclusive
- FTE and reference period
- Difficult to separate production of goods and management of protected areas
- Participatory forest management
- Tourism management



T14 Policy and legal framework

- Policy – sometimes part of an overarching development policy
- Policy but no formal statement
- Status of nfp you may tick several options.
- National vs sub-national



T15 Institutions

- Number of years to be considered as university degree
- Clarification on total staff
- Autonomous agency responsible for forestry not depending on a minister
- Several ministries responsible for forest



T16 Education and research

- Students educated abroad excluded
- Foreign students graduated in the country included
- Number of years for different academic levels
- Forest degree holders not working in forestry?
- Partially privately funded research centers?
- Secondary training of technicians?



T17 Forest revenues

- Public owned business entities?
- Transfer payments
- Allocation vs Expenditures
- Exclusion of tax income?