**WORKSHOP REPORT**

Preparing the Forest Sector in Eastern Europe and Central Asia to Meet Global Challenges

A Capacity Building Workshop

**GCP/INT/790/CEH**

**Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan**

**29 October – 2 November 2012**

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**1. Background and rationale**

The workshop, which was organized within the agreement between the Czech Republic and FAO, GCP/INT/790/CEH “Training in Selected Areas”, built upon the outcomes and was a follow-up to two previous workshops organised in the Czech Republic in 2005 (“Capacity building in Sharing Forest and Market information”) and 2008 (“Enhancing Contribution of Forest Management to Sustainable Development in Eastern European and Central Asian Countries“). The workshop was organized in cooperation with the FAO Regional Office in Budapest and the UNECE Forestry and Timber Section in Geneva.

Within the framework of the aforementioned agreement FAO convened a five-day workshop (see Annex I for the agenda) in Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan to focus on priority needs and to explore areas for national and regional cooperation related to forestry policy, the green economy, climate change, wood energy and forest resource assessments in the Eastern Europe and Central Asian region.

**2. Objectives of the workshop**

The main objectives of the Regional Workshop were to:

* Review the progress made by target countries and international organizations in implementing the Krtiny Declaration and updating target countries’ priorities;
* Support target countries by exchanging experience in selected forest-related areas (forest resource assessment, forest and water etc.) in the context of global challenges such as climate change mitigation and adaptation.

**3. Participants**

A total of forty one participants from eleven countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Czech Republic, Mongolia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Ukraine and Uzbekistan) and various international organizations took part in the workshop. In addition to the country representatives, staff from FAO Headquarters, the FAO Regional Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia (REU), the FAO Subregional Office for Central Asia (SEC), the UNECE/FAO Timber Section in Geneva, the FAO country office in Kyrgyzstan and two representatives from the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) office in Bishkek participated. The local NGO, Independent Ecological Expertise was assigned to the onsite workshop implementation but also acted as a moderator during the workshop. There is a list of all the participants in Annex II.

**4. Results of plenary and group works**

*First day of the workshop, 29 October 2012*

Mr. Abdymital Chyngojoev – Deputy Director, State Agency on Environmental Protection and Forestry, Kyrgyz Republic – opened the workshop by welcoming the participants and stressing the relevance of the workshop given the importance of forestry issues in the country and the role forestry can play in the green economy. He also underlined that the Kyrgyz government is ready to cooperate in the field of forestry.

Ms Dinara Rakhmanova, Assistant FAOR in Kyrgyzstan, welcomed participants on behalf of FAO and thanked the government of the Czech Republic and the Kyrgyz Republic for their support. She also reminded participants of FAO’s global mandate and informed them about FAO activities in the country, including the forthcoming upgrade of the FAO office in Kyrgyzstan and the planned full sized GEF project on sustainable forest management.

Mr. Tomas Krejzar, Director of the Department of Forestry Policy and Economy, Ministry of Agriculture, Czech Republic, welcomed the workshop participants on behalf of the Czech government and thanked the Kyrgyz authorities for their hospitality and the local NGO, Independent Ecological Expertise, for the assistance they provided in organizing the workshop in Kyrgyzstan. His welcome address was followed by a short film about Czech forestry.

After the opening, Mr Tomas Krejzar gave an overview of the history of the Krtiny Declaration as well as its further developments during the workshops in 2005 and 2008 in the Czech Republic. He also pointed out that one of the main goals of this workshop was, on the last day, to revise the Krtiny Declaration in light of the deliberations during the week.

Mr Norbert Winkler-Ráthonyi, Forestry Officer, FAO/REU Budapest, Hungary, gave an introduction on how FAO functions through its decentralised offices and the various regional governing bodies which guide the work of FAO in the region. He also highlighted the challenges and opportunities for forestry, both in European and Central Asian countries. He also briefly explained what kind of support FAO is able to offer to countries and how it provides this support. Finally, he emphasised the importance of cooperation with other relevant organisations operating in the region.

After this, the participants got into their working groups and discussed the main developments in their countries in relation to the implementation of the Krtiny Declaration since 2008. They then presented the results of their discussions in a plenary session. The list of positive developments they mentioned included the introduction of new forestry policies and legislation, enhanced contacts with forest-related international organizations, progress in forest resource assessment in some countries (including using modern technologies such as remote sensing), increased efforts to combat illegal logging as well as the establishment of programmes for planting trees outside forests in residential areas. However, institutional reforms were perceived differently, both as positive (leading to a more efficient forest sector) and negative (leading to the further marginalization of forestry). Despite positive developments, many weaknesses persist. These include the absence of reliable data on forest resources, poor forest management planning, lack of financial resources for SFM, the increased risk of illegal logging and inefficient use of wood (linked to an increase in gas prices), the unresolved issue of evaluation and payment for ecosystem services and the division of responsibility for forests among various authorities. It was recommended that the issue of combating desertification should be included in the revision of the Krtiny Declaration. FAO and UNECE presented the progress made by their respective organizations in responding to the recommendations of the declaration (despite budgetary constraints) during the reporting period.

Mr Dominique Reeb, Deputy Chief, UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section, Geneva, Switzerland, gave a presentation on developing effective forest policy. He explained the concept and the role of forest policy in strengthening the forest sector, which very much relies on a clear and concise forest policy. Mr Reeb then elaborated on the five phases of a forest policy cycle, namely, preparation, context analysis, negotiation of priorities, drafting and review, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation. He stressed the importance of genuine stakeholder participation during the entire process and that all five phases are equally important.

This presentation was followed by group work. Three groups were asked to conduct a stakeholder analysis based on the methodology explained in the presentation and to reflect on the importance of each phase.

Mr Reeb continued with a presentation on the Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy. The Action Plan was prepared under the auspices of the UNECE Timber Committee and the FAO European Forestry Commission, at the suggestion of their bureaux. It was developed based on an open consultation with member States and stakeholders. The Action Plan will be further refined in order to present a final version ready for adoption in December 2013.

The UNECE/FAO working definition of the forest sector in a green economy in the ECE region is a forest sector that makes the greatest possible contribution it can to the emerging green economy by improving human well-being and social equality while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities. In every aspect of its activities, it minimizes its carbon emissions, uses its resources efficiently and is socially inclusive. The Green economy provides the forest sector with the potential to become a major player, especially in countries with sufficient forest resources. When managed in a sustainable way, a strong, healthy forest sector has a key role to play in “greening” the economies as outlined in the Rio+20 outcome document. Using wood products to substitute for more carbon-intensive non-renewable materials and fossil fuels enhances that contribution. Additionally, forests perform an essential role in preventing environmental degradation (air and water pollution, soil erosion) and reducing the impact of natural disasters such as landslides, avalanches and flooding.

Mr Reeb went on to introduce the UN Development Account (UNDA) regional project “Sustainable forest management for greener economies in the Caucasus and Central Asia”. In the UNECE region – and especially in the Caucasus and Central Asia – the role of forests is particularly important for countries in transition in terms of addressing environmental problems like soil erosion, pollution and climate change, which could otherwise impact heavily on communities and their livelihoods. Strengthening the forest sector will enable countries to gain both environmental and economic benefits. To this end, forest sector policies and institutions need to be strengthened and the provision of sustainable forest products needs to be expanded, including for renewable energy production.

The project will help countries respond to key capacity gaps and overcome these development challenges by providing knowledge, capacity building, training materials and advisory services on: (i) strengthening forest sector policies and institutions (to address the contribution sustainable forest management makes to a green economy) and mitigating climate change; (ii) developing action plans and implementing sustainable forest management in three pilot countries; (iii) promoting sustainable forest products, including for bioenergy production.

The target groups will be government officials from ministries responsible for forestry, as well as other related institutions. The UNDA project will mainly develop capacities at national level but it will also reach out to the local level to ensure that staff from local forest and forest related administrations are trained and advised on how to request further support. This will be achieved through tailored training workshops based on the content used at national level.

The selection of pilot countries will be based on the following criteria: 1) sustainable development of the national forest sector is identified as one of the priority areas in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF); 2) strong commitment of the national government to sustainable development of the forest sector and greening the economy; and 3) geographical balance and type of ecosystem of beneficiary countries.

Country representatives were asked to provide the contact information of their respective national administration that is expected to be responsible for implementing the project if they choose to be part of it.

Mr Reeb also provided a brief update on the phasing out of the National Forest Programme Facility and the inception of its successor the Forest and Farm Facility (FFF).

The second phase of the NFP Facility ended in mid-2012. Based on the lessons learnt in more than 80 countries and the experience gained by the NFP Facility, the FFF will focus on:

1. Facilitating strong and equitable partnerships amongst smallholders, communities and indigenous peoples, ensuring that these partnerships have improved access to financing and investments for forest landscapes.
2. Supporting national and sub-national governments in establishing multi-sectoral platforms (through dialogues, information and capacity building) to better coordinate the various ministries, private sector and civil society stakeholders involved in, or affected by, policies and activities on forest landscapes.

The FFF will be more focused on support at community level and will fill an important gap at national, regional and international levels. It will also complement many forestry related initiatives such as FLEGT and REDD+. As with the NFP facility, funding will be provided through small grants. Funding is not yet available although it is expected towards the end of 2013.

Mr Tomas Krejzar informed participants about the developments in the negotiations on the Legally Binding Agreement on Forests in Europe (LBA). The next session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC 3) will be held in Turkey (28 January–2 February 2013). He stressed that, according to the Oslo Ministerial Mandate for Negotiating a LBA, it is not only FOREST EUROPE signatories that are among the target countries (Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation and Ukraine), but that other successor states of the former Soviet Union are also entitled to join the INC.

The last presentation of the day was given by Mr Ekrem Yazici, Forestry Consultant at SEC in Ankara, Turkey, on “Climate Change – A global challenge”. Making reference to FAO guidelines and surveys, he highlighted the challenges and opportunities associated with climate change that the forest sector is faced with. He presented possible climate change mitigation and adaptation measures and noted that many actions in the forest sector can simultaneously contribute to climate change adaptation and mitigation. He also highlighted the substantial opportunities for achieving synergies.

During the group work the participants discussed the needs and priority areas in capacity building on climate change and the needs and priorities for improved forest management towards climate change mitigation and adaptation. The groups identified the following needs and priority areas: (i) training and awareness raising on forestry and climate change interactions, (ii) the amendment of existing regulations and the development of new legislation on forestry and climate change interactions, (iii) the development of a legislative framework regarding payment for forestry ecosystem services including the role of forests in climate change mitigation and adaptation, (iv) mitigation through restoration activities, (v) conservation and sustainable management of forest resources, including integrated fire management, pest and diseases control, (vi) encouraging local people to make plantations of fast growing trees on their land, (vii) selecting species that are more resistant to climate change, and (viii) diversifying forest based products and employment opportunities.

*Second day of the workshop, 30 October 2012*

During the morning session, there were a series of presentations on “National Forest Inventory and Monitoring”.

Mr Dan Altrell, Forestry Officer, FAO HQ Rome, Italy, presented FAO’s support to Multipurpose National Forest Inventory (NFI), and explained why NFI is instrumental in providing the required quality information to support national-level forest policy formulations and strategic planning. He also described FAO’s robust approach to NFI, applying cost-effective and pragmatic methodologies developed by a vast team of international experts and adapted and tested by national experts in more than 20 countries. Finally, Mr Altrell stressed that NFI is the only reliable tool for assessing and monitoring the state and changes in forest and tree resources and their multiple uses and users.

Mr Richard Slabý,Senior Expert at the Czech Forest Management Institute, introduced the NFI of Kyrgyzstan (2008-2010) and highlighted that it was the first statistically sound NFI in Central Asia based on both field inventory and a remote sensing survey. Mr Slabý described the Kyrgyz NFI experiences and the documents and materials that were developed to support the process, including the project document, the manual for field data collection, reports with NFI findings, and many photos, posters, and videos, which could be very good examples for countries in the Central Asia region and the Krtiny Declaration signatories. The Kyrgyz NFI was coordinated by the Kyrgyz State Department of Forest and Game Management, with technical support from FAO and in collaboration with a Swiss project. The main findings included the identification of unregistered forest areas outside the State Forest Enterprises, more detailed information on forests and wood quality and on the landscape outside of forests.

Ms Venera Surappaeva, who is responsible for the Kyrgyz NFI unit, informed the participants that the Kyrgyz government is going to revise its national forest policies using the recent NFI information, and that based on this new information, the government has already initiated a state programme aimed at creating an inventory of unregistered forest stands and providing management plans for them.

Mr Radim Adolt, The Czech Republic’s Chief NFI analyst,gave an overview of the history and current status of the Czech National Forest Inventory, with emphasis on the main technological and methodological aspects. He described Czech NFI1 (2001-2004) and the NFI2 (2011-2015) project, which is currently running and will evaluate changes of target parameters and their components (e.g. cuts, mortality and growth) and will also pay more attention to the environmental parameters of forests and the landscape in general. Furthermore, Mr Adolt outlined the optimised NFI2 field survey, which uses a method for collecting data so that it is directly in a digital format (Field-Map system, IFER, Ltd.), and further described the technology of photogrammetric interpretation (PhoTopol workstation software by Topol Software Ltd., PhoNIL extension) and the key role of free, open-source PostgreSQL/Postgis database used within NFI2. A major point raised by Mr Adolt was the advantageous use of two-phase estimators, which combine field survey data with auxiliary information in a form of the RS products and/or GIS layers. This approach leads to increased accuracy of target parameter estimators and can lead to a reduction in the total cost of the NFI survey.

During the group work on national forest monitoring and assessment the three groups discussed the current country priorities. The results of this work showed that the countries in the region can be divided into two major groups in terms of NFI priorities and requests for external support; namely, countries with very high NFI priority and that need full NFI support (field inventory, remote sensing, equipment, training of staff and co-financing), like Armenia, Azerbaijan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan, and countries that need partial and more specific NFI support. This second group includes Mongolia, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Ukraine and Turkey, whose needs for external support are related to methodology improvements, trees outside forest (TOF) inclusion, remote sensing, cost-efficient field sampling and analytical capacities and NFI co-funding.

During the afternoon session a series of presentations were given on “protection of forest genetic resources and growing of forest reproductive material in the face of climate change”.

Mr Josef Frydl, Forestry and Game Management Research Institute, Department of Forest Tree Species Biology and Breeding, Czech Republic, focused on “Forest tree species genetic resources selection, preservation and management in the face of expected environmental changes”. He explained the concept of dynamic genetic conservation units (DGCU) and the principles for preserving and managing the genetic resources of tree species. Using the genetic resources of tree species in forest management and research was another topic that he covered in his presentation. Participants were also informed about the European Forest Genetic Resources programme (EUFORGEN). Finally, he offered the expertise of the Forestry and Game Management Research Institute for future cooperation in this field, especially in terms of targeting countries and the present international organizations.

Mr Milos Parizek, Forest Management Institute, Department of State Administration of Forest Reproductive Material, Czech Republic, presented how the state administration in the field of forest reproductive material (FRM) is organised in the Czech Republic so as to protect consumers and to use only FRM of the highest morphological and genetic quality. He also presented the main activities of the Forest Management Institute as the official body dealing with FRM, such as the phenotypic classification of forest trees, the categorization of types of basic materials, and administering the national register of FRM, the control system as well as the related information system ERMA.

Mr Jiri Bily, Ministry of Agriculture, Forest Management and Protection Department, Czech Republic delivered a presentation on “Quality Forest Reproductive Material – Basis of Forests Vitality and Stability (Reproductive material from the point of view of its health, quality and resistance)”. He briefly discussed the possible impacts of climate change on forest health in the presentation. For the production of quality and healthy reproductive material in forest nurseries, six approaches were mentioned; namely:

1. Providing nourishment and fertilisation in the right way;
2. Caring for the growth of the root system in the right way;
3. Using pesticides for direct protection against pests and diseases;
4. Implementing Integrated Pest Management (IPM);
5. Inoculating of seedlings with Mycorrhiza;
6. Breeding and selection for resistance to specific pests or diseases.

At the end of his presentation Mr Bily provided some information on the rules of using pesticides in the Czech Republic.

During the group work the participants completed a questionnaire in which they were asked to specify the institution responsible for the preservation of genetic resources of forest tree species, as well as the state institution that administers the use of forest reproductive material and pesticide use control. The participants were also asked to evaluate the quality and effectiveness of their state administrations in this field.

Mr Florian Steierer, Forestry Officer (Wood Energy), FAO HQ Rome, Italy gave a presentation on “Wood energy in the global context and FAO’s support to countries”*.* The presentation highlighted the important role of fuelwood in the energy and forestry sector. Wood energy remains the most important source of renewable energy, despite the very important role of hydropower in the participants’ countries. Fuelwood accounts for almost 90 percent of wood removed from forests in Central Asia. He emphasised that fuelwood removals reported in national and international statistics often do not reflect realities and the volumes that are actually extracted from forests are often greatly under reported due to informal market structures and auto consumption in rural areas. The presenter also highlighted the importance of accurate data for sound decision making and showcased the example of a successful FAO Technical Cooperation Project (TCP) in Serbia. In this project Serbia successfully conducted an extensive household survey which showed that the volumes assessed were five times higher than reported in energy and forestry statistics. The TCP also generated information about the socio-economic values of fuelwood harvesting and trade, and indicated that only 60 percent of fuelwood is harvested from forests. Therefore, energy and forestry statistics and policies need to be revised. In closing his presentation, Mr Steierer offered FAO’s support for improving the wood energy situation and data availability. At the end of the presentation participating countries were asked to work on three questions; namely, (i) what is needed to get unrecorded fuelwood removals out of illegal logging records and into the official ones? (ii) would you consider household surveys an appropriate tool for improving information on fuelwood consumption in your country? (iii) what kind of assistance could FAO provide to your country in the field of wood energy?

The main issues raised during the group work phase were: (i) informal information on unrecorded removals may be available at different levels, but may not be voiced since the forester or the forest service would be blamed for not saving the resource; (ii) household surveys are considered a good tool for improving information on wood consumption and amounts removed from forests; (iii) wood lots and dedicated tree plantations for fuelwood may be a good measure to mitigate the pressure on (natural) forests; and (iv) efficient incineration technologies are considered useful for decreasing pressure on natural resources.

*Third day of the workshop, 31 October 2012*

During the third day’s field trip to Karakol, Jetyoguz region, participants visited: (i) the Ak-Suu forestry enterprise to see state forest nursery activities; (ii) the Ak-Suu pilot-scale forestry area of the Forestry Institute named after P.A.Gana of the National Academy of Science of the Kyrgyz Republic (arboretum); and (iii) the Jetyoguz forestry enterprise to see a pilot area of the recently successfully finished FAO project on National Forest Inventory.

*Fourth day of the workshop, 1 November 2012*

During the morning session participants were asked to work in country teams and rank the country priorities identified during the previous days of the workshop. Each country team then presented the two highest ranked priorities to the plenary. Finally, an overview table was prepared to highlight themes of common interest and possible cooperation within the region.

Mr Dominique Reeb followed this up with a brief recap on the characteristics of the green economy and showed that an action plan for a forest sector in a green economy could provide a promising umbrella and framework for developing and implementing the project and activities proposed by the participants. He concluded that the forthcoming UNDA project will contribute towards achieving these proposals.

During the afternoon session Mr Muzaffer Dogru, a forestry expert from Turkey, gave a presentation on “Effective watershed management - Linking forestry and other land uses through a landscape approach”. He provided information about the results of FAO’s global review and assessment of the watershed management projects and implementations as well as recommendations for a new generation watershed management programs and projects. The presentation also highlighted the roles and contributions of sustainable forest management in addressing global challenges, such as food security, poverty, water supply, biodiversity loss, climate change and deforestation.

Next, Mr Ekrem Yazici, Forestry Consultant at FAO SEC Ankara, Turkey presented approaches and new projects for putting integrated watershed management into practice in the region. He highlighted FAO’s capacity and guideline development activities for improving national capacities and for guiding national authorities in their efforts towards managing watershed resources using a landscape approach. He also summarised FAO’s efforts towards preparing and implementing full-sized watershed based sustainable forest and land management projects intended to be funded through GEF, TIKA and a possible Turkey FAO Forestry Program. Following his presentation the participants worked in groups to discuss national and regional needs in this context. The groups concluded that: (i) there is a need for watershed management projects at pilot level; (ii) capacity development and FAO assistance is required; and (iii) assistance is required in evaluating watershed ecosystem services.

Ms Gyöngyi Orszag, Junior Technical Officer – Forestry, FAO/REU Budapest, Hungary, explained in more detail the way technical support is provided to member countries by FAO through regular and extra-budgetary programme activities. Specifically, she explained the various steps of a project cycle using the regional TCP project on “Wood energy in the Balkans”, which is currently under development with FAO REU, as an illustration.

Six countries (Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan) participated in the follow-up group discussions on country specific obstacles and needs of external support for initiating and implementing national forest inventory programmes. The general conclusions were that most countries have sufficient forestry staff, although they are in need of proper training. They have vehicles, although these are in need of maintenance, but most importantly their governments have not accepted NFI as being of high priority, which has led to insufficient budget allocations and often to a lack of adequate institutional structures and legislative support.

Two countries; namely, Mongolia and Azerbaijan, specified their interest and needs in issues related to the selection, preservation and management of forest genetic resources in view of expected environmental changes in their countries. In the follow-up group discussions Mongolia emphasised its interest in the conservation of forest genetic resources. The country has problems with water management due to adverse climatic conditions. To solve these water problems there is an interest in increasing the forested area in the country. However, Mongolia needs assistance in identifying the most appropriate tree species.

Azerbaijan, however, is aiming to restore the original composition of its forests in terms of species and mixtures, although it also wants to reintroduce rare species. In this context, the use of modern tree propagation methods is an issue for Azerbaijan.

In [the follow-up group discussions](#_Hlk340048853) on wood energy, Tajikistan highlighted the fact that fossil fuels are more expensive than in the neighbouring counties and that the electricity supply is highly unreliable and not always continuously available. Consequently, consumers regularly switch back to fuel wood for cooking and heating, which causes the depletion of forest resources. FAO may be able to assist with this problem through a study on fuel wood consumption and a possible follow-up project to raise awareness of this unsustainable development and addressing this problem.

*Fifth day of the workshop, 2 November 2012*

Based on developments at international and national levels, the achievements regarding the implementation of the recommendations of the Krtiny Declaration, and the discussions and recommendations of the workshop, the participants revised and updated the Krtiny Declaration. The updated declaration is included as Annex III.

**ANNEX I**

**Agenda of the workshop**

Preparing the forest sector in Eastern Europe and Central Asia to meet global challenges

A capacity building workshop

Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan, 29 October – 2 November 2012

GCP/INT/790/CEH

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| **Agenda** | |
| **Sunday, 28 October** | |
|  | Arrival of the participants to Bishkek airport transfer to Issyk-Kul |
|  | Registration of participants |
| **Monday, 29 October** | |
| 09:00 – 09:30 | Opening by   * **Host country representative**   Abdymital Chyngojoev*, Deputy Director,*  *State Agency on Environmental Protection and Forestry*   * **FAO representative**   ***Dinara Rakhmanova****, Assistant FAO in the Kyrgyz Republic*   * **Czech delegation representative**   ***Tomas Krejzar****, Director,*  *Department of Forestry Policy and Economy, Ministry of Agriculture, CZE*   * **NGO representative**   ***Oleg Pecheniuk,*** *Chairman of NGO “IEE”* |
| 09:30– 10:00 | Krtiny Declaration and FAO activities in Eastern Europe and Central Asia  ***Tomas Krejzar****, Ministry of Agriculture, CZE;*  ***Norbert Winkler-Ráthonyi****, FAO REU* |
| 10:00 – 10:30 | Group work on Krtiny Declaration follow-up (based on country feedback to questionnaire) |
| 11:00 – 11:30 | **Coffee break** |
| 11:30 – 12:00 | Short introduction to the “forestry policy guidelines” and their use in daily work  ***Dominique Reeb****, FAO/ECE Geneva* |
| 12:00 – 13:00 | Group work on selected policy guidelines topics |
| 13:00 – 14:00 | **Lunch** |
| 14:00 – 14:30 | Emerging opportunities for the forest sector (Green Economy, FF Facility, UNDA, LBA in Europe etc.)  ***Dominique Reeb****, FAO/ECE Geneva;*  ***Tomas Krejzar****, Ministry of Agriculture, CZE* |
| 14:30 – 15:30 | Group work on opportunities |
| 15:30 – 16:00 | **Coffee break** |
| 16:00 – 16:30 | Climate Change – a global challenge  ***Ekrem Yazici****, FAO SEC* |
| 16:30 – 17:30 | Group work on possible adaptation and mitigation measures |
| **Tuesday, 30 October** | |
| 09:00 – 10:30 | Forest Resources Assessment and Monitoring in the context of climate change:   * FAO work in support of Forest Resources Assessment/Forest Field Inventories/Remote Sensing of Forests   ***Dan Altrell****, FAO HQ;*   * Kyrgyz follow-up actions in response to new NFI information   ***Venera Surappaeva***, State Agency on Environment and Forestry, KGZ;   * Kyrgyz NFI process and implementation   ***Richard Slaby****, Forest Management Institute, CZE*   * Modern inventory technology   ***Radim Adolt****, Forest Management Institute, CZE* |
| 11:00 – 11:30 | **Coffee break** |
| 11:30 – 13:00 | Group work on countries needs in Forest Resource Assessment and Monitoring at country level |
| 13:00 – 15:00 | **Lunch** |
| 15:00 – 15:30 | Forest Resources Development and Use:   * Protection of forest genetic resources and growing of forest reproductive material in the face of climate change   ***Josef Frydl****, Forestry and Game Management Research institute, CZE;*  ***Milos Parizek****, Forest Managenent Institute, CZE;*  ***Jiri Bily****, Ministry of Agriculture, CZE* |
| 15:30 – 16:00 | Group work on specific questions related to reproductive material |
| 16:30 – 17:00 | **Coffee break** |
| 17:00 – 17:30 | * Wood energy in the global context and FAO’s support to countries   ***Florian Steierer****, FAO HQ* |
| 17:30 – 19:00 | Group work on specific questions related to wood energy |
| **Wednesday, 31 October** | |
| 08:00 – 21:00 | Field trip  The field visit will take participants to **Aksu forestry enterprise** (forest nursery), the **Dendropark of the Forest Institute** of the National Science Academy and to **Jetyogyz forestry enterprise** (project site of FAO Forest Inventory project). |
| **Thursday, 1 November** | |
| 09:00 – 10:30 | Group work (topics of Tuesday continued; to develop project ideas)   * ***Dan Altrell****, FAO HQ;* ***Richard Slaby****,* ***Radim Adolt****, Forest Management Institute, CZE.* * ***Josef Frydl****, Forestry and Game Management Research institute, CZE;* ***Milos Parizek****, Forest Managenent Institute, CZE;* ***Jiri Bily****, Ministry of Agriculture, CZE.* * ***Florian Steierer****, FAO HQ.* |
| 10:30 – 11:00 | **Coffee break** |
| 11:00 – 11:15 | FAO support to member states  Technical cooperation tools,  ***Gyongyi Orszag,*** *FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia* |
| 11:15 – 12:30 | Emerging opportunities for the forest sector (Green Economy, FF Facility, UNDA, LBA in Europe etc.)  ***Dominique Reeb****, FAO/ECE Geneva* |
| 12:30 – 13:00 | Wood energy in the global context and FAO’s support to countries  ***Florian Steierer****, FAO HQ* |
| 11:00 - 12:30 | Continued work in groups |
| 13:00 – 14:00 | **Lunch** |
| 14:00 – 14:30 | Effective watershed management - Linking forestry and other land uses through a landscape approach  ***Muzaffer Dogru****, Forestry expert , SEC region* |
| 14:30– 15:00 | Effective watershed management – put into practice (GEF, SFM/REDD+)  ***Ekrem Yazici****, FAO SEC* |
| 15:00 – 15:30 | Group work (to develop project ideas) |
| 15:30 – 16:00 | **Coffee break** |
| 16:30 - 17:30 | Continued work in groups |
| **Friday, 2 November** | |
| 09:00 – 10:30 | Krtiny Declaration – revision / update based on developments at international and national level  ***Tomas Krejzar****, Ministry of Agriculture, CZE;*  ***Norbert Winkler-Ráthonyi****, FAO REU*   * Identify prority areas; means for effective implementation(network development, forestry education, etc.) |
| 10:30 – 11:00 | **Coffee break** |
| 11:00 – 12:00 | Continued |
| 12:00 – 13:00 | **Lunch** |
| **Saturday, 3 November** | |
|  | Departure of the participants |
| **Speakers**:   * Mr. Tomas Krejzar, Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic, Forestry Section * Mr. Jiri Bily, Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic, Forestry Section * Mr. Richard Slabý, Forest Management Institute, Czech Republic * Mr. Radim Adolt, Forest Management Institute, Czech Republic * Mr. Milos Parizek, Forest Management Institute, Czech Republic * Mr. Josef Frydl, Forestry and Game Management Research Institute, Czech Republic * Ms. Venera Surappaeva, State Agency on Environment and Forestry, Kyrgyzstan * Mr. Dominique Reeb, UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section, Geneva * Mr. Dan Altrell, FAO Headquarters * Mr. Florian Steierer, FAO Headquarters * Mr. Norbert Winkler-Ráthonyi, FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia * Ms. Gyongyi Orszag, FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia * Mr. EkremYazici, FAO Subregional Office for Central Asia * Mr. Muzaffer Dogru, Forestry expert , SEC region | |
| **Language of the event**: Presentations in English with translation into Russian | |
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**ANNEX II**

**Preparing the forest sector in Eastern Europe and Central Asia to meet global challenges**

**A capacity building workshop**

**Forestry Workshop for Eastern European and Central Asian countries**

**Baktuu-Dolonotu village, Issyk-Kul region, Kyrgyz Republic**

**29 October - 2 November 2012**

List of participants

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**ANNEX III**

**Updated Declaration**

**Declaration of Krtiny**

on Enhancement of Contributions of Forest Management1 to Sustainable Development in Eastern Europe and Central Asia

***Prague and Křtiny, Czech Republic, 27 October 2005,***

***updated in Zamardi, Hungary 18 May 2007***

***updated in Křtiny, Czech Republic, 27 November 2008***

***updated in Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan, 2 November 2012***

**We, experts and stakeholder representatives of the forestry sectors of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkey, Ukraine and Uzbekistan2**

**Nominated** by the responsible Ministries of our countries;

**Participating** in the capacity building workshop on “Preparing the forest sector in Eastern Europe and Central Asia to meet global challenges” held in Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan, 29 October - 2 November 2012, jointly organized by the Czech Republic (Ministry of Agriculture, Forest Management Institute and Forestry and Game Management Research Institute), FAO (Food and Agriculture Organisation of United Nations) Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia, and the UNECE (United Nations Economic Commission for Europe)/FAO Timber Section;

**Building on** inputs provided by members of the UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Management in Eastern Europe in 2005 and discussions and exchange during the subsequent workshops;

**Welcoming** the input provided by FAO and UNECE, especially on policy formulation and on emerging opportunities for the forestry sector, including green economy;

**Recognising** the dynamic development of new and revised policies and legislation, institutional reforms and national forest resource assessments;

**Reaffirming** herewith the importance of the Krtiny Declaration as adopted in October 2005, updated in Zamardi, Hungary, in May 2007, and in Krtiny, Czech Republic, in November 2008, and **noting** its concrete impact to forest policy decision making in the target countries; **and herewith updating** the Declaration;

1 Forest management herewith describes to all human activities on forest land

2 Georgia, Moldova, Russian Federation and Turkmenistan did participate in the Krtiny workshop in 2008, but did not participate in the Issyk-Kul workshop in 2012.

**A. Recommend** that national governments:

**Promote** diversification of incomes through multifunctional forest management;

**Take** steps to encourage the outsourcing of state forest management related to production activities to commercial entities (state or private), to consider the separation of management functions from controlling functions and to apply international experiences;

**Encourage** diversification of forest tenure, considering various types of devolution of forest ownership and management rights;

**Ensure** that the forest sector plays a leading role in the Green Economy;

**Develop, support the implementation of and monitor** national forest programme activities;

**Develop** methods for evaluating forest ecosystem services based on international experience and practices;

**Allocate** adequate public budget to the provision of forest services, according to societal needs, including the application of innovative financing and fiscal mechanisms (e.g. payments for environmental services);

**Ensure** the stability of professional staff and decent jobs for sustainable forest management in the context of ongoing restructuring processes in the forestry sector;

**Strengthen** national, regional and international training capacities in forest policy and social science;

**Support** academic and research institutions in the development and strengthening of curricula addressing forest policy, taking into account changing needs and conditions in forestry, and prepare academic staff;

**Strengthen** the dialogue with the public, taking into account societal considerations and concerns, using mechanisms of participatory approaches; **invite** representatives of different NGOs and scientific institutions as full-capacity partners, when developing and implementing forest policies;

**Take into account** new trends and emerging opportunities (e.g. Green Economy, wood energy, climate change mitigation and adaptation, combating desertification) in forest policy formulation and implementation.

**Ensure the participation of experts** in forest-related international forums at global and regional levels.

**Facilitate** training of and information exchange between National Correspondents (e.g. on forest resources assessment, forest products statistics, and forest policy);

**Inform** international organizations of changes of contacts of national correspondents;

**Promote and support** innovations in forest management, including by providing government incentives;

**Ensure,** to the greatest extent possible, the translation of international documents into national languages;

**Undertake** necessary steps towards the implementation of the suggested recommendations with increased efforts in the following two years;

**Intensify** cross-sectoral cooperation and strengthen synergies with other sectors that interact with forest management; especially in the areas of integrated national forest and landscape inventories, watershed management and sustainable wood energy production and consumption;

**Develop** forest cover and **promote** public forest services according to societal needs;

**Foster** the sustainable and sound use of wood as long as the public forest services are not under threat and **take effective measures** to combat illegal logging;

**Fully utilize** the potential of forest management practices to combat desertification;

**Gather and disseminate** adequate data and information for support to policy decision-making (e.g. forest inventories, forest products statistics, state of current policies and institutions).

**Pay** adequate **attention** to the preservation, conservation and management of forest genetic resources as a prerequisite for sustainable forest management, to effectively address climate change adaptation and to combat desertification.

**B. Recommend** that UNECE and FAO and, where appropriate, potential donors:

**Facilitate** theharmonization of forest-related terms and definitions taking into account development in other relevant sectors;

**Conduct** capacity building on developing effective forest policies in the context of the green economy.

**Continue facilitating** the implementation of national forest programme processes on the basis of the national forest programme principles (sovereignty and country leadership, consistency within and integration beyond the forest sector, partnership and participation);

**Conduct** studies that support forest policy;

**Facilitate** the strengthening of regional and international training capacities in forest policy and sustainable forest management;

**Support** the development and implementation of mechanisms for the payment for ecosystem services based on international experience and practices, and **ensure** the related capacity building;

**Encourage** international cooperation of national experts and stakeholders through the organization of study tours and networking, and **promote** international training and fellowship programmes;

**Regularly update** the official list of national correspondents, based on information from the countries;

**Analyse** recentforest-related policy developments and outcomes of forest policy studies and workshops, and **present** a compilation of policy relevant recommendations at follow up workshops;

**Improve** the capacity of countries to use, for sustainable management of natural resources, adequate inventory methods and forest management; **taking into account** the multifunctional role of forests and stakeholders’ capacities and needs;

**Undertake** further activities in capacity building, gathering and dissemination of data and information on forest policies, institutions and products, and **enhance** cooperation between the different initiatives carried out by international organizations;

**Facilitate** theexchange of experiences with different forest tenure schemes based on FAO forest tenure studies in Eastern Europe and Central Asia;

**Invest** in translation and interpretation into Russian, particularly in order to improve the quality of meeting documents; and, as much as possible, **ensure** translation of publications also into national languages;

**Undertake the necessary steps** to intensify the dialogue with the public, such as the promotion of international youth competitions and the International Forest Days/Weeks;

**Request** that participating countries and international organizations organize and finance meetings of forestry experts and stakeholders in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, such as the National Forest Policy Dialogues;

**This document was approved by the participants in a plenary session of the workshop “Preparing the forest sector in Eastern Europe and Central Asia to meet global challenges” held in Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan, 2 November 2012.**