



**United Nations  
Economic Commission for Europe**



**Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations**

## **GENEVA TIMBER AND FOREST DISCUSSION PAPER 43**

# **INTERNATIONAL FOREST SECTOR INSTITUTIONS AND POLICY INSTRUMENTS FOR EUROPE: A SOURCE BOOK**

**(As of February 2006)**



**UNITED NATIONS**



United Nations Economic Commission for Europe/  
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations



Timber Section, Geneva, Switzerland

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# **INTERNATIONAL FOREST SECTOR INSTITUTIONS AND POLICY INSTRUMENTS FOR EUROPE: A SOURCE BOOK**

**(As of February 2006)**

*By*

*Josephine Bauer and Helena Guarin Corredor*



**UNITED NATIONS**

**New York, Geneva 2006**

## **Note**

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## **Abstract**

*International Forest Sector Institutions and Policy Instruments for Europe: A Source Book* provides an overview of the institutional landscape with relevance to forest sector policies in Europe. 43 major international, inter-governmental, private and non-governmental as well as research institutes are introduced, and their multiple activities are presented. Following a brief description of each institution, this report provides relevant information on international policies, policy instruments, programmes and publications that could have an impact on the future development of the forest and forest industry sector in Europe. The information contained in this paper is based on the World Wide Web and a broad review of existing literature.

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## **PREFACE**

The sustainable management of forests and the balancing of the economic, ecological and social functions of forests contribute significantly to overall sustainable development in Europe. The primary objective of the European Forest Sector Outlook Study (EFSOS), a joint programme of the UNECE Timber Committee and the FAO European Forestry Commission, is to analyse the long-term outlook for the sector and its implications for policy.

International Forest Sector Institutions and Policy Instruments for Europe: A Source Book provides an overview of the main policy relevant international actors, both governmental and non-governmental, with indications of where more detailed information may be found. This synopsis, carried out in the framework of EFSOS, provides an information resource for the forest sector community as well as for stakeholders from other policy areas.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Belka', with a stylized, flowing script.

Marek Belka  
Executive Secretary  
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

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## LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

<b>BAT</b>	Best available techniques
<b>CAP</b>	Common Agriculture Policy of the European Union
<b>CBD</b>	Convention on Biological Diversity
<b>CDM</b>	Clean Development Mechanism
<b>CEI-Bois</b>	European Confederation of Woodworking Industries
<b>CEPF</b>	Confederation of European Forest Owners
<b>CEPI</b>	Confederation of European Paper Industries
<b>CGIAR</b>	Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research
<b>CIFOR</b>	Center for International Forestry Research
<b>CIS</b>	Commonwealth of Independent States
<b>CITES</b>	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species
<b>CMS</b>	Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals
<b>COFO</b>	Committee on Forestry (FAO)
<b>COP</b>	Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC
<b>COST</b>	European Cooperation in the field of Scientific and Technical Research
<b>CPF</b>	Collaborative Partnership on Forests
<b>CSD</b>	Commission on Sustainable Development
<b>CTE</b>	Committee on Trade and Environment
<b>DG</b>	Directorate General
<b>EAGGF</b>	European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund
<b>EC</b>	European Community
<b>ECCP</b>	European Climate Change Programme
<b>ECOSOC</b>	United Nations Economic and Social Council
<b>EEA</b>	European Environment Agency
<b>EEC</b>	European Economic Community
<b>EECCA</b>	East Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia
<b>EFC</b>	European Forestry Commission (FAO)
<b>EFI</b>	European Forest Institute
<b>EFSOS</b>	European Forest Sector Outlook Studies
<b>EIA</b>	Environmental Impact Assessment
<b>ENFE</b>	European Network of Forest Entrepreneurs
<b>EPF</b>	European Panel Federation
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>FAO</b>	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
<b>F-BI</b>	Forest-based industries
<b>FEIC</b>	European Federation of the Plywood Industry
<b>FEP</b>	European Federation of the Parquet Industry
<b>FFP</b>	Forests & Forestry Products
<b>FLEGT</b>	Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade
<b>FRA</b>	Forest Resource Assessment
<b>FSC</b>	Forest Stewardship Council
<b>GIS</b>	Geographic Information Systems
<b>GFMC</b>	Global Fire Monitoring Center
<b>GFIS</b>	Global Forest Information Service
<b>GHG</b>	Greenhouse Gas
<b>G8</b>	“Group of Eight”
<b>ICP Forests</b>	International Cooperative Programme on Assessment and Monitoring of Air Pollution Effects on Forests
<b>ICRAF</b>	World Agroforestry Centre (formerly the International Centre for Research in Agroforestry)
<b>IFF</b>	Intergovernmental Forum on Forests



<b>IFFN</b>	International Forest Fire News
<b>IIASA</b>	International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis
<b>IISD</b>	International Institute for Sustainable Development
<b>ILO</b>	International Labour Organization
<b>IPF</b>	Intergovernmental Panel on Forests
<b>IPPC</b>	Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control
<b>ISDR</b>	International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
<b>ITFF</b>	Interagency Task Force on Forests
<b>ITTO</b>	International Tropical Timber Organization
<b>ITTA</b>	International Tropical Timber Agreement
<b>IUCN</b>	World Conservation Union
<b>IUFRO</b>	International Union of Forest Research Organizations
<b>JRC</b>	Joint Research Centre
<b>LULUCF</b>	land use, land-use change and forestry
<b>MAB</b>	Programme on Man and the Biosphere (UNESCO)
<b>MCPFE</b>	Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe
<b>MDF</b>	Medium density fibreboard
<b>MOP</b>	Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol
<b>nfp</b>	National Forest Programmes
<b>NGOs</b>	Non-governmental organizations
<b>NWFP</b>	Non-Wood Forest Products
<b>OECD</b>	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
<b>OSB</b>	Oriented strand board
<b>PEFC</b>	Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes
<b>PROFOR</b>	Programme on Forests
<b>PRTRs</b>	Pollutant release and transfer registers
<b>R&amp;D</b>	Research and Development
<b>RMUs</b>	removal units
<b>SEA</b>	strategic environmental assessment
<b>SFM</b>	Sustainable forest management
<b>SME(s)</b>	Small and medium sized enterprise(s)
<b>SOFO</b>	State of the World's Forests
<b>TBFP</b>	Temperate and Boreal Forest Programme
<b>TBFRA</b>	Temperate and Boreal Forest Resources Assessment
<b>TC</b>	UNECE Timber Committee
<b>TC FFP</b>	Technical Committee for Forests and Forestry Products
<b>UNCCD</b>	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
<b>UNCED</b>	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
<b>UNCTAD</b>	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
<b>UNECE</b>	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
<b>UNEP</b>	United Nations Environment Programme
<b>UNESCO</b>	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
<b>UNFCCC</b>	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
<b>UNFF</b>	United Nations Forum on Forests
<b>UN-HABITAT</b>	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
<b>UN-OCHA</b>	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
<b>WBG</b>	World Bank Group
<b>WCFS</b>	World Commission on Forests and Sustainable Development
<b>WSSD</b>	World Summit on Sustainable Development
<b>WTO</b>	World Trade Organization
<b>WWF</b>	World Wide Fund for Nature

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## INTRODUCTION

This document gives a comprehensive overview of international institutions and policy instruments with relevance to the European forest sector. Forty-three major international, inter-governmental, private and non-governmental organizations as well as research institutes are introduced.

The work on this synopsis was initiated in 2001. It was intended as background information for a policy study conducted in the framework of the European Forest Sector Outlook Study (EFSOS), which was published under the title “The Policy Context of the European Forest Sector” (Thoroe et al., 2004). That study describes the macroeconomic and policy assumptions for the EFSOS scenarios, developing quantitative links between policy and market scenarios and the outlook modelling for forest resources and forest product markets. The synopsis itself was not published at that stage.

Because of its considerable value for scientific purposes and policy analysis, the overview on international forest institutions and policy instruments in Europe has been updated and is being published here as a separate paper. As this synopsis aims for an overall description of forest related policies and institutions it may be useful not only for the forest sector community, but also for stakeholders of other policy areas dealing with forestry land use. The document emphasizes multiple linkages between forestry and other sectors, focusing on the economic, social and environmental benefits of forest land use.

Following a brief description of each institution, the synopsis provides relevant information on policies, policy instruments, programmes and publications that could have an impact on the future development of the forest and forest industry sector. The geographic focus of this overview is on Europe, while global organizations with relevance to the European forest sector are also partly taken into account. National policies and institutions have not been taken into consideration since this would exceed the scope and purpose of this document. The paper summarizes information available on the World Wide Web and in policy and scientific literature. It does not judge the work of international institutions and their outputs. We believe it is accurate as of January 2006 but users should check the original sources for fully up-to-date and authoritative information.

While the main intention of this work was to provide an overview, the synopsis also reveals some interesting outcomes:

First, considering present research and publications, it is evident that traditional forestry institutions emphasize sustainable forest management as an overall approach, balancing the social and environmental benefits of forestry with economic values for society. At the same time primarily environmental benefits provided by forests such as carbon sequestration, biodiversity and landscape protection are frequently addressed by other policy areas such as agriculture, environment and energy. Especially with regard to the European Union, forestry actions appear to be fragmented into a range of policy areas.

Second, the political instruments of traditional forestry institutions are mainly based on non-legally binding commitments. The Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (MCPFE), currently the major policy institution at the pan-European level, is focused on policy implications at the national level on the basis of non-legally binding resolutions. At the same time other policy areas have developed legally binding commitments, for example in the form of European or global conventions (e.g. the biodiversity convention), dealing with issues related to forestry land use.

Third, there are significant reasons for a cross-sectoral approach to be emphasized. Some of the main instruments in this regard are the national forest programmes (nfp), which aim for a

comprehensive approach towards forestry land use and a participatory approach, involving the various stakeholders. The national forest programmes are limited to a national level.

The synopsis describes the present state of international institutions and instruments in the form of an inventory with information available as of January 2006. The use of the outcomes for an analysis over time is therefore limited. A periodic update of such an inventory, for example every 5-10 years, would provide a base for a more detailed analysis of developments of forest policy institutions and instruments.

## 1 INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

### 1.1. United Nations

<http://www.un.org/>

#### 1.1.1 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) and its follow-up

<http://www.un.org/geninfo/bp/enviro.html>

The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), also called the Earth Summit, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 3 to 14 June 1992, was unprecedented for a United Nations conference, in terms of both its size and the scope of its concerns. Twenty years after the first global environment conference (Stockholm, 1972), the United Nations sought to help Governments rethink economic development and find ways to halt the destruction of irreplaceable natural resources and pollution of the planet. Governments recognized the need to redirect international and national plans and policies to ensure that all economic decisions fully took into account any environmental impact. In this purpose Governments adopted following documents: Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Agenda 21, the Statement of Principles for the Sustainable Management of Forests, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity.

#### **UNCED and Forests**

The UNCED has given forests an increasingly important role in the context of sustainable development and environmental conservation. The concept of sustainable forest management has been recognized as a fundamental guiding principle by all participating countries. The following commitments are of particular importance:

- non-legally binding authoritative statement of principles for a global consensus on the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests
- chapter 11 on combating deforestation of Agenda 21
- conventions on Biological Diversity, on Desertification and on Climate Change as well as their protocols and work programmes (e.g. the Kyoto Protocol) – please see chapter 1.1.3

#### **Non-legally binding authoritative statement of principles for a global consensus on the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests**

<http://www.un.org/documents/ga/conf151/aconfl5126-3annex3.htm>

This document can be found in the Annex III of the Report of the UNCED. The subject of forests is treated there in relationship to the entire range of environmental and development issues and opportunities, including the right to socio-economic development on a sustainable basis. Forests are considered essential to economic development and the maintenance of all forms of life. The guiding objective of these principles is to contribute to the management, conservation and sustainable development of forests and to provide for their multiple and complementary functions and uses. These principles should apply to all types of forests, both natural and planted, in all geographical regions and climatic zones. States are invited to pursue these principles at the appropriate level of government in accordance with their constitution and/or national legislation.

## **Agenda 21, Chapter 11 Combating Deforestation**

<http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/documents/agenda21/english/agenda21chapter11.htm>

Agenda 21 is a comprehensive plan of action to be taken up globally, nationally and locally by organizations of the United Nations system, governments, and major groups from every area in which humans have an impact on the environment.

The four main principles of chapter 11 on combating deforestation are:

1. Sustaining the multiple roles and functions of all types of forests, forestlands and woodlands.
2. Enhancing the protection, sustainable management and conservation of all forests, and the greening of degraded areas, through rehabilitation, afforestation, and reforestation.
3. Promoting efficient utilization and assessment to recover the full valuation of the goods and services provided by forests, forestlands and woodlands.
4. Establishing and/or strengthening capacities for the planning, assessment and systematic observation of forests and related programmes, projects and activities, including commercial trade and processes.

### **UNCED Follow-up:**

#### **Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD)**

<http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/>

The Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) was created in December 1992 to ensure an effective follow-up of UNCED, to monitor and report on implementation of the agreements at the local, national, regional and international levels. The CSD is a functional commission of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), with 53 members. The tenth session of the CSD acted as the central organizing body for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) held in Johannesburg, South Africa from 26 August to 4 September 2002.

#### **IPF/IFF Process (1995-2000)**

[http://www.un.org/esa/forests/ipf\\_iff.html](http://www.un.org/esa/forests/ipf_iff.html)

The Intergovernmental Panel on Forests (IPF) and the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (IFF) represent five years of international forest policy dialogue. The Intergovernmental Panel on Forests (IPF), established by the Commission on Sustainable Development for two years (1995-97) to provide a forum for forest policy deliberations. Subsequently, in 1997, ECOSOC established the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (IFF), for three years (1997-2000).

Deliberations by the IPF were on the following issues:

- implementing the forest-related decisions of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) at the national and international levels
- international cooperation in financial assistance and technology transfer
- scientific research, forest assessment and the development of criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management
- trade and environment in relation to forest products and services

- international organizations and multilateral institutions and instruments, including appropriate legal mechanisms

The IFF's deliberations were aimed at resolving several issues on which the IPF had not reached consensus, such as financial resources, transfer of environmentally sound technologies, and other issues left pending, including deliberations on international arrangements and mechanisms on forests.

IPF and IFF developed approximately 270 proposals for action towards sustainable forest management known collectively as the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action (<http://www.un.org/esa/forests/documents.html>). The proposals provide governments, international organizations, private sector entities and all other major groups guidance on how to further develop, implement and coordinate national and international policies on sustainable forest management. They deal with a range of forest-related issues. Some of them are related to decision-making, policy tools including national forest programmes and criteria and indicators, information and public participation, scientific knowledge, traditional forest-related knowledge, as well as monitoring, assessing and reporting on progress towards sustainable forest management. Other issues addressed include forest resources and their management, such as deforestation and forest degradation, forest health and productivity, rehabilitation and maintaining forest cover; as well as forest conservation and protection of unique types of forests. Another set of issues is related to international co-operation and capacity building, particularly on financial resources, international trade and transfer of environmentally sound technologies.

The successor body of the IPF and IFF is the United Nations Forum on Forests (please see chapter 1.1.2).

### **World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD)**

<http://www.johannesburgsummit.org/index.html>

The Johannesburg Summit in 2002 brought together tens of thousands of participants, including heads of state and government, national delegates and leaders from non-governmental organizations, businesses and other major groups to focus the world's attention and direct action on meeting difficult challenges, including improving people's lives and conserving our natural resources in a world that is growing in population, with ever-increasing demands for food, water, shelter, sanitation, energy, health services and economic security.

The Summit addressed and emphasized the role of sustainable forest management in overall sustainable development and, more specifically, in poverty eradication, improvements in food security and access to safe drinking water and affordable energy. One of the key commitments of the Summit was to accelerate implementation of the IPF/IFF proposals for action by countries and by the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, and intensify efforts on reporting to the United Nations Forum on Forests.

### **1.1.2 United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF)**

<http://www.un.org/esa/forests/>

The United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) was established by ECOSOC in 2000 as part of a new International Arrangement on Forests, to carry on the work and build on the IPF and IFF processes. In order to achieve its main objective, the following principal functions have been identified for UNFF:

- To facilitate implementation of forest-related agreements and foster a common understanding on sustainable forest management
- To provide for continued policy development and dialogue among governments, international organizations, including major groups as identified in Agenda 21 as well as to address forest issues and emerging areas of concern in a holistic, comprehensive and integrated manner
- To enhance cooperation as well as policy and programme coordination on forest-related issues
- To foster international cooperation
- To monitor, assess and report on progress in the above functions and objectives
- To strengthen political commitment to the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests.

The 5<sup>th</sup> UNFF session took place in New York in May 2005. However, delegates were unable to reach a consensus agreement on a Ministerial Declaration, or on a draft ECOSOC decision on a review of the International Arrangement on Forests and its effectiveness. The outcome was a Chair's Summary and agreement to aim to complete considerations at the 6<sup>th</sup> UNFF session. The UNFF held its 6<sup>th</sup> session from 13 to 24 February 2006 again at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. Delegates were able to reach agreement on the development of a non-legally binding instrument, to be concluded and adopted at UNFF-7, but many outstanding issues remain regarding the future International Arrangement on Forests.

**Upcoming events:** <http://www.un.org/esa/forests/calendar.html>

### 1.1.3 United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

<http://www.unep.org/>

The UNEP's mission is to provide leadership and encourage partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing, and enabling nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations. UNEP has been at the forefront of efforts to protect the world's biological diversity and promote sustainable forest management by forging the Convention on Biological Diversity and by administering the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, the Convention to Combat Desertification and the Framework Convention on Climate Change.

#### **United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)**

<http://www.biodiv.org/convention/articles.asp>

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) sets out commitments for maintaining the world's ecological underpinnings as we go about the business of economic development. The Convention establishes three main goals: the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components, and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits from the use of genetic resources.

Each contracting party of the Convention shall, in accordance with its particular conditions and capabilities:

- Develop national strategies, plans or programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity or adapt for this purpose existing strategies, plans or programmes, which shall reflect, inter alia, the measures set out in this Convention relevant to the contracting party concerned;



- Integrate, as far as possible and as appropriate, the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies.

From the start it was understood that scientific knowledge and technological know-how would have a vital role to play in the implementation of the CBD. However, expertise in managing information and technology varies enormously from country to country. For this reason, the Convention has established a "Clearing-House Mechanism" to ensure that all governments have access to the information and technologies they need for their work on biodiversity. The mission of the Clearing-House is to promote and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation, within and between countries; to develop a global mechanism for exchanging and integrating information on biodiversity and to build up the necessary human and technological network

### **Forest Biodiversity**

<http://www.biodiv.org/decisions/default.aspx?dec=VI/22>

In 2002, the Conference of the Parties to the CBD adopted an expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity as an annex to Decision VI/22.

The forest work programme constitutes a broad set of goals, objectives and activities aimed at the conservation of forest biodiversity, the sustainable use of its components, and the fair and equitable use of the benefits arising from the utilization of forest genetic resources. The programme consists of three elements:

- Biophysical aspects, such as the reduction of threats to forest biological diversity through restoration, agroforestry, watershed management, and the establishment of protected areas;
- Institutional and socio-economic environment that in turn enables the conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity;
- Assessment and monitoring.

The activities of the work programme are intended to provide guidance, and it is the right and responsibility of the Parties to define their priorities and in turn, to implement these activities. In order to both facilitate the implementation of the forest work programme by Parties as well as its review at the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties in 2008, the Secretariat has developed a forest web portal as a tool for information exchange.

### **Forest Web Portal**

<https://www.biodiv.org/programmes/areas/forest/portal/home.shtml>

The primary purpose of the portal is to allow Parties, other governments, NGOs, research practitioners, project managers and other actors in civil society to reflect on and analyse their common experiences in implementing the objectives of the expanded programme of work. Throughout 2004-2006, each month, the portal features focussed information and discussions on a single topic drawn from the 27 objectives of the programme. In addition, the portal contains a database of best practices that will be continually updated.

### **United Nations Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)**

<http://www.cites.org/index.html>

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) aims to ensure the protection of endangered species of wild animals and plants by the regulation of international trade in these species and/or the products from them. CITES was drafted as a result of a resolution adopted in 1963 at a meeting of members of IUCN (The World Conservation Union). The text of the Convention was approved at a meeting of representatives of 80 countries in Washington DC, United States of America, on 3 March 1973, and on 1 July 1975 CITES entered into force.

There is a special resolution regarding implementation of the Convention for timber species (<http://www.cites.org/eng/res/10/10-13R13.shtml>).

### **United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)**

<http://www.unccd.int/main.php>

The international community has long recognized that desertification is a major economic, social, and environmental problem of concern to many countries in all regions of the world. UNCED supported a new, integrated approach to the problem, which emphasized action to promote sustainable development at the community level. The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) was adopted in Paris on 17 June 1994 and entered into force on 26 December 1996.

The Convention is implemented through action programmes. At the national level, they will address the underlying causes of desertification and drought and identify measures to prevent and reverse it. Action programmes are detailed in the four regional implementation annexes to the Convention - Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Northern Mediterranean. Afforestation measures are an integral part of the programmes.

### **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and Kyoto Protocol**

<http://unfccc.int/>

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) was adopted in Rio in 1992 and entered into force on 21 March 1994. It recognizes that the climate system is a shared resource whose stability can be affected by industrial and other emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases. The Convention enjoys near universal membership, with 189 countries having ratified. Under the Convention, governments:

- gather and share information on greenhouse gas emissions, national policies and best practices;
- launch national strategies for addressing greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to expected impacts, including the provision of financial and technological support to developing countries;
- cooperate in preparing for adaptation to the impacts of climate change.

When they adopted the Convention, governments knew that its commitments would not be sufficient to seriously tackle climate change. At COP-1 (Berlin, March/April 1995), in a decision known as the Berlin Mandate, Parties therefore launched a new round of talks to decide on stronger and more detailed commitments for industrialized countries. After two and a half years of intense negotiations, the text of the Protocol to the UNFCCC was adopted at COP-3 in Kyoto, Japan, on 11 December 1997. The Kyoto Protocol shares the Convention's objective, principles and institutions, but significantly strengthens the Convention by committing Annex I Parties of the UNFCCC (developed countries and some countries undergoing the process of transition to a market economy) to individual, legally-binding targets to limit or reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. The individual targets for

Annex I Parties are listed in the Kyoto Protocol's Annex B. These add up to a total cut in greenhouse-gas emissions of at least 5% from 1990 levels in the commitment period 2008-2012.

The complexity of the negotiations, however, meant that considerable issues remained even after the Kyoto Protocol itself was adopted. The Protocol sketched out the basic features of its "mechanisms" and compliance system, for example, but did not explain the all-important rules of how they would operate. Although 84 countries signed the Protocol by March 1999, indicating that they intended to ratify, many were reluctant to actually do so and bring the Protocol into force before having a clearer picture of the treaty's rulebook. A new round of negotiations was therefore launched to flesh out the Kyoto Protocol's rulebook, conducted in parallel with negotiations on ongoing issues under the Convention. This round finally culminated at COP-7 (29 October - 9 November 2001 Marrakech, Morocco) with the adoption of the Marrakesh Accords, setting out detailed rules for the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol.

The Parties to the UNFCCC met for the 11th time in Montreal, Canada, from 28 November to 9 December 2005, while marking the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol (on 16 February 2005). At Montreal, the first ever Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (MOP) ran parallel to the COP-11. The successful conference closed with the adoption of more than forty decisions that strengthen global efforts to fight climate change. The conference attracted unprecedented business interest as a result of two operational trading systems: the pan-European emissions trading scheme and the Clean Development Mechanism, a tool to promote sustainable development and combat climate change.

### **Forest-relevant provisions of the Kyoto Protocol**

The Parties to the UNFCCC may offset their emissions by increasing the amount of greenhouse gases removed from the atmosphere by so-called carbon "sinks" in the land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) sector. However, only certain activities in this sector are eligible. These are afforestation, reforestation and deforestation (defined as eligible by the Kyoto Protocol) and forest management, cropland management, grazing land management and revegetation (added to the list of eligible activities by the Marrakesh Accords). Greenhouse gases removed from the atmosphere through eligible sink activities generate credits known as removal units (RMUs). Any greenhouse gas emissions from eligible activities, in turn, must be offset by greater emission cuts or removals elsewhere. Additional detailed rules govern the extent to which emissions and removals from the LULUCF sector can be counted under the Protocol. The amount of credit that can be claimed through forest management, for example, is subject to an individual cap for each Party, which is listed in the Marrakesh Accords.

The Protocol also establishes three innovative "mechanisms" known as joint implementation, the clean development mechanism and emissions trading. These are designed to help Annex I Parties cut the cost of meeting their emissions targets by taking advantage of opportunities to reduce emissions, or increase greenhouse gas removals, that cost less in other countries than at home. Forestry actions under the "joint implementation mechanism", by which an Annex I Party receives credits for emission reductions resulting from projects implemented in another Annex I Party include all activities mentioned in the LULUCF sector. Forestry actions under the "clean development mechanism" (CDM), by which an Annex I Party receives credits for emission reductions resulting from projects implemented in developing countries ("non-Annex I Parties"), can only include afforestation and reforestation.

**Upcoming events:** [http://unfccc.int/meetings/unfccc\\_calendar/items/2655.php](http://unfccc.int/meetings/unfccc_calendar/items/2655.php)

**Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS or Bonn Convention)**

<http://www.cms.int/>

The Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) was signed in Bonn, Germany, on 23 June 1979. It aims to conserve terrestrial, marine and avian migratory species throughout their range. Migratory species threatened with extinction are listed on Appendix I of the Convention. CMS Parties strive towards strictly protecting these animals, conserving or restoring the places where they live (including forests), mitigating obstacles to migration and controlling other factors that might endanger them.

#### **1.1.4 United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**

<http://www.undp.org/regions/europe/>, <http://europeandcis.undp.org/>

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is the UN's global development network, an organization advocating for change and connecting countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life. UNDP has offices in 24 countries and supports 44 country programmes in Europe and central Asia. Among other activities, UNDP helps European countries strengthen their capacity to address energy and environmental challenges at global, national and community levels, seeking out and sharing best practices, providing innovative policy advice and linking partners through pilot projects that help poor people build sustainable livelihoods. The Regional Environment and Energy Practice for Europe and CIS conducts projects and programming in the following four thematic areas: water governance, integrated environmental policies, biodiversity and sustainable land management, and improved access to sustainable energy.

Energy and environment programmes throughout the Europe and CIS region:  
[http://europeandcis.undp.org/?menu=p\\_practice&FocusAreaId=3](http://europeandcis.undp.org/?menu=p_practice&FocusAreaId=3)

#### **1.1.5 United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT)**

<http://www.unhabitat.org/>

The United Nations agency for human settlements is mandated by the United Nations General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities with the goal of providing adequate shelter for all.

##### **Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements**

<http://www.unhabitat.org/declarations/Istanbul.asp>

The Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements of 1996 reaffirms the commitment of world governments to better standards of living in larger freedom for all humankind. Point 3 of the Istanbul Declaration assumes the principles of sustainable development adopted in Rio as the guidelines for the policy concerning human settlements as well. In addition to sustainable use and protection of forests and soil, building of human settlements must also support economic development, creation of economic opportunities and social development.

The commitments of the programme (Chapter III, sustainable human settlements) make particular reference to the need for change in non-sustainable production and consumption of industrialised countries, while promoting efficient and rational use of natural resources, such as forests, energy sources and land. Efforts should also be made to promote energy-efficient technologies and alternative renewable energy in connection with building of human settlements and reduce negative impacts on the environment.

Unsustainable and wasteful consumption, which results in waste problems, must be avoided (Chapter IV.5 environmentally sustainable, healthy and liveable human settlements). In addition to minimisation of waste, recycling is emphasised. Development paths should be created that increase exchange of information and experiences as well as technical assistance between nations. The Habitat Programme contains, however, no direct recommendations e.g. for giving preference to building with wood over products manufactured from non-renewable raw materials.

#### **1.1.6 United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)**

<http://portal.unesco.org/>

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is a specialized UN agency promoting intergovernmental cooperation in education, social and natural science and communication. Through its strategies and activities, UNESCO aims to decrease extreme poverty, achieve universal primary education, eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education and help countries implement a national strategy for sustainable development.

##### **UNESCO's Programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB)**

<http://www.unesco.org/mab/index.htm>

The MAB Programme develops the basis, within the natural and the social sciences, for the sustainable use and conservation of biological diversity, and for the improvement of the relationship between people and their environment globally. It encourages interdisciplinary research, demonstration and training in natural resource management. MAB thus contributes not only to a better understanding of the environment, including global change, but also to greater involvement of science and scientists in policy development concerning the wise use of biological diversity. Over the next decades, MAB will focus on new approaches for facilitating sustainable development, through promoting conservation and wise use of biodiversity.

**Publications:** <http://www.unesco.org/mab/publications/publications.htm>

##### **Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (World Heritage Convention)**

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/convention/>

The World Heritage Convention seeks to encourage the identification, protection and preservation of cultural and natural heritage around the world considered to be of outstanding value to humanity. It defines the kind of natural or cultural sites, which can be considered for inscription on the World Heritage List. Several European countries (e.g. Belarus, Poland, Russian Federation, Spain) have inscribed forest ecosystems on the list.

**Publications:** <http://whc.unesco.org/en/publications/>

#### **1.1.7 United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)**

<http://www.unece.org/>

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) is the regional office of the United Nations for Europe, Central Asia and North America. The UNECE is a multilateral platform that facilitates greater economic integration and cooperation among its fifty-five Member States and

promotes sustainable development and economic prosperity through: policy dialogue, negotiation of international legal instruments, development of regulations and norms, exchange and application of best practices as well as economic and technical expertise, and technical cooperation for countries with economies in transition.

#### 1.1.7.1 Timber Committee

<http://www.unece.org/trade/timber/>

The Timber Committee is a subsidiary body of the UNECE working together with the FAO European Forestry Commission to promote sustainable forest management in Europe, Central Asia and North America. It provides member countries with information and services needed for policy and decision-making regarding their forest and forest industry sector, including trade and use of forest products and, when appropriate, formulates recommendations addressed to member governments and interested organizations. To this end, it:

- undertakes short-, medium- and long-term analyses of developments in the forest sector, including those offering possibilities for the facilitation of international trade and for enhancing the protection of the environment
- collects, stores and disseminates statistics relating to the sector, and carries out activities to improve their quality and comparability
- provides a framework for cooperation e.g. by organizing seminars, workshops, ad hoc meetings and setting-up time-limited ad hoc groups
- carries out the facilitation of sub-regional cooperation and activities in support of the countries of the region
- cooperates with other international and intergovernmental organizations active in the forest sector, and in particular with the FAO and the ILO

The UNECE Timber Committee and the FAO European Forestry Commission have an integrated programme of work on forest and timber. It has 5 major work areas and 21 programme elements as follows:

##### Work area 1: **Markets and Statistics**

- Statistics on production, trade, consumption and prices of forest products
- Analysis of markets for forest products, notably topical and policy relevant aspects
- Capacity building for forest products marketing in countries of the CIS and south east Europe
- Monitoring and analysis of markets for certified wood products
- Statistics on forest fires

##### Work area 2: **Forest resource assessment and indicators of sustainable forest management in the region**

- Indicators of sustainable forest management in the region
- Regional contribution to global FRA
- Support to development of national systems for forest monitoring

##### Work area 3: **Sector outlook studies: analysis and follow-up**



- Implementation and follow up of EFSOS to be determined
- Forest relevant cross-sectoral issues at the pan-European level
- Sector policy aspects of increased use of wood energy

**Work area 4: Social and cultural aspects of forestry**

- Role of women in forestry
- The social dimension of SFM in Europe, e.g. safety and health aspects
- Role of contractors

**Work area 5: Policy and cross sectoral issues**

- Contribution to the regional dimension of the global dialogue
- Monitoring recent developments in policies and institutions
- Trends in policies and institutions for the sector in the CIS and south east Europe
- Trade and environment issues (extent and cause of illegal logging and trade)
- Forest fires
- Sectoral and cross-sectoral communication
- Preparation of forest and forest product country profiles

Several activities are implemented or guided by teams of specialists, which are time limited, and voluntary groups of experts who work with the secretariat to achieve specified goals. The Timber Committee and the European Forestry Commission work wherever possible in partnership with other organisations.

**Timber Committee publications:** <http://www.unece.org/trade/timber/tc-publ.htm>

- **Timber Committee Policy and Outlook Studies**

European Forest Sector Outlook Study (1960-2000-2020): Main report, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, Geneva Timber and Forest Study Papers no. 20, Geneva, March 2005.

[http://www.unece.org/trade/timber/efsos/EFSOS\\_finaldraft.pdf](http://www.unece.org/trade/timber/efsos/EFSOS_finaldraft.pdf)

Since 1953, UNECE together with the FAO has been producing studies on the long-term outlook for supply and demand for wood and the other goods and services of the forest, as a support to policy makers and analysts, as well as civil society and private sector decision makers.

The Policy Context of the European Forest Sector, Thoroe, C., Peck, T., Guarin Corredor, H. and Schmithüsen, F., United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, Geneva Timber and Forest Discussion Paper 34, Geneva, Switzerland, 2004

<http://www.unece.org/trade/timber/docs/dp/dp-34.pdf>

This document describes the activities, methods and outcomes of a project looking at the policy context of the European forest and forest products sectors. It is based on an inquiry addressed to major stakeholder groups in the sector. Based on these inputs the study develops major policy scenarios in qualitative terms and identifies links between the policy and market scenarios.

Forest Policies and Institutions in Europe 1998 – 2000, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, Geneva Timber and Forest Study Paper no. 19, Geneva, Switzerland, 2001

<http://www.unece.org/trade/timber/docs/sp/ece%20tim%20sp%2019.pdf>

In October 2000, the FAO European Forestry Commission reviewed recent trends in forest policy and institutions on the basis of national reports from 24 countries. This document synthesizes these reports.

- **Forest Products Annual Market Reviews (FPAMR)**

<http://www.unece.org/trade/timber/mis/fpama.htm>

Each year FPAMR devotes a full chapter to policy developments influencing forest products markets in the UNECE region. This publication has a policy focus in all other chapters too.

- **Timber Committee Market Reports**

<http://www.unece.org/trade/timber/mis/reports.htm>

At the annual Timber Committee Market Discussions, one or more presentations concern policies affecting forest product markets in the UNECE region. This website has individual country market statements containing a section on policy. In addition the site has all the Market Discussion expert presentations, including those on policy.

- **Timber Committee Market Forecasts**

<http://www.unece.org/trade/timber/mis/forecasts.htm>

The Timber Committee produces an annual market statement, which includes information on policy-related developments in the UNECE region.

*Upcoming events:* <http://www.unece.org/trade/timber/tc-docs.htm>

#### **1.1.7.2 Committee on Environmental Policy**

<http://www.unece.org/env/cep/welcome.html>

The UNECE Committee on Environmental Policy brings together governments to formulate environmental policy and support its implementation by organizing seminars, workshops and advisory missions and providing a forum for sharing experiences and good practices. The Committee's work is based on the three strategic pillars:

1. Participation in the two major international cooperative processes, the "Environment for Europe" process and the regional promotion of Agenda 21.
2. The development and carrying-out of Environmental Performance Reviews in the central and eastern European countries.
3. The increase of the overall effectiveness of environmental conventions and of the exchange of experience on their implementation.

#### **Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy**

<http://www.strategyguide.org/stralook.html>



The Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy endorsed at the third Ministerial Conference 'Environment for Europe' in 1995, aims to provide an innovative and proactive approach to stop and reverse the degradation of biological and landscape diversity values in Europe. It addresses all biological and landscape initiatives under one European approach. It is proactive, because it promotes the integration of biological and landscape diversity considerations into social and economic sectors. The Strategy reinforces the implementation of existing measures and identifies additional actions that need to be taken over the next two decades. The Strategy also provides a framework to promote a consistent approach and common objectives for national and regional action to implement the Convention on Biological Diversity. There is a specific subprogramme on forest biodiversity, jointly with MCPFE.

### **Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution**

<http://www.unece.org/env/lrtap/news.htm>

The Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution is one of the central means for protecting European environment. It entered into force in 1983 and has been extended by eight specific protocols. The convention has substantially contributed to the development of international environmental law and has created the essential framework for controlling and reducing the damage to human health and the environment caused by transboundary air pollution. It is a successful example of what can be achieved through intergovernmental cooperation. One activity under the Convention concerns effects, including on forests.

### **ICP Forests: International Cooperative Programme on Assessment and Monitoring of Air Pollution Effects on Forests**

<http://www.unece.org/env/wge/forests.htm>, <http://www.icp-forests.org/Index.htm>

ICP Forests was set up to monitor the effects of air pollution on Europe's forests. The mandate of ICP Forests is:

- to monitor effects of anthropogenic (in particular air pollution) and natural stress factors on the condition and development of forest ecosystems in Europe, and
- to contribute to a better understanding of cause-effect relationships in forest ecosystem functioning in various parts of Europe.

The Programme's main objective is establishing, on the basis of an appropriate observation network, a uniform periodic inventory of the damage caused to European forests. The Programme is planned and coordinated by a Task Force under the leadership of Germany with the cooperation of a Programme Coordinating Centre (at the Federal Research Centre for Forestry and Forest Products, in Hamburg, Germany). There are currently 41 countries participating in the work.

### ***ICP Publications:***

Intensive Monitoring of Forest Ecosystems in Europe – Evaluation of the Programme in View of its Objectives and Proposals for the Scientific Evaluation of the Data, UNECE, European Commission, Strategy Document, prepared by the Forest Intensive Monitoring Coordinating Institute, 2000

This report presents a strategic plan that is based on a review and an evaluation of: (i) the current policy questions and related scientific questions related to forest condition in Europe, (ii) the objectives of the Intensive Monitoring Programme in view of those questions, (iii) the adequacy of the available key parameters in the Intensive Monitoring database in view of these objectives, (iv) studies/activities needed to be carried out to reach the objectives. It also includes a provisional timetable for the coming

decade, including both time planning and allocation of activities of the complete programme (priorities for data evaluation) based on the considerations indicated above and the availability of timely data.

Forest Condition in Europe, UNECE, European Commission, Executive Report, prepared by Federal Research Center for Forestry and Forest Products (BFH), 2000

This is a joint UNECE and European Commission report on the forest condition in Europe. It contains the results of the crown condition assessment and of the intensive monitoring programme in European forests. This report provides important information for policy makers and the public on the situation of European forests. It shows that there is no overall improvement of the vitality of forests and that great regional differences exist. Further reduction of emissions is still needed to guarantee the multiple functions of forests in Europe as a basis for a sustainable forest management.

### **Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context - the 'Espoo (EIA) Convention'**

<http://www.unece.org/env/eia/>

The Espoo (environmental impact assessment - EIA) Convention sets out the obligations of Parties to assess the environmental impact of certain activities at an early stage of planning. It also lays down the general obligation of States to notify and consult each other on all major projects, including some forestry projects, under consideration that are likely to have a significant adverse environmental impact across borders. The Kiev (strategic environmental assessment – SEA) Protocol requires evaluating the environmental consequences of their official draft plans and programmes. SEA is undertaken much earlier in the decision-making process than EIA – it is therefore seen as a key tool for sustainable development. The Protocol also provides for extensive public participation in government decision-making in numerous development sectors.

### **Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes**

<http://www.unece.org/env/water/>

The Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention) is intended to strengthen national measures for the protection and ecologically sound management of transboundary surface waters and groundwaters. The Convention obliges Parties to prevent, control and reduce water pollution from point and non-point sources. The Convention also includes provisions for monitoring, research and development, consultations, warning and alarm systems, mutual assistance, institutional arrangements, and the exchange and protection of information, as well as public access to information. Recently the interest is focusing on the role of ecosystems (forests and wetlands) in water management, and specifically on the practice of protecting and sustainably using ecosystems by means of innovative economic tools.

### **Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice (Aarhus Convention)**

<http://www.unece.org/env/pp/welcome.html>

The UNECE Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention) was adopted on 25th June 1998 in the Danish city of Aarhus at the Fourth Ministerial Conference in the 'Environment for Europe' process and entered into force on 30 October 2001. The Aarhus Convention grants the public rights and imposes on Parties and public authorities obligations regarding access to information and public participation and access to justice. The Aarhus Convention is a new kind of environmental agreement,

which links environmental rights and human rights. It establishes that sustainable development can be achieved only through the involvement of all stakeholders. It links government accountability and environmental protection and focuses on interactions between the public and public authorities in a democratic context. Its provisions apply also to forests.

### **Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (PRTR Protocol)**

<http://www.unece.org/env/pp/prtr.htm>

The PRTR Protocol was adopted at an extra-ordinary meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention on 21 May 2003. The Protocol is the first legally binding international instrument on inventories of pollution from industrial sites. Its objective is "to enhance public access to information through the establishment of coherent, nationwide pollutant release and transfer registers (PRTRs) ..." Although regulating information on pollution, rather than pollution directly, the protocol is expected to exert a significant downward pressure on levels of pollution, as no company will want to be identified as among the biggest polluters.

### **1.1.8 United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR)**

<http://www.unisdr.org/>

The International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) aims at building disaster resilient communities by promoting increased awareness of the importance of disaster reduction as an integral component of sustainable development, with the goal of reducing human, social, economic and environmental losses due to natural hazards and related technological and environmental disasters.

### **Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC)**

<http://www.fire.uni-freiburg.de/>

The Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC) was inaugurated at the FAO Meeting on Public Policies Affecting Forest Fires (Rome, October 1998) and is financed by the Foreign Office of Germany. Since 1998 the GFMC is hosted by the Fire Ecology Research Group, a subdivision of the Biogeochemistry Department of the Max Planck Institute for Chemistry (Freiburg University, Germany). The GFMC is an activity of the ISDR, chairing an interagency "Working Group on Wildland Fire" under the auspices of the ISDR Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction.

The GFMC provides a global portal for wildland fire documentation, information and monitoring and is publicly accessible through the Internet. The regularly updated national to global wildland fire products of the GFMC are generated by a worldwide network of cooperating institutions. The online and offline products include:

- early warning of fire danger and near-real time monitoring of fire events
- interpretation, synthesis and archive of global fire information
- support of local, national and international entities to develop long-term strategies or policies for wildland fire management, including community-based fire management approaches and advanced wildland fire management training for decision makers
- serve as advisory body to the United Nations system through the coordination of the UN-ISDR Wildland Fire Advisory Group and the ISDR Global Wildland Fire Network
- emergency hotline and liaison capabilities for providing assistance for rapid assessment and decision support in response to wildland fire emergencies under cooperative agreements with

UN-OCHA, Emergency Services Branch and the WSSD Environmental Emergencies Partnership

**Publications:**            **International Forest Fire News (IFFN)**

<http://www.fire.uni-freiburg.de/iffn/iffn.htm>

IFFN is an activity of the FAO/UNECE Team of Specialists on Forest Fires and GFMC.

### **1.1.9            Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)**

<http://www.fao.org/>

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is a specialized UN agency leading international efforts to defeat hunger and poverty. Serving both developed and developing countries, FAO acts as a neutral forum where all nations meet as equals to negotiate agreements and debate policy. FAO helps developing countries and countries in transition modernize and improve agriculture, forestry and fisheries practices, ensure good nutrition for all and develop rural areas.

#### **FAO Forestry department**

<http://www.fao.org/forestry/index.jsp>

The FAO Forestry department supports a number of statutory bodies specifically designed to provide neutral fora for discussion in the field of forestry. The Committee on Forestry (COFO) is the principal body among the FAO Forestry Statutory Bodies. The biennial sessions of COFO brings together heads of forest services and other senior government officials to identify emerging policy and technical issues, to seek solutions and to advise FAO and others on appropriate action. Other international organisations and non-governmental groups participate in COFO. The work of the statutory bodies is a combination of problem identification as well as policy and technical advice to FAO, its members and others as appropriate.

The FAO European Forestry Commission, one of the six regional forestry commissions of FAO, advises the FAO on policy formulation and on priorities for its forestry programme (*please see UNECE/FAO integrated programme of work in chapter 1.1.6*). FAO Forestry further supports and benefits from the advice of a number of specialised technical bodies, such as the Advisory Committee on Paper and Wood Products, which meet regularly to focus on specific areas of forestry development and management. These bodies study and report on matters of importance for sustainable forestry, and consist either of selected representatives of member countries or of individuals. FAO also organises special meetings of forestry ministers, non-governmental organisations and private industry.

Through the Programme on Forestry Policy and Planning, FAO promotes understanding of the socio-economic situation and potential of forestry activities and of tree and forest-based products. The programme comprises collection, analysis and dissemination of information on production, trade and consumption; and monitoring of trends in development and investment as a basis for long-term policy formulation and sector planning. It also includes community forestry and strategies for involving rural people in forestry activities and benefits.

**Publications / documents:**    [www.fao.org/forestry/site/4640/en](http://www.fao.org/forestry/site/4640/en)

**FAO Forestry Papers:**        [www.fao.org/forestry/site/4642/en](http://www.fao.org/forestry/site/4642/en)

Under the Forestry Papers FAO publishes its reports and analysis of specific forestry topics.

**State of the World's Forests (SOFO):** [www.fao.org/forestry/site/21407/en](http://www.fao.org/forestry/site/21407/en)

The SOFO reports are published biennially in Arabic, Chinese, English, French and Spanish since 1995. It reports on the status of forests, recent major policy and institutional developments and key issues concerning the forest sector. It makes current, reliable and policy-relevant information widely available to facilitate informed discussion and decision-making with regard to the world's forests.

**Unasylva:** [www.fao.org/forestry/site/8572/en](http://www.fao.org/forestry/site/8572/en)

Unasylva is FAO's international journal of forests, forestry and forest industries, published quarterly in English, French and Spanish. The Journal covers all aspects of forests and forestry: policy planning; conservation and management of forest-based plants and animals; rural socio-economic development; species improvement; industrial development; international trade; and environmental considerations.

**Upcoming events:** [www.fao.org/forestry/site/24587/en](http://www.fao.org/forestry/site/24587/en)

### 1.1.10 International Labour Organization (ILO)

<http://www.ilo.org>

The International Labour Organization is the United Nations specialized agency which seeks the promotion of social justice and internationally recognized human and labour rights. The ILO formulates international labour standards regulating conditions across the entire spectrum of work related issues.

#### **ILO and forests**

<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/dialogue/sector/sectors/forest.htm>

The ILO's Sectoral Activities Department has acquired substantial expertise in forest worker and supervisor training through studies and field observations. The concept of skills testing and certification has been implemented successfully in several countries. To improve working conditions, safety and health, and to lay a basis for training, the ILO forestry sector promotes the concept of national codes of forest practices. For environmental reasons, industry and governments in many countries have shown interest in ILO advisory services in the formulation of such codes. There has also been a positive experience with their approaches to labour inspection and checklists in forest-based sectors.

#### **The Forestry Workforce Network - "FORWORKNET"**

<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/dialogue/sector/sectors/forest/forwknet.htm>

Launched in September 1993, FORWORKNET is an international network of more than 300 individuals and institutions in some 70 countries interested in forestry workforce issues. The primary functions of FORWORKNET are to enable its members to communicate directly with each other and to open new opportunities for international exchange and cooperation. Specifically, the network endeavours to keep members abreast of new developments, new publications, data and research results, forthcoming events, new technologies affecting forest workers and other relevant news. In addition, the network regularly issues an "update" on relevant news and information.

**Publications:** <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/dialogue/sector/sectors/forest/publ.htm>

## 1.2 European Union (EU)

<http://www.europa.eu.int/>

The Treaties of the European Union (EU) make no provision for a comprehensive common forestry policy. According to the principle of subsidiarity, it is basically up to the Member States to implement the sound management of their forests.

However, the management, conservation and sustainable development of forests are highly important issues in the current common EU sectoral policies (e.g. agriculture, rural development, environmental issues, trade, research, industry, internal market, health and consumer protection, development cooperation and the energy sector), which have considerable influence on the forest policies of the Member States. Especially in agricultural and environmental policy there are several regulations and directives that have direct or indirect impacts on the forest sector as well. Unofficially, the body of Community rules and other decisions and strategies concerning the forest sector have been called the forest policy of the EU.

The EU major objectives in relation to forestry are:

- promotion of the sustainable development of the EU forestry sector as a contribution to rural development and, in particular, to the creation and preservation of jobs in rural areas;
- protection of the natural environment by ensuring the role of forests and forestry in soil protection, erosion control, water regulation, improvement of air quality, carbon sequestration, mitigation of and adaptation to climate change effects, conservation of biodiversity and the restoration of damaged forests, protection of forests against biotic and abiotic factors;
- improvement of ecological, economic and socially sustainable forest management within the framework of the internal market, and in line with the Union's international obligations;
- assuring the competitiveness of EU forest-based industries;
- improvement of forest monitoring instruments in accordance with the requirements of existing environmental agreements;
- increasing the use of sustainably-produced wood and other forest products, as environmentally-friendly and climate neutral sources of materials and energy through encouraging certification of sustainable forest management and encouraging labelling of related products;
- promotion of sustainable and equitable forest management as a means of reducing poverty and thus contributing to the EU's development policy<sup>1</sup>.

Within the EU institutional framework, forest-related measures are prepared with intensive co-ordination and participation. The legislative decision process requires the involvement of the **European Council** and the **European Parliament** in the elaboration of Community actions. Furthermore the **European Economic and Social Committee**, which represents a wide range of civil society groups, and the **Committee of the Regions**, which represents regional authorities and local communities, are formally consulted.

In the **European Commission** the main responsibility for forest issues is shared between DG Agriculture (forestry measures in CAP and rural development policy), DG Enterprise (forest industry) and DG Environment (nature protection, biological diversity and climate change). Other Directorate General's dealing with forestry include DG Energy, DG Research and DG Development.

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<sup>1</sup> Sustainable Forestry and the European Union – Initiatives of the European Commission, European Commission, Luxembourg, 2003.



Several **specialized committees** provide fora for collaboration between the Commission and the Member States in the forests and forestry industry sector. Officials from Member States take part in the Council ad hoc Working Group on Forests, which is chaired by a Council representative, as well as the Standing Forestry Committee working under the Agriculture DG and chaired by a Commission representative. In the forestry sector there is also the Advisory Committee on Forestry and Cork and in the forest industry sector there is the Advisory Committee on Community Policy Regarding Forestry and Forest-based Industries. The members of these advisory committees come from various fields and include representatives of forest owners, forest industry, non-governmental environmental organizations and forest trade unions. The Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee (wood sector) is the proper place for discussion on many issues linked to employment, working conditions, vocational training, industrial change, and enlargement, among the representatives of the European organisations, employers and workers from the wood sector. Forestry issues are also discussed in the “Habitats” and “Ornis” Committee, which is assisting the Commission in the implementation of the Habitats and Birds Directives. The informal European Tropical Forests Advisors Group allows for consultation between Commission and Member States’ experts on forests and development co-operation.

The brochure Sustainable Forestry and the European Union – Initiatives of the European Commission (2003) ([http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/agriculture/publi/brochures/forestry/full\\_en.pdf](http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/agriculture/publi/brochures/forestry/full_en.pdf)) presents a general factual overview of current EU efforts aiming to contribute to sustainable development of forestry, both within Europe and also at global level through the EU development co-operation policy. The objective is to present in simple terms the main ongoing EU actions and activities related to the forest sector, which are complementing and reinforcing the forest policies of the Member States.

### 1.2.1 Forestry Strategy

[http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/pri/en/oj/dat/1999/c\\_056/c\\_05619990226en00010004.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/pri/en/oj/dat/1999/c_056/c_05619990226en00010004.pdf)

(Council Resolution of 15 December 1998 on a forestry strategy for the European Union, Official Journal C 056, 26 February 1999)

The EU Forestry Strategy puts forward as its overall principles the application of sustainable forest management and the multifunctional role of forests. In line with the principle of subsidiarity this strategy seeks to establish a coherent framework for forest-related actions at the EU level. It also aims to improve the linkages and co-ordination between different policy areas as well as coherence with the forest policies of Member States. Its substantial elements are inter-alia:

- responsibility for forest policy lies with the Member States, the EU can contribute to the implementation of sustainable forest management through EU policies (subsidiarity, shared responsibility)
- implementation of international commitments, principles and recommendations through national or subnational forest programmes developed by the Member States
- integration and support of these forest programmes developed by the Member States through specific measures and EU policies such as CAP and Rural Development, Environment, Research, Energy, Internal Market, Health and Consumer Protection

The Forestry Strategy should be considered as an essential contribution at the EU level to the implementation of international commitments on the management, conservation and sustainable development of forests (United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro 1992; Ministerial Conferences on the Protection of Forests in Europe, Strasbourg 1990, Helsinki 1993 and Lisbon 1998).

## Report on the implementation of the EU Forestry Strategy (2005)

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/agriculture/consultations/forestry/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/agriculture/consultations/forestry/index_en.htm)

In March 2005 the Commission put forward a Communication to the Council and the European Parliament on the implementation of the EU Forestry Strategy. The Communication contains the main conclusions on the achievements in the implementation of the EU Forestry Strategy, presents emerging issues affecting forests and forestry, and outlines possible actions for the future. The Commission Staff Working Document, which accompanies the Communication, provides a detailed review of the activities implemented in the context of the EU Forestry Strategy in the period 1999-2004.

While there has been progress in the sustainable management of EU forests over the last years, the Communication highlights that the competitiveness and economic viability of sustainable forestry in many parts of the EU are increasingly being challenged in the global market place. The policy context is changing and a more pro-active approach to governing the EU's forests is needed in the future. As the main instrument to address the emerging policy context, the Communication proposes to prepare a EU Action Plan for Sustainable Forest Management. The report stresses the importance of good governance for the protection and sustainable management of forests, and the necessity to enhance cross-sectoral cooperation and coordination and coherence between forest policy and other policies that affect forests and forestry.

### **1.2.2 Forestry in Rural Development and Agriculture Policies**

[http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/agriculture/rur/index\\_en.htm](http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/agriculture/rur/index_en.htm)

#### **Rural Development Policy and forestry sector**

The future of the forestry sector is closely linked to a balanced development of rural areas, which cover 80% of European territory. The EU's rural development policy – the second pillar of the common agricultural policy (CAP) – seeks to establish a coherent and sustainable framework for the future of rural areas based on the following main principles: multifunctionality of agriculture, multisectoral and integrated approach to the rural economy and subsidiarity. The overall principles of the EU's Forestry Strategy, e.g. multifunctionality and sustainability are reflected in the EU rural development policy by bringing together economic, social and environmental objectives. The forestry measures of the rural development programmes at the same time seek to contribute to more global issues such as climate change and biodiversity.

The EU has introduced several pieces of legislation to assist the development of forestry and its related activities in rural areas. These are aimed at helping rural economies and the environment. The core instrument to achieve the objectives of the EU's rural development policy is the Rural Development Regulation:

#### **Council Regulation No. 1257/1999 on Support for Rural Development from the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF) and its amendments**

[http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/agriculture/rur/leg/1257\\_en.pdf](http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/agriculture/rur/leg/1257_en.pdf)

The measures contained in this regulation can be categorised according to three major objectives:

1. Restructuring and competitiveness of agriculture (under this category support is granted e.g. for restoring agricultural and forestry production potential).



2. Environment/land management (under this category support is granted e.g. for agri-environment, afforestation of agricultural land, various other forestry measures, environmental protection in connection with agriculture and forestry).
3. Rural economy/rural communities (under this category support is granted e.g. for diversification of agricultural activities, encouragement for tourist and craft activities).

The Rural Development Regulation emerges as an important vehicle for implementing the EU's Forestry Strategy. In broad terms, the integration of forestry aspects in the Rural Development Policy follows three pathways, in particular for privately owned and municipality forests: afforestation of agricultural land (article 31); investments to improve the multifunctional role of forestry (article 30); and improvement of the forest protection values (article 32).

It is expected that forests and forestry will continue to play an important part in the next generation Rural Development Programmes that will start from 2007, as the new Rural Development Regulation (1698/2005) considers the forest-related measures as a self standing activity, with less links to agricultural policy than in the previous schemes.

**Publications:** [http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/agriculture/rur/publi/index\\_en.htm](http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/agriculture/rur/publi/index_en.htm)

### **Forestry measures under Common Agriculture Policy - Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2080/92**

The measures accompanying the EU Common Agriculture Policy (CAP) reform during the period 1994-1999, intended to promote the afforestation of agricultural land, are defined by regulation (EEC) n°2080/92 instituting a Community scheme of aid for forestry measures in agriculture. This system of EU aid for forestry measures had four main objectives:

- to accompany the changes to be introduced under market organisation rules;
- to contribute towards an eventual improvement in forest resources;
- to contribute towards forms of countryside management more compatible with environmental balance;
- to combat the greenhouse effect and absorb carbon dioxide.

These measures made it possible to afforest about one million hectares of agricultural land between 1994 and 1999 throughout the EU. The afforestation was carried out chiefly in agricultural areas permanently under grass, and the species planted were mainly broadleaf. It was accompanied by premiums to compensate for loss of income. The regulation also included investment aid and aid for woodland improvement.

### **Forest reproductive material and plant health**

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/plant/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/plant/index_en.htm)

Research has shown that the use in forestry of high quality reproductive material suited to the site in question is essential if the stability, disease resistance, adaptation, productivity and diversity of forests are to be increased. In recognition of this, an EU scheme was set up in 1999 by **Council Directive 1999/10510 on the marketing of forest reproductive material**, in light of the fact that forests cover a large area of the EU and have important social, environmental, economic and cultural roles.

The Directive ensures the plentiful supply of high quality forestry reproductive material of the species concerned within the EU by stipulating that forest reproductive material may not be marketed

unless it is of one of four categories specified by the Directive, and that only approved basic material (the trees from which reproductive material is harvested) may be used for its production if the material is to be marketed. Basic material must be approved by an official body as fulfilling the minimum requirements laid down in the legislation.

In the field of plant health, forest reproductive material is covered by Council Directive No 2000/29 on protective measures against the introduction into the Community of organisms harmful to plants or plant products and against their spread within the Community. This Directive is the framework Directive of the EU Plant Health Regime, the general principles of which are based on provisions laid down in the FAO International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC13). Directive No 2000/29 lays down, amongst other matters, the technical phytosanitary provisions to be met by plants and plant products and the control checks to be carried out at the place of origin on plants and plant products destined to the EU, and moved within the EU.

### 1.2.3 Forestry in Environmental Policy

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/forests/home\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/forests/home_en.htm)

Forestry, which is one of the major land use practices in Europe, has a key influence on environmental quality, not only through the well known functions of climate regulation, catchment protection and safeguard against erosion, but also by its contribution to the protection of nature and the conservation of biodiversity. Most European forests can be qualified as “semi-natural” but there are few undisturbed forest areas remaining in the EU. Even forests of natural conservation importance are either planted or have been managed over long periods of time and “virgin” or “old growth” forest areas are limited to small patches in cultivated landscapes or to less accessible locations in larger (managed) forests.

#### **Environment 2010: Our Future, Our Choice**

The Sixth Environment Action Programme of the European Community 2001-2010, Decision No. 1600/2002/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 July 2002

<http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/environment/newprg/index.htm>

This programme provides the environmental component of the Community’s strategy for sustainable development. It continues to pursue some of the targets from the Fifth Environment Action Programme, which came to an end in 2000. The Sixth Environment Action Programme goes further, adopting a more strategic approach. It calls for active involvement and the accountability of all sections of society in the search for innovative, workable and sustainable solutions to the environmental problems we face. The new programme identifies four priority areas, all of which include forestry issues:

- Climate Change;
- Nature and Biodiversity;
- Environment and Health;
- Natural Resources and Waste.

To achieve improvements in these areas, the programme sets out five approaches. These emphasize the need for more effective implementation and more innovative solutions. The Commission recognizes that a wider constituency must be addressed, including business that can only gain from a successful environmental policy. The programme seeks new and innovative instruments

for meeting environmental challenges. Legislation is not abandoned, but a more effective use of legislation is sought together with a more participatory approach to policy making.

### **Protection of forests against atmospheric pollution**

<http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/lex/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:31986R3528:EN:HTML>

In the late 1970s an increased level of previously unknown forest damage was first observed in central European countries and later also in other parts of Europe, in highly polluted areas near industry, but also in rural areas far away from the sources of pollution. In response to growing concern that the reason for this decline could be air pollution, the European Council adopted a specific regulation No 3528/86 establishing a Community Scheme on the Protection of Forests against Atmospheric Pollution. The scheme was developed in close collaboration with the International Co-operative Programme on the Assessment and Monitoring of Air Pollution Effects on Forests (ICP Forests), established in 1985 under the UNECE Convention on Long Range Trans boundary Air Pollution (please see chapter 1.1.6.2).

Important results were achieved concerning the sensitivity of forests to nitrogen deposition, atmospheric acidity and heavy metals. The systematic monitoring carried out in the EU reveals decreasing sulphur deposition in forest soils. In some highly damaged forest areas of central Europe, recent recuperation of the crown condition of trees has partly been attributed to the improvement of air quality.

The collective monitoring of the condition of European forests has developed into one of the world's largest bio-monitoring systems. It also constitutes a unique source of ecological reference data for multipurpose use in science and forestry. The programme has substantially contributed to increasing public awareness of the environmental risks to forests.

### **Protection of forests against fire**

<http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/environment/forests/ffires.htm>

Fires are one of the biggest concerns for the protection of forests and safety of people and property, particularly in southern Europe. A specific Community scheme was approved in 1992 (Regulation (EEC) No. 2158/92 on Monitoring the Health of Forests and Protection of Forests Against Fire) with the aim of improving the consistency of forest-fire protection measures financed in areas at risk of forest fire. In addition the Council included within the forest chapter of the Rural Development Regulation (EC) 1257/99 the possibility for rural development programmes to co-finance forest fire prevention actions as well as the restoration of forest areas, which are destroyed by fire.

Regulation No.2158/92 has contributed to improve, at EU level, the efficiency of forest fire prevention and control systems over the years. Co-operation between Member States and the establishment of an EU forest information system, increased public awareness of the risks and consequences of fires and the development of preventive silvicultural methods have been key factors in reducing the extent of forest fires over the years. The scheme expired on 31 December 2002 and has been substituted by the Forest Focus Regulation.

The Joint Research Centre of the Commission (JRC) has, in addition, established the **European Forest Fire Information System** (EFFIS - <http://infoforest.jrc.it/effis/effrfs.html>) which provides sound data sets and information on the occurrence of forest fires within the EU. This information system is currently contributing to forest fire prevention actions within the Forest Focus as well as to civil protection actions for the coordination of forest fire fighting.

## **Forest Focus**

Regulation (EC) No 2152/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 November 2003 concerning monitoring of forests and environmental interactions in the Community (Forest Focus).

<http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/environment/forests/ffocus.htm>

Forest Focus is a Community scheme for harmonised, broad-based, comprehensive and long-term monitoring of European forest ecosystems. It builds on the results achieved so far on the two previous schemes related to forest protection measures against atmospheric pollution and fires, and it will continue the collection of forest-related information, thus guaranteeing a necessary continuity. It concentrates, in particular, on protecting forests against air pollution and fire, but also takes into consideration the new environmental monitoring needs in relation to the objectives of the Sixth Environmental Action Programme, notably concerning forest soils, carbon sequestration, forest biodiversity, climate change and the protective functions of forests.

## **Informal working group of forest fire prevention experts**

This informal working group brings together experts on forest fire prevention nominated both by EU Member States and the European Commission. The main objective is to provide advice for the elaboration of proposals or options for an efficient, coherent policy framework and set of measures concerning forest fire prevention, in the context of follow-up action to Forest Focus after 2006.

## **Community Biodiversity Strategy**

Communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament of 5 February 1998 on a European Community Biodiversity Strategy, adopted by Council in June and Parliament in October 1998.

<http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/docum/9842sm.htm>

This Strategy establishes a general framework in which appropriate Community policies and instruments are worked out to meet the obligations under the UN Convention on Biological Diversity. The strategy encompasses four major themes within which the specific objectives are determined and implemented, in particular through action plans: conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity; sharing of benefits accruing from the utilization of genetic resources; research, identification, monitoring and exchange of information; education, training and awareness. The Strategy focuses specifically on the integration of biodiversity concerns into relevant sectoral policies. Forests have been identified as one of the important sectors for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity. The Strategy foresees development and implementation of Action Plans and of other measures affecting the policy areas concerned.

The Commission is preparing for adoption in 2006 a Communication and a Roadmap on how to reach the objective of halting the loss of biodiversity by 2010.

## **Biodiversity Action Plans**

Biodiversity Action Plans in the Areas of Conservation of Natural Resources, Agriculture, Fisheries, and Development and Economic Cooperation, Communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament, 2001.

<http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/com/pdf/2001/act0162en02/1.pdf>

The main objective of the Community Biodiversity Action Plans is to achieve sustainable development and integrate environmental concerns into other sectoral policies and other policy areas. The sectoral Action Plans define concrete actions and measures to meet the objectives defined in the Community Biodiversity Strategy, and specify measurable targets.

### **Biodiversity Action Plan for the Conservation of Natural Resources**

<http://www.europa.eu.int/scadplus/leg/en/lvb/l28023.htm>

This part of the Biodiversity Action Plans is specifically dedicated to the protection of natural resources. Its objective is improving or maintaining the status of wild flora and fauna and their habitats, as well as making maximum use of Community environmental legislation and initiatives in order to put the objectives set out in the Community biodiversity strategy into practice. The communication sets three main priorities: application of the habitat and bird directives, establishment of the NATURA 2000 network and financial support for it; and formulating special action plans for threatened and hunted species.

The actions for achieving these objectives include forestry measures such as investments to improve biological value, for example diversification of planted tree species, sustainable management practices affecting felling, upkeep of firebreaks, and assistance to foresters on sustainable management rules.

### **Biodiversity Action Plan for Agriculture**

<http://www.europa.eu.int/scadplus/leg/en/lvb/l28024.htm>

This includes an analysis of the reciprocal relationship between agriculture and biodiversity, stressing mutual benefits but also the pressure on biodiversity from farming. The analysis produced the following priorities for the action plan: keeping intensive farming at a level that is not harmful to biodiversity; ensuring that farming is economically viable, socially acceptable and safeguards biodiversity; implementing agro-environmental measures; ensuring that necessary ecological infrastructure exists; supporting measures related to maintaining local breeds and varieties used in agriculture; preventing the spread of non-native species.

Among the forestry measures, the Plan mentions the new possibilities offered by Art. 32 of the Regulation on Rural Development. It provides Member States with a financial instrument for support of the sustainable management of woodlands with a high environmental value and poor economic profitability.

### **NATURA 2000 – Birds (79/409/EEC) and Habitat Directives (92/43/EEC)**

<http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/environment/nature/home.htm>

The creation of the NATURA 2000 network is the cornerstone of Community nature conservation policy. It consists of “Special Protection Areas” emanating from the Birds Directive and “Special Conservation Areas” emanating from the Habitat Directive. Measures taken pursuant to these directives are designed to maintain or restore, to a favourable conservation status, natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora of Community interest, taking into account economic, social and cultural requirements as well as regional and local characteristics. Introducing effective conservation and management measures for these sites is a huge undertaking. It requires the participation of all national and local operators and strict selection of sites at a Community level.

While the implementation of the network in the forest sector has long been controversial, the overwhelming majority of the required site proposals have now been made and attention is turning towards the long-term operational management of the network. The existence of Natura 2000 is no longer a subject of discussion because all parties have expressed agreement about the need for concerted action at the European level to protect nature and bio-diversity. It is expected that, ultimately, two thirds of the designated sites will be located in forests or will have forest elements.

### **Forests and Climate Change**

<http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/environment/climat/forestrelatedsinks.htm>

The **European Climate Change Programme (ECCP)** was established in June 2000 to help identify the most environmentally friendly and cost-effective measures enabling the EU to meet its Kyoto target of an 8% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels by 2008–2012. The ECCP is an ambitious tool for implementation, complementing the individual efforts of the EU Member States. The programme has sought to develop both strategies and tools to cut greenhouse gas emissions and was therefore set up as a consultative process in which relevant players, such as the Commission, national experts, industry and the NGO community work together. Eleven different working groups have operated under the co-ordination of a Steering Committee.

Forests play a big role in the EU approach to climate change. The **ECCP working-group on forest-related sinks** was the last of such groups to start its activities because it was only at the COP-7 in November 2001 in Marrakech, that the definitions, limitations, rules and modalities for sinks were agreed between UNFCCC parties. These agreements covered the activities under Article 3.3 of the Kyoto Protocol (afforestation, reforestation and deforestation) as well as those under Article 3.4, such as forest management. During 2002 the working group members identified a number of promising “candidate technical measures” (forestry practices) and assessed their carbon sequestration potential, together with other environmental and socioeconomic effects. In addition, the group also considered a series of policy guidelines and recommendations, and identified a number of EU policy instruments that can be used to promote the measures.

### **Integrated pollution prevention and control (IPPC)**

<http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/environment/ippc/index.htm>

The Council Directive 96/61/EC concerning integrated pollution prevention and control (IPPC) is a cornerstone of EU legislation addressing industrial installations with a high pollution potential. Such installations may only be operated if the operator holds a permit containing requirements for the protection of air, water and soil, waste minimisation, accident prevention and, if necessary, site clean-up. These requirements must be based on the principle of best available techniques (BAT). In the forestry sector this concerns big pulp and paper industrial installations.

### **Environmental Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS)**

<http://europa.eu.int/scadplus/leg/en/lvb/l28022.htm>

Regulation (EEC) No. 1836/93 on a Community Environmental Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) sets up a voluntary eco-management and audit scheme for participating industrial companies, including forest-based industries, that seeks to reward and promote a better environmental performance by industrial activities. The scheme requires participating sites to establish and implement policies, programmes and management systems; audit the performance of their site; and to provide environmental performance reports to the public. It applies to manufacturing, energy and recycling industry sites and may be extended to other sites on an experimental basis.



## **European Environment Agency (EEA)**

<http://www.eea.eu.int/>

The European Environment Agency (EEA) was established by EEC Regulation 1210/1990, amended by EEC Regulation 933/1999 and is operational since 1994. The EEA aims to support sustainable development and to help achieve significant and measurable improvement in Europe's environment through the provision of timely, targeted, relevant and reliable information to policy-making agents and the public. The objective of the EEA mandate is to provide environmental information, including on forests, helping the Community and member countries to identify effective environmental measures and assess its actual and expected progress.

### **1.2.4 Wood Energy**

[http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/energy/res/sectors/bioenergy\\_en.htm](http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/energy/res/sectors/bioenergy_en.htm)

Wood is a renewable energy source that is one of the best substitutes for fossil fuels, and, moreover, is the leading renewable sector for primary energy production in Europe. The environmental and energetic advantages explain why the large European Union wood countries are working on programmes to develop both the technologies and the means of expanding this sector.

### **The Campaign for Take-Off (1999-2003) and the Campaign for Sustainable Energy (2004-2007)**

[http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/energy/res/campaign\\_for\\_take\\_off/index\\_en.htm](http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/energy/res/campaign_for_take_off/index_en.htm)

The European Commission adopted in November 2000 the Green Paper 'Towards a European Strategy for the Security of Energy Supply' and in December 1997 a White Paper 'Energy for the Future: Renewable Sources of Energy'. Based on this background, the Commission intends to foster the market penetration of renewable energies by implementing regulatory measures, providing support and promotional programmes. A key initiative amongst the promotional measures was the **Campaign for Take-Off for Renewable Energies**, designed to support the strategy for renewable energy as a whole. Focusing on certain key sectors, the Campaign for Take-Off set out a framework for action to highlight investment opportunities and attract the necessary private funding which is expected to make up the lion's share of the capital required. The Campaign was a highly visible vehicle, involving key sectors (solar, wind energy and biomass), for the drive towards a significant increase in renewable energy use and penetration, to spread best practice and to raise critical awareness of decision makers at local, regional, national and European level.

The new **Campaign for Sustainable Energy** embraces both energy efficiency and renewable energy. It provides for indicative sectoral targets, an extended series of promotional tools and allows partners to join the common effort of implementing programmes and initiatives in Europe and beyond.

### **Biomass action plan**, Communication from the Commission, 07/12/2005

[http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/energy/res/biomass\\_action\\_plan/green\\_electricity\\_en.htm](http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/energy/res/biomass_action_plan/green_electricity_en.htm)

This action plan sets out measures to increase the development of biomass energy from wood, wastes and agricultural crops by creating market-based incentives to its use and removing barriers to the development of the market. In this way Europe can cut its dependence on fossil fuels, cut greenhouse gas emissions and stimulate economic activity in rural areas.

The plan announces more than 20 actions; most of them will be implemented from 2006 onwards. The plan includes reviews of how fuel standards could be improved to encourage the use of

biomass for transport, heating and electricity generation; investment in research, in particular in making liquid fuels out of wood and waste materials; and a campaign to inform farmers and forest owners about energy crops. The Commission will also work on future EU legislation to encourage the use of renewable energy in heating.

### 1.2.5 Forest-Based Industries

[http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/forest\\_based/index.htm](http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/forest_based/index.htm)

The forest-based and related industries are among the most important sectors in the European Union, representing some 8% of the EU's manufacturing industries. Forest-based industries (F-BI) are present in all EU Member States, offering direct employment to some 3 million people from Scandinavia to the Iberian Peninsula. Its activity is based on raw material resources, which are renewable, and on efficient recycling. The F-BI seeks to meet the needs of citizens through constant innovation combining technology with biology and natural sciences. F-BI cover four main sectors: woodworking, pulp and paper manufacturing, paper and board converting, and printing.

**State of the Competitiveness of the EU Forest-Based and Related Industries**, European Parliament Resolution on the Commission Communication, COM(1999) 457 - C5-0306/2000 - 2000/2159 (COS)

[http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/forest\\_based/comm\\_en.pdf](http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/forest_based/comm_en.pdf)

This Resolution on the Communication on the State of the Competitiveness of the EU Forest-Based and Related Industries contains positions on a wide range of issues, from the management of forests and nature to the wood products industry and the various policy sectors connected to these.

Other legislative acts with relevance to forestry are the Council Directive on the Marketing of Forest Reproductive Material, the Directive on Timber Measurement, and the Council Regulation on Operations to Promote Tropical Forests.

#### ***Publications and documents:***

Evaluation of the 'Communication on the State of Competitiveness of the EU Forest-Based and Related Industries', the European Evaluation Consortium, October 2004.

[http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/forest\\_based/evaluation.pdf](http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/forest_based/evaluation.pdf)

The Commission has carried out an external evaluation of the 1999 Communication on the "The State of the Competitiveness of the EU Forest-Based and Related Industries". The goal of the evaluation was to see to what extent the Communication continues to address the current situation of the industries and the challenges they face. Some of the key benefits which the evaluation found arose from the Communication are an increased visibility of forest-based industries at the EU level, a strengthened policy dialogue and consultation mechanisms between industries and the European Commission, and enhanced co-operation between the industries, and an increased understanding of their linkages and commonalities.

Comprehensive Report 2002-2003 Regarding the Role of Forest Products for Climate Change Mitigation, 2002

[http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/forest\\_based/ccmreport.pdf](http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/forest_based/ccmreport.pdf)

This report was produced on the basis of the work carried out by the Advisory Committee for Forestry and Forest-based Industries during five sessions that focused on the role of wood products for



climate change mitigation. Besides the analysis of the role of forest products for climate change mitigation and the scientific basis for its assessment and accounting, the report comprises a description and analysis of the initiatives at national level in France, the UK, Italy, Spain, The Netherlands, Sweden, Denmark, Finland and Belgium, as well as the European initiative launched by the Nordic Timber Council in cooperation with the various European Timber Councils.

Perception of the Wood-Based Industries – Qualitative study of the image of wood-based industries amongst the public in the Member States of the European Union, 2002

[http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/forest\\_based/perceptionstudy\\_en.pdf](http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/forest_based/perceptionstudy_en.pdf)

This report presents the results of an externally conducted study on the image of wood-based industries and economic sectors among the public in the 15 Member States of the European Union. The aim was to help the various sectors of the wood-based industry to pool the steps that they are taking to make the most of their activities and products. Results of the study show there is great ignorance on the part of the public and an image which leaves room for improvement, particularly as regards respect for the environment, the modernity of the sectors studied and their importance regarding employment and job attractiveness.

### 1.2.6 Forest Sector Statistics - Eurostat

<http://epp.eurostat.cec.eu.int/>

Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the European Union is responsible for the collection, management and publication of data concerning forest products and trade statistics as well as of other statistics regarding the forest sector as a whole. The available information is disseminated by means of the NewCronos database, which is available on the Internet site: <http://europa.eu.int/newcronos/>, as well as through publications such as Agricultural statistics – Quarterly bulletin, Statistics in Focus and the Eurostat yearbook.

The collection of Eurostat statistics in this field is carried out in cooperation with the Inter-secretariat Working Group on Forest Sector Statistics, bringing together FAO, UNECE, and Eurostat in collecting forest statistics. The primary tool for the co-operation is the annual Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire used by all three organisations.

### 1.2.7 Forestry and EU Research

**Sixth Framework Programme of the European Community for Research, Technological Development and Demonstration Activities (2002 - 2006)**

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/fp6/index\\_en.html](http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/fp6/index_en.html)

The Sixth Framework Programme is the Union's main instrument for the funding of research in Europe. Topics related to the multifunctional management of forests and F-BI are found in the work programmes of two different thematic priorities: priority 6, "Sustainable development, global change and ecosystems" and priority 3, "Nanotechnologies and nanosciences, knowledge-based multifunctional materials and new production processes and devices", and also in specific activities covering a wider field of research (namely, research in support of Community policies). It addresses the question of the ability of forests to act as reservoirs, fixing the carbon dioxide emitted into the atmosphere, the main cause of climate change. As in the past, research issues related to the forestry-

wood sector can be addressed through specific SME measures (collective and co-operative research) and other horizontal activities such as networking of national or regional programmes.

### **Joint Research Centre (JRC)**

<http://www.jrc.cec.eu.int/welcome.htm>

The Joint Research Centre (JRC) is a Directorate General of the European Commission, providing independent science and technology advice to European policy makers. JRC activities combine short-term technical projects with longer-term strategic research, in a work programme planned in close co-operation with its main customers/users.

All forestry and forest-related research projects are embedded in the activities of the JRC's Institute for Environment and Sustainability, Ispra, Italy, which has as its mission "to provide scientific and technical support to EU policies for the protection of the environment contributing to sustainable development in Europe." Forest research is targeted at providing scientific and technical support for the conception, implementation and monitoring of EU policies linked to: forest fires; regional European and global issues of climate change; the protection of Europe's forests; the decline of forest habitats and deforestation; and to improving the access to and dissemination of forest information. This latter action is in response to the increasing awareness of the value and multi-functional role of forests, and the ever more diverse community interested in receiving reliable and up-to-date forest and forest-related information, of both a statistical and spatial nature.

### **European Cooperation in the Field of Scientific and Technical Research (COST)**

<http://www.cost.esf.org/>

European Cooperation in the Field of Scientific and Technical Research (COST) is the oldest and the widest system for research networking in Europe. It is based on an intergovernmental framework for cooperation in research agreed following a Ministerial Conference in 1971. The mission of COST is to strengthen Europe in scientific and technical research through the support of European cooperation and interaction between European researchers. COST is presently used by scientific communities of 35 European countries to cooperate in common research projects supported by national funds.

### **COST activities in the domain of "Forests & Forestry Products (FFP)"**

<http://www.cost.esf.org/index.php?id=112>

Forest and wood based products research in Europe is mainly operated by public organizations, whose characteristics are, in general, rather fragmented. The setting-up of the **COST Technical Committee for Forests and Forestry Products (TC FFP)** at the beginning of the 1990's was a major step forward to filling a lack of inter-disciplinarity and integration in European forestry research. The TC FFP is divided in three Sector Groups (Forests, Pulp and Paper, Wood Technology), and represents the complete wood chain from the management of a natural resource to the wood based end products. The FFP is today the second largest domain within COST and covers the broad field of "sustainable production and use of forest natural resources", including the following research areas: scientific bases of sustainable forest management; forestry policy and people; forest products and the environment; forest products: properties and performances; and process engineering in wood based industries.

*COST Actions in FFP domain:* <http://www.cost.esf.org/index.php?id=142>

*Upcoming COST FFP Meetings:* <http://www.cost.esf.org/index.php?id=148>

### 1.2.8 Forestry in Development Policy

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/development/body/theme/forest/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/development/body/theme/forest/index_en.htm)

The European Union promotes sustainable and equitable forest management in developing countries as a mean of reducing poverty.

#### **EU Action Plan to combat illegal logging (FLEGT)**

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/development/body/theme/forest/initiative/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/development/body/theme/forest/initiative/index_en.htm)

To build on a commitment taken at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in May 2003, the Commission published an EU Action Plan for Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT). Council Conclusions were adopted in October 2003, and the European Parliament motion on the FLEGT action plan was adopted in February 2004.

The Action Plan sets out a new approach to tackling illegal logging, which links the push for good governance in developing countries with the legal instruments and leverage offered by the EU's own internal market. The core components of the Action Plan are support for improved governance in wood-producing countries, and a licensing scheme to ensure only legal timber enters the EU. This licensing scheme will initially be implemented on a voluntary (but binding) basis, through a series of partnerships with wood-producing countries. Other areas where the Commission proposes action include co-operation with other major consumer markets, such as the US and Japan, to stop the trade in illegally harvested timber; and efforts to ensure that legally-harvested timber is sourced through public procurement contracts in the EU.

#### **Policy for aid to forest sector**

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/development/body/theme/forest/policy\\_forest\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/development/body/theme/forest/policy_forest_en.htm)

In 1999 the European Commission adopted a Communication on Forests and Development: The EC approach. Council Conclusions were passed later in the same year.

The Communication notes the importance of reconciling the various and often conflicting demands on forests and forest assets arising from different stakeholder groups, such as large companies, conservationists, and local communities. The importance of national forest programmes is highlighted as a framework for future assistance. National forest programmes are participatory planning processes, which bring together different government departments, donors and civil society (the private sector, non-government organisations and private citizens) to debate and formulate comprehensive forest policies, and address key forest sector issues as identified. The Communication also emphasises the need for good governance as a prerequisite to ensure sustainable management of forests, and notes that a participatory approach of particular importance given the number of stakeholder groups with an active interest in the sector.

#### **Forests in developing countries**

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/europeaid/projects/forests/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/europeaid/projects/forests/index_en.htm)

The co-operation between the European Union and the developing countries in the field of environment and forests aims at supporting developing countries in their efforts to integrate the environmental dimension into their development process. Since 1990 the EU's programme "Tropical forests and other forests in developing countries" (Regulation 2494/2000) has been funding actions

specifically targeted at the sustainable management or conservation of tropical forests, and since 2000 also in other forests in developing countries. Activities to be carried out under this Regulation aim at:

- raising the status of forests in national policies and integrating forest policies based on sustainable forest management in development planning;
- promoting the production and use of wood and non-wood forest products from sustainably managed resources;
- contributing to the adequate valuation of forest resources and services;
- ensuring active participation of forest-dependent people and local communities in the development of national forest policies and in development planning;
- improving co-ordination and the flow of information between the Commission and Member State projects so as to put in place coherent actions in that area.

### 1.3 Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (MCPFE)

<http://www.mcpfe.net/>

The Ministerial Conferences on the Protection of Forests in Europe (MCPFE) constitute a major initiative in the process of cooperation amongst European countries (44 European countries as well as the European Community) to contribute to the protection and sustainable management of European forests as suggested in Agenda 21 and in the non-legally binding "Forest Principles" adopted at UNCED. The MCPFE resolutions cover the main points for the protection, conservation and sustainable development of Europe's forests and lay down guidelines for achieving those three objectives, including the implementation of objectives stemming from the Convention on Biological Diversity.

The MCPFE process consists of a chain of political level conferences and mechanisms for follow-up work. The signatory states and the European Community are responsible for national and regional implementation of the decisions taken at the conferences. The discussion and work between the conferences is called the "Pan-European Process", which is characterized by a dynamic joint approach with strong political commitment. Encompassing the whole of Europe, the MCPFE can be regarded as a successful example of cross-border co-operation throughout a continent. It has always considered European forests to be a common heritage and has recognised that threats to these valuable ecosystems do not always follow territorial or ideological borders.

Since its beginnings in 1990, the dialogue within the MCPFE has succeeded in intensifying political and scientific communication in Europe and establishing close and successful co-operation on a wide range of issues related to forests and forestry. This dialogue not only involves governmental representatives of the participating countries, but also a variety of stakeholders including environmental and social NGOs, forest owners' associations, the forest industry, as well as intergovernmental organisations. Although the actors involved represent a variety of opinions and interests, they share a commitment to the sustainable development and protection of forests in Europe.

#### **Ministerial conferences**

The **First Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe took place in 1990 in Strasbourg** as a common initiative of France and Finland. Hoping to help solve the issue of dying forests, cross-border protection of the European forests was discussed for the first time at a ministerial level. The ministers responsible for forestry and the European Community signed the following six resolutions and committed themselves to technical and scientific co-operation and common measures for the protection of European forests.

- S1: European network of permanent sample plots for the monitoring of forest ecosystems*
- S2: Conservation of forest genetic resources*
- S3: Decentralized European data bank on forest fires*
- S4: Adapting the management of mountainous forests to new environmental conditions*
- S5: Expansion of the EUROSILVA Network of research on tree physiology*
- S6: European network for research into forest ecosystems*

The intention to implement forest related results of UNCED, led to the **Second Ministerial Conference, held in 1993 in Helsinki**. There the international debate on forests was continued, bringing together not only the countries and their respective ministries responsible for forestry affairs, but also the private sector, international forest community and environmental NGOs.

In Helsinki, thirty-seven states and the European Community signed the four resolutions listed below, and for the first time a common definition of sustainable forest management was agreed upon: "Sustainable management means the stewardship and use of forests and forest lands in such a way, and at a rate, that maintains their biodiversity, productivity, regeneration capacity, vitality and their potential to fulfil, now and in the future, relevant ecological, economic and social functions, at local, national, and global levels, and that does not cause damage to other ecosystems." In addition, biodiversity was given considerable emphasis, as was increasing co-operation with countries in transition to market economies, and initiating strategies regarding the consequences of a possible climate change for the forest sector.

- H1: General guidelines for the sustainable management of forests in Europe*
- H2: General guidelines for the conservation of the biodiversity of European forests*
- H3: Forestry cooperation with countries with economies in transition*
- H4: Strategies for a process of long-term adaptation of forests in Europe to climate change*

In the subsequent processes, the topic of socio-economic aspects in forestry arose and led to the Lisbon Conference, which extended the focus on forests into the relationship and interaction between forest and society.

At the **Third Ministerial Conference, held in 1998 in Lisbon**, thirty-six states and the European Community signed two resolutions and a general declaration. The General Declaration of the Conference emphasizes the importance of strengthening an effective partnership between the forest sector and society. The first resolution deals with the socio-economic aspects of sustainable forest management and the second Lisbon resolution is about pan-European criteria and indicators as well as operational level guidelines.

- L1: People, Forests and Forestry: enhancement of the socio-economic aspects of sustainable forest management*
- L2: Pan-European criteria, indicators and operational level guidelines for sustainable forest management*

In addition, co-operation with the Ministerial Process "Environment for Europe" was established by endorsing a pan-European "*Work-Programme on the Conservation and Enhancement of Biological and Landscape Diversity in Forest Ecosystems 1997-2000*".

The **Fourth Ministerial Conference** on the Protection of Forests in Europe was held in 2003 in Vienna, Austria. Under the slogan "Living Forest Summit", ministers responsible for forests from 41

European countries and a representative of the European Community as well as representatives of 4 non-European countries and 24 international organizations gathered at the conference under the joint chairmanship of Austria and Poland. The principal goals of the Vienna Conference included protecting the biological diversity of forests in Europe, creating an awareness of the value of forest goods and services and encouraging their marketing, as well as clarifying the cultural significance of the forest.

At this conference five resolutions and a general declaration were prepared:

*Vienna Living Forest Summit Declaration - European Forests, Common Benefits, Shared Responsibilities*

*V1: Strengthen Synergies For Sustainable Forest Management in Europe Through Cross-Sectoral Co-Operation and National Forest Programmes*

*V2: Enhancing Economic Viability of Sustainable Forest Management in Europe*

*V3: Preserving and Enhancing the Social and Cultural Dimensions of Sustainable Forest Management in Europe*

*V4: Conserving and Enhancing Forest Biological Diversity in Europe*

*V5: Climate Change and Sustainable Forest Management in Europe*

The Vienna Declaration highlights the multiple roles of forests in relation to rural livelihood and urban societies, addresses the significance of strong partnerships between the forest sector and other sectors and underlines the importance of tackling global challenges. The Vienna Resolutions focus on cross-sectoral co-operation and national forest programmes, economic viability of sustainable forest management, social and cultural aspects, forest biological diversity as well as forests and climate change. Furthermore, the ministers responsible for forests adopted a new framework for co-operation between the MCPFE and the ministerial process Environment for Europe/Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy, which was also adopted by the ministers for environment at the Fifth Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe" (May 2003). As a follow-up to the Vienna Conference, MCPFE established a new work programme in order to put into action all commitments made at the Living Forest Summit.

The next MCPFE conference will take place in 2007 in Warsaw, Poland.

### **MCPFE links to global and other regional processes**

Since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), which took place in 1992 in Rio de Janeiro, a number of international and regional conferences, initiatives and processes have been started aiming at a more sustainable use of natural resources. These processes have resulted in a number of international commitments and multilateral environmental agreements related to forests.

The MCPFE has been recognising the significance of these commitments and their relationship to its work. It has been contributing to the implementation of the forest related decisions of the UNCED and its follow-up process within the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests (IPF) and the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (IFF). The MCPFE obtained observer status to the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) in June 2001 and participates in its work. Furthermore the MCPFE has also been contributing to the provisions of United Nations Conventions, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

For example, the MCPFE has implemented a "Work Programme on the Conservation and Enhancement of Biological and Landscape Diversity in Forest Ecosystems 1997-2000" (Biodiversity Work Programme) in co-operation with the European ministers responsible for the environment and

the Ministerial Process “Environment for Europe”. The Biodiversity Work Programme can be considered a pan-European contribution to the implementation of the CBD.

In addition, the MCPFE has established contacts with other regional processes in the world that share a concern for sustainable forest management as well as the protection and conservation of forests.

**MCPFE publications:** <http://www.mcpfe.net/publications/>

National Forest Programmes in Europe - Steps taken by the MCPFE towards the development, dissemination and implementation of the concept of the National Forest Programmes in Europe. MCPFE Liaison Unit Warsaw, Poland, 2005.

Europeans and Their Forests – What Do Europeans Think About Forests and Sustainable Forest Management? Rametsteiner, E. and Kraxner, F., MCPFE Liaison Unit Vienna, Austria, 2003.

Implementation of MCPFE Commitments – National and Pan-European Activities 1998-2003, MCPFE Liaison Unit Vienna, Austria, 2003.

State of Europe’s Forests 2003 – The MCPFE Report on Sustainable Forest Management in Europe, MCPFE Liaison Unit Vienna and UNECE/FAO, Austria, 2003.

The MCPFE and the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action, MCPFE Liaison Unit Vienna, Austria, 2001

**Upcoming events:** <http://www.mcpfe.net/me/>

#### 1.4 The Montréal Process

[http://www.mpci.org/home\\_e.html](http://www.mpci.org/home_e.html)

The Montréal Process is the Working Group on Criteria and Indicators for the Conservation and Sustainable Management of Temperate and Boreal Forests. It was formed in Geneva, Switzerland, in June 1994 to develop and implement internationally agreed criteria and indicators for the conservation and sustainable management of temperate and boreal forests.

Membership in the Working Group currently includes countries from both hemispheres, having a wide range of natural and social conditions. The member countries represent about 90 per cent of the world's temperate and boreal forests in the northern and southern hemispheres. This amounts to 60 per cent of all of the forests of the world. Except for the Russian Federation, European forests are **not** included - they are being addressed by the MCPFE.

#### 1.5 International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)

<http://www.itto.or.jp/live/index.jsp>

The International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) is an intergovernmental organization promoting the conservation and sustainable management, use and trade of tropical forest resources. Its 59 members represent about 80% of the world’s tropical forests and 90% of the global tropical timber trade. The aim of the ITTO is to provide an effective framework for member countries on all aspects of the world timber economy. The ITTO facilitates discussion, consultation and international co-operation on issues related to the international trade and utilization of tropical timber and the sustainable management of its resource base. ITTO has also developed a series of internationally agreed policy documents for achieving the conservation and sustainable management, use and trade of tropical forest resources and assists tropical member countries to adapt these to local circumstances and to implement them in the field.



The ITTO was established under the auspices of the United Nations in 1986 amidst increasing worldwide concern for the fate of tropical forests. While almost everyone was alarmed at the rate of deforestation occurring in many tropical countries, there was also considerable agreement that the tropical timber trade was one of the keys to economic development in those same countries. The ITTO's origins can be traced back to 1976 when the long series of negotiations that led to the first International Tropical Timber Agreement (ITTA) began at the fourth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) as part of that organization's Programme for Commodities. The outcome of these negotiations was the ITTA, 1983, which governed the Organization's work until 31 December 1996, when it was superseded by the ITTA, 1994. The negotiations for a successor to the ITTA, 1994, resulted in January 2006, in a new treaty that will reinforce work to bring tropical forests under sustainable management and increase the role of the tropical timber trade in sustainable development. The ITTA, 2006, is expected to come into force in 2008 and will operate for ten years, with the possibility of extensions of up to eight years. ITTO will continue to function under the ITTA, 1994, until the new agreement is ratified.

In 1990, ITTO members agreed to strive for an international trade in tropical timber from sustainably managed forests by the century's end. This commitment became known as the **Year 2000 Objective**, and a large part of the ITTO programme of projects and activities was devoted to its achievement. An assessment made in 2000 showed that tropical countries had made significant progress in the formulation and adoption of policies compatible with this objective, but less evidence was found of progress in implementing such policies.

**Publications:** <http://www.itto.or.jp/live/PageDisplayHandler?pageId=193>

- **Tropical Forest Update** – A newsletter from ITTO to promote the conservation and sustainable use of tropical forest resources
- The **ITTO Market Information Service** delivers a twice-monthly report on the international tropical timber market. It provides market trends and trade news from around the world, as well as indicative prices for over 400 tropical timber and added-value products
- ITTO's **Annual Review and Assessment of the World Timber Situation** compiles the most up-to-date and reliable international statistics available on global production and trade of timber, with an emphasis on the tropics. It also provides information on trends in forest area, forest management and the economies of ITTO member countries

**Upcoming events:** <http://www.itto.or.jp/live/PageDisplayHandler?pageId=0219>

## 1.6 World Trade Organization (WTO)

[http://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/envir\\_e/envir\\_e.htm](http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/envir_e/envir_e.htm)

The World Trade Organization (WTO) is a global international organization dealing with the rules of trade between nations. At its heart are the WTO agreements, negotiated and signed by the bulk of the world's trading nations and ratified in their parliaments. The goal is to help producers of goods and services, exporters, and importers conduct their business.

Two themes appear regularly in discussions on trade and environment in the WTO: the broader relationship between trade liberalization and the environment; and more specifically, how the trade rules (which WTO members negotiated and agreed to) relate to environmental protection policies and to international environmental agreements. At Marrakech in April 1994, Ministers adopted a Decision on Trade and Environment calling for the establishment of a Committee on Trade and Environment (CTE) at the WTO. Three items of the CTE's work plan are relevant to the discussion on forestry:



- environmental benefits of removing trade restrictions and distortions
- eco-labelling and certification, which is also looked at by the Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade
- certain elements of the Agreement on Trade-Related Intellectual Property Rights

The WTO Secretariat completed a study on specific sectors (including forestry) that noted a positive relationship between the removal of trade restrictions and distortions and improved environmental quality. Certification and labelling of forest products are considered to be complementary to forest management policies. In its studies, the CTE recognized that well-designed eco-labelling programmes could be effective environmental policy instruments, which may be used to foster environmental awareness amongst consumers. The issue of certification of sustainable forest management as it relates to technical barriers to trade has apparently been very small as the demand for certified or labelled forest products has been small and concentrated in a narrow segment of the market.

### ***Publications:***

Trade and Environment, Håkan Nordstöm and Scott Vaughan, WTO Secretariat in October 1999

[http://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/envir\\_e/stud99\\_e.htm](http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/envir_e/stud99_e.htm)

This document is an in-depth look at issues such as the “race-to-the-bottom” debate. The conclusion is that trade liberalization reinforces the need for environmental co-operation. International economic integration and growth reinforce the need for sound environmental policies at the national and international level. International cooperation is particularly important in addressing transboundary and global environmental challenges beyond the control of any individual nation. This would be true even if nations did not trade with one another. Chapter two of the report deals with issues such as deforestation and global warming.

## **1.7 G8 Action Programme on Forests**

<http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/summit/2002/g8forest1.html>

Since 1975, the heads of state of the major industrial democracies have been meeting annually to deal with the major economic and political issues facing their domestic societies and the international community as a whole. The eight members of the G8 (G8 is short for "Group of Eight") are, in order of their rotating hosting responsibilities: France, United States, United Kingdom, Russian Federation (as of 2006), Germany, Japan, Italy, and Canada (<http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/>).

The **G8 Action Programme on Forests** was launched in 1998 at the Birmingham Summit to address five issues of particular importance in achieving sustainable forest management: monitoring and assessment; national forest programmes; protected areas; private sector; and illegal logging. G8 members are committed to:

1. Retain forest-related issues at a high level on the domestic and international agendas.
2. Deliver on international commitments, such as the UNFF Proposals of Action that address the implementation of the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action, and the expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity of the CBD.
3. Increase the level of financing for sustainable forest management from all sources.
4. Combat illegal logging and the use of illegally harvested timber and related products.

5. Emphasize the importance of forests in the context of the WSSD and underscore the need for new and innovative partnerships to address some of the remaining areas of the world with significant forest management challenges.

At the Summit in Okinawa in 2000 a first **Report on the Implementation** was presented (<http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/forest1.htm>). The **Final Report** of the G8 Action Programme on Forests, presented at Summit in Canada in 2002 documents the work undertaken, highlights accomplishments and presents challenges for the future (<http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/cfs-scf/national/what-quoi/G8action/>).

At the Gleneagles Summit held in Scotland in July 2005, G8 leaders agreed a package of measures to promote the sustainable management of forests (see their Factsheet on Illegal Logging at <http://www.fco.gov.uk/Files/kfile/9%20Illegal%20logging.0.doc>), based on the conclusions of the Environment and Development Ministerial meeting in Derby in March 2005. A meeting of G8 forestry experts in Russian Federation in November 2006 is going to review progress towards the commitments made, sharing lessons on action to tackle illegal logging and making findings available.

## 1.8 World Bank Group (WBG) – Forests and Forestry

<http://www.worldbank.org/html/extdr/thematic.htm>

The World Bank Group's mission is to fight poverty and improve the living standards of people in the developing world. It is a development bank that provides loans, policy advice, technical assistance and knowledge sharing services to low and middle income countries to reduce poverty. The **World Bank Forests Team** takes a multi-sectoral approach to forest management that takes into account the impact on forests and forest people of activities, policies and practices outside the forest sector. The Forests Team is comprised of professionals housed in both the Agriculture and Rural Development Department and the Environment Department, as well as expertise from regional staff and external partners. Furthermore, the Forests Team is part of the Bank's Natural Resources Management Thematic Group, which encompasses Land Resources Management, Natural Resource Management Institutions and Irrigation and Drainage.

### Forest Strategy and Policy

<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/TOPICS/EXTARD/EXTFORESTS/0,,menuPK:985797~pagePK:149018~piPK:149093~theSitePK:985785,00.html>

The forests policy and strategy of the World Bank, approved in October 2002, has been implemented to help attain the goal of poverty reduction while safeguarding the environmental values intrinsic to sustainability. The strategy is built upon three pillars: harnessing the potential of forests to reduce poverty; integrating forests into sustainable economic development; and protecting global forest values. The World Bank addresses forestry issues also in other policy areas of the institution. The Natural Habitats Policy, for instance, prohibits World Bank operations that impact on critical natural habitats, including many forest areas. Forestry projects, i.e. intensive management of natural forests and converting natural habitats for forestry plantations, are subject to the Natural Habitats Policy.

## 1.9 Programme on Forests (PROFOR)

<http://www.profor.info/>

PROFOR is an independent programme hosted at the World Bank within the Environmentally and Socially Sustainable Development Network. It is a multi-donor partnership formed to pursue a shared goal of enhancing forests' contribution to poverty reduction, sustainable development and protection of environmental services. Through improved knowledge and approaches for sustainable forest management (SFM), PROFOR seeks to encourage the transition to a more socially and environmentally sustainable forest sector supported by sound policies and institutions that take a holistic approach to forest conservation and management. Initially established in 1997 to implement the outcomes of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests (IPF), PROFOR was relocated from the United Nations Development Programme to the World Bank in 2002. PROFOR's programme of work is consistent with the objectives of the World Bank's Forest Strategy and Policy. PROFOR is governed by a Management Board comprised of representatives from stakeholders including donor agencies, client countries, international organizations, NGOs and the private sector, and is expected to work with a range of partners and stakeholders inside and outside of the World Bank.

By providing opportunities for stakeholder dialogue and sharing knowledge from practical experiences with national forest programmes and forest institution reform, PROFOR supports initiatives to improve **forest governance** that aim to align government, private sector, and civil society interests and responsibilities, and promote equitable and efficient forest management practices. Through the documentation of practical experiences and development of analytical tools, PROFOR aims to contribute to a better understanding of forests as a source of **livelihoods** and of the impacts policies or initiatives may have on forest livelihoods. PROFOR supports analysis of adverse **cross-sectoral and macroeconomic impacts on the forest sector**, and identifies policies that contradict the goal of sustainable forest practices and are the source of underlying causes of poor forest management. Through support to national forest programmes or similar processes rooted in a participatory multi-sectoral approach, PROFOR fosters mechanisms for coordinating policy across sectors and works to identify cross-sectoral policies that support SFM. PROFOR seeks innovative approaches to **finance sustainable forest management** and contributes to reforming market structures in order to make sustainable forestry more profitable than unsustainable forest exploitation.

**Publications:** <http://www.profor.info/pubs/>

### 1.10 The Global Environment Facility (GEF)

<http://www.gefweb.org/index.html>

The Global Environment Facility (GEF), established in 1991, helps developing countries and countries in transition fund projects and programmes that protect the global environment. GEF's implementing agencies - the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and the World Bank - play key roles in managing GEF projects on the ground. GEF grants support projects in six focal areas: biodiversity, climate change, international waters, land degradation, the ozone layer, and persistent organic pollutants.

A wide spectrum of efforts to conserve and sustainably use the Earth's **biological diversity** makes up nearly half of all GEF projects. As the financial mechanism for the *Convention on Biological Diversity*, GEF receives guidance from the conference of parties on policy, strategy, programme priorities, and eligibility criteria related to the use of resources for purposes of the Convention. Projects generally deal with one or more of four critical ecosystem types and the human communities found there: 1) arid and semi-arid zones; 2) coastal, marine, and freshwater resources; 3) forests; and 4) mountains. GEF projects in **climate change** help developing countries and economies in transition to contribute to the overall objective of the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*. The projects support measures that minimize climate change damage by reducing the risk, or the adverse effects, of climate change. The GEF international waters focal area targets **transboundary**

**water systems**, such as river basins with water flowing from one country to another, groundwater resources shared by several countries, or marine ecosystems bounded by more than one nation. In 2003, the GEF was designated a financial mechanism of the *United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification*. Investments addressing **land degradation** comprise packages to improve the livelihood of local people and to preserve or restore the ecosystem health, and thus the flow of goods and services they provide. The packages relate to sustainable agriculture, rangeland, and forest management.

### 1.11 European Forest Institute (EFI)

<http://www.efi.fi/>

The European Forest Institute (EFI) is an international organisation established by European States. By the end of 2005, nine European States (Austria, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Norway, Romania, Spain and Sweden) had ratified the Convention on EFI. With its over 130 member organisations and six Project Centres, it offers the best forest research contacts and acknowledged collaboration at the European level. EFI's mission is to promote, conduct and cooperate in research of forestry and forest products at the pan-European level and to make the results of the research known to all interested parties, notably in the areas of policy formulation and implementation, in order to promote the conservation and sustainable management of forests in Europe.

The six **Project Centres** focus on specific topics relevant to a particular theme or a particular region:

- The question of conversion of pure secondary Norway spruce forests on sites naturally dominated by broadleaves – CONFOREST, in Germany;
- European Urban Forestry Research and Information Centre – EUFORIC, in Denmark;
- European Institute for Cultivated Forests – IEFC, in France;
- Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Forestry in Central Europe – INNOFORCE, in Austria;
- Mediterranean Forest Externalities – MEDFOREX, in Spain;
- Advancing Forest Research and Education in the Russian Federation – PROCES, in Russian Federation.

EFI has four **Research Programmes** with the following research priorities:

**Forest Ecology and Management** (carbon sequestration in forestry; effect of environmental changes on forestry; management of forests under various pressures; forests as a renewable source of energy and other goods and services; and biodiversity)

**Forest Product Markets and Socio-economics** (rural development and socio-economics of forest uses; economics of multifunctional uses of forests and forest externalities; analysis and modelling of the supply of and demand for timber and forest products; forest products trade analysis; and competitiveness of forest sector enterprises)

**Policy Analysis** (analysis and evaluation of the effects and impacts of implemented forest policies as well as other policies outside the sector influencing forests and the forestry sector; comparative studies of policy means and institutions in varying socio-economic conditions; analysis of the goals, values and behaviour of relevant actors in forestry; contribution to overall policy development processes and scientific capacity building in countries in transition; dissemination of information through publishing of research reports, conference proceedings and policy scientific

textbooks, and organising forest policy summer schools; and under the auspices of Forest Policy Research Forum organizing international workshops, seminars and conferences to provide a discussion forum for scientists and policy-makers)

**Forest Resources and Information** (information on the options of the future development of European forest resources; value-added information services for policy and decision-making in forestry and related disciplines)

**Publications:** <http://www.efi.fi/publications/>

EFI publishes five series. They include EFI Research Reports, which are high-quality peer-reviewed reports of the final results of EFI's research or on topics relevant for EFI's mission. EFI Proceedings compile papers presented at various events organised or co-organised by EFI. They compile the most recent research results together with hot spot by policymakers and decision-makers. The publications also include EFI Discussion Papers, Internal Reports and Working Papers. EFI News brings the latest forest related news twice a year to decision-makers and research community.

**Upcoming events:** <http://www.efi.fi/events/>

Events are an important tool for EFI to disseminate knowledge on research and increase exchange of knowledge between various stakeholders. This site includes detailed information on events where EFI is involved in the organisation, a calendar of forest seminars and conferences throughout the world, as well as links to other event sites. EFI organises over ten international scientific seminars and conferences annually around Europe. The topics of the events are in line with EFI's research priorities.

## 1.12 Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF)

<http://www.fao.org/forestry/foris/webview/cpf/index.jsp?siteId=1220&sitetreeId=2080&langId=1&geoId=0>

The Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) is an innovative partnership of 14 major forest-related international organizations, institutions and convention secretariats. It was established in April 2001, following the recommendation of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC).

The objectives of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests are to:

- support the work of the United Nations Forum on Forests and member countries
- enhance cooperation and coordination on forest issues

The CPF is currently comprised of 14 member organizations: Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO), Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Secretariat of the Global Environmental Facility (GEF), Secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), Secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF), Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), World Bank, and World Conservation Union (IUCN).



## 2 NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

### 2.1 World Conservation Union (IUCN) – Forest Conservation Programme

<http://www.iucn.org/themes/fcp>

IUCN's mission is to influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable. Through its projects IUCN works to apply sound ecosystem management to demonstrate how this is the only way to sustainable livelihoods for those directly dependent on natural resources.

The **Forest Conservation Programme** supports an integrated people-centred approach to conservation that ensures that forest resources are effectively restored, conserved and employed at the landscape-level to help secure sustainable and desirable livelihoods, particularly for the poor. It actively engages with governments, local communities, non-governmental organisations and the private sector around the world to improve forest conservation and management on the ground. Through its field research, project implementation, policy development and advocacy work at the national, regional and intergovernmental levels, the programme promotes innovative approaches to create opportunities for positive change.

The programme consists of a global secretariat based at the IUCN Headquarters and out-post offices in Russian Federation and Canada. The programme is also directly linked to and coordinated with a worldwide network of regional forest programmes based in different IUCN regional offices, which enables it to remain actively engaged in a wide range of field-based forest projects, and ensures that its global policy work is well grounded in local realities.

The **Temperate and Boreal Forest Programme** (TBFP) which is housed in the IUCN-CIS Office in Russian Federation, has the mandate to develop and implement a global programme for the conservation and sustainable management of temperate and boreal forests, built around three themes: policy analysis and input, information gathering and sharing, and facilitating stakeholder involvement in forest management decision making. The TBFP is fully established in Russian Federation and is spreading to other regions to develop country or regional programmes. The TBFP participates in ENA FLEG, UNFF and CBD processes. It is also involved in a UNESCO study to determine potential boreal forest World Heritage Sites.

**Publications:** <http://www.iucn.org/themes/fcp/publications/intro.htm>

The IUCN Forest Conservation Programme has brought out over 100 publications related to sustainable management and conservation of forests over the last ten years. These include those published under its three main technical and policy series: *Conserving Forest Ecosystems*, *Issues in Forest Conservation* and *Livelihoods and Landscapes*. It also includes those published under its thematic FireFight and Community Involvement in Forest Management projects. Over the last nine years, the Forest Conservation Programme has also published 25 issues of the **arborvitæ** newsletters and over 10 **arborvitæ** Specials in collaboration with the WWF Forests for Life programme.

### 2.2 World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) – Forests for Life Programme

[http://www.panda.org/about\\_wwf/what\\_we\\_do/forests/index.cfm](http://www.panda.org/about_wwf/what_we_do/forests/index.cfm)

WWF is a global organization acting locally through its network of offices. WWF's mission is to stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature, by conserving the world's biological diversity; ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable; and promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption. Their work covers many different areas from policy work to campaigning, on-the-ground action to education and capacity building.

WWF's **Forests For Life Programme** addresses the causes of forest loss through its targets for protection, responsible forestry and restoration. Of particular concern to the WWF are illegal logging and forest crime, conversion of forests to plantation crops of palm oil and soy, forest fires and climate change. The Forests For Life Programme consists of a global network of more than 250 staff working on over 300 projects in nearly 90 countries. WWF is working in partnerships at all levels of society – local communities, regional authorities, national governments, major timber companies, NGOs and international organizations (e.g. United Nations, World Bank).

In 1996, WWF launched a campaign, which is working to achieve greater forest protection and promoting sustainable forest management worldwide. Through a high profile campaigning aimed at getting world leaders, governments, industries and individuals to take action, the campaign is focusing its efforts on changing the mindset and actions of people around the globe. Specifically, the campaign seeks to protect more forests and manage them effectively and promote sustainable forest management, forest certification, and trade in certified products.

**Publications:** [http://www.panda.org/about\\_wwf/what\\_we\\_do/forests/publications\\_/index.cfm](http://www.panda.org/about_wwf/what_we_do/forests/publications_/index.cfm)

The WWF Forest for Life Programme publishes reports and factsheets on a whole range of subjects concerning forests and forestry: e.g. forest protection and conservation, sustainable forest management, forest-based industries development, illegal logging and timber trade, and forest certification. These reports analyze the situation and provide recommendations to be taken by concerned national authorities or the international community. The WWF also publishes position papers on different forestry topics/problems. The WWF issues several newsletters on different forestry subjects: e.g. Forestry and Wood Certification Newsletter, Forest Landscape Restoration Newsletter, *Arborvitae* – the WWF/IUCN Conservation Newsletter.

### 2.3 International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)

<http://www.iisd.org/natres/forests/>

The International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) contributes to the international negotiations on the sustainable management of forests with targeted communications aimed at improving the transparency and clarity of the discussions in a variety of fora. These fora include the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) of the United Nations Commission for Sustainable Development, the World Commission on Forests and Sustainable Development (WCFSFSD), various discussions on criteria and indicators of SFM, as well as other civil society initiatives. IISD was also hosting the Secretariat of the WCFSFSD.

### 2.4 World Commission on Forests and Sustainable Development (WCFSFSD)

<http://www.iisd.org/wcfsd/default.htm>

Following the Earth Summit in 1992 it was agreed that solutions to forest degradation are likely to be more political than technical. Accordingly, the Inter Action Council, a group of some 30 former heads of governments and states, decided to establish an independent commission to:

- increase awareness of the dual function of world forests in preserving the natural environment and contributing to economic development
- broaden the consensus on the data, science and policy aspects of forest conservation and management
- build confidence between North and South on forest matters with emphasis on international co-operation

Through a series of regional hearings based on the Brundtland Commission lines, the WCFSD intends to consult with various stakeholder groups. It will seek to achieve policy reforms aimed at reconciling economic and environmental objectives for sustainable management of global forests.

### **Our Forests, Our Future - Final Report of the WCFSD (1999)**

<http://www.iisd.org/wcfspd/finalreport.htm>

In this report, the WCFSD proposes a plan for how the world's forests can be used without being abused, and outlines what it takes in terms of policies and institutions for such a plan to be implemented. Ten following recommendations were made:

1. to stop the destruction of the earth's forests: their material products and ecological services are severely threatened
2. to use the world's rich forest resources to improve life for poor people and for the benefit of forest-dependent communities
3. to put the public interest first and involve people in decisions about forest use
4. to establish the correct value of forests, to reflect their full ecological and social values, and to stop harmful subsidies
5. to apply sustainable forest management approaches so we may use forests without abusing them
6. to develop new measures of forest capital so we know whether the situation is improving or worsening
7. to plan for the use and protection of whole landscapes, not the forest in isolation
8. to make better use of knowledge about forests, and greatly expand this information base
9. to accelerate research and training so sustainable forest management can become a reality quickly
10. to take bold political decisions and develop new civil society institutions to improve governance and accountability regarding forest use

## **2.5 Other NGOs with forest activities**

### **2.5.1 Friends of the Earth International – Forests Campaign**

<http://www.foei.org/forests/index.html>

Friends of the Earth International is a global environmental network, uniting 71 diverse national member groups and some 5,000 local activist groups on every continent. Friends of the Earth is calling



for strong controls on the forest industry and a halt to illegal logging and the unsustainable conversion of forests to agriculture and pastures.

### **2.5.2 Greenpeace International – Protect Ancient Forests**

<http://www.greenpeace.org/international/campaigns/forests>

Greenpeace is a non-profit organisation, with a presence in 40 countries across Europe, the Americas, Asia and the Pacific. It is acting to protect ancient boreal forests in Scandinavia and the Russian Federation.

### **2.5.3 World Resources Institute – Global Forest Watch**

<http://www.globalforestwatch.org/>

The World Resources Institute is a non-governmental organization providing information, ideas, and solutions to global environmental problems. It has many project-specific web sites designed to address special information needs and interactions. Global Forest Watch seeks to catalyze changes in forest use to meet human needs and better protect forest ecosystems.

### **2.5.4 The Environmental Investigation Agency – Forests for the World Campaign**

<http://www.eia-international.org/campaigns/forests/>

The Environmental Investigation Agency is an international campaigning organisation committed to investigating and exposing environmental crime. Since the early 1990's, Environmental Investigation Agency has been working to protect the world's forests, and the wildlife and people dependent on their resources.

### 3 INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH INSTITUTES

#### 3.1 International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO)

<http://iufro.boku.ac.at/>

The International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) is a non-profit, non-governmental international network of forest scientists with a long tradition dating back to 1892. Its objectives are to promote the coordination of and the international cooperation in scientific studies embracing the whole field of research related to forests and trees for the wellbeing of forests and the people that depend on them. IUFRO's activities are organized primarily through its 274 specialized units in 8 technical divisions. It unites more than 15,000 scientists in almost 700 Member Organizations in over 110 countries.

IUFRO attains its objectives by networking activities including the generation, exchange and dissemination of scientific knowledge, the provision of access to relevant information, and assistance to scientists and institutions to strengthen their research capacities. IUFRO's stakeholders are research organizations, universities and individual scientists, NGOs, decision-making authorities, forest landowners and other people who depend on forests.

##### **The Global Forest Information Service (GFIS)**

<http://www.gfis.net/webview/gfis/index.jsp?sitetreeId=22227&langId=1&geoId=0>

The Global Forest Information Service (GFIS) is an Internet gateway to forest information resources from around the world. It is an initiative of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF). GFIS is led by the International Union of Forest Research Organizations, together with the Food and Agriculture Organization, the Center for International Forest Research and CAB International. The goals of GFIS are:

- to enhance access to all types of forest information, starting with *news, meetings, and vacancy announcements*, for all stakeholders, including governments, researchers, forest managers, NGOs, community groups and the public at large; and
- to contribute to an improved understanding of complex forest-related issues, to improve decision-making and to facilitate a more informed public engagement in forest policy and forest management at all levels.

**Publications:** <http://www.iufro.org/publications/>

In **its Scientific Summaries** IUFRO presents substantial information on progress, processes and results in forest science and related disciplines in a concise and attractive style. Reports are published in following series: World Series (profound and far-reaching), Occasional Papers (precise and topical) and Research Series (high-quality cooperation with CAB International). IUFRO is also issuing an electronic newsletter - IUFRO News. It is published ten times a year.

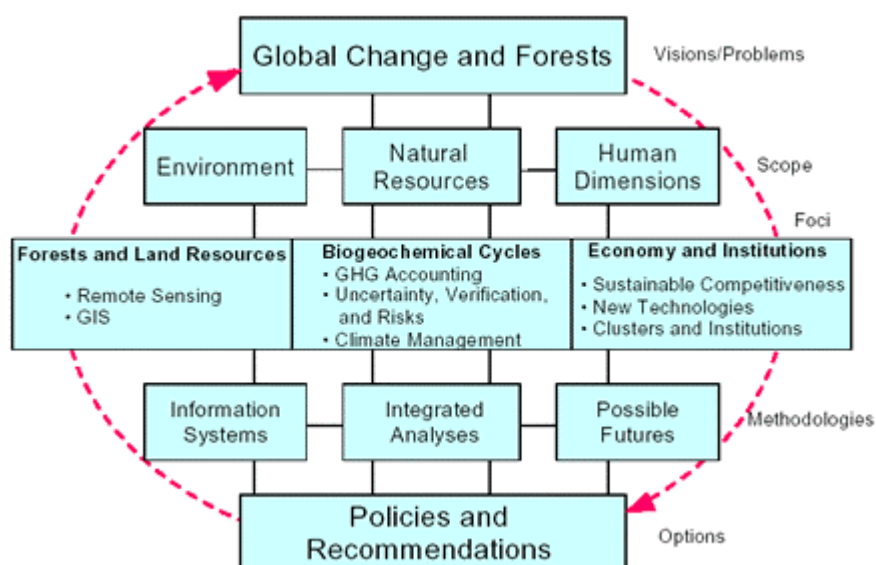
**Upcoming events:** <http://www.iufro.org/events/calendar-of-meetings/>

#### 3.2 International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)

<http://www.iiasa.ac.at/Research/FOR/index.html>

The International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) is a non-governmental research organization located in Austria. The institute conducts inter-disciplinary scientific studies on environmental, economic, technological and social issues in the context of the human dimensions of global change.

The IIASA overall theme in the forestry area is **Global Change and Forests**. It addresses the question of how to manage the forest sector in order to harmonize geo- and biospheric functions with socioeconomic development. The overall objective is to carry out science that supports policy issues being of interest to research, governmental and industry communities. The theme is directed towards natural resources, environment and human dimensions. The Forestry Programme at IIASA encompasses a wide range of research activities under the umbrella of sustainable development:



Source: IIASA website, 2006

Their website describes research activities, new projects and programmes. A list of IIASA publications is included on the website, a proportion of which are available online.

**Publications:** <http://www.iiasa.ac.at/Research/FOR/pubs.html?sb=21>

### 3.3 Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR)

<http://www.cifor.cgiar.org/>

The Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) is an international research and global knowledge institution committed to conserving forests and improving the livelihoods of people in the tropics. It was created in 1993 by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) – an association of governments and private foundations. CIFOR's high impact research helps local communities and small farmers gain their rightful share of forest resources, while increasing the production and value of forest products. CIFOR scientists conduct most of their work through a series of highly decentralized partnerships with key institutions and individuals in developing and industrialized nations. CIFOR is committed to building the capacities of developing country organizations and scientists by encouraging them to produce their own solutions to forest problems.

The website offers descriptions of research activities, describing new projects and programmes, and providing in-depth detail of established programmes. A list of CIFOR publications is included in the website, a proportion of which are available online.

### **3.4 World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF)**

<http://www.worldagroforestrycentre.org>

The World Agroforestry Centre (formerly the International Centre for Research in Agroforestry (ICRAF)) is one of sixteen agricultural research centres, which make up the global network of agriculture research organisations CGIAR. Established in 1977, the World Agroforestry Centre conducts research in agroforestry, in partnership with national agricultural research systems with a view to developing more sustainable and productive land use. The focus of its research is countries/regions in the developing world, in particular the tropics. The Centre also organises group training courses on agroforestry information management for the library and information personnel of collaborating institutions.

The website describes the Centre's aims and programmes, and provides databases that may be searched online including the Agroforestry Database, which is a species reference and selection guide for agroforestry trees, the Tree Seed Suppliers Directory, and Botanic Nomenclature Database. Practical guidelines and manuals for research and community nurseries may be viewed online or downloaded. A list of print publications, posters, and training materials is also given.

## 4 PRIVATE SECTOR ORGANIZATIONS

### 4.1 European Confederation of Woodworking Industries (CEI-Bois)

<http://www.cei-bois.org/>

The European Confederation of woodworking industries (CEI-Bois), founded in 1952, represents the interests of the European woodworking industry, which includes more than 100,000 companies employing around 2.7 million workers in the EU25. The primary goal of CEI-Bois is to further the interests of the European wood sector and to this end, it aims to influence EU policy-making. It is the main body representing and defending the interests of the European woodworking industries within the European Union.

The day-to-day management of CEI-Bois is assured by its secretariat in Brussels, supported by a number of working groups (additional ad hoc working groups are established as needed) dealing with international, environmental, technical, research and development, lobbying, promotion and social affairs.

#### **Roadmap 2010**

The "Roadmap 2010 for the European woodworking industries" is an action launched by CEI-Bois with the aim of:

- producing an updated analysis on key factors and challenges affecting the European woodworking industries;
- identifying opportunities for the sector and describing its ideal position;
- producing an action programme for the European woodworking industries towards 2010;
- within the general vision of "Wood and wood products to become the leading material in construction and interior solutions by 2010".

The final aim of this study is the establishment of an action programme targeted to the woodworking industries, their associations and the authorities.

**Publication:** <http://www.cei-bois.org/factsandfigures/factsandfigures.html>

**Upcoming events:** <http://www.cei-bois.org/news/events.html>

### 4.2 Confederation of European Paper Industries (CEPI)

<http://www.cepi.org/>

The Confederation of European Paper Industries (CEPI) is a not-for-profit organization, representing 19 member countries (17 European Union Member States plus Norway and Switzerland) and through its member countries, some 900 pulp, paper and board-producing companies across Europe, from small and medium-sized enterprises to multinationals. CEPI is based in Brussels, and represents the interests of the European pulp and paper industry to European institutions.

CEPI monitors and analyses EU legislation and initiatives taken at the EU level in the fields of industry, environment, energy, forestry, recycling, and fiscal policies. It provides a forum for its members to exchange information and to act on emerging issues, to define common positions and to

make expert and constructive contributions to the industry consultation processes required by European Treaties. CEPI possesses a wide source of information on the pulp and paper industry in Europe, and, through its members, can provide information on the industry in individual Member States. It provides technical assistance to legislators, and can identify independent experts to answer specific questions. By working proactively, CEPI is able to better inform interested parties about the pulp and paper industry and issues of concern to the industry.

CEPI has three Standing Committees through which the Confederation works. These are the Forest, Environment and Recycling Committees. The Committees' objective is to ensure that the industry's position is taken into account at EU level. The Environment Committee is responsible for all issues relating to the pulp and paper production process including energy and production waste. The Forest Committee identifies emerging policies that might impact on forests and wood procurement. The work of the Forest Committee aims at ensuring the eco-efficient and sustainable future supply of primary raw material for pulp and papermaking of an adequate quality and quantity over time. The aim of the Recycling Committee is to contribute to competitive framework conditions for paper recycling by influencing European policy-making concerning the availability and quality of recovered paper, operating conditions for paper mills using recovered paper and requirements set for paper and board products based on recovered paper.

**Publication:** <http://www.cepi.org/content/showlatestpublications.asp?Level0=550&Level1=567>

**Upcoming events:** <http://www.cepi.org/content/showevents.asp?level0=551&level1=570>

### 4.3 European Panel Federation (EPF)

<http://www.mdf-info.org/website/%5Fepf/>

Since 1999, the European Panel Federation (EPF) represents the European manufacturers of particleboard, medium density fibreboard (MDF) and oriented strand board (OSB). EPF thus took over the European federation of associations of the particleboard manufacturers (founded in 1958) and the European federation of MDF manufacturers (founded in 1986). The major tasks of EPF are to:

- act as a meeting point for all producers of particleboard, MDF and OSB as well as of their supplier industries
- act as a representative of the particleboard, MDF and OSB industries with supra-national authorities
- follow up and, where needed, steer activities in respect to technical and environmental topics that have an impact on the particleboard, MDF and OSB sectors
- set up a statistical system on the wood-based panel industries and their markets
- provide information to the membership through for example an annual report, regular newsletters, but also through the organisation of technical conferences
- provide all interested parties with general information on the sector

### 4.4 European Federation of Plywood Industry (FEIC)

[www.europlywood.org](http://www.europlywood.org)

The European Federation of the Plywood Industry (FEIC) represents 15 countries within the European Union and Central and Eastern Europe. The FEIC deals with all questions that confront the

European plywood industries. It defends the common interests of its members before international bodies and, if necessary, before national authorities. FEIC collects and provides economic, technical and social documentation which are of interest to the sector. It also assists and supports professional institutions and organisations carrying out scientific, technical and economic research of general interest to the plywood industries.

#### **4.5 European Federation of Parquet Industry (FEP)**

[www.parquet.net](http://www.parquet.net) or [www.eurowoodfloor.org](http://www.eurowoodfloor.org)

The European Federation of the Parquet Industry (FEP) regroups European manufacturers of parquet. It is the main body representing and defending the interests of the European parquet industries towards the European Union.

The primary goal of FEP is to strengthen and improve the position of wood flooring against other floor covering products. The activities of FEP are situated in the areas raw material supply, production, market and internal affairs. Typical examples of work items are: collection of market data and statistics; follow-up of relevant European legislation and standardization; publication of a newsletter; organisation of an annual parquet congress.

#### **4.6 Confederation of European Forest Owners (CEPF)**

[www.cepf-eu.org](http://www.cepf-eu.org)

The Confederation of European Forest Owners (CEPF) is a non-for-profit federation founded in 1996 as a successor organization to the Central Committee of Forest Owners in the European Economic Community, which was established in 1961. The CEPF represents 16 million family forest owners in 23 European Countries owning on average less than 13 hectares. It is the only umbrella organization of national forest owner organizations in the European Union.

CEPF assists national forest owners' organisations in Europe in maintaining and enhancing an economical viable, socially beneficial, culturally valuable and ecologically responsible sustainable forest management. Over 60 % of the total forest area in the European Union is privately owned. The individual forest owners are part of social networks that reach from semi-rural to remote rural areas and where Community policies are usually not easily communicated. CEPF has in that respect a bridge building role enabling family forest owners from the local level to voice their concerns and provide their knowledge to the European level.

#### **4.7 European Network of Forest Entrepreneurs (ENFE)**

<http://www.enfe.net/english/index.htm>

The European Network of Forest Entrepreneurs (ENFE) represents forest contractor associations and enterprises from 13 European countries. It enables and encourages information dissemination between its members and between the Network and opinion makers in Europe, to enable co-ordination of actions necessary for the economic development of SMEs in European Forestry.

Common areas of concern include the need for:

- presentation of the contractor-entrepreneur sector is part of view to the main opinion makers in individual countries and to the European Commission



- adoption of common quality management standards as an aid to contractors working within certification custody chains
- transfer of best practices across a wide range of specific operations
- adoption of training programmes to encourage mobility within Europe
- contractor support when engaged in cross border operations
- dialogue between associations, unions and employer organisations

#### **4.8 Union des Sylviculteurs du Sud de l'Europe (USSE)**

<http://www.usse.es/homeingles.html>

The USSE was created in 1989 and it reunites foresters from Greece, France, Italy, Portugal and Spain. The USSE aims to establish a unified wood market in South Europe based on the improvement of conditions in forest production. It aspires to reduce the obstacles between the forest regions by creating networks between professional organizations.

#### **4.9 PEFC Council (Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Schemes)**

<http://www.pefc.org/internet/html/>

The PEFC Council (Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes) is an independent, non-profit, non-governmental organisation, founded in 1999, which promotes sustainably managed forests through independent third party certification. The PEFC provides an assurance mechanism to purchasers of wood and paper products that they are promoting the sustainable management of forests.

PEFC is a global umbrella organisation for the assessment of and mutual recognition of national forest certification schemes developed in a multi-stakeholder process. These national schemes build upon the inter-governmental processes for the promotion of sustainable forest management, a series of on-going mechanisms supported by 149 governments in the world covering 85% of the world's forest area.

PEFC has in its membership 32 independent national forest certification systems of which 21 to date have been through a rigorous assessment process involving public consultation and the use of independent consultants to provide the assessments on which mutual recognition decisions are taken by the membership. These 21 schemes account for over 175 million hectares of certified forests producing millions of tonnes of certified timber to the market place making PEFC the world's largest certification scheme. The other national members schemes are at various stages of development and are working towards mutual recognition under the PEFC processes.

#### **4.10 Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)**

<http://www.fsc.org/en/>

The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) is an international network to promote responsible management of the world's forests. Its members consist of a diverse group of representatives from environmental and social groups, the timber trade and the forestry profession, indigenous people's organizations, responsible corporations, community forestry groups and forest product certification organizations from around the world. Through consultative processes, FSC sets international standards



for responsible forest management. FSC accredits independent third party organizations that can certify forest managers and forest product producers to FSC standards. Its trademark provides international recognition to organizations that support the growth of responsible forest management. FSC undertakes marketing programmes and information services that contributes to the mission of promoting responsible forestry worldwide. Over the past 10 years, 50 million hectares in more than 60 countries have been certified according to FSC standards while several thousand products are produced using FSC certified wood and carrying the FSC trademark. FSC operates through its network of National Initiatives in more than 34 countries.

## **Some facts about the Timber Committee**

The Timber Committee is a principal subsidiary body of the UNECE (United Nations Economic Commission for Europe) based in Geneva. It constitutes a forum for cooperation and consultation between member countries on forestry, forest industry and forest product matters. All countries of Europe; the former USSR; United States of America, Canada and Israel are members of the UNECE and participate in its work.

The UNECE Timber Committee shall, within the context of sustainable development, provide member countries with the information and services needed for policy- and decision-making regarding their forest and forest industry sector ("the sector"), including the trade and use of forest products and, when appropriate, formulate recommendations addressed to member Governments and interested organizations. To this end, it shall:

1. With the active participation of member countries, undertake short-, medium- and long-term analyses of developments in, and having an impact on, the sector, including those offering possibilities for the facilitation of international trade and for enhancing the protection of the environment;
2. In support of these analyses, collect, store and disseminate statistics relating to the sector, and carry out activities to improve their quality and comparability;
3. Provide the framework for cooperation e.g. by organizing seminars, workshops and ad hoc meetings and setting up time-limited ad hoc groups, for the exchange of economic, environmental and technical information between governments and other institutions of member countries that is needed for the development and implementation of policies leading to the sustainable development of the sector and to the protection of the environment in their respective countries;
4. Carry out tasks identified by the UNECE or the Timber Committee as being of priority, including the facilitation of sub-regional cooperation and activities in support of the economies in transition of central and eastern Europe and of the countries of the region that are developing from an economic point of view;
5. It should also keep under review its structure and priorities and cooperate with other international and intergovernmental organizations active in the sector, and in particular with the FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) and its European Forestry Commission and with the ILO (International Labour Organisation), in order to ensure complementarities and to avoid duplication, thereby optimizing the use of resources.

More information about the Committee's work may be obtained by writing to:

UNECE/FAO Timber Section  
Trade and Timber Division  
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe  
Palais des Nations  
CH - 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland  
Fax: + 41 22 917 0041  
E-mail: [info.timber@unece.org](mailto:info.timber@unece.org)

<http://www.unece.org/trade/timber>

**UNECE/FAO  
Publications**

**Timber Bulletin Volume LVIII (2005)**

*Forest Products Annual Market Review, 2004-2005*

**ECE/TIM/BULL/2005/3**

***Note:** other market related publications and information are available in electronic format from our website.*

***Geneva Timber and Forest Study Papers***

European Forest Sector Outlook Study: 1960 – 2000 – 2020, Main Report	ECE/TIM/SP/20
Forest policies and institutions of Europe, 1998-2000	ECE/TIM/SP/19
Forest and Forest Products Country Profile: Russian Federation	ECE/TIM/SP/18
(Country profiles also exist on Albania, Armenia, Belarus, Bulgaria, former Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Republic of Moldova, Slovenia and Ukraine)	
Forest resources of Europe, CIS, North America, Australia, Japan and New Zealand	ECE/TIM/SP/17
State of European forests and forestry, 1999	ECE/TIM/SP/16
Non-wood goods and services of the forest	ECE/TIM/SP/15

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