

State of Europe's Forests - assessing progress on Sustainable Forest Management

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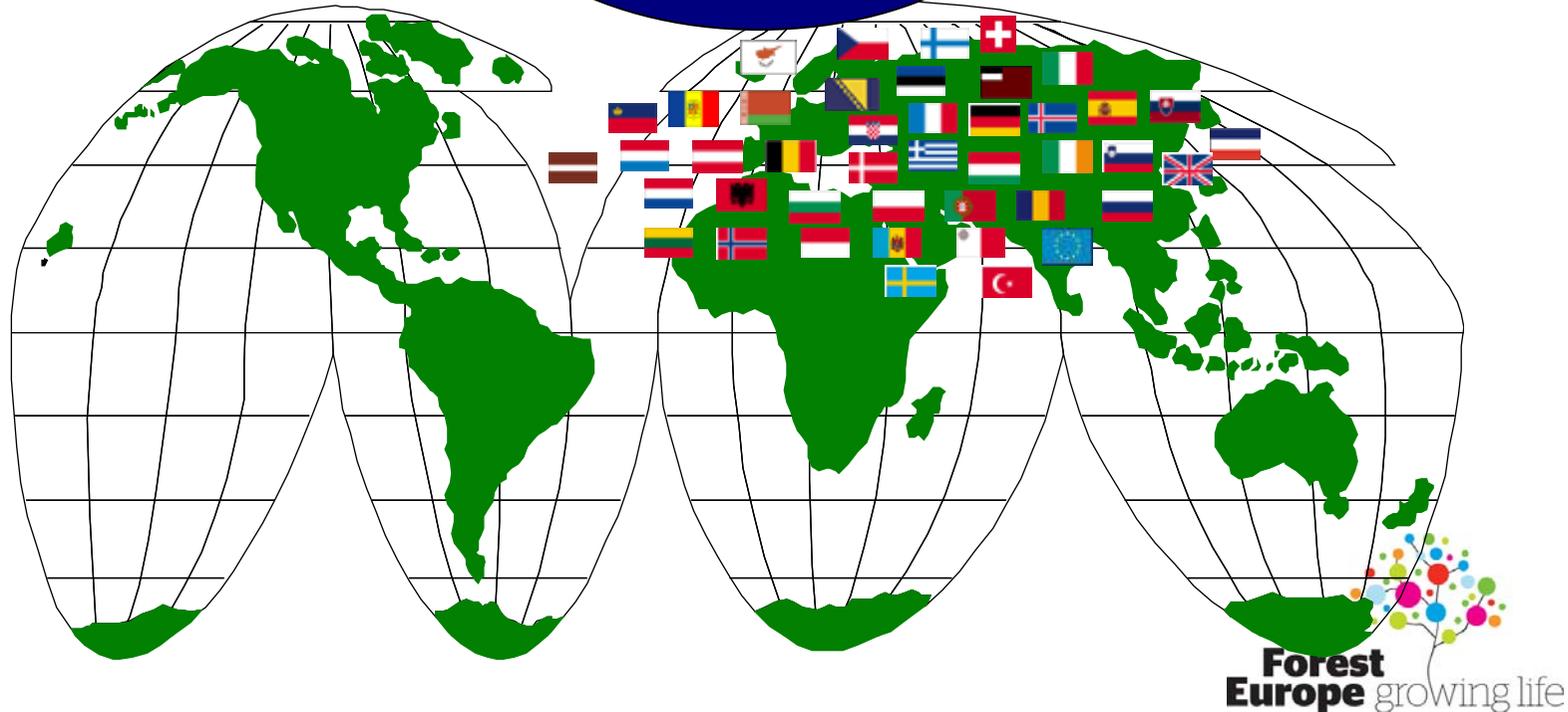


FOREST EUROPE - regional policy process

**Signatories:
46 European
States + EU**

**sustainable management
of forests in Europe**

**Observers:
41 countries
and
organisations**



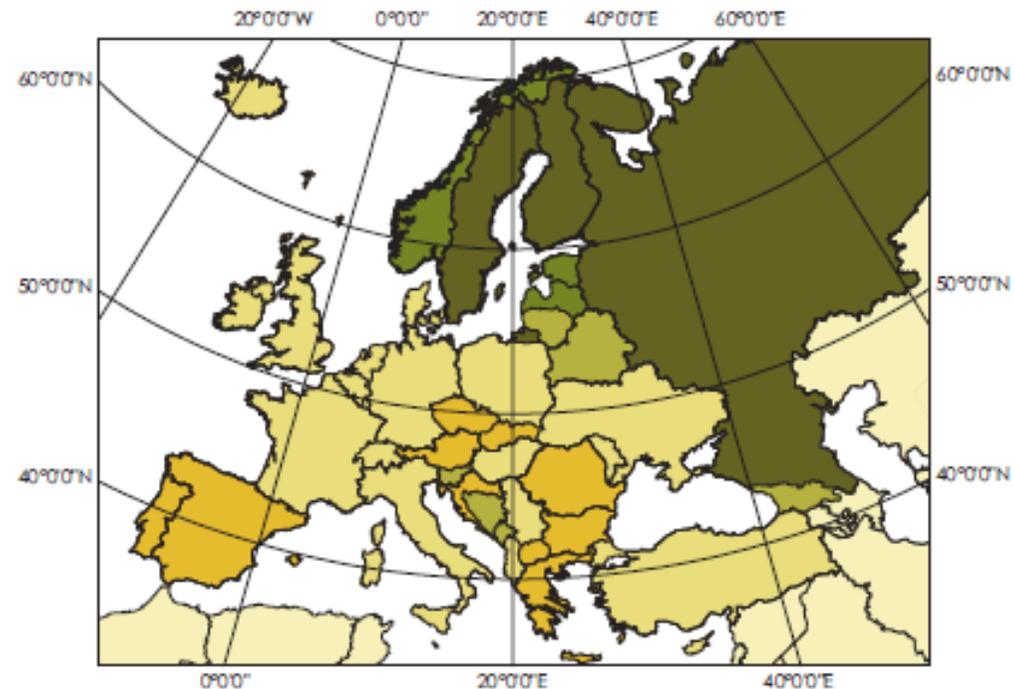
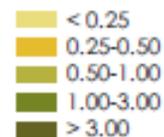
FOREST EUROPE

Area of forests per capita by country (2005)

•Forests cover 44 % of the land area of Europe

•15 % of European forests located in the EU-27

•85% of European forests are located outside EU, mostly in Russian Federation



Sustainable forest management

regional concensus on definition

*„The stewardship and use of forests and forest lands in 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”*

(MCPFE, Helsinki Resolution 1, 1993)

Concept includes:

- **Reforestation and afforestation** (H1, Guideline 8, Action 14)
- **Degradation** (H1, Guideline 1)
- **Restoration** (L2, PEOLG)
- **Forest biodiversity protection** (H1, Guideline 6)



Sustainable forest management – complexity of ‘sustainability’ of forests

„Promote sustainable forest management by further implementing, applying and improving, criteria and indicators for: monitoring, assessing and reporting progress on sustainable forest management ...”

Vienna Declaration, 2003



Criteria for sustainable forest management

- 6 Criteria - formulated as policy goals (closely related to 7 global thematic elements of sustainable forest management and other regional processes)
 1. Forest Resources
 2. Health and Vitality
 3. Productive Functions
 4. Biological Diversity
 5. Protective Functions
 6. Socio-economic Functions

Quantitative and qualitative indicators

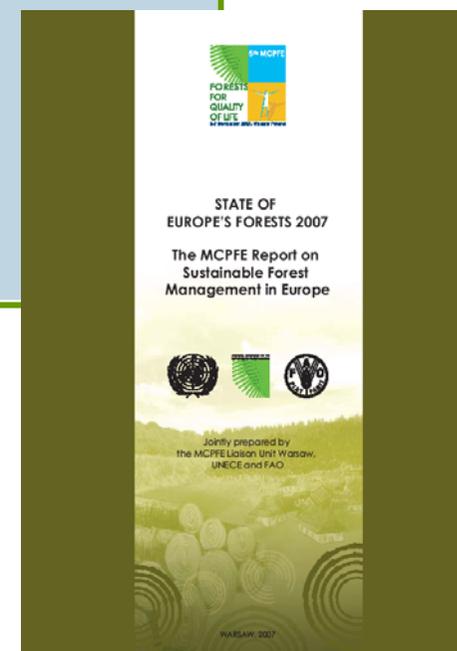
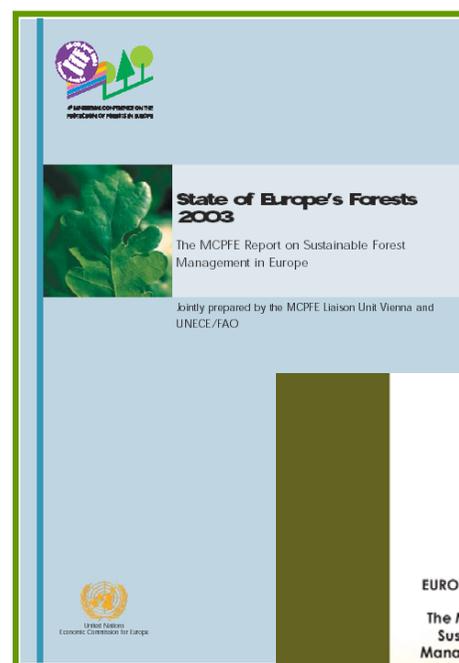
- 35 Quantitative – structured by 6 criteria/ show changes over time
- 17 Qualitative – include policies, institutions and financial instruments
- Indicators chosen as a compromise between political relevance, data availability, cost effectiveness, technical feasibility, reliability
- Developed through a participatory process, contributions by scientific community, stakeholders, policy makers

State of Europe's Forests 2003-2007-2011

Best available information in common format across pan-European region
– as always with room for improvements

Joint effort:

- UNECE/FAO Timber Section and FOREST EUROPE Liaison Unit
- Contributions by FAO Forest Resources Assessment Team
- National and international experts and organisations
- Substantial contributions by countries/national correspondents



Country reporting for State of Europe's Forests 2011

- Questionnaires were distributed to national correspondents in February 2011
- Deadline for reporting is set at 1 May 2010
- Review of national reports is expected to be finished by end of August 2010
- Preparation of «State of Europe's Forests» report autumn 2010-winter 2011
- Presentation – 6th Ministerial Conference, 14-16 June, 2011 Oslo



Needs for contributions

- The report is a joint project between secretariats, international organisations and countries
- Financial or in-kind contributions to the process still needed



Developments and improvements

- Indicators were agreed with the understanding that refinements and developments would be necessary

General improvements

- European forest types: State of Europe's Forests 2011 is pilot testing of new classification
- Data provision – aiming at more complete reporting by countries/others
- Consistency in approach across countries, clarifications in terms and definitions



Examples of identified potential developments

- Carbon flow
- Climate mitigation efficiency
- Life cycle analysis of wood products/substitution effects
- Vulnerability and adaptive capacity of forests responding to importance of forests related to climate change
- Nutrient balance
- Dead wood quantities in response to expected increased demands for renewable energy

Final remarks

- Provide politically relevant information for FOREST EUROPE Ministerial Conferences, 2003 – 2007 – 2011
- Regular assessment on progress towards sustainable forest management / sustainability of forests
- Serves as a main available information source about European forests and their sustainability
- Based on joint efforts of UNECE/FAO, FOREST EUROPE and national and international experts and organisations
- Best available information in common format across pan-European region – as always with room for improvements



Thank you.

