

# Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy

10 - 14 October 2011



**Joint meeting of the 36th Session of the  
FAO European Forestry Commission and  
the 69th Session of the UNECE Timber  
Committee.**

**Christoph Dür, Federal Office for the Environment, Switzerland  
Heikki Granholm, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Finland**

---

## CONTENT OF PRESENTATION (cont.)

1. Introduction to Action Plan
  2. How Action Plan was developed?
  3. Goals and scope of Action Plan
  4. Structure of Action Plan: 5 topics
    - (1) Sustainable production and consumption of forest products
    - (2) Sustainable forest management
    - (3) Decent Green Jobs in the forest sector
    - (4) Forests and climate change
    - (5) Forests and biodiversity
-

## CONTENT OF PRESENTATION

(2) Low carbon forest sector

(4) Valuation of and payment for forest ecosystem services


(5) Monitoring and governance of forest sector

5. The road ahead

6. Some questions

---

# 1. INTRODUCTION TO THE ACTION PLAN

- Why was Action Plan developed?  Forest sector is already "green", but how to demonstrate it and make even greater contribution
- First forest and forest sector oriented plan
- Focus on ECE region
- Long term vision - practical action
- Participatory approach

## 2. HOW THE ACTION PLAN WAS DEVELOPED?

- 31 replies to a questionnaire circulated via various forest-related mailing lists
- Stakeholder meeting (10-11 May 2011) with representatives from States, NGOs, IGOs...
- A living document to be further developed and refined, in parallel with the review of the Joint ECE/FAO PoW Programme of Work



### 3. GOALS OF THE ACTION PLAN

- Define/demonstrate how the ECE region forest sector can contribute to the green economy – and monitor progress
  - Share and promote best practice
  - Promote policies which are effective, efficient and equitable
  - Communicate achievements – to public, policy makers and other sectors
-

### 3. SCOPE OF THE ACTION PLAN

- « Green Economy » - assumed low carbon emission, resource efficient, socially inclusive
- UNECE region
- Forest sector - includes forests, industries, consumption, trade of forest products
- NOT a work programme for UNECE/FAO, intended for use by all stakeholders, national and international



## 4. STRUCTURE OF THE ACTION PLAN

### Overall Goals

Topic (1)-(5)	Objective	Possible actions, international	Possible actions, national
Area of Activity	Objective	Possible actions, international	Possible actions, national

---



## 4. STRUCTURE OF THE ACTION PLAN: 5 TOPICS

- ⇒ (1) Sustainable production and consumption of forest products
  - (2) The low-carbon forest sector ←
  - ⇒ (3) Decent green jobs in the forest sector
  - (4) Valuation of and payment for forest ecosystem services ←
  - (5) Monitoring and governance of the forest sector ←
-

# (1) SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION OF FOREST PRODUCTS

- Certification and labelling
- Procurement practices
- Wood mobilisation
- Innovation in forest management and in forest products
- Life Cycle Assessment
- Standards for Green Building/all materials
- Trade in wood and forest products: sustainability and legality



### (3) DECENT GREEN JOBS IN THE FOREST SECTOR

- A skilled workforce
- Safety and health of the forestry workforce
- Forest operations: respectful of nature, efficient, safe
- Socio-economic impacts of Green Economy Policies



## (2) LOW CARBON FOREST SECTOR

- Substitution of non-renewable materials and energy
- Efficient production and use of wood
- Adaptation of the forest to a changing climate
- Carbon sequestration and storage



## (4) VALUATION OF AND PAYMENT FOR FOREST ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

- Valuation of forest ecosystem services
- Payment for forest ecosystem services: moving from theory to practice
- Forests and human health




## (5) MONITORING AND GOVERNANCE OF FOREST SECTOR


- Implementation and improvement of criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management
- Assessment of sustainable forest management in the region
- Policy instruments for the forest sector in a green economy
- Communication and promotion of sustainable forest management and the green economy
- Communication and outreach to and cooperation with other parts of the green economy



## 5. THE ROAD AHEAD

- A non-binding, flexible framework, open to change and development:

forest sector  markets/society

- An international Action Plan, but most actions can be national and local:  How to stimulate action?
  - Possible international methods: exchange of experience, monitoring and analysis (SoEF, EFSOS, market reviews), pilot projects, development of theory, policy analysis and advice, guides for policy makers, updated market reviews
-

## THE ROAD AHEAD

- UNECE Timber Committee and FAO European Forestry Commission to consider the Action Plan in October 2011 during



- Use as basis for discussion and a reference for action, work in parallel to ECE-FAO PoW Review
- Continue consultations and refinement of plan
- A practical contribution to





## 6. SOME QUESTIONS

- How can the forest sector make a greater contribution to a green economy? Is the Action Plan a good basis?
  - How can we further improve our Action Plan?
  - How can we stimulate implementation?
  - How can we make the difference?
    - Within our sector?
    - To end-users of our products and services?
-

**Thank you for your attention**

