

The Global Forest Resources Assessment Long-Term Strategy

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FORESTS:
A GREEN PATHWAY
FOR HUMAN
DEVELOPMENT

COFO 21
WORLD FOREST WEEK



Today's presentation

- Key challenges
- Long-Term Strategy
- Initial steps toward FRA 2015
- Introducing the Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire

Key challenges

- Data quality/reliability
- Increasing reporting burden
- Understanding and addressing user needs
- Financing

FRA Long-Term Strategy

The 20th Session of COFO requested FAO to
prepare a long-term strategy for the FRA
process consistent with sustainable
funding

Long-term FRA strategy development process

Expanding concentric circles of consultation

- FRA team (May 2011)
- FAO forest monitoring colleagues (May 2011)
- FRA Advisory Group (June 2011)
- FAO Forestry leadership (July 2011)
- Expert Consultation (Sept 2011)
- All six Regional Forestry Commissions (Oct 2011-May 2012)

Expert Consultation recommendations

- Increasing data quality is of high importance
- Indication of data quality should be included
- Find ways to help countries integrate remote sensing with country reporting
- Improve protective function reporting
- Proceed with collaboration among forest data providers

Frequent comments from RFC

- Pleased with preparation of Strategy
- Priority be given to data quality improvement and reductions in reporting burden
- Focus on providing quality data supporting investment in SFM and policy development was endorsed
- Efforts to streamline data collection, analysis and reporting were highly appreciated

What did FRA users say?

- Prominent use is research and teaching
- Most important topics:
 1. Extent of forest resources
 2. Productive functions of forests
 3. Biological diversity
- Greater emphasis needed on:
 1. Progress toward SFM
 2. Planted and natural forest
 3. Assessing future forest change

Applying the Strategy to FRA 2015

- Begin implementation of Long-Term Strategy
- Help countries increase the use of remote sensing into country reporting
- Enhance capacity building
- Work with regional data collection partners on the Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire (CFRQ)

Reducing reporting burden

Three strategies:

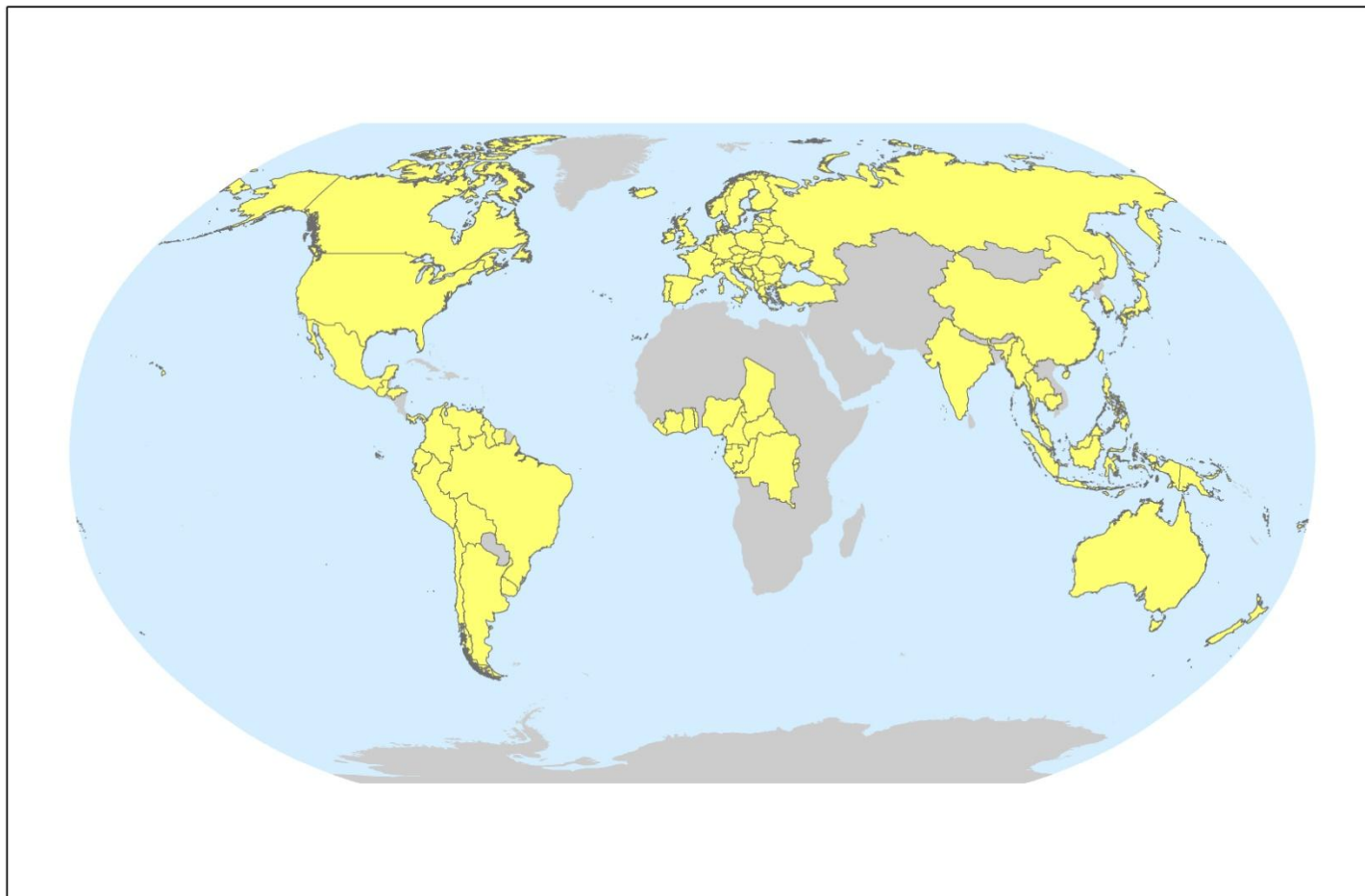
1. Prioritising variables to focus effort
2. Streamlining country reporting
3. Initiating joint data collection and analysis with international partners



The Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire: Making Joint Data Collection Work

An outcome of the Strategic Planning
Process

Countries covered by the CFRQ



94 countries, 87% of global forest area

FAO Suggests the Committee Consider:

- Endorsement of the FRA Long-Term Strategy as reviewed by the six Regional Forestry Commissions
- Support for the implementation of FRA 2015 as a next step in implementation of the Strategy
- Encouraging countries and donors to support the preparation of FRA 2015

A special thanks to...

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Thank you!

