Strategic framework and programme priorities for FAO in forestry

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Content

• Synthesis of the recommendations of the six regional forestry commissions (RFCs)
• Reform of the ACPWP
• Possible thematic expansion of IPC
• Expanding forest education and research
Recommendations of the Regional Forestry Commissions

• Priorities for each region identified using template of COFO Steering Committee and communicated to each other
• Critical input into COFO priority-setting process
• To be seen in the context of the evolving new FAO Strategic Framework
Recommendations by a RFC are sent for the forthcoming sessions for consideration

RFCs are also sharing their recommendations with other RFCs which have had their session already

The COFO Steering Committee composed of the RFC chairs and the COFO chair consolidate these recommendations
Recommendations of the six FAO Regional Forestry Commissions

For the FAO Forestry Programme:

– Forestry and sustainable development
– Information and analysis, monitoring and reporting
– Climate change and REDD
– Forest finance
– Community-based management
– Human-wildlife conflict
– Fire
– FLEG
– Communication
– Education
Points for consideration

- Committee may wish to endorse the Regional Forestry Commissions recommendations
Strengthening forestry

• Reform of the ACPWP
• Possible thematic expansion of IPC
• Expanding forest education and research
Proposal to renew ACPWP

• The FAO Advisory Committee on Paper and Wood Products (ACPWP) is a statutory body established in 1960 under Article VI.2 of the FAO Constitution

• Offers private sector views on policy processes relevant to the sustainable development in forestry and industries
New features

• ACPWP needs to be fully empowered and strengthened in mandate and membership
• It aims to advise on FAO’s programme in the field of sustainable production and consumption of forest industry products
• Addresses key issues across the forest industry value chains related to the economic, environmental, social and cultural aspects
• Increase the representation of forest-rich developing economies, and reach for a balance between sub-sectors
Expected Results

- Stronger support in fulfilling FAO’s new Strategic Objectives
- Enhancing inputs to, and implementing the priorities of, the FAO Programme of Work and Budget (PWB) in forestry
- Strengthening the FAO Strategy for Partnerships with the Private Sector

The Committee is invited to provide its views and support to the basic elements of the reform of the ACPWP
Proposal for a Thematic Expansion of the International Poplar Commission (IPC)
International Poplar Commission

- Technical Statutory Body of FAO (Art. XIV), established in 1947 by 9 European countries
- Today 37 member countries from all temperate regions of the world
- FAO hosts the Secretariat of the IPC under UN mandate
- Mandate: to promote the cultivation, conservation and utilization of poplars and willows (ca. 95 million ha worldwide)
- Goal: to enhance well-being and rural livelihoods in developing countries through the transfer of knowledge and technology
Current Situation

- strong interest by poplar and willow specialists around the globe
- membership stagnant due to institutional complexities
- developing countries are the minority as members
- narrow geographic and technical focus
- difficult to attract donor and international programme interest and funding
- lack of resources
- links with FAO mandate not always apparent
Opportunities

• expand the thematic scope to include other genera/species of high socio-economic or ecological significance
• build upon existing international partnerships
• take up new topical themes (e.g. climate change adaptation and mitigation; sustainable supplies of wood, fibre and short-rotation forestry for bioenergy/biofuel)
• support sustainable land-use and livelihoods, including food security and poverty alleviation in compliance with FAO-mandate
• attract new members and funding options
COFO may wish to encourage the Executive Committee of the International Poplar Commission to consider expanding the IPC thematic scope while maintaining the existing mandate on poplars and willows.
EXPANDING FORESTRY EDUCATION AND KNOWLEDGE

• FAO abolished its bodies on forestry education by the late 1990s, but RFCs and previous COFOs have called for FAO to re-establish its forest education programme.

• FAO has limited activities on forestry education at present, but is expanding its work using e-learning and smaller projects and could further expand its project work to address gaps in forestry education.

• The Committee may wish to consider:
  – how to strengthen forestry education and knowledge initiatives within FAO Forestry; and
  – endorsing the creation and the roles of an FAO Advisory Panel on Forest Knowledge, to implement a forest education programme, expand education-related project work, and improve networks in forest education, research and professions.
Thank you!