

# Revisiting FAO's work in forest education and research

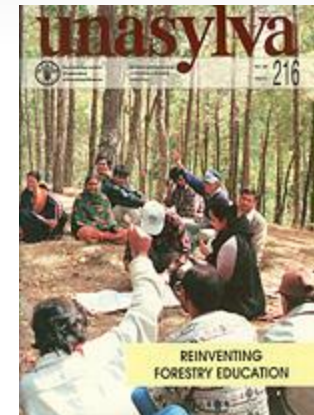
Related to Annex 4, COFO/2012/9.3  
(Item 9.3)



# What happened to FAO's work in forestry education?



- Forestry education was a key focus of FAO's activities during the 1990s, but suffered a decline after the abolishment of the Advisory Committee on Forest Education in 1997.
- Since that time, a number of workshops were held and publications continued to focus on the issue of forestry education.



# How have things progressed since the late 1990s?



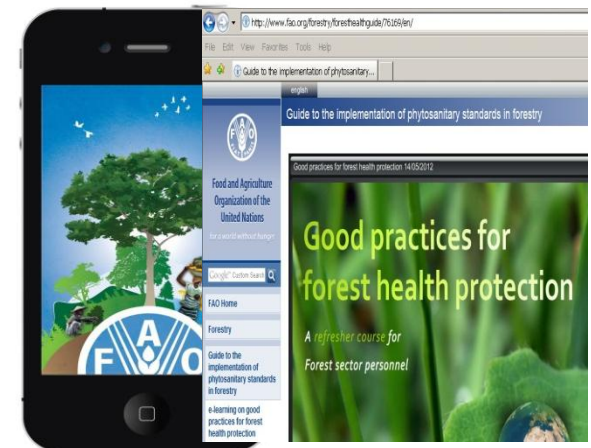
- In June 2009, ANAFE started an initiative to revitalize forestry education in Eastern Africa supported by the NFP Facility and continued strengthening the capacity of ANAFE's members from Anglophone and Francophone Africa to enhance natural resource management education



- IUFRO started a Task Force on forestry science and education to examine the issue of forestry curricula, among other matters, and promoted high level vocational training through its summer school

- FAO has absorbed and kept pace with key trends in education by using electronic forms of media to educate the public on forestry matters

FAO Forestry



## Examples of current initiatives (e-learning)



- Forestry education platform: To improve access to, and exchange of, information and knowledge in forestry science and technology between developing countries in Central America and the Caribbean

<http://www.fao.org/forestry/material-educativo/es>

- Forestry mobile app: provides maps containing FRA country data, information about FAO project work, a quiz on forest issues and a donation function for Telefood projects.



- E-Learning modules: Good practices for forest health protection courses developed, with strong uptake and involvement of countries.



# What about the future of FAO education initiatives?



EXPANSION OF  
PROJECT INITIATIVES

FURTHER  
EXPLORATION OF  
VOCATIONAL TRAINING

STRENGTHENING  
RESEARCH LINKAGES TO  
FORESTRY ACTIVITIES

CONTINUED APPLICATION  
OF NEW MEDIA



# How can FAO help promote and implement these activities?



- At COFO20, informal discussions were held to discuss the possible formation of an Advisory Panel on Forest Knowledge, during which meeting participants agreed FAO should seek further support from the regions for this concept
- During the RFCs, further support was gained to strengthen FAO's work in forestry education, including FAO's "Kids to Forests" initiative, e-learning, further research opportunities

# What are the benefits of an Advisory Panel on Forest Knowledge?



- An Advisory Panel is critical to coordinate guidance from the main regional stakeholders on how FAO could contribute to forest education and knowledge
- A Panel could advise FAO to develop, conduct and monitor a normative and operational forest education programme
- A Panel could strengthen the relationship between regional and / or global forest research networks to contribute to projects and research
- A Panel could meet every two years within COFO or regionally at the RFCs.







*How do you think FAO can  
strengthen forestry education?*