

What are the main differences between this updated set and the previous one?

- 1) Structure:** The structure of the set has been modified in order to improve the linkage between the qualitative and quantitative indicators. This change aims to align better the forest policies, actions and measures to which qualitative indicators refer to, with the related quantitative information.
- 2) New indicators:** The updated set includes 3 new indicators related to forest land degradation, forest fragmentation and common forest bird species.
- 3) Relation to other areas and sectors:** some changes have been made in order to improve the information related to other areas, such as climate change mitigation, the value of and payment for forest ecosystem services, certification schemes, and illegal logging.

For instance, in order to acknowledge better the role of forests and forest products in adapting to and mitigating climate change, information about carbon stock changes in forest biomass and forest soils has been improved, and information related to harvested wood products has been incorporated in the indicator related to carbon stock in forests.

- 4) Changes in denomination and/or descriptions:** the names and/or description of some indicators have been modified to reflect in a clearer way the relation between the name/definition of the indicator and the information it provides.

More information at

<http://www.foresteuropa.org/content/updating-pan-european-set-indicators-sfm>



The updated pan-european set of **indicators for sustainable forest management**

Indicators for sustainable forest management (SFM) are a useful tool for forest policy formulation and decision making, forest monitoring, and communication.

In Europe, a first set of indicators for SFM was adopted at the **3rd Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe in Lisbon in 1998**. In the following years that set was reviewed and an improved set of indicators was endorsed at the **4th Ministerial Conference, in Vienna in 2003**.

But times change. And so do scientific knowledge on forests, the threats and pressures affecting them, and demands for forest-related information coming from other sectors, such as climate change, biodiversity, and energy, just to mention a few.

Aware of this, the **FOREST EUROPE** signatories decided to update the pan-European set of indicators for SFM. After a great deal of work by many contributors, the signatories formally adopted the newest version in July 2015. This updated set will be formally endorsed by the ministers responsible for forests in Europe at the **7th FOREST EUROPE Ministerial Conference in Madrid in October 2015**.

The updated indicators are the result of an intensive process that has involved **FOREST EUROPE** signatories and observer organizations, as well as experts and representatives of stakeholders and other sectors and processes related to, or interested in, the SFM indicators.





The 2015 updated pan-European set of indicators for sustainable forest management (SFM) is composed of

34 quantitative indicators & 11 qualitative indicators

(total: 45 indicators).

The quantitative indicators provide information on the current status and changes in European forests and progress on sustainable forest management. The changes reported in the qualitative indicators over time reflect the responses of policy-makers through different means (policies, institutions, regulatory and financial instruments, information) to the challenges and opportunities related to forests and SFM.

According to the new structure of the updated set, 5 general qualitative indicators (not related to any specific criterion) frame the overarching policy framework for SFM; and 6 other qualitative indicators address the specific policies, institutions and instruments related to the policy area of each particular criterion.

Considering the information provided by the quantitative and qualitative indicators as a whole enables a comprehensive understanding of the state of European forests and the implementation of sustainable forest management in the pan-European region.



Updated set of Pan-European Indicators for SFM 2015

Forest policy and governance

1. National Forest Programmes or equivalent
2. Institutional frameworks
3. Legal/regulatory framework: National (and/or Sub-National) and International commitments
4. Financial and economic instruments
5. Information and communication

1. Forest Resources & Carbon Cycles

- C.1 Related policies, institutions & instruments
- 1.1 Forest area
- 1.2 Growing stock
- 1.3 Age structure &/or diameter distribution
- 1.4 Forest carbon

2. Forest Health and Vitality

- C.2 Related policies, institutions & instruments
- 2.1 Deposition & concentration of air pollutants
- 2.2 Soil condition
- 2.3 Defoliation
- 2.4 Forest damage
- 2.5 Forest land degradation

3. Productive Functions

- C.3 Related policies, institutions & instruments
- 3.1 Increment and fellings
- 3.2 Roundwood
- 3.3 Non-wood goods
- 3.4 Services

4. Biological Diversity

- C.4 Related policies, institutions & instruments
- 4.1 Diversity of tree species
- 4.2 Regeneration
- 4.3 Naturalness
- 4.4 Introduced tree species
- 4.5 Deadwood
- 4.6 Genetic resources
- 4.7 Forest fragmentation
- 4.8 Threatened forest species
- 4.9 Protected forests
- 4.10 Common forest bird species

5. Protective Functions

- C.5 Related policies, institutions and instruments
- 5.1 Protective forests - soil, water and other ecosystem functions - infrastructure and managed natural resources

6. Socio-economic

- C.6 Related policies, institutions & instruments
- 6.1 Forest holdings
- 6.2 Contribution of forest sector to GDP
- 6.3 Net revenue
- 6.4 Investments in forests and forestry
- 6.5 Forest sector workforce
- 6.6 Occupational safety and health
- 6.7 Wood consumption
- 6.8 Trade in wood
- 6.9 Wood energy
- 6.10 Recreation in forests