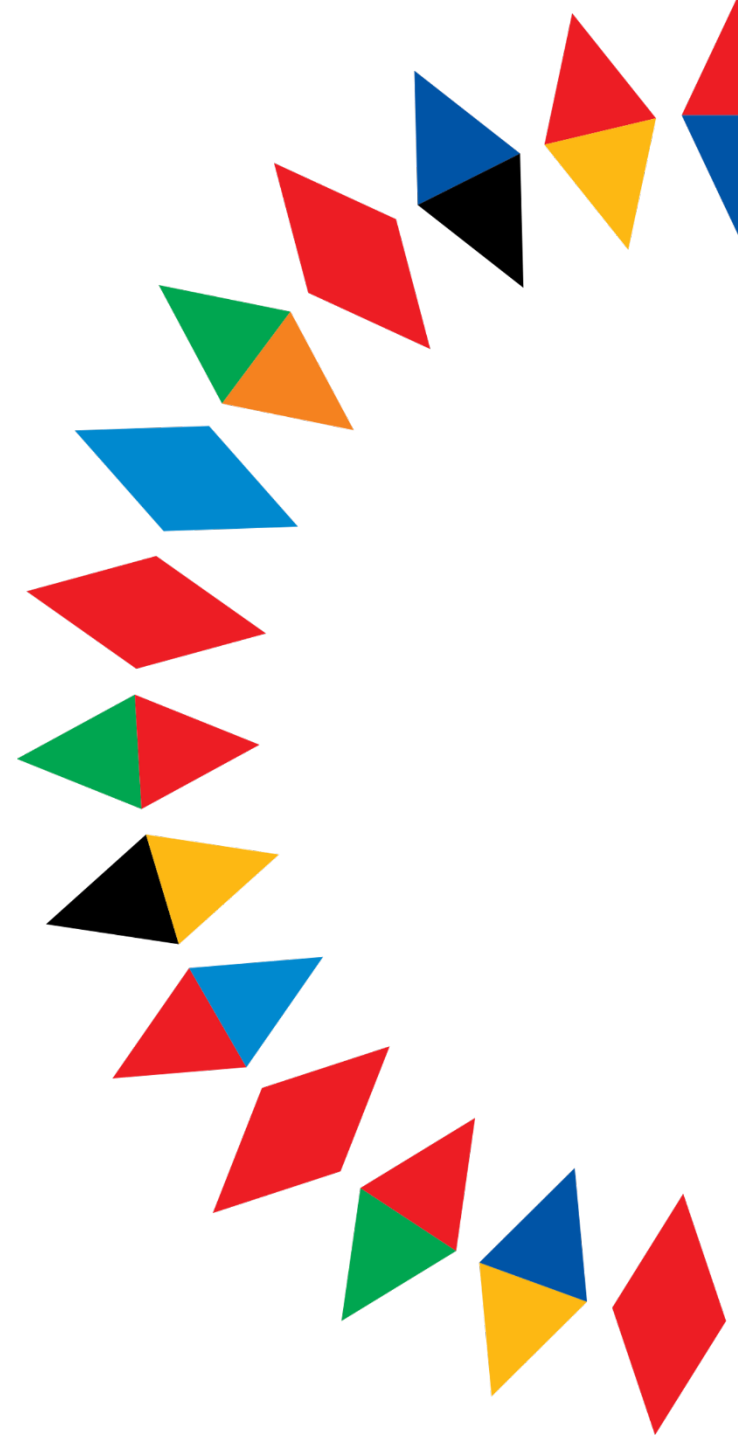Jaroslav Kubišta, Forest Management Institute, Czechia

Outcomes of the Workshop

"Towards Harmonized Forest Observation, Data Collection and Reporting Framework"

EU2022.CZ

Towards Harmonized Forest Observation, Data Collection and Reporting Framework

Workshop held in **Kutná Hora (CZ)** from 14th till 16th of September

Workshop targets:

- Contribute to the discussion on the Framework

- Share the available knowledge and plans for further steps

Search for answers to:

1. „**Where we are**" – current situation, available knowledge, methods and data

2. „**Where are we going**" – what is the aim, which policy areas, which indicators, on what basis, estimated by which methods, by whom, how often

3. „**How do we get there**" – expected further steps, knowledge, methods and tools to be developed

Speakers and Panellists

- **European Commission (Claudia Olazabal)**

- **JRC (Alessandro Cescatti)**

- **ENFIN (Iciar Alberdi)**

- **EEA (Annemarie Bastrup-Birk)**

- FAO (Anssi Pekkarinen)

- Forest Europe (Bernhard Wolfslehner)

- **Sweden (Göran Ståhl)**

- **Czechia (Marek Mlčoušek)**

- Diabolo (Radim Adolt)

- **EFINET (Gert-Jan Nabuurs and Gherardo Chirici)**

- **Pathfinder (Rasmus Astrup)**

- **Forest Carbon Monitoring (Jukka Miettinen)**

- **ForestNavigator (Fulvio Di Fulvio)**

- **ForestWard (Rubén Valbuena)**

- **Deadtrees monitoring in Czech Republic and Reforest (Peter Surový)**

- More than 70 participants from 18 MS

- Presentations and summary:
https://bit.ly/workshopMONITORING

- The conclusions later on presented at the Meeting of the EU Forest Directors General in Prague in October.

Summary of the workshop
Towards harmonized Forest Observation, Reporting and Data Collection framework held in Kutná Hora Czech Republic
from 14th to 16th of September 2022, prepared by the Czech Presidency.

Participants of the workshop:

1. stressed the importance of reliable, verified harmonized or standardized and up-to-date information and communication on the state and development of EU forests, inter-alia for informed both policy- and decision-making at the EU level;

2. reiterated the irreplaceable role of field-collected data for ensuring reliability, accuracy and comprehensiveness of derived information;

3. acknowledged fast development of new and innovative technologies in data acquisition, especially in the area of remote sensing, as well as in their processing;

4. stressed the importance of combining remote sensing and field-collected data for improving information on forests, and the need for mutual and timely exchange of both kinds of data;

5. acknowledged the importance of international processes steered by e.g. FAO, UNECE and Forest Europe for further development of existing sets of forest-related indicators;

6. stressed the importance of relevant tools to communicate information on forests, such as FISE, FRA platform and INForest;

7. welcomed the results of previous efforts on harmonization and evaluation carried out by ENFIN[1], ICP Forests, the scientific community, and others;

8. noted that different types of information on forests serve different purposes, and therefore has to be communicated clearly to safeguard the credibility and coherence of forest information systems;

9. noted the joint efforts towards a harmonized Forest Observation, Reporting and Data Collection framework (Framework);

10. emphasized the role of national and international experts in the interpretation and validation of the results of the Framework.

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[1] European National Forest Inventories Network

Conclusions

- Framework objectives need further clarification

- Importance of reliable, verified, up-to-date information

- Irreplaceable role of field-collected data

- Need for synergistic use of field-collected and remote sensing data relying on an unbiased statistically rigorous inference

Conclusions

- Build on available knowledge, methods and tools
- Tools for estimating indicators respecting data access limits
- Consistency of forest-related information at national and EU levels to safeguard its credibility
- Role of national and international experts in the interpretation and validation of the results

Workshop Towards Harmonised Forest Observation, Reporting and Data Collection Framework
14–16 September 2022