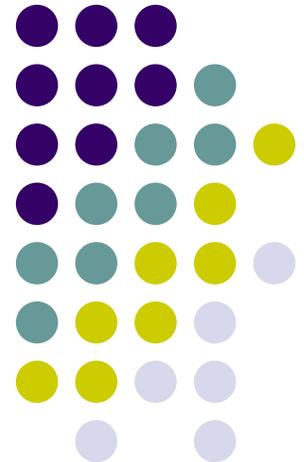


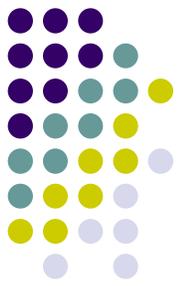
# Adaptation of Forests to Climate Change

## Workshop Group Report

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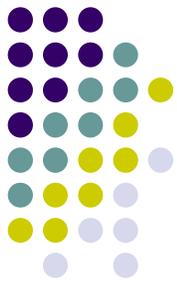
# Technical and methodological issues and approaches to sustainable forest management as an adaptation measure



- Sustainable forest management provides a basis for adaptation to climate change in forests, but there is a need to re-assess forest practice. Many existing tools do not explicitly account for the possible impacts of climate change.
- Tropical forests face many potential threats due to climate change, including changed precipitation regimes and increased incidence and severity of pests, diseases, extreme storm events and fire. They might also be vulnerable to increased in-migration of environmental refugees. However, little information is available on the extent of these threats.



- In many countries there is insufficient awareness of the possible impacts of climate change on forests and their implications for forest management, the forest sector, forest-dependent people, pests and diseases, invasive species, fire, biodiversity and other forest values.
- The impacts of climate change on forests could exacerbate poverty and the prevalence of human disease while reducing the availability of forest-based traditional medicines and other products and services important for human wellbeing. Forest-dependent people will be particularly affected.



- To minimize the impacts of climate change on forest-dependent people, countries will require flexible and adaptable local and national decision-making processes that allow rapid, equitable forest management responses.
- Low-lying coastal forests, particularly mangroves, are likely to be affected by predicted sea level rises due to climate change, with huge implications for important ecosystem services and human health. More information on possible adaptation measures in these forests is urgently required.
- More efforts are required to convince the international community of the importance of adapting the forest sector to climate change.

# Key issues to be considered in the framework of ITTO and other forums



Key issues	ITTO	National govts	Other institutions
<p>Lack of information/ experience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● on CC impacts at local scale on forests (forest resources, including carbon stocks, biodiversity, etc)</li> <li>● on most vulnerable forest types and people</li> <li>● on adaptation options and strategies</li> <li>● monitoring methods</li> </ul>	<p>Increase country capacity in collection of country forest resource data; provide policy guidance on adaptation options and strategies</p>	<p>Where lacking or insufficient, develop land use mapping and planning, inventory and monitoring to assist adaptive management</p>	<p>Research institutions can generate information, support national forest inventory, design monitoring methods</p>



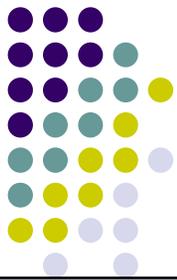
<b>Key issues</b>	<b>ITTO</b>	<b>National govts</b>	<b>Other institutions</b>
Insufficient awareness of the possible impacts of climate change on forests and forest-dependent people	Provide information materials; convene regional workshops; promote regional collaboration	Inclusion in school curricula; awareness campaigns	
Impacts of climate change on forests could exacerbate poverty and the prevalence of human disease	Strengthen collaboration with other forums such as WHO, MDGs; initiate case studies in key countries	Incorporate forests more fully in national development agenda and in MDGs;	Strengthen research on the links between climate change, forests and human wellbeing



<b>Key issues</b>	<b>ITTO</b>	<b>National govts</b>	<b>Other institutions</b>
<p>The need for flexible and adaptable national and local decision-making processes that allow rapid, equitable forest management responses and resolution of conflicts</p>	<p>Provide policy and technical guidance; support development of national action plans; continue to promote community-based forest enterprises</p>	<p>Assess the contribution of decentralization to the flexibility of forest-related decision-making; reduce transaction costs in decision-making and benefit-sharing; develop mechanisms to resolve forest-related conflicts</p>	



<b>Key issues</b>	<b>ITTO</b>	<b>National govts</b>	<b>Other institutions</b>
<p>Many existing SFM tools do not explicitly account for the possible impacts of climate change</p>	<p>Support incorporation of SFM in national climate change policies and programs; Review existing SFM guidelines and criteria and indicators and the extent to which they include climate change considerations</p>	<p>Incorporate SFM in national climate change policies and programs</p>	<p>Generate indicators to account for climate change</p>



<b>Key issues</b>	<b>ITTO</b>	<b>National govts</b>	<b>Other institutions</b>
Certain forest types, such as mangroves and cloud forests, are likely to be particularly affected by climate change	Provide information and guidelines on the management of vulnerable forest types	In coastal forests, improve integrated coastal zone management; forest management interventions	

Key issues	ITTO	National govts	Other institutions
<p>Lack of awareness in the international community of the importance of adapting the forest sector to climate change</p>	<p>Be active in providing information to UNFCCC process (eg side events at SBSTTA, submissions); provide capacity building among forestry officials in member countries on climate change negotiations; take advantage of other forums to spread the messages, particularly by strengthening coordination with other CPF members; consider the need for a tropical forest and climate change centre</p>	<p>Capacity building for officials involved in climate change negotiations; strengthen communication through bilateral and multilateral mechanisms</p>	<p>Be active in providing information to UNFCCC process (eg side events at SBSTTA, submissions); provide capacity building among forestry officials in member countries on climate change negotiations; take advantage of other forums to spread the messages; CPF collectively bring the messages to international community including through Forest Day</p>



- Adaptation fund/funding mechanism
- Carbon/GHG market



**Thank you!**