





International forest products statistics: importance and main outputs



Presentation Outline

- Who we are
- What we do FAO Statistical program for forest products





Who we are: Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO)

- Specialized intergovernmental UN agency with 192 members, established in 1945 (<u>China member from 1945</u>)
- Focus on four main areas in food and agriculture incl. forestry:
 - Putting information within reach
 - Sharing policy expertise
 - Providing a meeting place for nations
 - Bringing knowledge to the field
- Present in over 130 countries, over 1800 regular professional staff and annual budget of about US\$ 1 billion



Who we are: FAO Forestry Department

- Forestry Department:
 - Forest Economics, Policy and Products Division
 - Forest Assessment, Management and Conservation Division
- Over 100 professional foresters from 47 countries (<u>3 from China</u>) working in various forestry programs and projects



FAO Statistical program for forest products: Clear mandate given by member states

Article I of Constitution of FAO:

"Functions of the Organization

1. The Organization shall collect, analyse, interpret and disseminate information relating to nutrition, food and agriculture. In this Constitution, the term "agriculture" and its derivatives include fisheries, marine products, forestry and primary forestry products."



FAO Statistical program for forest products: Major annual outputs







FAO Yearbook of Forest Products (from 1947)



FAOSTAT-Forestry online database (from 1961)







Pulp and paper capacity assessments (from 1968)





Statistical capacity development workshops (from 1984)

All these outputs and documents are publicly available at: http://www.fao.org/forestry/statistics/zh



FAO Statistical program for forest products: What data we collect/report every year

Production, Export and Import of basic wood and paper products:

- Roundwood
- Wood charcoal
- Wood chips and residues
- Sawnwood
- Wood-based panels
- Pulp
- Paper and paperboard



FAO Statistical program for forest products: How we collect data every year

Since 1998, in partnership between 4 intergovernmental agencies through the Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire (JFSQ)









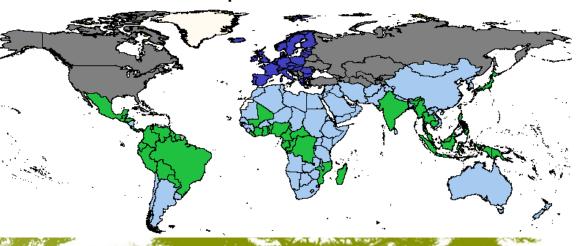
Major benefits of this partnership:

- Reduced reporting burden for countries
- Harmonized datasets for the same country in statistical series of all 4 collaborating agencies
- Synergy and mobilization of resources for statistical capacity development

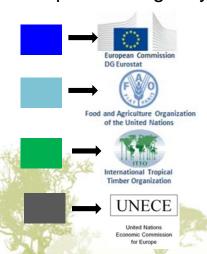


FAO Statistical program for forest products: Collection and data sharing in JFSQ process

Send out the questionnaire to countries



Responsible agency



- After the questionnaire is received, it is shared between all 4 agencies
- Compiled country statistics relevant to each agency's reporting mandate are published in their databases, publications



FAO Statistical program for forest products: Collected data are widely used

- Every 2 minutes someone downloads statistics from FAOSTAT-Forestry database
- Wide range of users from all countries (academia, public and private sectors)
- China's statistics are mostly demanded (1200 downloads per month or 40 per day)



FAO Statistical program for forest products: Benefits to data producers and users

Long term internationally comparable statistics help to:

- compare the progress in forestry sector between different countries, regions and at the global level
- forecast and project future development in the sector
- take better informed and evidence based forest policy decisions
- monitor overall progress towards sustainable forest management



Summary and way forward

- Commitment from member states in providing statistics allowed FAO to build uninterrupted data series for basic forest products for more than 65 years
- International data collection and dissemination improved over time and currently allow FAO to compile and report global statistics within short time (1 year)
- Let's use these 2 days to discuss and understand better the current issues and possible solutions in China's forest products statistics



Thank you!

