Promoting Green Jobs in the Forest Sector

Occupational health and safety of forest workers

Thematic session I
Questions for discussion

1. How can the safety of forest workers be improved? Which are the key areas?

2. What measures should be developed to improve forest workers safety? On the global, regional and national level?

3. Who should be part of the discussion and how to coordinate the work among stakeholders to achieve it?
Conclusions from the discussion
Challenges

Forestry staff/forestry operations level

• Ageing population
• Need to improve the skills in general and the skills of forest managers in particular
• Illegal and informal employment
  • Forestry operations
  • Administrative and support staff (in particular in family enterprises) who are often not covered by social security etc.
Challenges

Forest Sector context

• Level of respect to the existing laws and regulations due to the constraints that they cause
• Collaboration with insurance companies is limited due to the lack of funding
Solutions

Forestry staff/operational level

• Move towards the mindset of self-awareness and self-assessment

• Raise professionalism and the responsibility of the supervisors of the operations, e.g. for accidents

• Reinforce the liability of the contracting party: wages, social security, trainings

• Provide consultancy to families and small enterprises (build on the experience of forestry cooperatives)
Solutions

Forest Sector level

• International bodies such as UNECE, FAO, FOREST EUROPE should review and standardise the existing laws at the European level

• Member Sates should take an active role in reinforcing the existing laws

• Build on the existing regulations – certification schemes offer already a useful framework

• Create measures that support the sector without imposing operational constraints
Solutions

Engagement of other stakeholders

• Public and private procurement rules, which include the consideration for green jobs

• Engagement of insurance companies and other actors within their capacities and mandates in the prevention measures