



Swiss Agency for
the Environment,
Forests and
Landscape SAEFL



Forests – Common Benefits, Shared Responsibilities, Multiple Policies

Riga, Latvia, October 17-19, 2005

FINAL REPORT

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Introduction

At the last Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (Vienna, 2003), the ministers responsible for forests recognized the mutual inter-dependencies between forest sector policy and other sectoral policies. The MCPFE workshop on cross-sectoral cooperation was held in response to the Vienna Resolution 1: “Strengthen Synergies for Sustainable Forest Management in Europe through Cross-sectoral Co-operation and National Forest Programmes”. The workshop *Forests – Common Benefits, Shared Responsibilities, Multiple Policies* (Riga, Latvia, October 17-19, 2005) was organized in cooperation with UNECE/FAO as well as the Governments of Switzerland and Latvia. The meeting aimed to tackle the complex cross-sectoral issues at the policy level. It intended to show why Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) has to be linked with activities in many new policy areas and to discuss the role of the forest sector in other sectors and vice versa.

Objectives of the workshop

- ✓ Improve understanding of major political developments as well as changes outside and within the forest sector that have led to the necessity of cross-sectoral networks,
- ✓ Enhance understanding of how policies and strategies, developed in other sectors, influence the forest sector and vice versa,
- ✓ Analyse selected cross-sectoral issues, actors and interactions, especially concerning the forest sector and policies for energy, water, nature conservation, trade & globalization, agriculture & rural development,
- ✓ Identify ways of coordination, cooperation or integration for each selected policy sector,
- ✓ Explore examples of cross-sectoral networks, processes and partnerships.

Global Background

In the recent years, the necessity to enhance cross-sectoral co-operation in sustainable forest management (SFM) has been addressed at most if not at all international forest and forest-related policy forums. Consequently, the term “cross-sectoral co-operation” has become ubiquitous in policy documents, related to forestry, environment and sustainable development. The Intergovernmental Panel on Forests (IPF) and Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (IFF) called upon Governments for better integration and facilitation of cross-sectoral policies, reforms, planning and programmes for SFM¹. Enhancing policy coordination and fostering cross-sectoral cooperation on forests is one of the principle functions of United Nation Forum on Forests (UNFF)². Also, at the global level, relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes, and policies are to integrate the biodiversity concerns following strategic objectives of the CBD Decision VI/26³. The cross-sectoral linkages in forestry have

¹ United Nations Commission for Sustainable Development, E/CN.17/IPF/1997/5

² ECOSOC E/2000/35

³ CBD Decision VI/26: Strategic Plan for the Convention on the Biological Diversity

also become an integral area of work for FAO, publishing papers⁴ and convening workshops⁵ on this subject. Furthermore, the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD, 2002) encouraged countries to strengthen their political commitment to SFM by including the links among the forestry and other sectors.

Regional Background

The need for dialogue among the forest sector and society as well as other sectors was addressed for the first time by the MCPFE at the Ministerial Conference, held in Lisbon (1998). The necessity of synergies and coherences of forest policies and programmes were addressed in the resolution L1. Subsequently, the cross-sectoral issues were given significant attention at the following (4th) Ministerial Conference in Vienna (2003). By endorsing the Resolution V1, the signatory states committed themselves to work towards an improved understanding of cross-sectoral issues at the pan-European level, identify key issues, actors and interaction to be considered in the regional context and to enhance co-operation and dialogue as well as to seek solutions proactively. At the same time Resolution V1, endorsed the concept of national forest programmes (nfps). The nfps are seen as possible tools for identifying and addressing key cross-sectoral issues. Consequently, one of the thematic sessions at the MCPFE workshop on nfps (22-24 November 2004, Gdansk, Poland) was dedicated to mechanisms for cross-sectoral co-ordination. The participants concluded that there are difficulties with engaging the representatives of the other sectors in the nfp processes. It was agreed that this was due to the lack of interest and widespread knowledge of opportunities among stakeholders.

The EU also pays significant attention to the integration of policies. The concept of the Environmental Policy Integration (EPI), promoted by the European Environmental Agency concerns environmental issues in the development and implementation of non-environmental policies. Documents such as the European Community Amsterdam Treaty (Article 6) or the Cardiff Environmental Process promote sectoral integration strategies and link the integration of environmental policies with sustainable development. Unfortunately, because of its limited visibility, the forest sector has not been mentioned in any of these documents.

Nevertheless, in the report on the implementation of the EU Forest Strategy for the European Union, the EC proposes to review the existing Community means and practices to facilitate co-ordination of communication and co-operation between different policy sectors, which influence forestry.

⁴ FAO Forestry Paper 142, Cross-sectoral policy impacts between forestry and other sectors,

⁵ Anglophone Africa Workshop on Cross-Sectoral Policy Planning in Forestry ICRAF, Nairobi, 22-24 June 2005

Major political developments outside and within the forest sector that have led to the necessity of cross-sectoral networks

In order to set the stage and to serve as a background for the discussions in the working groups, the following presentations were given during the plenary session⁶:

- Major developments and changes leading to the necessity of cross-sectoral networks in SFM, *Carsten Thoroë, Institute for Economics
Federal Research Centre for Forestry, Hamburg, Germany*
- EFSOS and the importance of the cross-sectoral dimension
Kit Prins, UNECE Timber Branch, Geneva
- Forestry, cross-sectoral issues and globalization: Managing and adapting to change in a borderless world, *C.T.S. Nair, FAO Forestry Department*
- Globalization and the Forest Sector
Sten Nilsson, Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)

These presentations may be very briefly summarised as follows:

Although forestry is highly interlinked with natural and social surroundings, forest policy has so far been developed mainly sectorally. Social agreement with the forestry-centered multifunctional concept in central Europe has decreased in the last decades. Public perception of forestry and forest policy has been dominated by negative messages during the last decades which have led toward trends of protecting forests and regulating silviculture rather than utilizing forest products. Although the necessity of cross-sectoral cooperation is seen, there is still lack of experience at the national and international levels. On the other hand, such cooperation is working well at regional and local levels.

All important developments affecting European forests have resulted from mega trends outside the forest. Furthermore, the major policy issues have increasingly become cross-sectoral. The forest sector should be aware of these mega trends, formulate its policy accordingly, and communicate its perspectives to larger policy making entities. It may be desirable, but is certainly challenging to seek to define a single “message” from the forest sector.

The impact of globalization on forestry is more and more visible. Institutional changes are required in order to make the forest sector competitive. In the process of adaptation it is important to minimize formal structures and to maintain informal networks. The key issues in improving the cross-sectoral cooperation are: reduction of transaction costs, ad hoc networks

⁶ Full text of presentations and other information are available at the MCPFE website:
www.mcpfe.org/me/m5/rw/

and information. The changes that take place outside the forest sector will be continuing and often will come from unexpected directions. The ability of the forest sector to influence the changes will remain very limited.

Globalization induces cultural, social and political consequences, being driven by technological (communication and transport) and economical changes (liberalization of trade and foreign investment). For the forest sector globalization means relocation of traditional production from the north to emerging economies in the Southern hemisphere. Globalization requires innovations and strong networking with new technologies, as well as a new mode of policy making that includes strongly forward looking attitudes, which take global developments into account. Most likely a new brand of policy makers is required to deal with issues brought up by globalization.

Representatives from other sectors were invited to demonstrate the linkages of their sectors with the forest sector, the sectoral interactions as well as possible ways to improve cooperation.

- Energy Policy – Interactions with the Forest Sector
Jean-Christophe Fueeg, Vice-Chair, UNECE Committee on Sustainable Energy
- Trade issues relevant to the forest sector
Sten Nilsson, Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)
- Forests nurture water
Sibylle Vermont, Vice-Chair, Bureau of the UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes; Chair of its Integrated Water Resources Management Working Group
- Forests & rural development/agriculture strategies
David Baldock, Institute of European Environmental Policy (IEEP)
- Forest and Environment/Nature Conservation
Tamas Marghescu, The International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN)

Following presentations illustrated examples of cross-sectoral cooperation:

- Forest Academy - Communication concept for dialogue between forest & society
Eeva Hellström, Finnish Forest Association
- Inter-sectoral coordination in European forest governance
Evelien Verbij, Wageningen University

Cross-sectoral issues, challenges and next steps identified by the working groups

Based on the presentations the working groups were asked to reflect upon and report on cross-sectoral issues, as well as actors and interactions in their country/region. The working groups identified cross-sectoral issues within all the listed sectors (water, nature conservation, agriculture, trade, energy). Additionally, the participants recognized other sectors and issues that were interlinked with forests (health, recreation, cultural dimensions, landscape, rural development, transport, spatial development). The participants worked in five thematic working groups on the following topics:

1. Water
2. Nature conservation
3. Agriculture
4. Trade
5. Energy

The working groups also focused on exploring examples of networks, processes and partnerships for cross-sectoral cooperation. Furthermore the participants were requested to develop next steps and follow up actions at the regional and national levels.

1. Water

The group agreed that an integrated approach and mutual awareness and recognition among the water and forest authorities is still missing, although forests constitute natural infrastructure for water supply and protection against hazards. The lack of cooperation and coordination often results in problems when working on specific water and forest related issues (e.g. floods). Payments for ecosystem services (PES) constitute an important area of work with lots of potential and of common interests for both sectors (forest and water). There is a necessity for research on interactions between forest and water in the context of floods, hydrological impacts of afforestation on water balance in watersheds as well as on mechanisms of PES and the relationship between forests and human well being. When discussing the mutual relationship between forests and water the participants recalled the EU Water Framework Directive as a comprehensive system addressing water policies.

Next steps to consider:

Regional level:

- Enhance the communication between the forest and water sectors at the pan-European and national levels
- Disseminate the results of the seminar through the channels of the MCPFE and UNECE
- Forest & Water - an issue to be addressed at the 5th MCPFE in Warsaw
- Formalize the partnership between the MCPFE and the UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (thereafter as “.Water Convention”)
- Establish/develop a database for payments for ecosystem services (utilization of the existing websites for data, contact lists, exchange of information)

- Encourage the participation of the forest sector in preparation of the Code of Conduct on ecosystems and payments for ecosystem services in water management
- Take advantage and use existing schemes and measures (e.g. Life programmes)

National level:

- Establish links between National Forest Programmes (NFP's) and Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) as well as National Environment and Health Action Plans (NEHAPs).
- Establish a dialogue and strengthen synergies between the water and forest sectors (institutional set up)
- Formulate and implement pilot projects on forest / water
- Implement the EU Water Framework Directive
- Assess joint capacities
- Promote forest certification
- Raise awareness through publications (for both adults and children), adequate school programmes, articles in professional general press
- Include payments for ecosystem services into forest or other relevant laws
- Present and disseminate good examples of cooperation and success stories
- Conduct research in relation to interactions between forest and water, in the context of floods, hydrological impacts of afforestation on water balance in watersheds
- Establish mechanisms for payments for ecosystem services and relationship between forests and well being

Most of the above actions could be implemented with the existing means. However, it is important to change general habits of work and ways of thinking. The capacity building is still an important issue. There is also a need for awareness raising among decision makers as well as the improvement of the information flow between and within the sectors.

Relevant actors and institutions with respect to the water/forest interface:

Forest sector		Other	
Regional	National	Regional	National
MCPFE, UNECE/FAO EU	Forest owners, NGOs, General Public, Sectoral Conferences, media, schools, research institutions, beneficiaries, forest administrations	PEBLDS RAMSAR ECE Water Convention IIASA	Basin authorities Private sector, including water suppliers beneficiaries NGOs Media Relevant Ministries, institutions

2. Nature Conservation

The participants agreed that it was necessary to sell legitimate forest conservation and management to society (forest owners, government, general public) as a means to get proper financing support. A clear message on what the forest management means is needed. The forest/forestry profession needs to make a "joint statement" (unified) of what it stands for. This message could help to prepare the electorate for lobbying and to obtain financial resources. The participatory approaches should be used as it is important to build sincerity and trust in society (i.e. Forest Academy, Finland). It is important to convince the national leaders that SFM is and should be seen as part of sustainable development. The forest sector should look for activities where the application of the Ecosystem Approach will help to achieve SFM and forest protection more efficiently.

Next steps to be considered at national level:

- Identify charismatic leaders (for ministerial testimony, public speaking), celebrity spokesmen/women (good for general public),
- Bring forest and nature leadership together (move the message up at the European Union Standing Forestry Committee)
- Organize specially designed workshops (e.g. Forest Academy Finland)
- Cooperate with international fora dealing with forests, nature protection i.e. CITES, CBD, RAMSAR, Water Convention, Climate Convention, UNFF (to be considered at regional level)
- Encourage education programmes at public schools
- Key funding of meetings regarding forestry/forests
- Coordinate activities with the relevant ministries of other sectors
- Capture decision makers' and public attention
- Link with the national and cultural pride (i.e. Black Forest, Tatra Mountains, Swiss Alps, etc.)

Relevant actors and institutions with respect to the forest/nature conservation /interface:

Forest sector	Other
MCPFE, UNFF, Forest departments,	CBD, CITES, RAMSAR, Water Convention, UNFCCC, PEBLDS, EU, Mass media, schools, celebrities, relevant key stakeholders, respective ministries

3. Agriculture

The participants recognized strong influences of agriculture/rural development policies on the forest sector. Poor coordination with the forest sector has resulted in agriculture policies having adverse effects on forest and forestry. Particularly, the lack of coordination in payments for land as well as in other agricultural subsidies has a strong impact on the boundaries and relations between these two sectors, however, recently a more parallel and equal approach to forest and agriculture policies can be observed. The EU agriculture and rural development programme for 2007, which has been agreed at a EU level, but must now

be implemented at the national level. There is a clear possibility for member states to assign significant funds to forest activities, provided that the forest sector puts forward credible and attractive proposals.

During the discussions the participants highlighted the conversion of the agricultural land into forests (afforestation).

Next steps to be considered:at national level:

- Active contribution of the forest sector to allocation of agriculture and rural development funds at the national and European Union levels
- Development of arguments and capacity by the forest sector to this end
- Main targets to achieve within the EU (Plan of operation) by:
 - National/regional rural development plans 2006
 - Review of progress 2006
 - Review of good agriculture-environmental conditions 2007
 - Global review of CAP 2008/2009
- Contact and lobby the decision makers (in both policy sectors) at the national and EU level
- Appoint agriculture focal points at national level
- Establish a list of arguments based on forests' contribution to public goods (e.g. maintaining forest area for climate change, nature conservation, balanced cultural landscape, etc.)
- Improve communication and networking of the forest sector
- Encourage the participation of the forest sector in the meetings at EU-level (via e.g. officials, NGOs, associations, etc.)

In order to achieve the above there is a strong need for changes in the attitudes and institutions of the forest sector and some shifts of staff, that would include:

- employment of new type of specialists (e.g. agriculturalist, etc.),
- sending foresters to other agencies
- maintaining the professional ethics
- applying both top down and bottom up approach
- maintaining long term integrity while becoming more sensitive to change

Relevant actors and institutions with respect to the forest/agriculture interface:

Forest sector	Other
Forest departments – coalition with forest owners, timber industry, research community, civil society,	Land owners, organic farmers EC DG Agriculture and Rural Development

4. Trade – competitiveness and innovation

The competitiveness and innovation were identified by the participants as two main issues of key relevance when discussing trade in relation to the forest sector. The group expressed clearly that competitiveness with substitute producers was a key challenge for the sector, which is still rather industry (supply) instead of customer (demand) oriented. There is a necessity to change from product to solution oriented thinking. The working

group highlighted the fact that emerging economies have an increasingly immense impact on the European producers and on future markets (e.g. furniture industry in China). Global markets and increasingly sophisticated producers, exploiting competitive advantages such as fast growing and cheaper resources in e.g. South America, South East Asia, Russia put the European forest sector under pressure and threatens its longer-term economic viability. Consequently, there is a strong need to innovate, to find new markets or market niches, new products and increase the value added of materials originated from the European forests. Possible new and growing markets mentioned in the discussion were bioenergy and carbon markets. Regarding carbon trade, the participants agreed that, although this market is still relatively immature and underdeveloped, once recognized, it could change and influence the forest sector enormously. Strengthening competitiveness and innovation requires sound innovation policies and strategies and new investments. An important factor is human capacity building to raise awareness and enhance adaptive capacity of forestry, and the active involvement of business and NGOs in activities. Many of these areas have a distinct cross-sectoral dimension. For instance, strategies are best made in a multiple sector scenario and foresight context. Sound decisions made on local and regional levels need integrated instead of un-coordinated sector specific land use planning. It was noted that political will is essential to proceed effectively in most of the issues discussed.

Next steps to be considered:

Regional level:

- Organize the MCPFE/EFI international seminar on innovations
- Participate in the EU technology platform and its launch of the Strategic Research Agenda
- Participate in the newly established COST Action E51 on the integration of innovation into development policies

National level:

- Elaborate forest sector development strategies to strengthen competitiveness & innovation
- Launch foresight processes to bring a forward looking component into the debate
- Open national forest programmes towards a more cross-sectoral dimension and discuss competitiveness and innovation issues

On sub-national level:

- Establish regional forest forums with a view to identify regional priorities
- Elaborate integrated land-useplans with a more holistic view

5. Energy

Insufficient coordination and cooperation between responsible bio-energy actors, stakeholders and drivers in the forest, energy and other sectors was identified by the working group participants as one major issue. For instance, already existing policy instruments (within and outside EU) that promote bio-energy are not well known. In addition, the needs and

expectations of the energy sector with respect to wood as bio-energy (e.g. for what energy use (heat, electricity, combined heat&power), required volume (plant size, co-firing technologies), when, in what form, at what price) are not clear. The significance of wood as bio-energy in the overall energy discussions is still rather small partially due to a lack of precise statistics and targets on one hand, and on the other side, due to the fact that decisions and policies related to wood as bio-energy were so far often made by non-foresters. As a result, the potential contribution of wood as bio-energy to mitigate climate change is not yet fully used. The working group further identified competition and conflict as major challenges to address. The competition between wood and other renewable energy resources (e.g. geothermal, wind, solar etc), bio-energy sources (e.g. biogas, agricultural waste etc), competing fuelwood suppliers from abroad, and other energy sources (fossil, heat pumps). Conflicts within the forest sector in relation to competition for raw material (wood as bio-energy versus wood for pulp/construction/manufacturing) seem to grow. There is a strong need for the forest sector to clarify and communicate, what it has to offer in terms of potential and benefits of wood as bio-energy.

In view of the identified challenges and issues, the working group elaborated the following recommendations for next steps:

Regional level:

- Elaborate an overview on the different actors and potential partners with respect to bio-energy (who does what, where, what objectives, resources available etc). Due attention should be paid to, inter alia, the International Energy Agency/Bio-Energy Group, Eurheat, Association européenne bioenergie, European Association of combined heat&power plants.
- Strengthen the cooperation between MCPFE, UNECE/TC and the energy sector, energy industry and already established bio-energy networks (see above)
- Encourage forest representatives to participate in bio-energy related working groups, commissions and conferences in order to learn from them, raise awareness for and promote wood as bio-energy. Establish cross-referenced links on the webpages
- Examine the possibilities for more formal frameworks of cooperation between MCPFE, UNECE/FAO and for example the International Energy Agency/Bio-energy Group
- Regarding the MCPFE Workshop on “Sound use of wood” planned for fall 2006:
 - it is highly recommended to focus either on wood as bio-energy or wood for other uses. The reason being that very different actors/partners/stakeholders are involved.
 - Report on lessons learnt/success stories/pilot programmes from countries and regions such as Finland, Sweden, Styria (Austria), Rhône-Alpes (France), and Nordrhein-Westfalen (Germany); also report on new initiatives, which just emerged in Ireland, Scotland and Thames Valley (UK), Hadeland (Norway), and Croatia
 - Representatives from the energy sector, energy industry and already established bio-energy networks (see above) should be invited to participate

National level:

- Seek and establish proactively a dialogue with the energy policymakers, energy sector, energy industry and national representatives in already established bio-energy

- networks; get clarification on their specific requirements in terms of wood as bio-energy products (pellets, chips, briquettes etc), quantities and prices; increase cooperation, communication and joint action in favour of wood as bio-energy
- Know your national (and if appropriate regional/local) potential for wood as bio-energy versus wood for other uses (surveys on renewable energy; feasibility studies on volume, prices, transport, processing; balanced supply-demand etc) . What can you offer (e.g. targets)?
 - Create an increasing demand for wood as bio-energy and contribute to the overall renewable energy mix
 - Become the service supplier for wood bio-energy products with professional marketing/communication/training through interdisciplinary personnel or specially trained foresters
 - Identify the target groups (e.g. residential buildings, communal buildings, electricity companies, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating)
 - Seek partnerships and joint campaigns with multipliers such as cities, municipalities, furnace constructors, architects, builders, investment funds (e.g. pension funds, insurances), utilities/power stations, producers of equipment, farmers, public and private forest owners
 - Identify additional sources of wood as bio-energy (e.g. ‘energy crops’, ‘energy plantations’ according to afforestation activities)
 - Increase applied research and development with respect to fuel production, procurement techniques and burning technology; cooperate with the Forest Sector Technology Platform (FTP)
 - Identify and make use of market niches for local wood in rural areas, where national policies impose a public service obligation to deliver electricity and heat, but where no competing supply network has yet been built (e.g. absence of gas)

General conclusions and recommendations

Conclusions

At the end of the workshop participants agreed that all major developments in the forest and forest products sector (the "forest sector") are to a great extent determined by major social, political economic or environmental trends outside the sector, which in turn interact with each other in increasingly complex ways.

In this context, major decisions made by sectoral institutions and actors (i.e. energy, agriculture, nature conservation, water, trade, etc.) may have strong, positive and negative impact on the outlook and framework conditions for the forest sector. When such decisions are taken without adequate consultation with actors of the forest sector or without consideration of the forest-related issues or circumstances it might lead, on some occasions to inter-policy contradictions with resulting perverse effect or negative impacts on the forests sector.

So far, forest sector institutions and actors have remained in many cases inward looking and do not give sufficient priority to participation in broader cross-sectoral decision making processes. However, examples presented at the workshop have shown that cross-sectoral cooperation between the forest sector and other relevant policy sectors are likely to create positive synergies for strengthening sustainable forest management at pan-European level.

Recommendations

In order to improve understanding of how policies and strategies, developed in other sectors influence the forest sector and vice versa and to enhance cross-sectoral coordination, cooperation, and integration between the forest sector and other relevant policy sectors the participants elaborated the following recommendations:

To MCPFE, UNECE and FAO:

- Review the programmes of all forthcoming meetings and studies, with the intention of strengthening the cross sectoral dimension. In particular, invite experts from other sectors, to participate as appropriate to the topic
- The secretariats of above mentioned organizations should take every opportunity to communicate the circumstances and point of view of the forest sector in other fora,
- Continue to take a cross sectoral approach in their activities, notably the sector outlook studies. Build future work on the progress achieved in EFSOS and analyse in depth the interactions between the forest sector and other sectors.
- Develop joint activities between MCPFE, UNECE/FAO and the UNECE Water Convention.
- The UNECE Timber Committee should develop activities on bioenergy and wood fuels with the ECE Committee on Sustainable Energy

To forest sector actors and institutions at the national and international level:

- Take stock of the broad cross-sectoral developments and trends determining the framework conditions for the forest sector
- Identify threats, opportunities and develop a clear vision of the sector's objectives by involving all forest sector players, including national and regional policy makers, forest owners, the private sector and civil society, with support from the research community
- Achieve an enhanced understanding of the circumstances, objectives and driving forces of other sectors, as a precondition to elaborate and implement clear and realistic forest strategies and policies.
- Place great emphasis on communicating the forest sector's vision, forest strategies and policies across different sectors; in this context make use of successful experiences made by the Forest Academy Finland or inputs by the Forest Communicators Network⁷
- Strengthen the capacity of forest sector institutions (public and private) in a cross-sectoral way by employing on a permanent basis specialists from other sectors (e.g. landscape architects, agricultural experts, hydrologists, sociologists etc).
- Influence decision making in other sectors (or at the level of society) by foresters participating in other sectoral policies development and implementation at all levels, by encouraging foresters to work in institutions of other sectors, and by making necessary resources available to this end
- Urge forest sector institutions in EU member states to act quickly and draw up credible and attractive proposals/projects so that funds from the EU agriculture and rural development programme 2007 can be assigned to forest activities⁸

⁷ The workshop welcomed the initiative of the Forest Communicators Network to hold a workshop on cross-sectoral communication. It also noted the success of the Forest Academy Finland in communication at the high level with decision makers

⁸ The workshop urged forest sector institutions in EU member states to take the necessary measures in this respect. A meeting to explore the situation and explain the approaches required by the EU should be organized

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