

Minutes from the WG2, E43 meeting in Freiburg, 19-20th September 2005

Participants:

Country	Participant	Breakout group
Austria	Alexandra Freudenschuss	Reference definitions
Czech Republic	Emil Cienciala	Questionnaire updating
Finland	Erkki Tomppo	Reference definitions
France	Antonie Colin	Questionnaire updating
Germany	Gerard Kändler	Reference definitions
Germany	Karsten Dunger	Questionnaire updating
Greece	Thekla Tsitsoni	Reference definitions
Hungary	Zoltan Somogyi	Questionnaire updating
Island	Arnór Snorranson	Questionnaire updating
Italy	Vittorio Tosi	Reference definitions
Norway	Terje Gobakken	Reference definitions
Slovakia	Tibor Priwitzer	Questionnaire updating
Slovenia	Gal Kušar	Reference definitions
Sweden	Göran Ståhl	Reference definitions
Switzerland	Edgar Kaufmann	Questionnaire updating
United Kingdom	Mark Broadmeadow	Questionnaire updating

9/19/2005 – WG2 session from 14 to 18:00

The WG2 session was opened by the WG2 leader, Göran Ståhl, who introduced the working agenda and plans for the WG2 sessions during the Freiburg E43 Action meeting. The two key points of the WG2 agenda included the work on questionnaire update and the work on reference definitions applicable in relation to carbon reporting. Emil Cienciala, the WG2 deputy leader, introduced the actual plans for questionnaire update. As an introduction to these part of this task, the invited expert, Zoltan Somogyi, JRC, gave a talk on biomass expansion factors and biomass functions. It was followed by the contributions from individual participants. They were asked to briefly present the current and planned usage of BF/BEF in the LULUCF emission inventory, categories concerning forests. Overall short 15 presentations were given covering all represented countries in this meeting. The presentations will be posted on the web page of the Action. (Any changes to the presentations before they are posted on the homepage should be mailed to Emil before September 27.)

9/20/2005 - WG2 session from 9 to 14:30

The morning session was devoted to the remaining presentations from individual countries. Thereafter, the WG2 worked in two parallel sessions. One was devoted to the task of questionnaire update, while the other worked on reference definitions. In the above list of

participants it can be seen to which breakout group each participant contributed (and will continue to contribute in the work before the next Action meeting.)

As for the questionnaire revision, the ambition is to prepare a revised version by the end of 2005, in order to have it ready for submission by the end of January 2006. The participants had a general discussion on how to proceed. Karsten Dunger suggested preparing an internet forum permitting efficient remote collaboration on the questionnaire update. This will be ready and set up by the end of September. Thereafter, the revision would proceed interactively until the end of November. In the final stage, a task force would presumably finalize the questionnaire during a short-term meeting held in December. The possibilities for funding this meeting from the Action budget will be explored by the Action Chairman (Erkki Tomppo). After obtaining comments from the other participants during January, the questionnaire update will be distributed. WG2 will seek possibilities of arranging a STSM during the second half of February. The major task of this STSM would be analysis of the questionnaire responses and drafting a manuscript for a policy focused journal.

The breakout group on reference definitions initiated the discussion by scrutinizing the proposed general properties of reference definitions, provided by WG1. In everything essential, the conclusion was that the proposition is fine and should be useful. The draft discussion paper prepared before the meeting by a task force group was then discussed. First, a number of additional areas for which reference definitions could be motivated were identified. Secondly, a general discussion on the detailed propositions in the paper was held (although the time was too short to go through everything in detail.) Work was concluded by deciding that Göran Ståhl will make a proposition about how the work needed before the next meeting can be divided into 5-10 different work packages. This suggestion will be mailed to the participants in the breakout group and a decision will then be made regarding how work will be distributed among the people in the group. The ambition is to have an updated and expanded discussion paper on reference definitions ready before the next meeting (which will be held in May).

Any participant of WG2 who did not attend the meeting in Freiburg but would like to contribute to either the questionnaire revision or the reference definition work should contact Emil Cienciala (who leads the work on the questionnaire) or Göran Ståhl (who leads the work on reference definitions).

In a final “WG2 plenary” session work from the two breakout groups was summarized, and the plans for the future were discussed. Until the next meeting people in WG2 will be busy with either questionnaire updating or work on reference definitions. The continuation after May next year (after the meeting in Bordeaux) also was discussed and the following remaining main work areas were identified: (i) continued work on reference definitions, including biomass equations/biomass expansion factors, (ii) building bridges, (iii) sensitivity analysis, and (iv) uncertainty estimation. However, no concrete plans for work after the Bordeaux meeting were made; this was left for decisions at that meeting.

Finally the potential application for funding in response to project announcements from the Joint Research Centre was discussed. As nobody in our group had read the announcement documents (which were released only some day before our meeting) a general agreement was made that in

case any of the announcements concerned projects that could be suitable for supporting work within WG2, the coordinator of WG2 (Göran Ståhl) would establish a core consortium to meet the requirements of the project announcement. However, if allowed under the conditions of the project announcement, we should allocate money to subcontractors in a way so that everyone that participates actively in WG2 work would be reimbursed for time allocated to this and for traveling to potential meetings in addition to those that are reimbursed by COST.

Post-meeting update (written 2005-09-28): A week after the meeting it seems clear that there is no JRC/ITT focusing on carbon reporting issues only. Instead, there is one ITT covering general work about providing a core set of information, involving general NFI information as well as information about carbon pools and biodiversity indicators. Thus, there will be no specific application from WG2.

Freiburg, 2005-09-20

Emil Cienciala

Göran Ståhl