

## COST Action E43

### *“Harmonisation of National Forest Inventories in Europe: Techniques for Common Reporting”*

#### **Minutes Working Group 1**

7-9 June 2007  
Haikko, Finland

20 countries were represented, plus, the international organisations (JRC & UNECE). Adrian Lanz chaired the first session and welcomed the members who are attending for the first time from:

- Iceland.
- Switzerland
- Czech Republic
- Germany
- Belgium
- Spain
- JRC

The full participation list is available on the member pages of the action's web server.

#### **Reference definitions**

A discussion was held regarding the Reference Definitions paper. The discussions concentrated on an agreement with a 4-point scale:

- 1) Long term agreed
- 2) May change, but used as mid-term reference
- 3) Discussed but not agreed
- 4) Discussed and unlikely to agree

(5) Not discussed)

The discussion continued over the 2 days with the desire to agree on as many definitions as possible. Of the 31 Original Reference Definitions:

Point on scale	Before Haikko	After Haikko
1	7	12
2		1
3	24	14
4		
5		4

The table above summarises the progress made for agreeing on Reference Definitions. It was decided that extra definitions were required for:

- Measurement of tree height on a slope
- Measurement point of dbh on a slope

NB: Amended Definitions to be written up after Haikko

## **Standing Volume Case Studies**

Case studies were presented for bridge building purposes by:

- Andrius Kuliesis
- Ulf Soderberg
- Patrizia Gasparini

Discussion were held to understand where bridges could be built based upon these presentations.

## **STSM presentation**

Thomas Gschwantner and Nicolas Robert presented the results of the STSM on Bridge building for Growing Stock volumes and models held in Edinburgh (14<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> May).

The Working Group decided, after a discussion, that two Actions for the way forward were:

1. STSM to improve models with increased country data
2. Individual countries (Germany & Norway) to test models on their own data (including complimentary data) and will report in Romania

## **DBH classes presentation**

Adrian introduced a discussion on what countries mean when describing diameter classes.

WG1 agreed that countries needed to be explicit in detailing what is included in diameter classes when reporting

## **Forest Definition Case studies**

The following Case studies were presented to the Working Group for discussion on harmonisation bridge building:

- Austria: Location of Forest Borderline (area interpretation of forest/non-forest)
- Switzerland: point decision for forest/non-forest
- Germany: Harmonisation of Forest Definitions: NFI vs FAO
- Italy: Forest Area - Point decision method

## **Future Work**

### **Bridge building - Growing Stock Models**

- More case studies (Germany, Spain? & Belgium) in Romania followed by STSM and Task Force (Feb/March - Italy) ready for Portugal

### **Bridge building - Forest Area**

- Case studies for Romania required (Spain to present in Portugal?)

### **Reference Definitions**

- Mark Lawrence to send amendments to Adrian Lanz by the June 15<sup>th</sup>
- Adrian to update document and send to WG1 by the 22<sup>nd</sup> of June
- WG1 to send comments by the end of July to Adrian
- Final Version ready by end of September - Task Force/STSM - Norway/ISPRA?
- Agreement at Romania