



COST Action E43
**“Harmonisation of National Forest Inventories in Europe: Techniques for
Common Reporting”**

7th Joint Working Group and Management Committee Meeting
Minutes For Working Group 3

Thessaloniki, Greece
16–18 Nov 2006

Minutes of the WG3 session held on the 16 and 17 of November 2006

List of participants:

Catherine CLUZEAU
Gherardo CHIRICI
Ugo CHIAVETTA
Ronald MCROBERTS
Susanne WINTER
Dieter PELZ
Ioanis MELIADIS
Loizos LOIZOU
András SZEPESI
Leandras DELTUVA
Paulo GODINHO-FERREIRA
Stefan NEAGU
Vladimir CABOUN
Ulf SÖDERBERG
Urs-Beat Brandli
Iciar ALBERDI ASENSIO
Helena MAKELA
Jana BERANOVA
Radek RUSS
Elmar HAUK
Tarmo TOLM

The WG3 session start at 13.00, moderated by G. Chirici.

The final aim of the session was to illustrate to WG3 participants the status of reference and bridging functions development for each of the selected core variables for forest biodiversity monitoring.

The agenda was adopted.

G. Chirici and S. Winter had a presentation reporting the results achieved during the STSM held in Gembloux Agriculture University (Belgium) from the 9th to 13th of October.

G. Chirici had a presentation on the core variable “deadwood”, prepared by J. Rondeux and C. Sanchez (Belgium) who were not been able to attend the meeting.

C. Cluzeau had a presentation, prepared together with N. Hamza, on the core variable “naturalness”. S. Winter and H. Hauk had a presentation on the core variable “stand structure”.

G. Chirici had a presentation prepared together with A. Barbati on “forest types” illustrating the EEA work for developing a EU forest type system of nomenclature.

The session interrupted for coffee break from 15.00 to 15.30.

I. Alberdi Asensio had a presentation on the core variable “ground vegetation”.

A short discussion was made regarding the need for including the core variable “protected forests”. G. Chirici asked for volunteers who would take responsibility for leading a new sub-group on such an issue. Since nobody was available G. Chirici and A. Axelsson were available to take a contact with the COST action E27 PRO-FOR on protected forests in order to include results of E27 in COST E43.

G. Chirici asked if someone were available for taking the leadership of a new sub-group on “forest age”. Jana Beranova (Czech Republic) and Urs-Beat Bradli (Switzerland) were available and were therefore nominated responsible for the new core variable.

The session end at 17.00.

The session started again at 9.00 on the 16th and 17th of November 2006.

Participants were divided in different sub-groups in order to develop reference definitions and to start setting up possible bridging functions.

Four sub-groups were created: deadwood, ground vegetation, naturalness and stand structure.

The work of the sub-groups stopped at 12.30 for the lunch break.

At 14.00 WG3’s work started again with all the participants together. A short overview of the results achieved were given by sub-groups leader about the work carried out.

A discussion about future activities started. WG3 approved the need for a Task Force meeting in order to finalize a first draft of the WG3 report. The utility of an operative phase with real NFI data to test bridging functions developed in WG3 was also expressed.

A first draft of the WG3 report will be delivered by G. Chirici aggregating all the reports produced by WG3 sub-group leaders. The first draft version of the report will be ready within the first months of 2007.

U. Brandli and J. Beranova expressed the need to carry out a new short questionnaire on “forest age” to be delivered to COST action E43 countries.

The work plan for 2007 was agreed: revision of WG3's report including the final version of the reference definitions, first draft of a proposal for bridging functions, set up of an operative test with real NFI data to be carry out during a WG3 task force meeting.

A strong need for a more intensive cooperation for inter-WG harmonization in reference definition was expressed.

Two papers were already sent out for revision on the basis of the results of the first WG3 on-line questionnaire: one to the "European Journal of Forest Research" and one to "Forestry". Other papers will be based on the reference definition when they will be ready.

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Techniques for Common Reporting



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Draft agenda For Working Group 3

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Meetings will take place at the xx

1.1 Thursday 16 Nov

9:00 – 9:30	Welcome and opening ceremony XX, Greece Opening of the meeting (Erkki Tomppo, Klemens Schadauer)
9:30 – 10:10	General report of the action, Erkki Tomppo, Klemens Schadauer Discussion and adoption of the agenda Progress report - WG1: Claude Vidal, Adrian Lanz
10:10 – 10:40	Coffee break
10:40 – 11:20	Progress report - WG2: Göran Stahl, Emil Cienciala - WG3: Gherardo Chirici, Susanne Winter
11:20– 12:00	Status of ENFIN and European Forest Monitoring system - Klemens Schadauer, Claude Vidal
12:00-13:00	Lunch break
13:00 – 15:00	General status, results from work subgroup works: - Adoption of the agenda - COST action WG3 update: results from the STSM in Gembloux (G. Chirici-S. Winter) 10 min - Draft results from the COMMON project (A. Axelsson) 10 min - Proposal for deadwood reference (J. Rondeux, C. Sanchez) 15 min + discussion 10 min - Proposal for naturalness reference (N. Hamza, C. Cluzeau) 15 min + discussion 10 min - Proposal for stand structure reference (S. Winter, E. Hauk) 15 min + discussion 10 min - Proposal for forest type reference (G. Chirici) 15 min + discussion 10 min
15:00 – 15:30	Coffee break
15:30 – 17:00	- Proposal for ground vegetation reference (I. Alberdi, C. Vicjo Tellez, S. Montoya Crespo) 15 min + discussion 10 min

- Proposal for protected forests reference 15 min + discussion (A. Axelsson) 10 min
- Proposal for forest age reference 15 min + discussion 10 min (G. Chirici, A. Axelsson)

17:00 – 18:00 Management committee meeting

1.2 Friday 17 November

9:00 – 10:30 Sub-group work for reference development

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break

11:00 – 12:30 Sub-group work for reference development

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch break

14:00 – 15:30 Harmonization options

Work and publication plan 2007

15:30 – 16:00 Coffee break

16:00 – 17:00 Chaired discussion on the WGs
Conclusions
Definition of the 2007 programme
Closing