



EU Centre of Excellence "PROFOREST" – Forest Research Institute in Warsaw

THE GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF STATE FOREST HOLDING IN WARSAW
FOREST SURVEY AND GEODESY OFFICE IN WARSAW



International workshop

"FOREST MANAGEMENT PLANNING STATUS AND CHANGES
AFTER POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION
IN CENTRAL EUROPE"

Białowieża, Poland, 10 - 12 March 2004

WORKSHOP PROCEEDINGS

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sponsored by

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Introduction

An international workshop "Forest management planning status and changes after political and economical transformation in Central Europe" was organised in the frame of EU Centre of Excellence "PROFOREST" (Task 5.7) on 9-11 March 2004 in Białowieża, Poland. The workshop was prepared and convened by the Forest Research Institute in Warsaw - Department of Forest Management Planning and Monitoring in co-operation with Poland's State Forest Holding and Office of Forest Management Planning and Forest Geodesy.

The main purpose of the workshop was to exchange an information on changes and discussion of main challenges for forest management planning (FMP) in the region, that occurred in consequence of economic transformation that had place in Central and Eastern Europe.

Importance of forest management planning in the region was reflected by the presence of 20 participants from institutions responsible for FMP in the Czech Republic, Estonia, Germany (Brandenburg), Hungary, Lithuania, Latvia, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Ukraine as well as the attendance of the representative of UNECE/FAO Secretariat in Geneva.

The meeting was attended also by 47 participants from Poland, representing a broad set of relevant, involved institutions: Ministry of Environment (Department of Forestry), general and regional directorates of State Forests Holding, Office of Forest Management Planning and Forest Geodesy, Faculties of Forestry in Agricultural Universities and Forest Research Institute.

The field trip, that was organised at the first day of the workshop (March 10), was intended to demonstrate two basic approaches of forest protection/management. Forest strictly protected on the area of Białowieża National Park was an example of an ecosystems where no significant human intervention have had place for almost century. The second part of the excursion was held in the Hajnówka Forest District, which manages their forests according to the differentiated, various tools ranging from strict reserves to comprehensive, complex final fellings. All applied tools are locally appropriate to the management's main goal – restoration of primeval, natural character of the secondary forests. The positive trends in forest structure and species composition occurred in the result of applied treatments were demonstrated for the workshop's participants, with the use of information extracted from up to date and historical forest management plans.

The main part of the workshop (March 11-12), was proceeded by introductory information on the State Forest National Forest Holding, made by Mr Janusz Zaleski, Deputy Director of SF. The structure, scope and tasks of Regional Directorate of SF in Białystok were briefly presented by its Deputy Director - Mr Piotr Zbrożek, with the special emphasis put on forest biodiversity protection.

The main part of the workshop consisted of presentations on national reports prepared and made by the specialists from 10 countries of the region. The reports were focused on the different issues of forest management planning and forest inventory, in particular on:

- forest ownership changes,
- role of forest management plan for forestry in different forest ownership form,
- place and form of protection of biodiversity in forest management plans,
- methods of forest inventory at stand's and national levels,
- scope of information collected for the assessment reports,
- organisational problems of forest management planning, financial aspects of FMP elaboration.

Additional session was dedicated for thematic presentations, following presentations were given during that session:

- Global and regional requirements for forest resources information (Alexander Korotkov, UNECE/FAO Secretariat, Geneva),
- Forests and forestry of Russian Federation (Igor Shuvaev, All-Russian Research Institute of Silviculture & Forest Mechanisation, Russian Federation)
- Simulation of forest ecosystem dynamic modelling under different scenarios of forest management (Vladimir Korotkov, All-Russian Research Institute of Silviculture & Forest Mechanisation, Russian Federation)
- NATURA 2000 in the forests (Piotr Zbrożek, Regional Directorate of SF Białystok)
- State of Europe's forests 2003 (Roman Michalak, MCPFE Liaison Unit Warsaw)

Thanks to the conditions enabled by UE Centre of Excellence "Proforest", organising and co-organising institutions and first of all excellent work done by experts from participating countries, international workshop convened in Białowieża consisted good platform for presentation of national situation and forum for exchange of ideas on the development of forest management planning in the region. The need of continuation of cooperation initialised by the workshop was the main of conclusions expressed by Dr Edward Lenart, deputy Director of Forestry Department in Polish Ministry of Environment, in his summarisation of the Białowieża's meeting.

The full text of national reports prepared for the workshop are published in the form of this proceedings, all (national and thematic) presentations based on the reports are attached to this proceedings in the electronic format (CD). We expect that published and attached data would consist interesting source of information for analysing of forestry condition in the Central and Eastern Europe. They may also serve as supporting material during further innovation of national forest management systems.

Leader of Proforest Task WP 5.7	Head of Forest Management Planning and Monitoring Department in FRIW
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