

DFG project: Fragmentation of information procurement from large area forest inventory and the link to the policy-making process within the international forest regime complex

International reporting processes of sustainable forest management and evolving issues of fragmentation of forest information

Defining questions for further research

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Introduction to forest inventory in the policy-making context



● (Source: Kleinn and Stahl, 2006, adapted from FAO, 2000) ●

Aim and Methodology

Aim:

1. Describe the reporting process of forest information
2. Identify potential fragmentation processes herein and
3. Develop further questions helping to understand
 - the reasons of fragmentation and to
 - characterise and grade the fragmentation processes in future research.

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Methodology

1. Literature review of the conventions- and country reports
2. Interviews with representatives of reporting processes
3. Questionnaires to countries and
4. Recent research papers.

Explaining Fragmentation and Harmonisation

Fragmentation

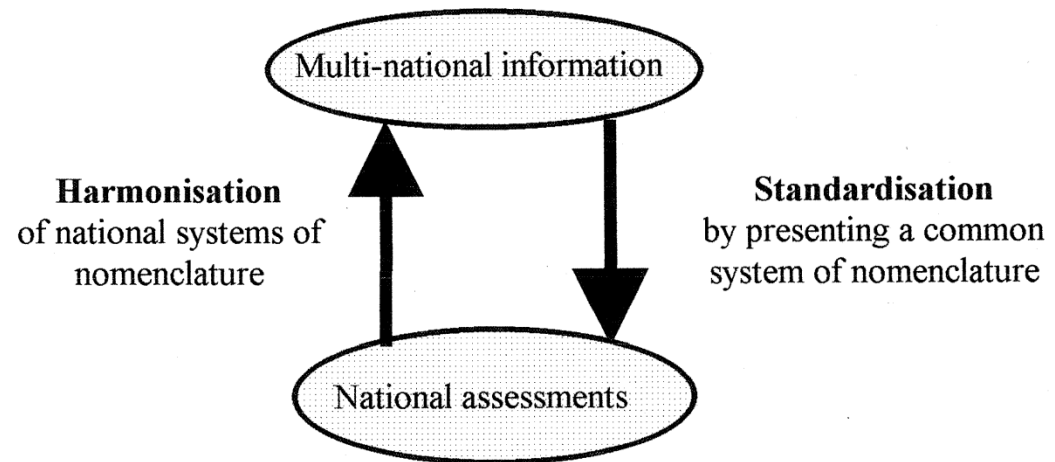
Lack of

- Coherency and consistency
- Completeness
- Accuracy

➤ No comparability (of data and analysis results) in space and time

➔ **Uneven data quality as a result of data/information selection?**

Harmonisation and Standardisation



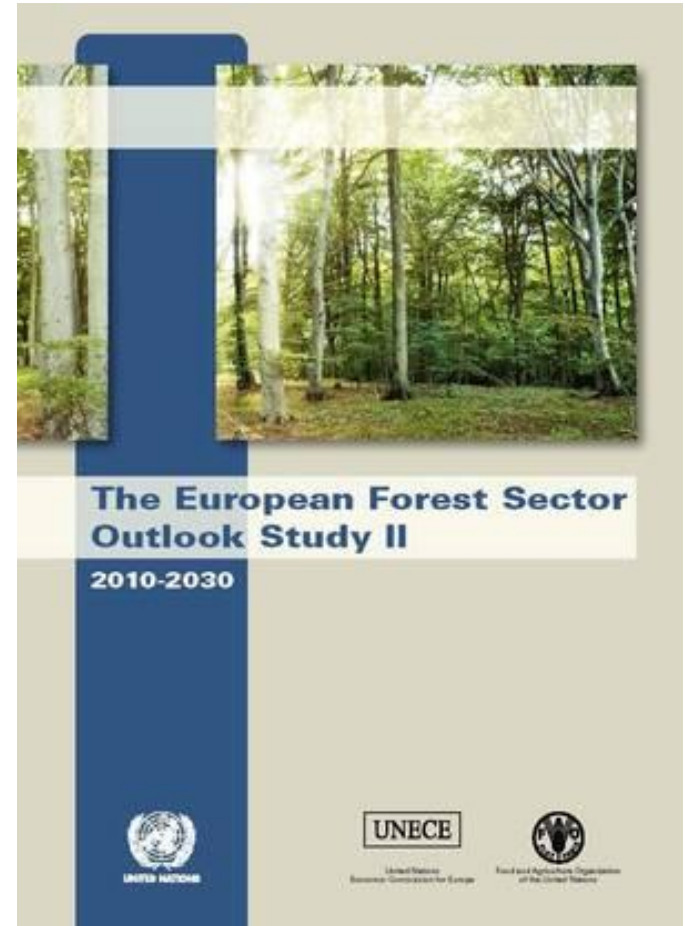
(Source of figure: Köhl et al., 2000)

Legal and voluntary reporting requirements, reporting bodies and instruments

- Reporting mechanisms on the criteria:
 - Carbon stock and carbon change
 - Timber productivity
 - Biodiversity

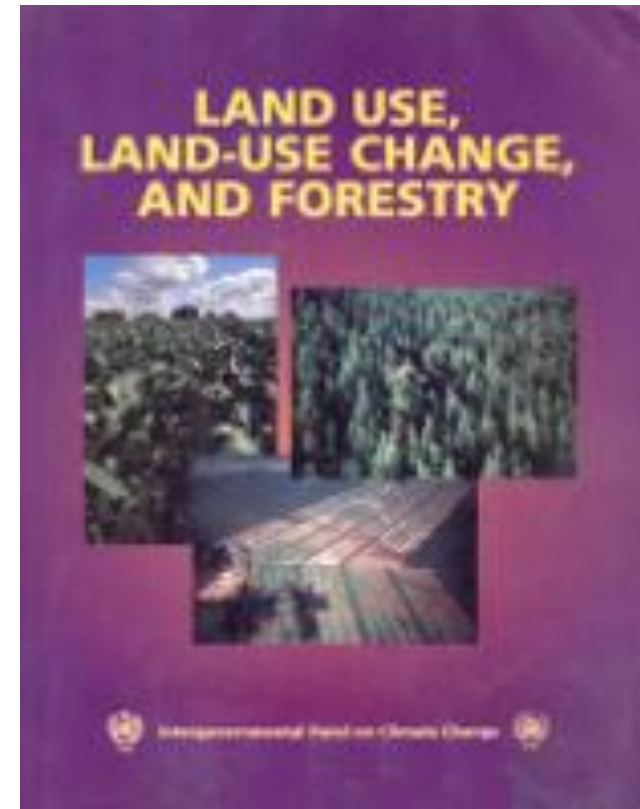
Reporting of timber production

- Obligation under FAO and MCPFE to monitor forest resources and allow sustainable harvest of timber resources
- Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire of the UNECE Timber Committee
- FAO/UNECE Outlook studies
 - To model productivity and timber markets
 - Scenarios: wood resources, markets and competitiveness
 - Target users: industry, large forest owners and policy makers



Carbon stock and carbon change reporting

- REDD+ and assessing carbon markets
- UN-FCCC and Kyoto Protocol
 - Land use activities (Article 3.3 and 3.4 Kyoto Protocol)**
 - Reporting Guidelines and definitions: Good Practice Guidance for LULUCF (IPCC, 2003)



Biodiversity reporting

- UN-CBD

- National reports inform on the measures undertaken and the success in implementation of commitments under the convention
- **2003, COP 6 Decision VI/22, paragraph 19 f demands** a Questionnaire on Forest Biodiversity submitted by the parties to prepare a report on the sustainable management of forest biodiversity.
- Reporting issues relevant to forestry:
 - *In-* and *ex situ* conservation
 - Traditional knowledge and
 - Sustainable use of biological diversity (Article 6)
 - Naturalness



Convention on
Biological Diversity

FAO and UNECE Timber Committee reporting on Sustainable Forest Management

- FAO/UNECE (global)
 - Forests resources contribution to the global carbon cycle**
 - Forest biodiversity and timber productivity**
 - Reporting Guidelines and definitions: Guidelines for Country reporting to FRA 2010
 - All reporting, analysis and forest sector outlook studies of the TC are based on data from:
 - FRA and State of Europe's Forests Report (SFM) and the
 - Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire of the UNECE Timber Committee (economic output of forests)
- Forest Europe/ MCPFE (European level)
 - Criteria of reporting overlap partly with the FRA report, but more detailed information in indicators**
 - Reporting Guidelines and definitions: National Data Reporting Forms on MCPFE Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management

Thematic elements of international reporting – Links between the interests of conventions

Report/ Indicator	State of Europe's Forests, Forest Europe	Global FRA 2010, FAO- UNECE	LULUCF activities, UNFCCC	CBD
Quantitative Indicators	C1 Forest resource and carbon stock	x	X	x
	C2 Health and vitality	x		x
	C3 Productive functions	x		x
	C4 Biodiversity in forest ecosystems	x		X
	C5 Protective functions	x		x
	C6 Socio economic functions	x		x
Qualitative Indicators	Overall policies institutions and instruments for SFM	x		x



Shared interests but different foci!

Streamlining the international reporting processes

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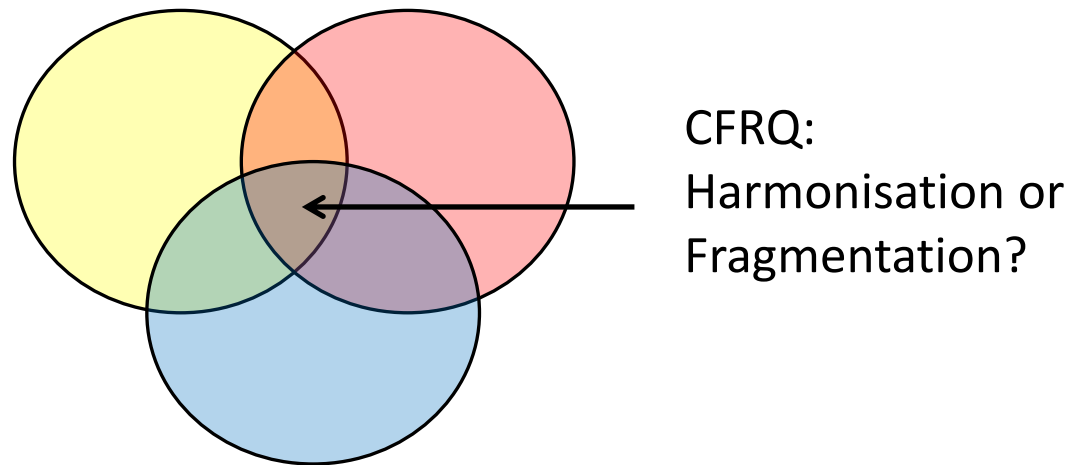
A process of fragmentation?

Overlapping interests of reporting processes

– Joint data procurement –

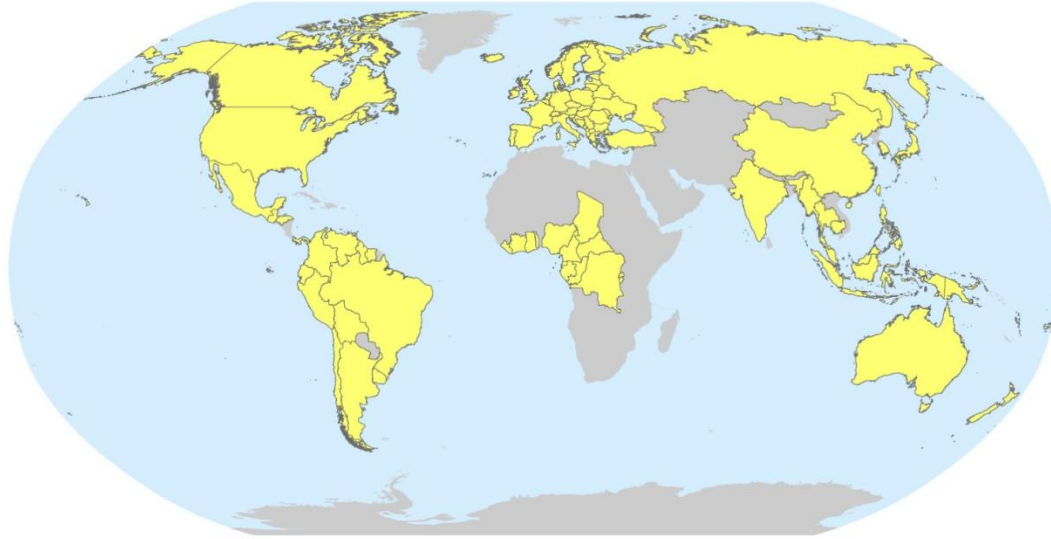
The way forward?

- Streamlining of reporting to reduce reporting burden
- CFRQ joint data collection for FRA 2015, questionnaire to be send out to countries in 2013
- For countries that report to two or more partner organisations



- ➡ What information gets promoted?
- ➡ What information gets lost?

Countries covered by CFRQ



Map 1 Source: MacDicken, K., FAO (2012): The global Forest Resources Assessment Long-term Strategy. Presentation at COFO 21, World Forest Week

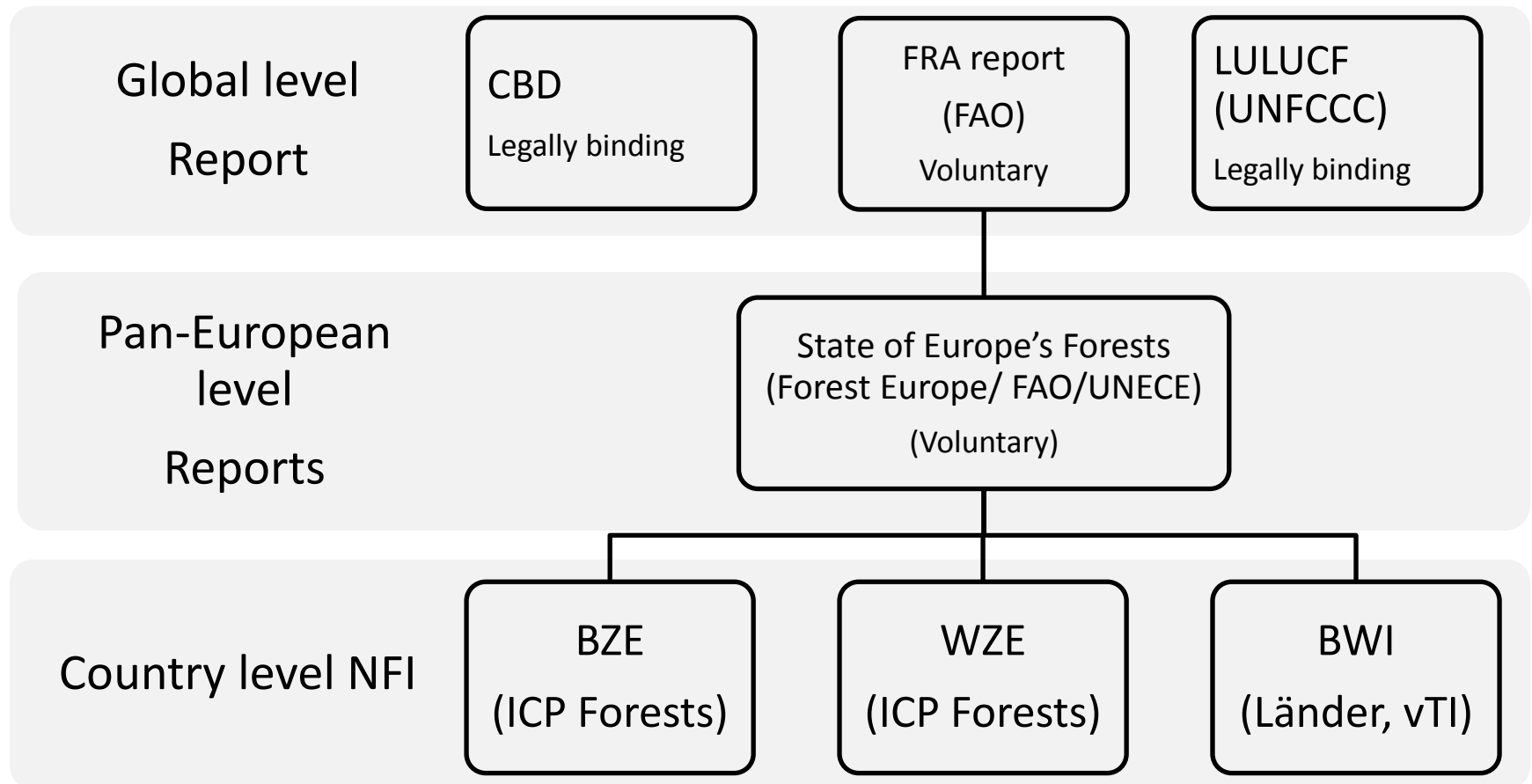
Map 2 Sources: UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre and International Society for Mangrove Ecosystems NGM Maps

Map 2 Copyright: National Geographic Magazine

Data acquisition and reporting
processes from the national to the
international level

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Users within the reporting process to FRA illustrated at the example of Germany



Are there further users within the data dissemination process?

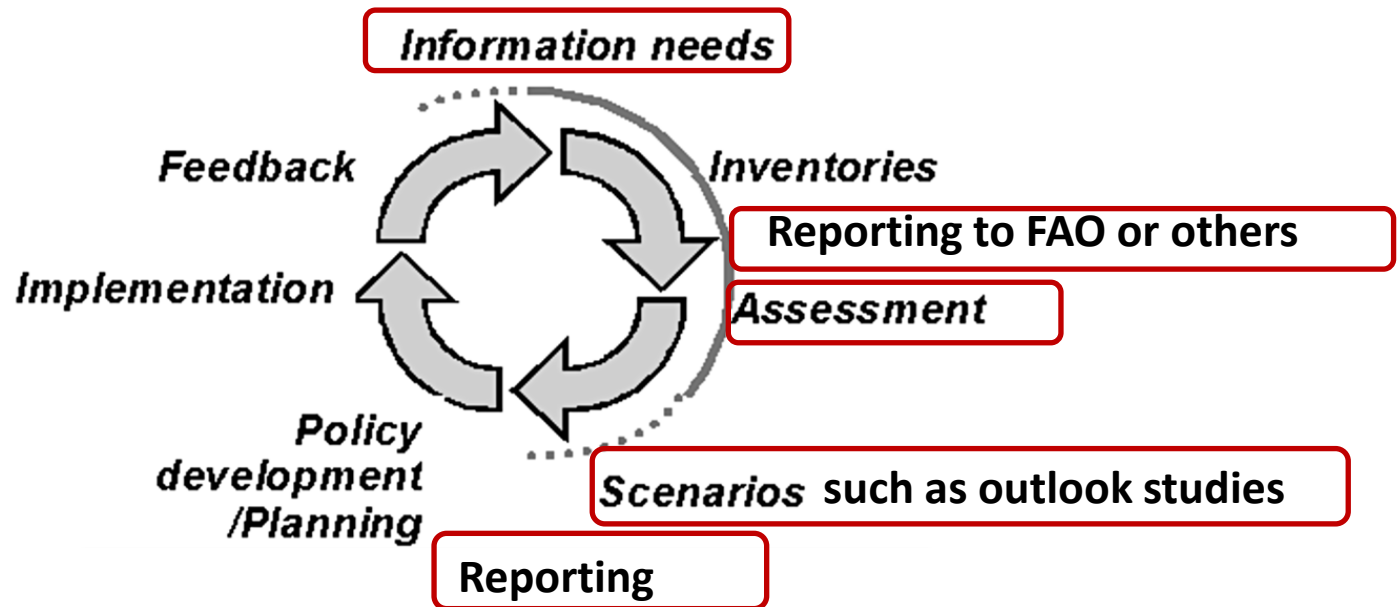
Is there fragmentation between different levels and users (e.g. via categorisation)?

Conclusion and summarising further
research questions

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Towards understanding fragmentation within the information procurement process

- Potentially, fragmentation can occur at every level of the information procurement process
- Errors in and misinterpretation of data amplify when penetrating thorough the process
- Missing information and ambiguity in different reports can result in faulty inferences on forest status and misconceptions on the management level



(Figure amended according to: FAO, 2000)

Further Questions

Describing the fragmentation process:

- Who are **the users/ reporting bodies of forest information** within the information procurement process?
- How can we **describe links** between the reporting bodies
- **What information** do they use/disseminate? What information gets lost?
- **Which additional parameters need assessment** in order to satisfy information requirements within the 3 spheres of interest: biodiversity, CO² sequestration and timber production
- **Where** occurs fragmentation in the chain of data procurement?

Analysing the fragmentation process:

- How can we **grade observed fragmentation** in order of magnitude
- What are the **sources of fragmentation/** what are the constraints to harmonisation? (Interests? Funding?)/**Why** are stakeholders using certain information

Literature

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A stylized tree where the canopy is a green world map and the trunk is brown wood. The tree is centered on the slide. A semi-transparent blue banner is overlaid across the middle of the tree, containing the text "Many thanks for your attention!".

Many thanks for your attention!