

Workshop
Land-use Related Choices under the Kyoto Protocol
Obligations, Options and Methodologies for Defining “Forest”
and
Selecting Activities under Kyoto Protocol Article 3.4

Graz / Austria
2-4 May, 2005
with a field trip on 1 May

Contact: wojtek.galinski@joanneum.at

Organized by:



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



Supported by:



Background

The Kyoto Protocol (KP) entered into force on 16 February 2005. As a result, Parties to the Protocol must make important policy decisions about specific activities and definitions within the Land Use, Land-use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) sector.

These decisions will take into account scientific understanding, requirements within the KP, environmental integrity, practical applicability and cost effectiveness. Therefore, a workshop will be held as outlined below, to introduce the most urgent decisions surrounding LULUCF, to present national experiences with preparing for these decisions and to provide a platform for brainstorming on these pending decisions.

In fulfilling Articles 3.3 and 3.4 of the Kyoto Protocol and subsequent decisions in the Marrakech Accords (MA), each Annex I Party to the Protocol must, by 31 December 2006¹:

1. Adopt a single definition of the term *forest* by selection of:
 - a. a minimum tree crown cover threshold between 10 and 30 %;
 - b. a minimum land area threshold between 0.05 and 1 hectare;
 - c. a minimum tree height threshold between 2 and 5 metres; and
 - d. a minimum width as recommended by the IPCC Good Practice Guidance for LULUCF.
2. Select any or all of the following human-induced activities under Article 3.4 in the first commitment period: revegetation, forest management, cropland management, and grazing land management.

The Marrakech Accords provide a rather broad definition of forest management². Upon election of forest management as an activity under Art. 3.4, Parties to the Protocol are asked to interpret this definition under their national circumstances.

Countries may wish to undertake preliminary analyses prior to committing to these specific decisions, because they will affect costs and benefits. The decision-making process will therefore require an advance estimation of:

- carbon benefits and their uncertainty ranges resulting from the adopted definition of forest;
- carbon benefits and their uncertainty ranges resulting from the adoption of each Art. 3.4 activity;
- risk of potential need to report carbon liabilities as a result of the adoption of each Art. 3.4 activity,
- monitoring/data collection and reporting costs,
- trade-offs and synergies with other objectives, such as environmental or socio-economic considerations and
- the range of incentives (if any) that may be required to achieve the desired GHG and other objectives.

¹ Marrakech Accords, decision 11/CP.7, Annex E, paragraph 16 and following paragraphs. The requirements for decisions are reiterated by the Good Practice Guidance for Land Use, Land-use Change and Forestry (Table 4.2.4 in Chapter 4.2.4.4).

² A system of practices for stewardship and use of forest land aimed at fulfilling relevant ecological (including biological diversity), economic and social functions of the forest in a sustainable manner (Marrakech Accords, cf. paragraph 1 of the Annex to draft decision-/CMP.1 - Land use, land-use change and forestry - contained in document FCCC/CP/2001/13/Add.1, p.58. The requirement for decision is reiterated by the Good Practice Guidance for Land Use, Land-use Change and Forestry (Chapter 4.2.7.1).

These decisions may have an impact for the future due to the possibly long-term reporting obligations for lands once they have entered the reporting system under the Kyoto Protocol.

Target Audience

The workshop is targeted at:

- policy and decision makers on Kyoto Protocol issues related to LULUCF in Annex I countries,
- staff of national agencies working on GHG reporting under the UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol.

Organization

The workshop is organized by JOANNEUM RESEARCH with financial support from FAO³ (www.fao.org), CarboEurope (www.carboeurope.org), and the following EU-funded projects:

- CarboInvent (Multi-Source Inventory Methods for Quantifying Carbon Stocks and Stock Changes in European Forests; (www.joanneum.at/CarboInvent))
- INSEA (Greenhouse Gas Mitigation in Agriculture and Forestry; www.iiasa.ac.at/Research/FOR/INSEA/index.html)

Registration Fee

The registration fee is 350 € and includes conference materials, lunches (2-4 May), coffee breaks and the conference dinner.

Venue

Hotel Schlossberg (A-8010 Graz, Kaiser-Franz-Josef Kai 30, tel. +43 316 80 70, fax: +43 316 80 700, e-mail: office@schlossberg-hotel.at, www.schlossberg-hotel.at).

Accommodation

Hotel Schlossberg (A-8010 Graz, Kaiser-Franz-Josef Kai 30, tel. +43 316 80 70, fax: +43 316 80 700, e-mail: office@schlossberg-hotel.at, www.schlossberg-hotel.at). Price: 110€ for single room.

VIP accommodation is available at: Hotel Erzherzog Johann (A-8010 Graz, Sackstrasse 3-5, tel. +43 316 81 16 16, fax +43 316 81 15 15, e-mail: office@erzherzog-johann.com, www.erzherzog-johann.com)

Budget accommodation is available at: Hotel Mariahilf (A-8020 Graz, Mariahilfer Strasse 9, tel: +43 316 713163-0, fax: +43 316 713163-60. E-mail: office@hotelmariahilf.at, www.hotelmariahilf.at).

All participants are requested to reserve their preferred accommodation.

³ FAO kindly agreed to support the workshop financially, including fee waivers and travel grants to some participants from EIT countries.

Agenda

1st May (Sunday): Excursion

Introduction to land-use related definitional choices under the Kyoto Protocol using practical examples of forest/cropland/grassland land uses in Southern Styria. Participants will visit locations subjected to different land uses: forest, plantation, short rotation and agriculture. Adopting different thresholds in definition of *forest* for KP purposes will result in changes of land partitioning among land categories. Possible differences between current and KP land classifications will be highlighted. Participants will discuss possible consequences of these differences for monitoring system and preparation of the GHG inventories under KP (with respect to Art. 3.3 and 3.4) and UNFCCC.

2nd May (Monday)

9:00 Official welcome (Bernhard Pelzl - Managing Director of Joanneum Research, Austria)

9:05 Opening of the workshop (Dieter Schoene - FAO)

9:15 Introductory remarks (Giovanni Angeletti - European Commission, DG Research)

9:25 Scope of the workshop (Bernhard Schlamadinger - Joanneum Research, Austria)

PLENARY SESSION I: Decision requirements resulting from KP Articles 3.3 and 3.4 Chair person: Bernhard Schlamadinger

9:30 Bottom-up and top-down quantitative assessment of the role of forests, cropland and grazing lands management in Annex I countries (Ivan Janssens - University of Antwerp, Belgium)

10:00 General introduction to the KP reporting for practitioners (dates, actions, reporting schedule). (Zoltan Somogyi - JRC, Italy)

10:30 Preparation of GHG reports in the LULUCF sector under UNFCCC/KP – progress in European countries. (Emil Cienciala - IFFER, Czech Republic)

11:00 _____ Coffee break

11:20 What definitions, parameters and values have countries historically used in reporting on forests and other land uses to FAO? (Dieter Schoene - FAO)

11:50 Land-use Related Choices under Art 3.3 and 3.4, with special consideration to soil carbon reporting (Mats Olsson - SLU, Sweden)

12:20 Earth Observation based forest monitoring and the forest related definitional choices under KP (Matthias Dees - GAF, Germany)

12:50 Concluding Discussion

13:00 _____ Lunch break

PLENARY SESSION II: National Experiences

Chair person: Dieter Schoene

- 14:00 Options for choices in the national interpretation of the Marrakech Accords definition of “Forest Management” and their influence on the accountable carbon emissions and removals (Hannes Boettcher - *Max-Planck-Institute for Biogeochemistry, Germany*)
- 14:30 Risk assessment of the decision to elect Article 3.4 “Forest Management” in Canada (Werner Kurz - *Canadian Forest Service, Victoria, Canada*)
- 15:00 LULUCF greenhouse gas reporting system, and choices under the KP, in Sweden (Goran Stahl, Erik Karlton, Mattias Lundblad and Hans Petersson - *National Forest Inventory, Sweden*)
- 15:30 _____ Coffee break
- 15:50 Presentation on national experiences in croplands and grasslands (TBD)
- 16:20 Concluding discussion
- 16:40 BOG meetings. Participants introduce themselves. Moderators introduce issues for in-depth discussion during BOG parallel sessions.
- 18:00 Adjourn
- 19:30 _____ Conference dinner

3rd May (Tuesday)

BOG PARALLEL SESSION I: Forest / Forest Management

Chair person: Annette Freibauer

- 9:00 What is a forest and what changes to forests are caused by direct human-induced activities? – a visual review of definitions and issues (*Neil Bird - Woodrising Consulting Inc., Canada*)
- 9:30 Preparatory activities to implement forest management in Switzerland (*Hubertus Schmidtke - SILVACONSULT, Wolfram Kägi - BSS, Richard Volz - SAEFL, Switzerland*)
- 10:00 Carbon Accounting Design considerations in New Zealand: forest definitions; remote sensing to monitor land-use change; forest inventory and modelling; choice of reporting methods (*Peter Stephens - Climate Change Office, Ministry for the Environment, Craig Trotter - Landcare Research, James Barton - Ministry for the Environment, Peter Beets - Forest Research, Chris Goulding - Forest Research, John Moore - Forest Research, Paul Lane - Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, and Ian Payton - Landcare Research, New Zealand*)
- 10:30 _____ Coffee break
- 10:50 Detection of deforestation/afforestation through combination of remote sensing and NFI systems – relationship with definitional choices (*Wojtek Galinski - Joanneum Research, Austria*)
- 11:20 Decision Support Tools for land-use related choices at regional and national levels (*Michael Obersteiner – IIASA, Austria*)
- 11:50 BOG in-depth discussion session I (Chaired by the Moderator)
Topic⁴:
- KP/MA definitional issues: implications for monitoring and reporting practice (data needs, transparency, costs, benefits), consistency with other reports (UNFCCC, FAO, national, etc.)
- 12:20 _____ Lunch break
- 13:30 BOG in-depth discussion session II (Chaired by the Moderator)
Topic:
- National interpretation of the term *forest management* under Art. 3.4;
 - Identification of risks in adopting specific definitions of forest and forest management
- 15:30 _____ Coffee break
- 15:50 BOG in-depth discussion session III (Chaired by the Moderator)
Topics:
- Influence of countries' existing national systems of land use classification and data collection system on definitional choices under Art. 3.3 and 3.4;
- 17:00 Adjourn

⁴ The list of BOG topics is tentative, and subject to further development with the participants.

3rd May (Tuesday)

BOG PARALLEL SESSION II: Cropland, Grassland Management and Revegetation

Chair person: Pete Smith

- 9:00 When to elect cropland management, grazing-land management and/or revegetation under the Kyoto Protocol - (Pete Smith, *University of Aberdeen, United Kingdom*)
- 9:30 Canada's Methods for the GHG Inventory of Agriculture. (Brian McConkey, Marie Boehm, Tony Brierley, Ray Dejardins, Ted Huffman, Tim Martin, Bert Vanden Bygaart, *Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada*)
- 10:00 Revegetation activities in the Mediterranean area as influenced by the definition of forest (Giuliana Zanchi, Lorenzo Ciccarese, *Universita di Padova, Italy*)
- 10:30 _____ Coffee break
- 10:50 Cropland, Grassland Management and Revegetation - the experience of the National Carbon Accounting System of Australia (Gary Richards - *Australian Greenhouse Office, Australia*)
- 11:20 Agricultural soil GHG emissions: Inventory methods used by Annex I countries (Erandi Lokupitiya - *Colorado State University, USA - Sri Lanka*)
- 11:50 CO2 budgets of grasslands and the decision to elect grassland management under Art. 3.4
BOG in-depth discussion session I
Topic⁵:
- KP/MA definitional issues: implications for monitoring and reporting practice (data needs, transparency, costs, benefits), consistency with other reports (FAO, national, etc.);
- 12:20 _____ Lunch break
- 13:30 BOG in-depth discussion session II
Topic:
- Carbon benefits and their uncertainty ranges resulting from adoption of CM and/or GM under Art. 3.4;
 - Incentives (if any) that may be required to achieve the benefits;
- 15:30 _____ Coffee break
- 15:50 BOG in-depth discussion session III
Topic:
- Application of Art 3.7 concerning emissions during the base year (1990);
 - Area changes in croplands and grasslands between 1990 and the commitment period.
- 17:00 Adjourn

⁵ The list of BOG topics is tentative, and subject to further development with the participants.

4th May (Wednesday)

9:00 Summary of the work done and presentation of aims for the current day

9:20 **BOG PARALLEL SESSIONS I AND II - CONTINUED**

BOG in-depth discussion session IV

Topics:

- Carbon benefits and uncertainty ranges resulting from adoption of specific activities under Art. 3.4 (data needs, transparency, costs, incentives);
- Impact of the selection of carbon pools on the Art. 3.4 decisions;
- Future obligations resulting from selection of the Art. 3.4 activities;
- Monitoring and reporting systems and their costs,

10:50 _____ Coffee break

11:10 BOG session V

Topic:

- Examples from national experiences.

13:00 _____ Lunch break

14:15 **PLENARY CLOSING SESSION**
Chair person: Werner Kurz

14:20 Report from BOG parallel session: Forest / Forest Management

14:50 Report from BOG parallel session: Cropland, Grassland Management and Revegetation

15:20 _____ Coffee break

15:40 Identifying open issues (what should be next, where are we struggling?) Discussion session

16:40 Conclusions from the workshop (*Bernhard Schlamadinger, Joanneum Research, Austria*)

17:00 End of the workshop