

Statistics Work Plan 2009-10 - Outturn

April 2010

This note reports on progress in 2009-10, by identifying what was achieved for each item in the work plan published in 2009 and major additional areas of work.

1. National Statistics (NS) publications and related work

Carry out surveys and data collection to cover UK timber industries (January to April), as agreed with Expert Group on Timber & Trade Statistics.	Achieved. Surveys completed in April 2009, with similar response rates to previous year. Surveys started in February 2010, with new option of online questionnaire.
Wood Production and Trade first release (May), as in 2008, based on UK industry statistics and surveys and Overseas Trade Statistics.	Achieved. Published on due date, with same range of contents as 2008.
Timber Price Indices first release (May and November), using new form of index developed in 2008 after review.	Achieved. Published on due dates, with figures on previous basis published alongside.
Woodland Area, Planting and Restocking first release (June), as in 2008.	Achieved. Published on due date, with same range of contents as 2008.
Forestry Facts & Figures (September), as in 2008.	Achieved. Published on due date, with additional tables on international comparisons.
Forestry Statistics (September), to include additional chapters for 2009 on international forestry and on UK forests and climate change.	Achieved. Scope extended to include new chapters. Accessibility text added for tables and charts.
Maintain statistics compliance plans and other documentation to meet the requirements of UK Statistics Authority and GSS guidance. Provide advice to others in FC who may produce official statistics.	Achieved. A wide range of documentation was developed and published, to meet all UK Statistics Authority requirements for organisational evidence for assessment. All National Statistics releases were announced on publication hub. Advice provided to others in FC (including National Offices and Forest Research) to help them identify potential official statistics.
For Survey Control, advise all parts of FC on possible surveys, and prepare reports to obtain ministerial approval.	Achieved. Reports in June 2009 and March 2010 were submitted and approved by ministers.
Provide statistics for other government publications, PQs, researchers, public enquiries.	Achieved. All requests for data were met.

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2. International returns

Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire (provisional May, final September) for timber production and trade, as in 2008.	Achieved. Data were submitted to Eurostat on time.
Timber Committee Questionnaire (September) for timber production and trade forecasts, as in 2008.	Achieved. Data were submitted to UNECE on time.
UK report for Global Forest Resources Assessment reporting – finalise report for publication.	Achieved. Published as final draft June 2009, awaiting international publication following global launch in March 2010.
Integrated Environmental & Economic Accounts – annual economic data.	Not required – no request from Eurostat in 2009-10.
Pan-European indicators of Sustainable Forest Management for MCPFE 2011 – compile UK data and check data from international providers, by March 2010.	International timetable revised – now issued February 2010 for completion by May 2010. Started to compile data and prepare new format for UK publication.

3. Other statistics and indicators

Complete first survey of woodfuel suppliers and identify requirements for other statistics on woodfuel.	Achieved. Survey completed and woodfuel statistics published in 2009. Agreed more limited survey for UK pellet manufacturers in 2010 and other approaches to develop woodfuel statistics.
Develop internet (particularly through web-based Forestry Statistics) and intranet (including evidence base distilling relevant statistics and economic studies).	Partly achieved. Internet pages “about our statistics” were restructured and expanded to meet the requirements of the Code of Practice. Longer time series data were published for planting, harvesting and timber prices. Little progress on developing evidence base.
UK Indicators of Sustainable Forestry: updates and review data availability for full range of indicators published in 2002, with the aim of final report in 2009.	Partly achieved. Regularly updated, but agreed to postpone review and final report. An alternative UK publication based on pan-European indicators, is being prepared for publication in June 2010.
Support development of indicators for country forestry strategies (England, Scotland, Wales) including annual survey of forest nurseries.	Achieved. Survey of forest nurseries running annually. Support provided to all three countries, and agreed their indicators to be published as official statistics in March – June 2010.

4. Research

Publish reports on Public Opinion of Forestry carried out in February/March 2009.	Achieved. Headline reports and data tables published in June 2009, full reports in October 2009. Also, on behalf of Forest Service, commissioned Northern Ireland Public Opinion of Forestry survey and published results as official statistics in March 2010.
For National Forest Inventory, establish processes to obtain data needed for international and national statistics and advise on statistical aspects including requirements of Code of Practice for Official Statistics.	Achieved. In collaboration with Forest Research statisticians and others, developed improved statistical approaches for National Forest Inventory field survey. Advised on requirements for official statistics.
Advise on environmental monitoring and social and economic research.	Partly achieved. Participated in workshop on integrated monitoring. Provided advice on economic studies, including Public Forest Estate in England.
ADDED	Provided support to FC Scotland, analysing local authority level data for reports on Native Woodland Survey of Scotland.

5. Recreation statistics and monitoring

Support on-site monitoring (Quality of Experience, local surveys).	Achieved. Provided advice and assistance to meet all requests.
Participate in collaborative household surveys in Scotland, England and Wales (Scottish Recreation Survey, Monitoring Engagement with Natural Environment, Welsh Outdoor Recreation Survey).	Achieved. Participated in steering the three surveys. Undertook additional work for Wales to produce report and help guide production of topic briefing notes.

6. Statistical Services

Support Human Resources Division and other parts of the FC by carrying out statistical analysis (e.g. for equality / diversity) and advising on surveys.	Achieved. Extensive support provided to HR, for diversity reports required by the Equality and Human Rights Commission and other analyses.
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Simon Gillam
 Head of Profession for Statistics
 Forestry Commission
 email statistics@forestry.gsi.gov.uk