

Progress Meeting Minutes
January 28th, 2010 in Ispra (Italy)

Feedback concerning the SC3

1/ Message requested by the JRC to modify the deliverables

Claude explained the proposal of consortium in Ispra according to the last meeting in Vienna. The JRC asked the consortium to send a formal request.

The JRC prefers a message instead of the modified list of deliverable to try avoiding an amendment (We will have to wait an answer of the administrative unit of the JRC to be sure that no amendment will be requested).

“After the meeting in Vienna, we checked the submitted data and it is only possible to provide aggregated basal area using a larger grid (50kmx50km) to calculate statistical sound results than the grid foreseen in the contract (5kmx5km or 10kmx10km). On the other hand, the number of tree species by grid doesn't seem very good because the size of the NFI plots are quite different from one country to another one and the number of tree species also depends on the richness of the species list (genus is used when the species is not in the list). Thus we propose to modify the list of the deliverables to be in line with this consensual proposal coming from all the NFI involved in this contract. In the future, it would be important to harmonise this information.”

2/ Format for static maps

The JRC refused the consortium proposal which consists in delivering static maps using PNG format. The JRC asked to get the “maps” in Geotiff format.

The consortium can propose a WMS (Web map Service) provided by the E-forest platform in order to control the usage (Scale lower to 1/1 000 000 wouldn't be available). This counter proposal will be explained to the JRC.

Feedback for the SC5 + extension

The JRC agreed on that proposal: the SC5 proposal (extension of the SC3 for 5 new countries) will be modified to add working days allowing (i) to have a meeting with all the countries involved in the SC3&SC5 in order to launch a validation phase of the foreseen deliverables for SC3 and to present and discuss the SC6 (EU forest map qualification) proposal, (ii) to have a meeting in ISPRA before this plenary meeting with all the consortium's members to discuss the SC6 proposal and carry out a test based on the protocol proposed by the JRC, (iii) to develop a first draft of a software to fulfil the JRC protocol (extraction of pixel information from the EU forest map).

The plenary meeting would be scheduled between the 22/03/2010 and the 26/03/2010. The permanent members of the consortium will meet one day before back to back this plenary meeting. As it is foreseen in the framework contract, the working days include also the travel costs.

The FNFI will prepare the new version of the SC5 taking into account that by Tuesday February 2nd.

New JRC request (SC6): UE forest map qualification

Refer to the JRC protocol.

As a first Draft, JRC wants to use only the NFI forest plots (the JRC didn't know that non forest plots are also available). JRC wants to qualify the EU forest map by requesting information after overlaying the EU Forest map and the NFI plots and without providing the real coordinates. A meeting is foreseen in ISPRA before the plenary meeting in order to present JRC the proposal of the permanent members of the consortium. A draft proposal has to be written beforehand. FNFI will send a first draft during February to open the discussion.

New JRC request (SC7): Design based estimation

After the presentation of the aggregation module during the last meeting, JRC wants to go further and asks the consortium to develop a real design based estimator (estimation of the variable and variance). A draft proposal has to be prepared.

SC4: Biomass replaced by the standing volume

The JRC asked the consortium to adapt the SC4 proposal in order to replace the biomass by the standing volume. The deliverable should be a report about harmonisation and a map of standing volume... It would be easier but still the willingness of accessible data remains.