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**REPORT ON THE 12th MONTRÉAL PROCESS
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING,
8th – 12th FEBRUARY 2010, WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND**

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MONTRÉAL PROCESS 12TH TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) MEETING SUMMARY

BACKGROUND:

The TAC met from 8th to 12th February 2010 in Wellington, New Zealand to address the brief from the 20th meeting of the Montréal Process Working Group:

- a) Develop recommendations for Montréal Process website functions;*
- b) Develop recommendations for Montréal Process activities for the 2011 International Year of Forests;*
- c) Recommend how Montréal Process indicators can assist in identifying and monitoring forest degradation trends;*
- d) Develop a paper that summarizes experiences and lessons learned during the indicator review process to be presented at the IUFRO Congress in 2010; and*
- e) Develop a synthesis of member country's work undertaken to improve communicating indicator data.'*

Delegates attended from nine of the twelve member countries with apologies received from the remaining three. The meeting agenda and delegate list is contained in Appendix 1.

The meeting was productive and developed recommendations to the Working Group on agenda items a, b, c, and e. The recommendations contained in this report will be presented for discussion at the 21st Montréal Process Working Group meeting in Hilo, Hawaii in late May 2010.

WEBSITE FUNCTIONS:

The value of the current Montréal Process Web site was acknowledged as were the efforts of the Liaison Office in Japan to maintain and manage the site. The value of the website as a repository of key Montréal Process information resources (the 'filing cabinet') for member countries was recognised as a core function, along with its importance for communication to wider audiences. A number of examples of SFM related websites were reviewed to stimulate discussion. The opportunity to significantly enhance Montréal Process members' ability to communicate a range of messages through the web was recognised as very significant. A number of improvements to the functionality of the web site were identified. The updated web site should:

- Have rapid access
- Have a familiar layout – familiar buttons
- Be simple and clear
- Have easy navigation
- Have a high impact home page – pictures
- Be easily and rapidly updateable by the Liaison Office and member countries – active/dynamic
- Reach a wide audience plus MP countries
- Easily found by search engines that use new search optimisation based on key words

The list of functions that the website requires was developed and prioritised (Appendix 2). Priority new functions identified include: a publications list, current activities and issues, latest news, experts list, Wiki space, search facility, members update, and a Country overview section. Subsequent to the TAC meeting the Liaison Office has produced an additional discussion document building on the outcomes of the TAC meeting¹. That document focuses on design characteristics of the revised web site.

- The TAC recommends that the functions and characteristics be adopted by the Working Group and that an implementation plan is developed that includes functions, design and structure, based on these findings.

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF FORESTS:

At the time of the TAC meeting in February 2010, planning for IYF activities within member countries was at a very early stage and the release of the UNFF concept paper (referred to in FAO 2009) in early 2010 was needed before significant planning activity can be undertaken. However, since the TAC meeting international activity has increased² with many organisations signalling activities. A number of possible Montreal Process initiatives were identified by the meeting (Appendix 3) and prioritised in terms of potential impact across member countries and the wider community, and degree of difficulty or practicality to implement. The four top ranked suggestions are proposed for WG consideration after development by subgroups:

Montréal **Process presence at cross sector meetings** [New Zealand/Australia]

Possible meetings of relevance

- Ensure a Montréal Process presence via a poster or stand at the: NINTH SESSION OF THE UN FORUM ON FORESTS (UNFF 9): **24 Jan 2011 - 4 Feb 2011**. UN Headquarters, New York, US. The theme for UNFF 9 is “Forests for people, livelihoods and poverty eradication.” UNFF 9 is also expected to complete consideration of the means of implementation for **sustainable forest management**. For more information contact: tel: +1-212-963-3401; fax: +1-917-367-3186; e-mail: unff@un.org; Internet: <http://www.un.org/esa/forests/>
- Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission (APFC) (24th Session) (EN/FR), Beijing, China, **9–13 May 2011**. For more information, please contact: Patrick B. Durst. Meeting Code: RAP-710 24
- SER2011 World Conference on Ecological Restoration. 21 to 25 August 2011. Merida, Yucatan, Mexico. Website: <http://www.ser2011.org> Contact name: Sasha Alexander. SER2011 will be an important forum for addressing the global challenges of biodiversity and habitat loss, climate change, and sustainable development. It will provide a global venue for professionals, researchers, students and the public. Organized by: Society for Ecological Restoration International. Deadline for abstracts/proposals: Not available. Check the event website for latest details.
- World Bioenergy - Conference and Exhibition on Biomass for Energy 2011 (venue and date not final)

¹ Goto T., 2010. Proposal for New Website of the Montréal Process: (Note for Discussion)

² <http://www.facebook.com/pages/2011-International-Year-of-Forests/111956558843310>

- 19th European Biomass Conference and Exhibition - 2011 (detail yet to be determined)
- State of the Arctic Conference (details not yet available)

Joint MPWG and other C&I Process meeting [New Zealand/Canada]

We propose a workshop for high level members of all major national level C&I processes and FAO to increase understanding of other processes around the world and to look for common challenges and common approaches to reporting. Participants would report and exchange on challenges and successes in indicator development and review, relevance, policy application, data management and trend reporting, adaptability of frameworks to help national users to deal with emerging issues and issues of scale, and technical expertise and gaps (as a first step for better collaboration and sharing at technical level).

This could be undertaken as part of the 22nd Montréal Process Working Group meeting in 2011 (the International Year of Forests) through a facilitated 1.5 or 2 day workshop. Plan to publish a synthesis paper as a result of the workshop that would describe the state of play of indicator processes and would describe the challenges remaining and next steps as identified during the workshop.

This workshop could lead to multiple benefits:

- Profile of C&I processes and frameworks and their value to forest managers and policy makers would increase.
- Ideas and expertise exchanged and ensuing discussions lead to new approaches and techniques for MP countries.
- Opportunities for technical exchange will be identified, efficiencies in applying known technical expertise and coordination of research projects as required.
- A review and invigoration of C&I processes will encourage other non C&I jurisdictions to get involved in monitoring SFM and value of work done by MP to date will be profiled on a global scale.
- MPWG could get better understanding how to best C&I can help countries deal better with the issues and challenges with respect to REDD+, CC and EGS.

Video information resource [Australia/USA]

Develop a Montréal Process short video (approx. 3-5 minutes): The purpose of this would be for promoting sustainable forest management and the use of criteria and indicators for measuring and monitoring sustainable forest management in temperate and boreal forests;

- show-casing the sustainably managed forest types of Montréal Process countries
- concluding by promoting the Montréal Process booklet, overview document and the website for further information
- produced to engage a wider audience than those with an existing interest in forests
- for simultaneous web release on World Forestry Day (21 March 2011) on the Montréal Process website, YouTube, MySpace and similar video sharing websites (including setting up a Montréal Process MySpace page linked to a Montréal Process Wikipedia page)

- for showing at international and national (forest, natural resource, climate change) conferences, workshops and meetings throughout 2011 and beyond
- for distribution on DVD throughout 2011 and beyond
- adding to the suite of Montréal Process communications products.

To produce such a video resource it is likely to be necessary to contract a professional company to do this and therefore a detailed implementation plan including funding sources would be a first priority.

Relay activities [Japan/Russia]

The "Relay activities" are a sequence of forest-related activities undertaken by all member countries of the Montréal Process, which are conducted on one particular day in 2011 and organized in a way that messages of participants are passed from one country to another with the use of some appropriate media tool. The activity can be any kind, such as tree planting, lecture (link to MP Synchronised lectures, which would be good for reading for students and teachers of forestry universities or officials of Forestry agencies) or game, preferably involving non professional people, in particular school children and the youth. The messages and the related photos or pictures are added on as they are passed on and finally returned to all participants. Taking into account the world time zones, the activities possibly start in Argentina, then move onto, for instance, Uruguay, Chile, US, Canada, Mexico, New Zealand, Australia, Japan Korea and China, and finish in Russia. The most critical part in the preparation of the "Relay activities" seems to be the fix of the date. Each country may possibly begin with the listing of candidate activities, and on its basis, roughly identify the most preferable month for international coordination. In consideration of the diversified climatic conditions among member countries, May-June and September-October may be the best timing for the event. Through such global-scale event, the wide coverage of the Montréal Process and the strong ties among its member countries will be well demonstrated and further recognized. It will also give strong impression and encouragement to the people, particularly to the young and local people. Such rather "fun and games" type events tend to be easily carried by the media.

Other Activities

The TAC also identified a series of activities that should be undertaken as a matter of course (e.g., recommitment to national workshops and standard operating procedures)

- The TAC recommends the Working Group considers the four proposed activities and that it tasks the TAC or appropriate sub group with development of an implementation plan for the selected activity(s) ahead of the IYF in 2011.

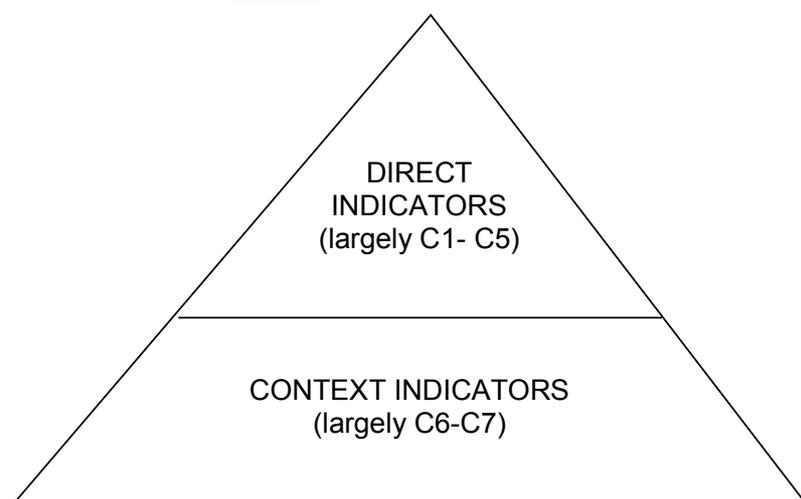
FOREST DEGRADATION

A brief overview of the FAO working paper on forest degradation³ circulated prior to the meeting was given by Dr Tim Payn, the TAC Convenor, to set the scene for discussions. The FAO paper was a very useful scene setter, and shows that forest degradation is complex and therefore difficult to define globally. The TAC used the FAO definition of forest degradation '*The reduction of the capacity of a forest to provide goods and services*' to broadly guide its discussions during the meeting. It

³ UN FAO 2009. Towards Defining Forest Degradation: Comparative Analysis of Existing Definitions. Forest Resources Assessment Working Paper 154

was outside the scope of the TAC's brief to discuss forest degradation definitions, but it was noted that the indicators may vary depending on the perspective of the discussion.

The indicator set was reviewed to identify those indicators that could contribute to measuring and monitoring degradation, using the MP criteria as the high level 'goods and services categories' as outlined in the FAO definition. As a first analysis those indicators that can contribute directly to measurement and monitoring of forest degradation at the national scale were identified.



Indicators directly applicable to Forest Degradation at the National scale

C1. Biodiversity	C2. Productive Capacity	C3. Health and Vitality	C4. Soil and Water	C5. Global Carbon Cycles	C6. Socio-economic	C7. Legislative frameworks
1.1.a	2.b	3.a	4.2.a	5.a		
1.1.b	2.c	3.b	4.2.b			
1.1.c	2.d		4.3.b			
1.2.a	2.e		4.3.c			
1.2.b						
1.3.a						
1.3.b						

The TAC concluded that the issue of forest degradation can be addressed using the C&I framework and that there are a number of important points related to this:

- Forest degradation is a very complex issue and at the broadest level all MP indicators will have some relevance to the discussion by providing context
- A number of MP indicators can form a core subset at the national level that will allow measurement and monitoring of forest degradation by member countries.
- The subset of indicators identified span Criteria 1 to 5, and indicators in C6 and C7 are seen as contextual and supportive.

- Scale at which measurement and monitoring will be carried out is important, and local or regional level indicators may not be the same as the subset identified at the national scale
- It may be that there is a need for additional local level indicators, and possibly policy related indicators. This is an area requiring further work.

In conclusion the broader framework of the C&I forms a good foundation to address specific issues such as forest degradation which can be seen as a component of Sustainable Forest Management.

- The TAC recommends that the Working Group consider using case studies to further develop and test the applicability of the indicator set to the issue of forest degradation. The results could be described in a Montreal Process technical paper disseminated through the MP web site.
- The TAC recommends that the WG explores the possibility of holding a workshop on this topic with other C&I processes after case studies have been undertaken.

INDICATOR REVIEW PAPER:

The abstract developed by Dr Tim Payn (TAC Convenor, NZ), Tim Barnard (NZ) and Simon Bridge (Canada) and accepted by the organising committee in January 2010 for session B-07 of the 2010 IUFRO World Congress was tabled (Appendix 4). The authors invited TAC colleagues' involvement in development of the final paper to be presented at the Congress.

COMMUNICATING INDICATOR DATA:

An overview of approaches to communication of indicator data was given by Barbara Hock, New Zealand to set the scene for discussions (Appendix 5). The meeting developed a framework of audience types and communication mechanisms to synthesise current MP activity in terms of communicating indicator data. Audiences and communication mechanisms are summarised in Table 1.

Audiences
Decision makers
Other professionals/researchers
Policy Advisers
Forest Managers
Investors – senior managers
Practitioners
Foresters
Children
Press
High ranking Govt officials dealing with Govt reform
General public

Mechanisms
Maps
Dashboards
Website
Website – with animation
Reports
Journal papers
State of forest report to Parliament
Workshops
Field tours
Issue summaries
Meetings

ENGOs
Students – forest science and environment
Certifiers
Politicians
Wood industry people
Audiences
Decision makers
Other professionals/researchers
Policy Advisers
Forest Managers
Investors – senior managers
Practitioners
Foresters

Briefing Notes
Executive summaries
Internet forums
Graphs
Statistics
Videos
Spreadsheets
Seminars
Cartoons
Magazines
Pictures
Aggregated Index
Raw data

For all countries present the level of interaction with audiences and use of the different mechanisms was ranked. The full matrix of results is contained in Appendix 5. Additional commentary from each country on current activity and future directions is available from the TAC convenor. Further work is required to add in information from the three countries unable to attend the TAC meeting.

The collated data showed quite a variety of audiences and communications mechanisms used across the participating countries with some common audiences and mechanisms but also some audiences and mechanisms rarely or not used at all.

Mechanisms most commonly used were the traditional reports and written material, little use is yet made of mechanisms such as Wikis, videos, blogs, and interactive data presentation online. Most common audiences were the expected traditional ones, but the need for education and outreach to a younger audience – the next generation of foresters using web technologies - is a high priority amongst countries.

There are great opportunities to improve how we communicate indicator data to all our audiences often through mechanisms we may not be familiar with.

- The TAC recommends that further work is done on this important topic – especially related to the rapidly growing opportunities around internet, social networking systems, and data visualisation technologies.
- The TAC recommends the Working Group considers means of accelerating the communication with younger people and the rapid uptake of new communication media such as video, maybe as a specific initiative and linked to the International Year of Forests activities.

OTHER BUSINESS:

International Forestry Forum: Russia raised the possibility of Montréal Process input to the International Forestry Forum - 19-21 Oct. 2010, St. Petersburg, Russia and the TAC agreed that Dr Palenova prepare a short note for circulation and discussion by Working Group members ahead of the 21st WG meeting outlining possible MP involvement.

Future Montréal Process activities: Discussions around the IYF and other activities raised the subject of new directions for MP and the need possibly for a new declaration to reflect the next stage of the MP journey, possibly as part of IYF activities.

The TAC suggests this be discussed at the 21st Working Group meeting

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

The support of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, NZ and the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Australia in planning and hosting the meeting and field trip and the field trip hosts Greater Wellington Regional Council, and Juken New Zealand is gratefully acknowledged.

APPENDICES:

APPENDIX 1. AGENDA AND PARTICIPANTS



Agenda

www.mpci.org

12th Montréal Process Technical Advisory Committee
8th – 12th February 2010
Wellington, New Zealand

Day	Time	Activity
Monday 8 th	10:00 – 11:00	Welcome, Introductions, Meeting Outline and Organisation
	11:00 – 15:00	International Year of Forests
	15:00 – 17:00	Web site review
	18:00	Informal get together
Tuesday 9 th	9:00 – 17:00	Communicating Indicator data
	17:30 – 18:30	Reception and interactions between TAC members and NZ forest sector representatives
Wednesday 10 th	8:30 – 16:30	Field Visit – forests in difficult, fragile and degraded landscapes
Thursday 11 th	9:00 - 17:00	C&I for Forest Degradation
	19:00	Workshop Dinner
Friday 12 th	9:00 – 14:00	C&I for Forest Degradation
	14:00 – 17:00	Wrap up, recommendations and actions

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APPENDIX 2. IDENTIFIED MONTRÉAL PROCESS WEB PAGE FUNCTIONS AND PRIORITIES

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Very Important

- What is Sustainable Forest Management
- Filing cabinet
 - Santiago Declaration
 - Quebec Declaration
 - Meeting Reports
 - WG
 - TAC
 - Other
 - Current Indicators
 - Poster
 - List
 - Technical Notes
 - Booklet
 - Past editions of indicators
 - Posters
 - Lists
 - Technical Notes
 - Booklets
 - Publications
 - MP World Map
 - Presentations
 - Country reports
 - Overview reports
 - Strategic Action Plan
- Montréal Process Functions
- The Criteria and Indicators
- Member Countries
 - Map
 - Links
 - Contacts
- Links
- What are Criteria and Indicators and why are they important

Important

- Current activities and issues
- Latest News
- Experts list
- Wiki Space
- Search
- Members update
- Country overview section – brief plus links
- Significant features of MP – e.g. area of forest, map etc
- Regional Activities and Information
- Interactive space

Less Important

- Photo library
- Video library

- Montréal Process History

Low Importance

- None

Design considerations

- Rapid access
- Familiar layout – familiar buttons
- Simple and clear
- Easy Navigation
- High impact home page – pictures
- Easy and rapid update – active/dynamic
- Wide audience plus core MP countries

APPENDIX 3. OPTIONS FOR MONTRÉAL PROCESS ACTIVITIES FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF FORESTS (TOP FOUR OPTIONS HIGHLIGHTED IN YELLOW)

Idea	Purpose	MP Benefit	Audience	Audience Benefit	Impact	Difficulty
UNECE meeting - Joint Workshop C6 & C7	GFRA2015 Improved C6, C7	positive benefit	FAO FRA users	Improved FRA	Med	Low
National level workshops	Tools for local implementation	Positive profile. Increased adoption.	Practitioners, policy makers	Improved understanding	H - on ground	L
Synchronised lectures	Raise profile/ awareness	Positive profile	Domestic, widest, range of languages (7)	Improved understanding	H	M-H
Video	Raise profile/awareness	Positive profile	Widest	Improved understanding	H	M
Web links IYF/MP	Raise profile	Positive profile, web impact increased; searchability	Forest interests Wide	Increased awareness	M	VL Challenge: keywords – water, soil, people in forests
Combined C&I Process meeting	Bring together C&I processes	Increased understanding, increase CI legitimacy	Depends: - Practitioner - Policy maker	See MP benefit; Increased sponsorship	H-M	VH – need good case
Relay activities (link to lectures)	Raise profile/awareness	Youth awareness	Youth, Educators	Increased awareness	M	M
MP presence @ big forest meeting	Raise profile	Positive profile	Depends on the meeting	Depends on meeting	Depends on the meeting	L
Video competition	Increase awareness & new ideas	New ideas; viral	Broad, youth, non-traditional, public	Education, increased understanding by viewers; minor to participants	H	Risky , complex, H
Online games	Wiki, raise awareness, demonstrate value of C&I	More use of C&I – win what (prize)? MP merchandise	Youth and nerds	Fun, rewards, education	+ve, -ve	VH
Share experiences electronically	Demo forest projects, information sharing, FAQs, MP Google	Sharing, capacity building	Widest	Awareness	H	L (e.g. Degree Confluence)

APPENDIX 4. ABSTRACT OF PAPER ACCEPTED FOR PRESENTATION AT IUFRO WORLD FORESTRY CONGRESS, SEOUL, KOREA.

Enhancing our view of Sustainable Forest Management – reviewing the Montréal Process Criteria and Indicators

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Tim Payn, Scion, New Zealand; Tim Barnard, Scion, New Zealand; Simon Bridge, Natural Resources, Canada.

The Montréal Process Working Group (www.mpci.org) first developed the seven criteria and 67 indicators for Sustainable Forest Management in the mid 1990s. These give a comprehensive view of all components of SFM and cover biological diversity, productive capacity, health and vitality, soil and water, global carbon cycles, socio- economic aspects, and legal and institutional frameworks.

Since the C&I were developed understanding of SFM has improved and in 2005 reviewed the indicators focussing on scope, the need for new indicators to reflect our changed understanding, rationales and approaches to measurement, and the clarity and simplicity of indicators.

The review confirmed the robust nature of the original C&I framework, added new indicators in the area of: ecosystem services, avoided fossil fuel emissions through use of bioenergy, and the importance of forests to people. A number of indicators were deleted or merged with others to simplify the set giving a revised set of 54. Emphasis on socio-economic indicators increased and a significant rework of indicators associated with legal and institutional frameworks. The revised indicators build on the very strong foundations of the original C&I and provide a clearer, more comprehensive, simple and easy to apply set of indicators.

APPENDIX 5. COMMUNICATION OF INDICATOR INFORMATION

Background presentation:

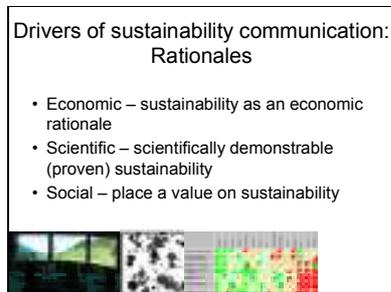
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Slide 2



Slide 3

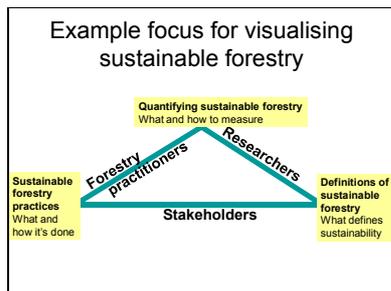


Slide 4

**Drivers of sustainability communication:
Functionality**

- Analytical frame of reference – looks to the analytical and assessment-oriented structure and usefulness of the display
- Design frame – views visualisations as supports to creating and discussing options
- Negotiation frame – strategic approach, focuses more on communication for advocacy, for negotiation, decision making

Slide 5

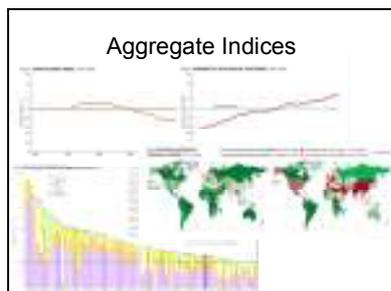


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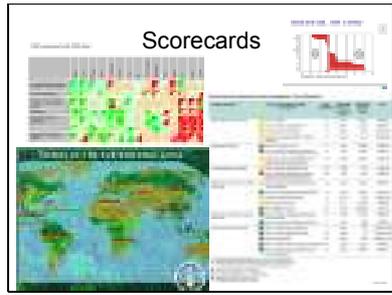
Example visualisations of indicators

From previous Montreal Process Technical Advisory Committee meetings

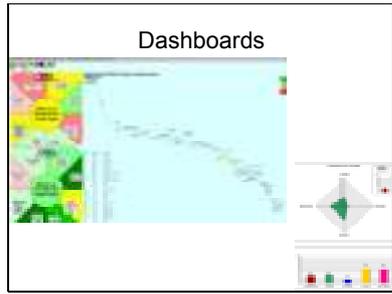
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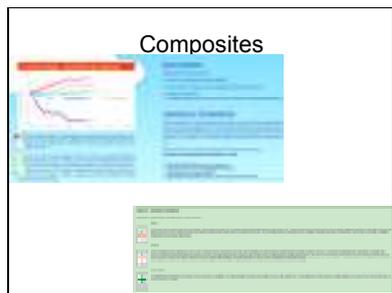
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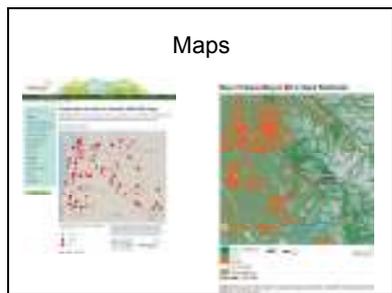
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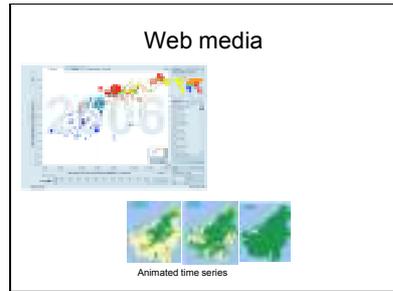
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Slide 11



Slide 12



Slide 13



Slide 14



Mechanisms for data communication

Mechanism - key
Widely used
Used
Occasional Use
No Use

Mechanism	Japan	USA	New Zealand	Canada	Argentina	China	Australia	Chile	Russia
Maps									
Dashboards									
Website									
Website – with animation									
Reports									
Journal papers									
State of forest report to parliament									
Workshops									
Field tours									
Issue summaries									
Meetings									
Briefing Notes									
Executive summaries									
Internet forums									
Graphs									
Statistics									
Videos									
Spreadsheets									
Seminars									
Cartoons									
Magazines									
Pictures									
Aggregated Index									
Raw data									
Blogs/Wiki									
Other (what)		Roundtables							