Challenges – a Forest Industry Perspective
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Background

Stora Enso wood sourcing to own mills in 2006 amounted to 45,4 million m³, most of it sourced in areas in Europe and North America where small scale family forestry dominate. Stora Enso has programs for giving service to small-forest owners including forest certification. Stora Enso operations are checked and publicly reported. Stora Enso has a target to increase wood coming from forest management certified forests and have a vision that all relevant forest are certified, but the increase is slow: 2003: 45%, 2005: 55%.

The scene

Small-forest owners carry out a lot of sustainable forestry and countries have committed to the Helsinki process for sustainable forestry. But, it is very difficult to get this fully recognised by customers and e.g. in Green Public Procurement rules unless forest management certified. And there are seldom price premiums for products from forest management certified sources. Forest certification systems are today not streamlined and cost-efficient enough for small-forest owners. Together this leads to unintentional discrimination of small-forest owners in the market place.

Challenges

1. How to get full recognition for all the responsible and sustainable forestry carried out by small-forest owners, although not forest management certified?

2. How to get forest management certification systems streamlined and cost-efficient enough for small-forest owners?