



Forestry Department

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

**GLOBAL FOREST RESOURCES
ASSESSMENT**

COUNTRY REPORTS

TUVALU

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The Forest Resources Assessment Programme

Sustainably managed forests have multiple environmental and socio-economic functions important at the global, national and local scales, and play a vital part in sustainable development. Reliable and up-to-date information on the state of forest resources - not only on area and area change, but also on such variables as growing stock, wood and non-wood products, carbon, protected areas, use of forests for recreation and other services, biological diversity and forests' contribution to national economies - is crucial to support decision-making for policies and programmes in forestry and sustainable development at all levels.

FAO, at the request of its member countries, regularly monitors the world's forests and their management and uses through the Forest Resources Assessment Programme. This country report forms part of the Global Forest Resources Assessment 2010 (FRA 2010).

The reporting framework for FRA 2010 is based on the thematic elements of sustainable forest management acknowledged in intergovernmental forest-related fora and includes variables related to the extent, condition, uses and values of forest resources, as well as the policy, legal and institutional framework related to forests. More information on the FRA 2010 process and the results - including all the country reports - is available on the FRA Web site (www.fao.org/forestry/fra).

The Global Forest Resources Assessment process is coordinated by the Forestry Department at FAO headquarters in Rome. The contact person for matters related to FRA 2010 is:

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The Global Forest Resources Assessment Country Report Series is designed to document and make available the information forming the basis for the FRA reports. The Country Reports have been compiled by officially nominated country correspondents in collaboration with FAO staff. Prior to finalisation, these reports were subject to validation by forestry authorities in the respective countries.

Contents

1	TABLE T1 – EXTENT OF FOREST AND OTHER WOODED LAND.....	5
2	TABLE T3 – FOREST DESIGNATION AND MANAGEMENT.....	7
3	TABLE T4 – FOREST CHARACTERISTICS.....	9

No information is available for tables: T2, T3b, T4a, T5-T17.

Report preparation and contact persons

No official report has been received from the country.

This report is the result of a desk study prepared by the FRA 2010 secretariat in Rome, which summarizes existing available information using the established format for FRA 2010 country reports.

1 Table T1 – Extent of Forest and Other wooded land

1.1 FRA 2010 Categories and definitions

Category	Definition
Forest	Land spanning more than 0.5 hectares with trees higher than 5 meters and a canopy cover of more than 10 percent, or trees able to reach these thresholds <i>in situ</i> . It does not include land that is predominantly under agricultural or urban land use.
Other wooded land	Land not classified as “Forest”, spanning more than 0.5 hectares; with trees higher than 5 meters and a canopy cover of 5-10 percent, or trees able to reach these thresholds <i>in situ</i> ; or with a combined cover of shrubs, bushes and trees above 10 percent. It does not include land that is predominantly under agricultural or urban land use.
Other land	All land that is not classified as “Forest” or “Other wooded land”.
Other land with tree cover (Subordinated to “Other land”)	Land classified as “Other land”, spanning more than 0.5 hectares with a canopy cover of more than 10 percent of trees able to reach a height of 5 meters at maturity.
Inland water bodies	Inland water bodies generally include major rivers, lakes and water reservoirs.

1.2 National data

1.2.1 Data sources

References to sources of information	Quality (H/M/L)	Variable(s)	Year(s)	Additional comments
Thaman, R. Whistler W.. 1994. Samoa, Tonga, Kiribati and Tuvalu. South Pacific Forestry Development Programme		Forest area	1994	

1.2.2 Classification and definitions

National class	Definition
Forest	Flora is extremely poor. Terrestrial vegetation associations are limited to coastal strand vegetation. Small areas of mangroves and coastal marsh relict stands of inland forest are often found on uninhabited islets.

1.2.3 Original data

According to the data source, forests are estimated to cover approximately 1000 ha.

1.3 Analysis and processing of national data

The value from the original data is used for all three reporting years. Other land is calculated by subtracting the forest area from the total area as reported by FAOSTAT.

1.3.1 Calibration

Not needed.

1.3.2 Estimation and forecasting

No change is assumed.

1.3.3 Reclassification into FRA 2010 categories

Not needed.

1.4 Data for Table T1

FRA 2010 categories	Area (1000 hectares)			
	1990	2000	2005	2010
Forest	1	1	1	1
Other wooded land	0	0	0	0
Other land	2	2	2	2
...of which with tree cover	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Inland water bodies	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	3	3	3	3

1.5 Comments to Table T1

Variable / category	Comments related to data, definitions, etc.	Comments on the reported trend
Forest		
Other wooded land	No data are available on the occurrence of other wooded land. If areas of other wooded land exist, they are included within the figure for other land.	
Other land		
Other land with tree cover		
Inland water bodies		

Other general comments to the table

Expected year for completion of ongoing/planned <u>national forest inventory and/or RS survey / mapping</u>	
Field inventory	
Remote sensing survey / mapping	

2 Table T3 – Forest designation and management

2.1 FRA 2010 Categories and definitions

Term	Definition
Primary designated function	The primary function or management objective assigned to a management unit either by legal prescription, documented decision of the landowner/manager, or evidence provided by documented studies of forest management practices and customary use.
Protected areas	Areas especially dedicated to the protection and maintenance of biological diversity, and of natural and associated cultural resources, and managed through legal or other effective means.
Categories of primary designated functions	
Production	Forest area designated primarily for production of wood, fibre, bio-energy and/or non-wood forest products.
Protection of soil and water	Forest area designated primarily for protection of soil and water.
Conservation of biodiversity	Forest area designated primarily for conservation of biological diversity. Includes but is not limited to areas designated for biodiversity conservation within the protected areas.
Social services	Forest area designated primarily for social services.
Multiple use	Forest area designated primarily for more than one purpose and where none of these alone is considered as the predominant designated function.
Other	Forest areas designated primarily for a function other than production, protection, conservation, social services or multiple use.
No / unknown	No or unknown designation.
Special designation and management categories	
Area of permanent forest estate (PFE)	Forest area that is designated to be retained as forest and may not be converted to other land use.
Forest area within protected areas	Forest area within formally established protected areas independently of the purpose for which the protected areas were established.
Forest area under sustainable forest management	To be defined and documented by the country.
Forest area with management plan	Forest area that has a long-term (ten years or more) documented management plan, aiming at defined management goals, which is periodically revised.

2.2 National data

2.2.1 Data sources

See T1

2.2.2 Classification and definitions

Not needed.

2.2.3 Original data

See T1

2.3 Analysis and processing of national data

2.3.1 Calibration

Not needed.

2.3.2 Estimation and forecasting

No change assumed.

2.3.3 Reclassification into FRA 2010 categories

All forest area = Unknown designation

2.4 Data for Table T3

Table 3a – Primary designated function

FRA 2010 Categories	Forest area (1000 hectares)			
	1990	2000	2005	2010
Production	0	0	0	0
Protection of soil and water	0	0	0	0
Conservation of biodiversity	0	0	0	0
Social services	0	0	0	0
Multiple use	0	0	0	0
Other (please specify in comments below the table)	0	0	0	0
No / unknown	1	1	1	1
TOTAL	1	1	1	1

Table 3b – Special designation and management categories

No information is available for table 3b

2.5 Comments to Table T3

Variable / category	Comments related to data, definitions, etc.	Comments on the reported trend
Production		
Protection of soil and water		
Conservation of biodiversity		
Social services		
Multiple use		
Other		
No / unknown designation		
Area of permanent forest estate		
Forest area within protected areas		
Forest area under sustainable forest management		
Forest area with management plan		

Other general comments to the table

3 Table T4 – Forest characteristics

3.1 FRA 2010 Categories and definitions

Term / category	Definition
Naturally regenerated forest	Forest predominantly composed of trees established through natural regeneration.
Introduced species	A species, subspecies or lower taxon, occurring <u>outside</u> its natural range (past or present) and dispersal potential (i.e. outside the range it occupies naturally or could occupy without direct or indirect introduction or care by humans).
Characteristics categories	
Primary forest	Naturally regenerated forest of native species, where there are no clearly visible indications of human activities and the ecological processes are not significantly disturbed.
Other naturally regenerated forest	Naturally regenerated forest where there are clearly visible indications of human activities.
Other naturally regenerated forest of introduced species (<i>sub-category</i>)	Other naturally regenerated forest where the trees are predominantly of introduced species.
Planted forest	Forest predominantly composed of trees established through planting and/or deliberate seeding.
Planted forest of introduced species (<i>sub-category</i>)	Planted forest, where the planted/seeded trees are predominantly of introduced species.
Special categories	
Rubber plantations	Forest area with rubber tree plantations.
Mangroves	Area of forest and other wooded land with mangrove vegetation.
Bamboo	Area of forest and other wooded land with predominant bamboo vegetation.

3.2 National data

3.2.1 Data sources

References to sources of information	Quality (H/M/L)	Variable(s)	Year(s)	Additional comments
FAO Forestry Paper 153, 2007. The world's mangroves 1980-2005.		Mangrove	1990, 2000, 2005	Secondary data source

3.2.2 Classification and definitions

National class	Definition
Not available	

3.2.3 Original data

Year	1980	1990	2000	2005
Mangrove	50 hectares	50 hectares	40 hectares	40 hectares

3.3 Analysis and processing of national data

3.3.1 Calibration

Not needed.

3.3.2 Estimation and forecasting

No change assumed.

3.3.3 Reclassification into FRA 2010 categories

Not needed.

3.4 Data for Table T4

Table 4a

No information is available for table 4a

Table 4b

FRA 2010 Categories	Area (1000 hectares)			
	1990	2000	2005	2010
Rubber plantations (Forest)	0	0	0	0
Mangroves (Forest and OWL)	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.04
Bamboo (Forest and OWL)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

3.5 Comments to Table T4

Variable / category	Comments related to data, definitions, etc.	Comments on the reported trend
Primary forest		
Other naturally regenerating forest		
Planted forest		
Rubber plantations	Expert estimate	
Mangroves		
Bamboo		

Other general comments to the table