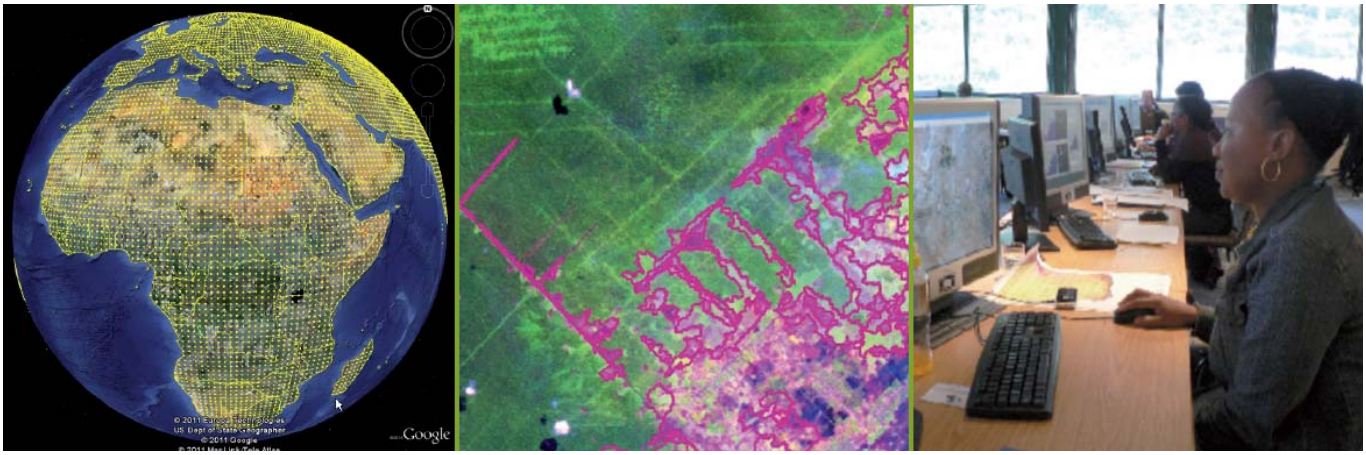
17th Conference of Parties of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change

*The JRC and FAO have the pleasure to announce:*

A **side-event** to be held on **November 30th 2011**
***Time 13:00 – 15:00***
***In pavilion of the European Union*** *(Warsaw Room)*

# Global forest land-use change from 1990 to 2005
# Initial results from the Remote Sensing Survey of the FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment



**Agenda and Speakers**

***13:00 – 13:10*** *Welcome address*
**M. Bucki, *European Commission, DG CLIMA***

***13:10 – 13:40*** *Monitoring forest cover changes in the tropics*
**Dr. Frédéric Achard, *Joint Research Centre of the European Commission***

***13:40 – 14:10*** *The FAO FRA 2010 Remote Sensing Survey: New global forest area and land use change results*
**Adam Gerrand, *Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations***

***14:10 – 14:25*** *Experience from Papua New Guinea in participating to the global remote sensing survey and lessons in a national context*
**Dr. Joe Pokana*, Office of Climate Change, Papua New Guinea***

***14:25 – 14:40*** *Experience from Angola in participating to the global remote sensing survey and link to national assessment)*
**André Mateus Simão, Head of Forestry Department, Angola**

***14:40 – 15:00*** *Conclusions and discussion*

## Executive Summary

The side-event will present the initial results from the Remote Sensing Survey (RSS) of the Global Forest Resource Assessment 2010 (FRA2010) of the FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN).
The coordinators of the remote sensing survey acknowledge the financial contributions of the European Commission, NASA, the Heinz Center, the governments of Australia, Finland and France, and FAO. This Survey was conducted by a partnership between FAO and its member countries, the European Commission Joint Research Centre (JRC) as the main scientific partner, South Dakota State University, the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Over 200 national experts from 102 countries have participated to the Survey.

Monitoring forest land use change, or the long-term conversion of land to or from forest, has important implications for biodiversity conservation, carbon storage and human livelihoods. The remote sensing survey (RSS) provides estimates of forest land-use and forest cover based on a global systematic sample of moderate resolution satellite imagery at 1 degree intersections of latitude and longitude. Approximately 13,600 sample units have been analyzed which represents approximately 1% of the world's land surface. New estimates of the area in forest land-use and change rates (deforestation and afforestation) will be presented at global, continental and ecological zone scales for the time period 1990, 2000 and to 2005.

The first part of the side-event (by Frédéric Achard) will present the methods which have been developed for monitoring forest cover changes in the tropics in the framework of this global Survey with some perspectives on carbon emission estimates at pan-tropical scale.

The second part of the side-event (by Adam Gerrand) will present the new global forest area and land use change results of the FAO FRA 2010 Remote Sensing Survey.

The third part of the side-event (by Joe Pokana and André Mateus Simão) will present the experience from two national partners in participating to the survey. The expert partners from Papua New Guinea and Angola will also summarize lessons in a national context.

A summary document of the Land use results of the global survey will be made available during the side-event. The document is entitled "Global forest land-use change from 1990 to 2005 - Results from a global remote sensing survey". The full report will be available from FAO by early January 2012.
More information on the survey, including the published reports, is available at www.fao.org/forestry/fra/remotesensingsurvey/en/

Other scientific and technical publications related to the project include:

FAO, JRC, SDSU, UCL 2009. The 2010 global forest resources assessment remote sensing survey: an outline of the objectives, data, methods and approach. FAO, Rome. Forest Resources Assessment Working Paper 155.

Eva HD et al. 2010. Monitoring forest areas from continental to territorial levels using a sample of medium spatial resolution satellite imagery. ISPRS *Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing*, 65, 191-197.

Beuchle R et al. 2011. A satellite data set for tropical forest area change assessment. *International Journal of Remote Sensing*, 32:7009-7031 http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/01431161.2011.611186

Potapov P et al. 2011. The global Landsat imagery database for the FAO FRA remote sensing survey, *International Journal of Digital Earth*. 4:2-21. http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/17538947.2010.492244

Raši R et al. 2011. An automated approach for segmenting and classifying a large sample of multi-date Landsat-type imagery for pan-tropical forest monitoring. *Remote Sensing of Environment*, 115:3659–3669.

Simonetti D et al. 2011. User Manual for the JRC Land Cover/Use Change Validation Tool. Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union EUR 24683 EN, 21 pp.