

Implementation is under way with efforts now focused on compiling information and data on the indicators and developing approaches to fill identified gaps. A reporting process is under way and the CCFM is developing a detailed action plan to strengthen Canada's future reporting.

The Domestic Model Forest Program

The Model Forest Program was initiated to accelerate the implementation of integrated sustainable resource management; to develop and apply innovative concepts and techniques in the management of forests; and to test the best sustainable forestry practices available. A network of ten working-scale forests are operational across most of the major forest ecoregions of Canada. They range in size from 100 000 to 1 500 000 hectares and incorporate the spectrum of values. A common feature of each model forest is the building of partnerships committed to achieving objectives that reflect the environmental, economic, social, and cultural context of its area.

In the summer of 1995, Natural Resources Canada established a national advisory committee to assist it in evaluating the Model Forest Program, including the international component. One of the key achievements noted was the effective partnerships that were formed. However, this had proven to be more difficult than expected and had taken longer than anticipated, in some cases more than two years. Findings also showed considerable progress in developing tools for sustainable forest management, although, so far, there is limited evidence of their practical application. The challenge for the second phase of the program, therefore, is for participants to translate management decisions to actions on the ground.

The National Forestry Database Program

The CCFM established the National Forestry Database Program in 1990 to permit a description of the level of activity in any period, to mark change in activity, and to note differences in the resource itself. Since that time, information on revenues from