

Representatives from the member countries have regular meetings and have published many documents, including a report on their progress in implementing criteria and indicators. The First Approximation Report of the Montréal Process was produced and presented at the World Forestry Congress in October 1997. A Web site has been developed to facilitate information sharing among member countries (<http://www.mpci.org>).

Canada also continues to work cooperatively with other international efforts to develop criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management, such as the pan-European and Tarapoto processes.

Conserving Biodiversity within Canada's Forests

Canada was the first developed nation at the 1992 Earth Summit to sign the Convention on Biological Diversity, which is intended to conserve ecosystem, species, and genetic diversity. Following Canada's ratification of the convention, federal, provincial, and territorial governments conducted broad-based consultations with industry, the scientific community, conservation groups, academia, and Aboriginal groups, which paved the way for the Canadian Biodiversity Strategy, released in 1995. The strategy includes a series of goals and directions for ecological planning and management and for the sustainable use of biological resources.

Federal, provincial, and territorial governments, in cooperation with members of the public and stakeholders, are pursuing the directions

Forest Stewardship Recognition Program

In 1999, 36 organizations and companies were recognized for their outstanding efforts in forest management and conservation by the Forest Stewardship Recognition Program (FSRP). Launched and supported by national and provincial associations as an Ontario pilot project in 1998, the FSRP promotes awareness and appreciation of good stewardship, sustainable forest practices, and biodiversity conservation. Award winners include a property owner who restored a marginal farm by planting more than 100 000 trees during the past 50 years and a forester who modified culverts at his company's stream crossings to allow easy passage for spawning fish.

