

compatible with ecological classification, and allow spatial and temporal reporting on multiple resource attributes. For the past decades, a forest inventory for Canada was prepared by rolling up data from provincial inventories based on definitions that were not always compatible. Approximately 30 percent of the indicators in the CCFM framework could be addressed in the national inventory. In addition, some nontimber values will be incorporated.

To complement the new inventory, a national forest information system has also been proposed as a national system for integrating and linking information on Canada's forests.

MOVING TOWARD DEFINING SUSTAINABILITY WORLDWIDE

As a country that accounts for 10 percent of the world's forest land and almost 20 percent of global trade in forest products, Canada's forest agenda is fundamentally connected to global economic and environmental systems. As a result, Canada has been an active participant in the global dialogue on key forest issues.

Canada is a member of the Montréal Process, which has evolved into a working group of 12 member countries (Argentina, Australia, Canada, Chile, China, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, the United States, and Uruguay) representing 90 percent of the world's boreal and temperate forests outside Europe plus some tropical forests. The 12 countries have developed a framework of internationally agreed-upon criteria and indicators for the conservation and sustainable management of temperate and boreal forests. Seven criteria and 67 indicators are included in this framework (see table below).

Montréal Process Criteria	Number of indicators
1. Conservation of biological diversity	9
2. Maintenance of productive capacity of forest ecosystem	5
3. Maintenance of forest ecosystem health	3
4. Conservation and maintenance of soil and water resources	8
5. Maintenance of forest contribution to global carbon cycles	3
6. Maintenance and enhancement of long-term multiple socioeconomic benefits to meet the needs of society	19
7. Legal, institutional, and economic framework for forest conservation and sustainable management	20