

Workshop
High Conservation Value Forests
(pristine forests) of the European
North of Russia
Approaches to Conservation and
Sustainable Use

Short summary

Workshop program

1st day

- Presentations about achievements and obstacles with regard to HCVF revelation and protection in Russia and all over the world

Workshop program

2nd day

- Discussion of different HCVF conservation methods by the example of large pristine forest areas (untouched forest areas) of the Komi Republic
- Collaboration with HCVRN
- Cooperation with forest industry business

What should be taken into consideration preserving large pristine forest areas (untouched forest areas)

- High rate of protected areas in Komi
- Presence of large pristine forests (untouched forest areas occupy big territories)
- During HCVF conservation it is important to:

- preserve integrity of forest landscape

Take into consideration:

- Landscape biodiversity
- Existing protected areas
- Necessity of productive forests protection
- Preserved pristine forests
- Other environmental values

Protection and sustainable use mechanisms

- Voluntary forest certification, voluntary preservation on rented areas
- Creation of new protected areas in most valuable massifs under business support
- Long-term development strategies of forest resources use
- Long-term economical alternatives concerning developing of pristine forest massifs
 - Secondary forest use (forestry intensification)
 - Tourism, recreation
 - Non-timber forest products
- Accumulation of experience of selective felling and biodiversity conservation felling
- Foresters' awareness of low economical prospects of large HCVF massifs use
- Participation in international initiatives
 - International financial resources (participation in projects)
 - UNDP
 - Carbon programs
 - HCV Network

Main participants

- Regional level
 - State forestry service
 - Regional authorities
 - Forest business
 - Environmental organizations
 - Local government, institutions of self-government
 - Local population
 - ...
- Federal level
 - State forestry service
 - Ministry of agriculture
 - Environmental organizations
 - Big forest business
 - Association of ecological responsible foresters
 - Finance institutes
- International

Interaction with HCVRN

- Translation of key documents from/into Russian (information exchange)
- Information partnership (information storage and exchange resources (already exists - hcvf.net))
- Possibility of Russian group creation under HCVRN
- Maximum use of the existing potential, basing on skilled professionals
- Visits aiming at experience exchange between different countries and at mutual education (for loggers, foresters)
- The main objective is to discuss joint projects (small or big ones) and fundraising
- Harmonization of HCV revelation and conservation methods all over the world

Cooperation with business

- Business and NGO's points of view are often similar, but they differ from government points of view. So business and NGO should convince government together.
- Business and NGOs cooperation and explanation to business a HCVF value; developing and implementation of a new approach to loggings ect.
- Staff responsible for ecology issues at enterprises cannot influence the situation.
- Business and NGO's are interested in reserving territories with adequate regimes – necessary to use potential of Association of ecological responsible foresters (WWF)
- Close work with financial sector to increase it's social and ecological responsibilities.
- Big international companies should be an example of new approach implementation and help small and middle business to solve ecological issues.