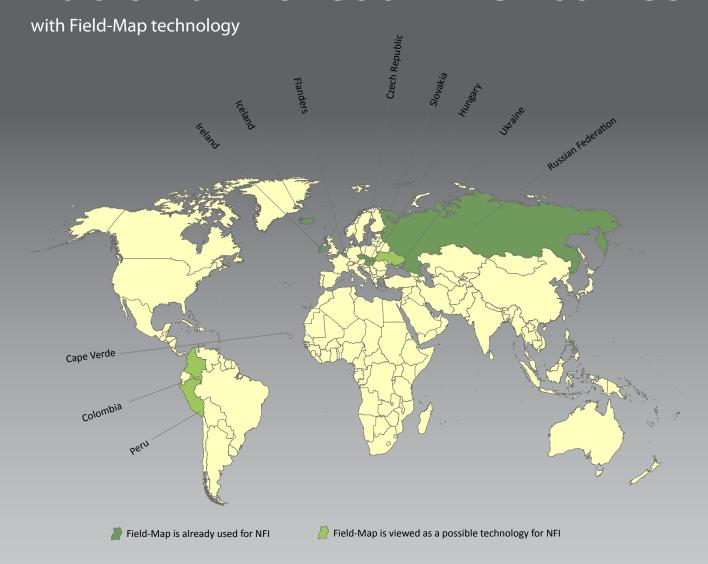
National Forest Inventories



National forest inventory (NFI) at national level is usually carried out as a statistical forest inventory. Field-Map technology was originally developed for statistical forest inventory, therefore, it was developed to cover the methodological and technological conditions in complex inventories.

Using Field-Map technology for National Forest Invetory is advantageous for many reasons:

- It is flexible changes in the methodological approach are possible
- It is continuously refined by IFER's development team, so no costs occur for the country's own development
- It is used in other project types. The use of Field-Map technology is very broad and flexible

The implementation of Field-Map technology varies between the countries. Field-Map can be adjusted to national characteristics not only in terms of methodology but also in terms of language and other adjustments.

For instance, a broad range of electronic measuring and mapping devices and field computers is supported by Field-Map software.

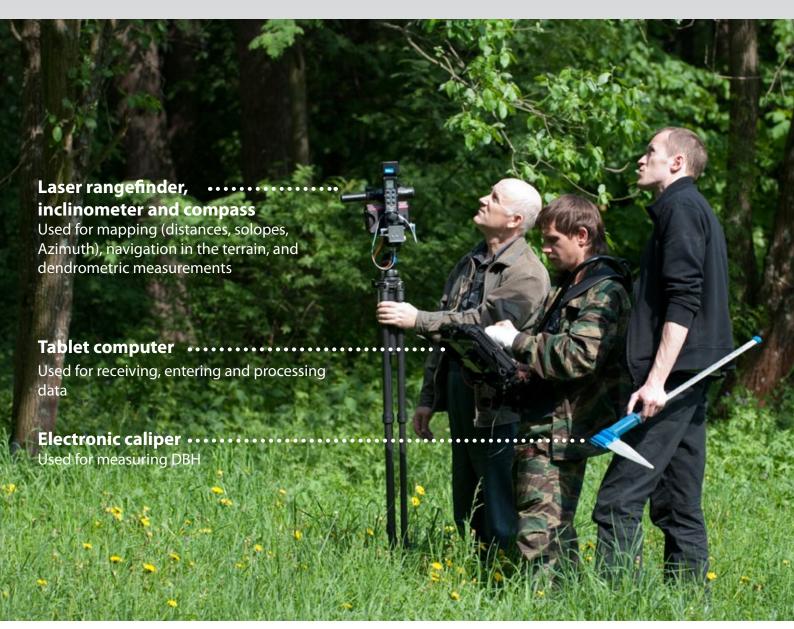
Field-Map is designed so that several field teams can work simultaneously. Data are stored together from different sources into a single database. The measured data are integrated into the central Information System of the responsible institution. Statistical data are further processed by special software developed by IFER (Field-Map Inventory Analyst).

The latest use of Field-Map for an inventory project, is for the National Forest Inventory of the Russian Federation. 255 devices had been delivered to its inventory field teams. The NFI is running successfully for several years already. Other countries are also using Field-Map for their inventories and new ones are evaluating it as a possible solution.

Equipment used for National Forest Inventories

The methodology and requirements of NFIs are different in each country. Therefore, specific forest inventory measurement equipment is proposed for each country. European standards usually require field computers on the Windows platform. Easy work with digital maps and automated checks of the data collected are ensured by Field-Map software.

All the devices are resistant to working in forest environment and even in bad weather such as rain or low temperatures in winter.



Example of equipment used by field teams of the Russian Federation NFI

Field-Map software also supports other hardware, such as electronic calipers, all GPS devides, etc. IFER also provides special scopes for upper diameter and profile measurements on standing trees

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