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**“Application of biotechnology to forestry: Current situation
and emerging scenarios”**

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ABSTRACT

This study, commissioned by the FAO Forestry Department, examines a number of aspects of the application of biotechnology to forestry. While most of the methodologies and tools used in forestry originate from agriculture, there are significant differences between the two sectors in the way technologies are studied, tested and deployed. This study explores the economic, social and ecological conditions used which biotechnology is finding application in forestry. It examines various aspects of biotechnology including the nature of the products and markets, what kind of arrangements are made relating to the protection of intellectual property rights, safety and regulatory frameworks, and economic and institutional capacities of countries. It assesses which countries have the highest potential for development and adoption of tree biotechnology and well as which tree biotechnologies have most potential for application. Finally it examines probably scenarios likely to emerge in the next ten years.