Post-comments - 19 February 2019

REPORT

Expert Meeting to Review Progress in Implementation of the Major Groups Work plans and Input to the Fourteenth Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF14)

Organised by the Secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF)

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)
(Bangkok, Thailand: 7-11 January 2019)

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[1] The agenda item "Discussion major groups/civil society initiatives to accelerate the contributions of forests to SDG 13 "*take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts*" and SDG 17 "*strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development*" has been summarised and tabulated (**Table 1**) alongside ""Develop recommendations on inputs to the UNFF14 on major groups/civil society's contributions to the *UNFF14 thematic priorities* and *HLPF 2019"*.

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c. Farmers and Small Forest Landowners

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TABLE OF ACRONYMS

4YPOW	Quadrennial Programme of Work (of the UNFF)
APAFRI	Asia-Pacific Association of Forestry Research Institutions
CBD	UN Convention on Biological Diversity
CEDENMA	Coordinadora Ecuatoriana de Organizaciones para la Defensa de la Naturaleza y el Medio Ambiente
CIFOR	Centre for International Forestry Research
COFO	Committee on Forestry (of the UN Food & Agriculture Organisation (FAO))
COP	Conference of the Parties
CPF	Collaborative Partnership of Forests (of the UNFF)
FAO	Food & Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations
FECOFUN	Federation of Community Users
FORNESSA	Forestry Research Network for Sub-Saharan Africa
GACF	Global Alliance of Community Forestry
GCG	???
GEF	Global Environment Fund
GFFFN	Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network
GFGs	Global Forest Goals
HLPF	High Level Political Forum (of the Un Economic & Social Council)
IAITPTF	International Alliance of the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples of Tropical Forests
IFFA	Canadian Federation of Woodlot Owners
IPLCs	Indigenous People and Local Communities (a Major Group)
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature
IUFRO	International Union of Forest Research Organisations
MG	Major Groups
MGI	Major Groups Initiative
MGPoF	Major Group Partnership on Forests
MSD	Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NGARA	Network for Natural Gums and Resins in Africa
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SFM	Sustainable Forest Management

SWAGEN	Support for Women in Agriculture and Environment
TFRK	Traditional Forest-Related Knowledge
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFF	United Nations Forum on Forests
UNFFS	United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat
UNFI	UN Forest Instrument
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNSPF	UN Strategic Plan on Forests

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND KEY MESSAGES

The 9-11 January 2019 *Expert Meeting to Review Progress in Implementation of the Major Groups Work plans and Input to the Fourteenth Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF14)* organised by the UNFF Secretariat ant UNESCAP in Bangkok for the MGs served the dual purpose of bringing together what they had developed since their earlier meetings in Nairobi and New York and developing proposals for the UNFF14 to take as MG proposals. From among the latter, the UNFF14 was also encouraged by the Bangkok meeting to refer selected matters also to the HLPF of 2019. The

The meeting started with a keynote address by **Dr Elliot Harris**, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General, whose statement was followed by a brief statement from the Chair of the Major Groups, **Dr. Joe Cobbinah. F**ollow-up welcoming remarks on behalf of the Director of the United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat (UNFFS) were made by **Ms. Afsa Kemitale-Rothschild** (Chief, Programme Coordination, Outreach and Technical Support). Rapporteurs to record the meeting's work were **Peter Grant deMarsh** (Woodland Owners & related - Landowners, Canadian Federation of Woodlot Owners/IFFA), **Lucy Mulenkei** (Indigenous Peoples - Indigenous Information Network (IIN)) and **Steffen Dehn** (Children and Youth). The facilitator was **Mafa Chipeta**, consultant to the UNFFS.

The Agenda at Bangkok was relatively wide, thus its key messages have been assembled for ease of reference into Table 1, from which the extracts for this Executive Summary have come.

MAJOR GROUPS WORK PLANS FOR ENGAGEMENT WITH UNSPF

A significant amount of time was allocated to reviewing the MG umbrella work plan agreed upon in New York and welcomed by the UNFF at its 13th session. Particular emphasis was placed on all Major Groups that did not already have their own plans to start developing them at Bangkok. Annexes 2 – 5 are the proposed workplans or elements for them which participants agreed to work on towards finalisation. A common view was that separate MG plans should be formatted for compatibility with the umbrella plan but there was no unanimity on the format being necessarily identical. Members were exhorted to finalise their plans and in doing so accompanying them with compelling logic showing why they are important and why they deserve to be funded. In the end, plans were to serve as a basis for mobilising support for MG engagement with the UNFF and SD agendas of the UN.

It was observed that many areas of interest to individual MGs coincided among several MGs – there are thus opportunities for seeking funding jointly in some cases and for collaboration among MGs in their execution. The UNFFS would look for main commonalities that could be "sold" jointly to potential funding partners.

KEY PROPOSALS TO THE UNFF14

***"Forests and Climate Change" (SDG 13)*:** Go beyond saying yet again that forests are important in combating climate change (that is well known) and stress ways in which forest roles on climate can be delivered even more effectively; despite lack of perfect consensus for the UNFCCC COP 24 Katowice Ministerial Declaration on Forests for the Climate , UNFF14 consider proposing improvements to it which to recommend to the HLPF2019; UNFF14 to consider drawing up proposals for ensuring that forests retain a high profile under the UNFCCC process. Other suggestions under Table 1.

UNFF14 Agenda Item 6: Civil Society actions to promote and or advocate for enhanced global forest policy coherence: Participants believed that they should themselves work more effectively together to help promote global policy coherence within the UNFF process but also by linking with fellow MGs active under forest-relevant processes such as in the CBD and UNFCC. They should also

seek stronger engagement with key global players, especially the CPF, regional organisations and governments. Specific further detail is in Table 1.

***SDG 4 "ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all*:** see Table 1 directly

SDG 8 "promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all": UNFF14 to highlight needs to highlight Rio Summit decisions calling for sustainable development in forestry not being about only the environment but about pursuit of combined economic, environmental and social progress.

***SDG10 "reduce inequality within and among countries"*:** act more forcefully on inequalities within countries especially the power relationships that marginalise forest-dependent people from benefitting from their own nearby resources.

***SDG 16 "promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels*:** deal with inequity which is the frequent cause of conflict over natural resources such as forests.

UNFF14 Agenda Item 6: Civil Society actions to promote and or advocate for a common understanding of SFM: Participants suggested that a comprehensive definition of SFM needs to take account also of trees outside forests. . . . and that any definition of SFM needs nuancing to reflect different contexts and country situations.

***Civil Society action to institutionalise participation in SFM*:** On the basis of MGs strengthening their own capacities, key areas of contribution include domestication of international agreements to local circumstances, mobilisation of society for action on them, and holding governments and other key players to account on commitments to act.

***Civil Society actions to address gaps and challenges that prevent coherence and complementarity in forest-related programme coherence*:** focus should be on information and easier access to it as well as on mobilising resources to strengthen non-profit civil society organisations' capacity to play its part.

***Emerging issues and challenges of global significance that are related to and/or have an impact on forests and SFM*:** Participants highlighted the following not necessarily emerging but important issues

- Loss of political commitment to already-agreed multilateral environmental agreements, especially the Paris Agreement on climate change;
- need for action on ambitious targets on forest restoration targets so as to achieve them in synergy with the UN Strategic Plan on Forests and the GFGs; and
- How to address three major failures to act on forests at national level: (i) political will; (ii) inter-sectoral cooperation in combating extra-sectoral drivers of deforestation and forest degradation (e.g. mining, infrastructure, agriculture etc); and (iii) paralysis in handling increasingly frequent extreme weather events affecting forests.

SUGGESTED KEY MESSAGES BY UNFF14 TO THE HLPF 2019

Table 1 has clearly marked matters that UNFF14 could consider drawing the attention of HLPF2019 to. They include:

- The above recommendations on SDGs 8 (inclusive economic growth); 10 (reducing inequality); 13 (forests and climate change);
- Emerging issues that impact forests and SFM;
- What MGs can do to help institutionalise participation in SFM (via domestication of International agreements); and
- Common understanding of SFM.

For ease of reference, the text already given under proposals to the UNFF14 is repeated below:

a. ***Under SDG 8 "promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all":*** UNFF14 to highlight needs to highlight Rio Summit decisions calling for sustainable development in forestry not being about only the environment but about pursuit of combined economic, environmental and social progress.

b. ***Under SDG10 "reduce inequality within and among countries"*****:** act more forcefully on inequalities within countries especially the power relationships that marginalise forest-dependent people from benefitting from their own nearby resources.

c. ***Under SDG 13 "Forests and Climate Change"*****:** Go beyond saying yet again that forests are important in combating climate change (that is well known) and stress ways in which forest roles on climate can be delivered even more effectively; despite lack of perfect consensus for the UNFCCC COP 24 Katowice Ministerial Declaration on Forests for the Climate , UNFF14 consider proposing improvements to it which to recommend to the HLPF2019; UNFF14 to consider drawing up proposals for ensuring that forests retain a high profile under the UNFCCC process.

d. ***Emerging issues and challenges of global significance that are related to and/or have an impact on forests and SFM*****:** Participants highlighted the following not necessarily emerging but important issues

   i. Loss of political commitment to already-agreed multilateral environmental agreements, especially the Paris Agreement on climate change;
   ii. need for action on ambitious targets on forest restoration targets so as to achieve them in synergy with the UN Strategic Plan on Forests and the GFGs; and
   iii. How to address three major failures to act on forests at national level: (i) political will; (ii) inter-sectoral cooperation in combating extra-sectoral drivers of deforestation and forest degradation (e.g. mining, infrastructure, agriculture etc); and (iii) paralysis in handling increasingly frequent extreme weather events affecting forests.

e. ***Civil Society action to institutionalise participation in SFM*****:** On the basis of MGs strengthening their own capacities, key areas of contribution include domestication of international agreements to local circumstances, mobilisation of society for action on them, and holding governments and other key players to account on commitments to act.

f. ***Civil Society actions to promote and or advocate for a common understanding of SFM:*** Participants suggested that a comprehensive definition of SFM needs to take account also of trees outside forests. . . . and that any definition of SFM needs nuancing to reflect different contexts and country situations.

A. VENUE AND OPENING

(Item 1 of the Agenda)

1. The three-day *Expert Meeting to Review Progress in Implementation of the Major Groups Work plans and Input to the Fourteenth Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF14)* took place at the United Nations Office United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) in Bangkok, Thailand 9-11 January 2019. The expert meeting's purpose was to review progress in implementation of the Major Groups work plans, including acceleration in achieving of the global forest goals; major groups initiatives to accelerate the contributions of forests to achieving the (SDGs) under review by the HLPF in 2019; and to discuss civil society's contributions to technical discussion on the three UNFF14 thematic priorities. This report carries key messages from presentations and discussions; in view of the great length of this report (due to annexing all work plans) full presentations will not be annexed but appear instead on the UNFFS website at its discretion.

2. The meeting started with a keynote address by **Dr Elliot Harris**, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General, who expressed appreciation for the contributions of the Major groups to the work of the United Nations under the UN Forum on Forests, whose work he felt deserved much more attention. He indicated that it was important to step back and ensure that all the aspect of SD agenda receive adequate attention and in this respect, Major Groups could help to mobilize stakeholders who have not been engaged but are contributing to the work.

3. Recalling the important proposals for action that member states and other stakeholders have over time adopted to ensure sustainable development of forests so that they could deliver the economic, environmental and social functions they are capable of, he stressed that the real challenge was not lack of knowledge or capacity so much as failure of political commitment. There is need to keep up public consciousness and awareness to act on the global environmental issues under discussion. Regarding the specific importance of forests as a repository of biological diversity, he believed that there was insufficient knowledge on the value of ecosystem services of forests – there is need to design a compelling narrative for forests that focuses on biodiversity. Major Groups could play important roles in ensuring both the enhancement of political commitment and increasing knowledge of forest values to form part of the basis for such commitment. Dr Elliot invited participants to explore concrete actions during the meeting's three days.

4. The Chair of the Major Groups, **Dr. Joe Cobbinah**, also welcomed participants, recalled the series of meetings which started in Nairobi in November 2017 followed by New York in 2018 which took up the need for MGs to have work plans for their contributions to the UNFF process and through it to the HLPF. He mentioned the preparation of the collective Work Plan for all MGs and that for the Youth and Children group which had been presented to the 13th session of the UN Forum on Forests (UNFF13) in New York in May 2018. Among other things, he highlighted in particular the collective decision of MGs attending their own New York meeting alongside the UNFF to have each MG prepare its own workplan well-linked to the umbrella one they had adopted and presented to the UNFF. Dr Cobbinah reminded participants of the value of work plans as a basis for mobilising resources to enable MGs individually and collectively to do their work in support of the UNFF and HLPF's Sustainable Development Goals agendas. He invited participants to come up with concrete recommendations.

5. In her follow-up welcoming remarks on behalf of the Director of the United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat (UNFFS), **Ms. Afsa Kemitale-Rothschild** (Chief, Programme Coordination, Outreach and Technical Support), and expressed satisfaction with the continuity in MG work now leading to having and using work plans as a basis for their inputs to the work of UNFF. She mentioned contacts the UNFFS was already having with prospective donors about support to the

MGs and how the existence of the umbrella workplan was already making it easier to communicate priorities. She also gave the example of the workplan for Youth and Children, on the basis if which that group was being offered resources, including to lead the holding of a Major Groups-Led Initiative (MGI) which is scheduled for Accra in March 2019, with focus on Education. She looked forward to the MGs which had yet to prepare their own plans and concrete proposals, doing so with minimum delay.

6. Among remarks by participants during the opening session, were those calling for recognition of the importance given in Dr Elliot's keynote address to biodiversity and its value. Some participants felt that governments should be urged to support efforts towards preventing further biodiversity loss, including taking actions to implement plans of action such as the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation, Sustainable Use and Development of Forest Genetic Resources; as well those proposed by the Convention on Biological Diversity.

B. AGENDA

7. The following were nominated as Rapporteurs to record inputs into the meeting: **Peter Grant deMarsh** (Woodland Owners & related - Landowners, Canadian Federation of Woodlot Owners/IFFA), **Lucy Mulenkei** (Indigenous Peoples - Indigenous Information Network (IIN)) and **Steffen Dehn** (Children and Youth - International Forestry Students Association).

8. As shown in the Provisional Agenda (Annex 6), the programme of the Expert Meeting covered three days with Day 1 focused on MG work plans – a reminder on the structure of the umbrella plan, followed by presentations of the Youth and Children plus Science and Technology MGs on their plans. This was followed by group work at which all participants assisted the MGs that were yet to prepare their own plans to identify elements for such plans that they could refine and finalise after the Bangkok meeting. The 3-day timeframe proved inadequate for the groups that did not already have work plans to develop them beyond elements and priority topics of engagement that they worked out through working groups.

9. Regarding substantive discussion in preparation for the UNFF14, leading to matters to refer to that session and to possible recommendations it could make to the HLPF on the SDGs, Agenda items 4 to 7 included not just what was important for the higher-level fora to pay attention to but also what contributions the MGs should make..

C. EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF THE MEETING

10. **Mr. Mafa Chipeta**, who facilitated the meeting, asked that before substantive agenda items were taken up, each participant indicate their expectations of meeting outcomes. All their proposals fell within the thrust of the overall agenda. In general, participants wished to see greater effectiveness of MGs in influencing action of achievement of sustainable forest management under the UNFF agenda but also where forests have roles in balanced implementation of the SDGs. The following are a few examples of participant expectations of outcomes from the meeting:
    a. IFSA mentioned its successes in involving young people in policy dialogue and hoped that UNFF and the MGs can help push for nature based solutions to climate change;
    b. NGARA expected the meeting to come up with MG proposals and key recommendations in terms of how to access financing; there is need to have clear strategies to access funds;
    c. on behalf of indigenous people, Lucy Mulenkei suggested that we listen to success stories at all levels and how to link these and look at them holistically;
    d. from an NGO perspective, Martha Cecilia Guadalupe proposed that the meeting focus on finding gaps and how to deal with them and also find ways to better raise awareness on what the MGs are doing;

e. from the woodland owners perspective, Peter DeMarsh proposed that MGs bring concrete stories of all levels to the high level political forum – also that MGs identify what are their priorities and how better to collaborate and collectively increase their effectiveness in work on the UNFF agenda.

11. At the end of this round, the facilitator emphasised the clear importance of all MGs having a structured approach to their interventions, indicating that the main types of MG role had been used as headings in the umbrella MG workplan, viz:
    a. Information in support of capacity for advocacy;
    b. Engaging in localisation of the UN Strategic Plan on Forests and translating global UNFF decisions to the people on the ground*;*
    c. Promoting mutual accountability for commitments made and statements of intent in the UNSPF and the Agenda 2030; and
    d. Strengthening MGs' own Capacities and Resource Base for Effective Action*.*

12. This being the case, participants agreed that while not explicit in the agenda, time should be found for all MGs which did not yet have their own work plans to work on them at the Bangkok meeting itself. The following Major Groups were in this situation: *Women; Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs); Indigenous Peoples; and Farmers and Small Forest Landowners.* A working group format was adopted for this, with participants from the MGs that were yet to start on their own work plans to seek ideas from non-member participants through break-out (working) groups.

D. DISCUSSION ON IMPLEMENTING THE JOINT MAJOR GROUPS WORKPLAN TO ACCELERATE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE GLOBAL FOREST GOALS (Item 2 of the Agenda)

13. The background to the discussion on work plans has a history starting in the Major Group meetings at Nairobi and New York. At the latter meeting, participants adopted a specific structure for their umbrella plan and invited each MG to link and make compatible their own work plans.

14. The umbrella workplan was, together with the specific plan for Youth and Children that was also ready by that time, presented to the 13th Session of the UNFF in May 2018 held in New York. At that session of the Forum, "*member States welcomed the joint workplan developed by the major groups to accelerate achievement of the global forest goals and complementary workplan developed by the children and youth major group. The member States invited major groups to inform the Forum at UNFF14 on progress made in implementing the work plans".* The Forum "*also invited major group partners to undertake initiatives to accelerate the contributions of forests to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) under review in 2019 and to inform the Forum of progress made at UNFF14*".

D.1 Implementation of the Umbrella Workplan for all Major Groups

15. In a brief introductory statement, the Facilitator drew attention to the agreed umbrella workplan and its structure, which it hoped individual MG work plans would ensure compatibility with.

16. The umbrella MG workplan was first drafted at the Nairobi Expert Meeting of MGs in November 2017; refined at the follow-up meeting of May 2018 held alongside UNFF13. The finalised draft was then welcomed by the UNFF13.The finalisation of the plan has been the main achievement so far apart from inter-sessional encouragement to individual MGs to draft their own complementary plans. This latter process has been completed to draft stage at the January 2019

Bangkok expert meeting so that every MG has at least a draft workplan or elements for one, ready to be finalised.

17. Continuing exhortation for MGs to finalise their plans is one immediate priority but another obvious priority for the near future should be identification of what areas of subsidiary plans are best "sold" to potential donors jointly. This means mapping of the work plans for convergence, overlap and complementarity in areas each MG has selected for intervention. Potential funding sources interested in such areas of convergence should then be identified and project proposals prepared and promoted – the UNFFS seems best placed to assist the MG group on Forests coordinating team in carrying out these tasks.

18. Heading 4 of the umbrella plan "*Strengthening MGs' own Capacities and Resource Base for Effective Action*" is at this stage perhaps the main area requiring most immediate attention by the MGs coordinating team and secretariat in getting activities off the ground sooner rather than later, especially the following areas of intervention:

    a. MG Workplan Action No 4.1.2: **Refine and finalise MG Work plan (QPOW) developed at Nairobi** - Progressively convert MG work plans into fundable and implementable proposals for programmes and projects: started at New York May 2018, followed up ant Bangkok January 2019 meeting.

    b. MG Workplan Action No 4.1.3: **Have individual MGs prepare detailed work plans for their contributions compatible with the collective all-MGs workplan** – accelerated at Bangkok January 2019 meeting. Map plan proposals for which individual MG projects or joint MG projects are needed due to synergies and encourage all to put full energy into converting MG work plans into fundable and implementable proposals for programmes and projects.

    c. MG Workplan Action No 4.2.2: **Mobilise funding for MG priority actions to achieve GFG and targets**: e.g. based on collective MG workplan and separate MG plans, prepare and market fundable programmes and projects to donors, philanthropists, companies

    d. MG Workplan Action No 4.1.1: **Energise the MGs and enhance coordination of their activities** by revitalizing the Major Groups Partnership on Forests (MGPoF) – a permanent need to already start immediately but not necessarily with same rush as some of the above - listed.

19. Subsequent discussion of the separate plans of MGs revealed shared interest of many or all in a number of areas of the Umbrella Workplan. Sections D.2 till D. Give the presentation for each MG workplan and the discussion specific to each. Annexes 2 till 5 give details of each workplan but also information communicated at presentation of the progress in implementation, implementation issues (including observed obstacles), and priorities for future action.

20. The discussions at the Bangkok of the various workplans led to suggestions to share information among the MGs – one proposal being to start an email list-serve among MG representatives/focal points; another was to consider joint funding searches for certain topics where many had an interest. An important observation is that despite apparent agreement at the earlier New York meeting, *there is not yet full consensus among the MGs that their individual workplans should be formatted along the lines of the Umbrella Workplan*. Some remain strongly convinced that variety may be more attractive to possible funding sources.

D.2 Presentation and Discussion of Workplan for Major Group on Youth and Children (Y&C)

21. Presentation: The first presentation was made by the **MG on Youth and Children**, whose workplan was the first to be fully elaborated, even before the umbrella MG workplan was agreed upon in New York. **Steffen Dehn** introduced the Plan and highlighting *six objectives* that can be paraphrased as follows: *Capacity development through workshops* – linked to a landscape approach; *Youth Activation* – for University students as well as primary school ones; *The young as innovators*; *Social Media Campaign*; *Youth Participation in policy dialogue*; and *Strengthening education worldwide*. Details on progress in implementation, implementation issues (including observed obstacles), and priorities for future action are given in Annex 2.
22. It can be seen that in general, the workplan objectives fall under headings 1 (Information in support of capacity for advocacy) and 4 (Strengthening MGs' own Capacities and Resource Base for Effective Action) of the umbrella MG Workplan. Depending on focus in practice, the Youth and Children Workplan could also partially contribute to the other two headings of the umbrella.

23. Discussion specific to the Presentation: The discussion which followed was based on questions, such as on doability/realism (???); linkage to biennial programmes and the UNFF 4YPOW (preferred not to formalise at the early stage); format in relation to the umbrella MG workplan (preceded umbrella – with hindsight can make compatible); experience on how to mobilise funds for sustainability and upscaling of actions (Y&C prefer to piggyback on other processes to demonstrate effectiveness first and so attract money); possible areas for collaborative efforts with other MGs (Y&C so far have focused on partnerships among their own members e.g. developing African students engagement). Some participants asked how work could connect better with communities and how MGs could assist in raising awareness in schools – the climate sensitization program in Ghana was given as example called for possible upscaling.

24. Participants agreed that progress on securing financing was critical. There were comments on need for training on how to write (funding) proposals; clearer link to the Global Forest Goals; for results indicators and for monitoring tools; possibility of MG focal points being used to facilitate exchanges. There was general readiness to cooperate, with FORNESSA mentioning its programme for primary schools and FECOFUN offering to host a Y&C activity group in Nepal.

D.3 Presentation and Discussion of Workplan for Major Group on Science and Technology (S&T)

25. Presentation: The S&T workplan was largely presented by **Ben Chikamai**. The plan had adopted the generic format of the all-MG umbrella workplan and the approach was to build upon already ongoing activities of S&T member organisations, examples given being mostly with NGARA , FORNESSA and APAFRI. In fact, while pressing on with the full workplan, this initial stage (2019) involves identifying key players, with Africa and Asia for first focus. The S&T group saw many opportunities to cooperate with other MGs. **Joe Cobbinnah** supplemented the presentation, covering implementation. He highlighted the intention to build on what is already ongoing wherever possible. Details on progress in implementation, implementation issues (including observed obstacles), and priorities for future action are given in Annex 3.

26. Discussion specific to the Presentation: In the discussion, the question of realism was raised; also of what is proposed beyond Africa and Asia. Several saw need to cooperate with other MGs. Some suggested that others are already collecting much of the data it is proposed to gather; it may be worth checking first who is already doing what.

D.4 Presentation and Discussion of Workplan for Major Group on Women

27. Presentation: **Fernanda Rodrigues** presented on behalf of the group. She presented a plan in early draft, upon which more consultation with the broader constituency of the group would subsequently be undertaken. The plan was formatted under Global Forest Goals (Annex 4) as headings with main areas of proposed intervention to be in *data* (especially to increase gender-disaggregated information), *advocacy, and capacity building.* Details on progress in implementation, implementation issues (including observed obstacles), and priorities for future action are given in Annex 4.

28. It was indicated that, subsequent to the Bangkok meeting, the women group might change their format to that of the umbrella MG workplan – but as of the time of finalising this document, the original GFG-based format had not yet been replaced (see Annex 4). Being a new proposal, no progress report was presented for the Women workplan although some activities already underway before the plan will doubtless form a foundation for future intensified efforts under the plan.

29. Discussion specific to the Presentation: The selected areas of intervention all fall under almost only two headings (1 and 4) of the umbrella MG plan.[2]

D.5 Presentation and Discussion of Workplan for the Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) Major Group

30. Presentation: **Andrey Laletin** presented the draft workplan drafted in outline at the Bangkok meeting (Annex 5(a)). The process adopted was to look at the umbrella MG workplan and to select what will be of interest to the NGOs. The presentation covered only the intended plan and not progress, since it had just been crafted. Details on progress in implementation, implementation issues (including observed obstacles), and priorities for future action are given in Annex 5(a).

31. Discussion specific to the Presentation: The discussion that followed mentioned need to include attention to enterprise development; need to mention what actions will be included under the topic selected. It was recognised that the format adopted makes it easy to identify areas where the NGOs share an interest with other MGs so as to cooperate or identify overlaps. Joint fundraising was highlighted given the compatibility of several plans with the umbrella plan for all MGs. One participant asked that the NGO group highlight in particular what they would do before the 2020 end of the 4POW.

D.6 Presentation and Discussion of Workplan for Major Group on Indigenous People and Local Communities

32. Presentation: **Lucy Mulenkei** presented the first draft Work Plan developed at Bangkok (Annex 5b), upon which more consultation with the broader constituency of the group would subsequently be undertaken. The format adopted was identical to the umbrella MG plan and the working group had simply selected from this plan intervention areas for the indigenous people to prioritise. They selected from under all four headings of the umbrella plan. Details on progress in implementation, implementation issues (including observed obstacles), and priorities for future action are given in Annex 5(b).

[2] [Facilitator: yet it is difficult to see activities under localisation of global decisions and ensuring accountability not also being of core interest to women]

33. Discussion specific to the Presentation: Some participants Indigenous Groups/Local Communities considered the plan generic and potentially not actionable, being too broad for the capacity for the major group. Given its breadth, there are many opportunities to cooperate with other MGs, for example under TFRK can work with research institutions. A variety of suggested things to highlight came up, including intellectual property rights (draw upon WIPO and others that have similar focus on intellectual property rights); desirability of not having individual group work plans replicate the combined work plan (even though to be compatible with it); desire of the women MG to find common entry points from combined work plan. A question was raised about need to cooperate with governments; also about opportunities to be active in fora such as the CBD which have discussions on forests - the idea being that wherever MGs are, there is a need to put forest issues on the table.

D.7 Presentation and Discussion of Workplan for Major Group on Farmers and Small-Forest Landowners

34. Presentation: **Peter Grant Demarsh** presented the elements for this Major Group's work plan (Annex 5(c)), setting out at the first round a list of the ongoing work items and specific actions already planned for the near future. The ongoing work sets the stage by raising awareness about what members are already doing well: advocating for better policies to enable smallholders make a more effective contribution; and to encourage sharing of good experiences and innovations/initiatives. Annex 5(c) carries the specific actions, upon which further refinement is likely to occur as the workplan approaches finalisation; it also carries details on progress in implementation, implementation issues (including observed obstacles), and priorities for future action.

35. Discussion specific to the Presentation: Like two or three other MG plans, the Farmers and Small-Forest Landowners presentation has a format unlike the umbrella MG work plan.

D.8 Discussion on Common Considerations for Work plans for the Various Major Groups (Item 3 of the Agenda)

36. In discussing the work plans, both pre-existing ones and the ones newly outlined at Bangkok (section D above), participants generally felt that there is benefit in making the formats compatible among themselves and with the umbrella MG work plan (not necessarily slavishly identical). A key benefit of highlighted for synchronised formats was that areas of shared interest are easily identified[3] partly for parties to collaborate but also to potentially group interventions of shared interest for joint funding mobilisation and execution under single or nested projects.[4]

37. There was an alternative viewpoint: a few participants felt that in general the diversity of the MGs should also allow variety in formats [*it was not made clear why to achieve this, variety must apply to the format of plans and not only or mainly to the content*]. These participants also felt that in these early days, there is greater value in "testing the waters" – being opportunistic by "flying the kite" and seeing who is attracted, then pursuing funding support. Thereafter, workplan re-formatting can always be done. No consensus emerged but the larger trend tended towards seeking easy compatibility, which is most easily assured when formats are similar.

[3] It was in fact suggested that the listed activity areas of the subsidiary workplans could usefully be mapped for overlaps and potential areas of collaboration, from which UNFFS and the MGs could agree on what areas could be marketed for joint project funding to donors.

[4] In this connection, given one proposal having come under GFG headings, it was noted that the umbrella plan already cross-links to GFGs as well as to the 4YWP; it should also in future probably also be cross-referred to the SDGs.

38. Irrespective of formats, there was a feeling that a number of work plans have taken on too much to be feasible in implementation, especially when MG capacities remain low. The following other considerations are worth keeping in mind with regard to workplans:

    a. Workplans are a means to prioritise MG work but also – and very importantly – to secure support (especially funding) for MG work. It is therefore essential that workplans have compelling preambles to highlight why each MGs work is important for the UNFF and SDG agendas;

    b. Each MG has strengths in specific areas but also interest in areas where it can perform best in cooperation with other MGs. Therefore a mapping of overlaps, shared interests, and opportunities for synergy will be needed: for some of these, UNFFS may wish to help mobilise funding through joint projects to complement any separate projects separate MGs may secure funding for;

    c. Donors have varying funding calendars and windows. Donors also differ in preference for long vs short term funding. MGs will need to align with these to improve chances of success;

    d. It may prove more convincing to donors if requests for funding refer to existing programmes and demonstrable successes or areas of promise.

E. DISCUSSION ON UNFF14 AGENDA ITEM 6 "ENHANCING GLOBAL FOREST POLICY COHERENCE AND A COMMON UNDERSTANDING OF SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT (SFM)" (Item 4 of the Agenda)

E.1 Presentation by UNFFS on Item 6 Survey Results and on SFM definitions and 7 thematic elements (UNFI)

39. **Afsah Kemitale-Rothschild** of the UNFFS briefly presented the findings of a survey conducted by Stephanie Caswell (in consultation with the UNFF Secretariat) on the UNFF14 agenda item 6:"*Enhancing global forest policy coherence and a common international understanding of SFM*", the key findings of which were:
    a. 6.1: Forest-related programs within UN system are coherent & complementary and integrate the GFGs & targets where appropriate
    b. 6.2: Forest-related programs across CPF organizations are coherent & complementary and together encompass multiple contributions of forests/forest sector to 2030 Agenda
    c. 6.4: A greater common understanding of concept of SFM is achieved & an associated set of indicators is identified

40. An encouraging conclusion of the survey is that the UNSPF/GFGs provide a new framework & momentum for enhancing coherence/ complementarity across organizations. However, since UNSPF was adopted less than 2 years ago, many organizations are yet to integrate GFGs/targets into their forest-related programs. Of specific interest to MGs is the observation by the author that the MG Work Plan 2018-20 is an important vehicle for non-State actors to support GFGs & advocate coherence at all levels.

41. The survey report says the following about proposals/options for action by MGs which should probably inform the MG work plans on the way forward:
    a. Accelerate efforts to implement aspects of MG Work Plans relevant to GFG 6 & strengthen elements in next work plan
    b. Strengthen MSDs on GFG 6, building on existing platforms/mechanisms

    c. Explore with CPF feasibility of MG observer status in CPF meetings

d. Work with UNFFS & CPF to organize high-level "Partnership Forum" with private sector & civil society at UNFF15 (E/2015/33 para 6.d)
e. The MG Expert Group Meeting was encouraged to:
    i. Consider feasibility of these proposals/options from survey responses
    ii. Identify other ways for MGs to advance GFG 6.1 (Coherence/complementarity of UN forest programmes and integrate GFGs and targets in them), 6.2 (Coherence/complementarity of CPF programmes, to encompass multiple contributions of forests and forest sector to Agenda 2030) & 6.4 (Achieve common understanding of SFM and its indicators).

E.2 Discussion of Civil Society actions to promote and or advocate for enhanced global forest policy coherence

42. The discussion at Bangkok was to take account of the above. Three working groups were organised whose inputs are extensive and from which it is only practical to extract key messages:

a. MGs have been actors in implementing the UNSPF to achieve GFG; they need to reinforce what they have already been doing. In all cases, this will involve engaging in dialogue with others, space for which as some participants remarked, is opening up for civil society e.g. in the CPF, CBD, and governing bodies of many organisations;

b. In seeking to contribute to overall policy coherence, MGs must also have demonstrable coherence within and among their own Work plans. MGs-UNSPF collective workplan has specific action points most close to promoting coherence e.g.: 1.1 (Information sharing, including their pursuit of a knowledge-sharing platform; 1.4 (Advocacy for gender mainstreaming, starting with gender-disaggregated data); 2.1 (Advocacy for enterprise development through many facets in the MG workplan under item 2.1);2.2 (Advocacy for land and tree tenure security through many facets in the MG workplan under item 2.2); 3 (Promoting mutual accountability, through many facets in the MG workplan under heading 3);

c. Participants recognised the importance of the CPF which brings together all key forest-active international organisations. They proposed that the MGs cooperate/network with/ civil society groups in CPF members such as CBD, UNFCCC, FAO (COFO), and World Bank with regard to forest issues. MGs should also seek regular meetings with CPF on issues of mutual interest. MGs should also have regular meetings with the chair of the bureau before every UNFF session;

d. Participants recognised the importance globally of the CPF organisations and the need to link up with them in MG pursuit of coherence in policy and programmes. This could involve direct participation in CPF fora but also (as proposed in the survey report) links with fellow MGs that already work with the CPF organisations. The CPF is active in member countries at project/programme action level and coherence is also important there among programmes various CPF organisations support, not just at policy level internationally;

e. Realising that the CPF is not a formal structure, some questioned whether it is possible to have "observer" status with it. The aim should be just to have a dialogue with CPF, which can be by ad hoc or (preferably) permanent invitation. Partnership should, however, go beyond meetings to include intersessional activities or at CPF side-events at all major forest-related meetings (including high-level segments) whether of UNFF, UNFCC, CBD, or of its own member governing bodies. CPF is said to have a technical segment at partnership fora held in parallel with high-level segments of UNFF, for example;

f. Some participants mentioned the equally important need for coherence between the CPF and member states. For this, MGs must also engage governments and their regional organisations – only if they help enhance political will at these levels can significant action happen;

g. There is a link between coherence and shared understanding of SFM definitions. On this, the survey report says that for Global Forest Goal 6 which MGs pay much attention to (enhance cooperation, coordination etc . . . including with relevant stakeholders) . . . . unitary definition of SFM is challenged by the reality that the term is used in different contexts and country situations (by the forest sector, biodiversity, climate change etc audiences) with different nuances. Seven conclusions related to GFG target 6.4 were derived, calling for a greater common understanding of SFM and set of indicators for it. Participants believe that a comprehensive definition of SFM needs to take account also of trees outside forests. Despite some participants suggesting it, it is unclear if it would help to request FAO to improve its forest and SFM definitions;

h. The ability of MGs to be active on so many fronts even with CPF alone is at this stage problematic as many MGs do not get adequate (or any) funding from their own governments. This makes it important to mobilise funds for their own work plans. It is also important that MGs create visibility for themselves in related organizations and to have a structure then to formally engage in SFM. This will require capacity building especially for youth, women, indigenous peoples] to analyze policies and programmes. Young people and the other relatively weak MGs have to be policy literate in order to be able to contribute to discussions aimed at enhanced policy and programme coherence;

i. When MGs work on so many fronts, their work will also be challenged by inadequate knowledge of each other by stakeholders - there are few systems for access by all stakeholders to the work plans of others.

E.3 Discussion of Civil Society actions to institutionalize participation in SFM

43. MG work plans offer a point of departure as forest related plans of civil society to use their link to the GFGs and associated targets and link also to the UNFF 4POWs to move their engagement in SFM from casual/ad hoc to institutionalised/structured. The MG work plans should structure their engagement at all levels: global, regional, national. They should also help structure engagement with other non-governmental entities whether fellow MGs or profit/non-profit actors on forests and forestry.

44. As a next step, MGs need to further strengthen the relation of their work plans to the GFG and associated targets as well as the relation to the SDGs in order to be able to look at the bigger picture while remembering their special attributes enabling them to domesticate international agreements at the local level in society.

45. With the latter in mind, MGs have included in their umbrella work plan engagement with outreach and communication (mainstreaming) to reach people on the ground, at the same time to encourage governments to take local communities and civil society into account in planning processes.

46. The proposed means of having MGs engage with global institutions for policy and programme coherence will also serve in institutionalising their engagement in promoting SFM. Fora such as side events & relevant meetings such as MGI (Major Groups Initiative) during international events all contribute. Corresponding initiatives are required at national & local levels involving collaborate with national and local governments, the corporate world and local communities.

47. The spirit of discussion was that there is need to ensure transformation of global to domestic application by ensuring that political will is high enough to drive practical action. For this, governments may need to set up multi-stakeholder structures that can prompt action and press for accountability; they should be able to count on MGs to help mobilize society (including women and youth) to take action, build capacity for smallholders, indigenous & local communities to demand and implement prior informed consent and grievance redress mechanisms, and communicate best practices and lessons learnt regards SFM. MGs can also lobby for incentives that mobilise domestic resources alongside current appeals for international funding, such as through incentives for the private sector at all levels including small forest owners and communities.

48. Any structured engagement with governments must involve playing watchdog role to hold government accountable, contributing to making appropriate legislation for SFM, promoting implementation of SFM criteria and indicators at national and operational levels. It will be almost inevitable that MGs have to press for creation of dialogue platforms to develop contextualised shared visions and common understanding of SFM for all stakeholders at various levels; to enhance policy dialogue for action on SFM as well as for policy and programme coherence.

E.4 Civil Society actions to incorporate Global Forest Goals and associated targets into its forest-related plans, programmes or policies using the UNSPF

49. Participants believed that their MG workplan is a major tool for implementing the above including individual organization workplan that are aligned to the UNSPF. Within it and in subsidiary MG plans are provision for resource mobilization, research, and accessing accurate and reliable data to buttress engagement with promoting GFG inclusion in plans, programmes and policies. If adequately resourced, MGs would be well-placed to undertake capacity building (training, seminars) for relevant stakeholders including governments.

E.5 Civil Society actions to address gaps and challenges that prevent coherence and complementarity in forest-related programme coherence

50. Gaps are never static. Some participants believed that civil society (including MGs) will succeed best by being alert for opportunities, sometimes even starting small even while thinking big: civil society needs to take advantage of every opportunity to have an impact even with little resources – it should not await abundant funding and expect only then to have an impact. The narrative may be helpful that if one can have an impact with little resources, so much more would be possible if more abundant resources were available. Civil society may also be more effective if it improves coordination between civil society at all (and each?) level(s) -global, national, and local.

51. Shortage of information or poor accessibility of information that does exist is a major gap: civil society should advocate the improved updating and documentation of information on forests at national and local levels as well as the improve access to it by civil society. With better information and access to it, Civil Society can prepare better policy briefs and related advocacy materials.

52. The lack of dialogue platforms between MGs in key international processes is another major gap, as indicated under the section on promoting policy coherence.

53. Finally, a universal gap for many non-profit, non-governmental actors is funding. For MGs as for others, even where their ambitions and work plans tell a compelling story, they need to raise money. Therefore there is need to earn the resources capacity building for fundraising strategies – learn from successful campaigns and share best practices among civil society organisations.

F. DISCUSSION ON CIVIL SOCIETY'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO TECHNICAL DISCUSSION ON THE THREE UNFF14 THEMATIC PRIORITIES (Item 5 of the Agenda)

F.1 Exchange of experiences on the 3 UNFF14 thematic priorities: "Forests and Climate Change"

54. The issue of climate change features in both the agenda of the UNFF 14 (*forests and climate change*) and the HLPF 2019 – in the latter as SDG 13 "*Urgently combat climate change*". The first feeds into the second and participants generally appeared to see the need as being not to say yet again that forests are important (that is well known) but at how this important role forests play in climate change can be delivered even more effectively. The answers will almost certainly not be entirely scientific/technological but also require policy, institutional and political appropriateness.

55. The most recent forum where forests and climate change is that made at the UNFCCC COP 24 in Katowice, Poland. It is difficult to improve upon the Ministerial Katowice Declaration on Forests for the Climate (Box 1) so it is best referred as it stands for consideration to the UNFF14.

The Ministerial Katowice Declaration on Forests for the Climate at COP24 of the UNFCCC (24 December 2018)

Recalls that Parties should take action to conserve and enhance sinks and reservoirs of greenhouse gases, including forests and forest products as well as to strengthen cooperation in this respect,

Affirms that there is no future without addressing climate change, and forests are a key component to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement, which will contribute to building a community with a shared future for humankind,

Acknowledges the important role of forests in mitigating climate change, and simultaneously

Recognizes the need for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, and forest conservation, sustainable management of forests, enhancement of forest carbon stocks,

Recognizes that climate change is affecting forests, under certain circumstances, as a result of natural disasters, leading to increased emissions, affecting the carbon storage capacity of forests and underlining the need to increase the capacity of forests to adapt to climate change,

Recognizes that forests have a decisive role to play in the sequestration and storage of carbon in the soil, trees and other vegetation, and in providing goods, resources and materials with a smaller carbon footprint, such as harvested wood products,

Shares the UN Strategic Plan for Forests' vision of a world in which all types of forests and trees outside forests are sustainably managed, contribute to sustainable development and provide economic, social, environmental and cultural benefits for present and future generations.

Recognizes that multifunctional and sustainable forest management contributes to nature conservation Emphasizes that healthy, biologically diverse, and resilient forests adapted to climate change have important benefits for species habitat and biodiversity, and ensure the continued provision of a wide range of ecosystem services that are essential to human health and wellbeing,

Recognizes the role of indigenous peoples and local communities in conserving and sustainably managing forests for the benefit of present and future generations,

Builds on milestone documents and processes such as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and its SDGs, the UNFCCC and related legal instruments, the Warsaw Framework for REDD+, the CBD and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and the UN Strategic Plan for Forests, as well as other, global and regional initiatives regarding sustainable forest management, and stresses the importance of strengthening synergies at the national level in implementing UNFCCC, CBD, UNCCD, UNFF.

The ministers:

a. **Pledged** to accelerate their actions to ensure that the global contribution of forests and forest products is maintained and further supported and enhanced by 2050, in order to support the achievement of the long-term goal of the Paris Agreement;
b. **Encouraged** the scientific community to continue to explore and quantify the contribution of sinks, and reservoirs of greenhouse gases in managed lands, including forests, to achieving a balance between anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases in the second half of this century, as well as to explore ways to increase this contribution and welcome the work done up to now;
c. **Encouraged** non-party stakeholders including cities, regions, businesses and investors, to continue to display their ambition and commitments in their forestry related climate actions through the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action and the NAZCA Platform.

56. To further ensure that forests retain a high profile under the UNFCCC system, they propose to (a) Encourage governments to send GFG reports to the UNFF secretariat before November 2019 according to the prescribed format in cooperation with civil society and the private sector; (b) With proper weighting towards climate-relevant aspects, (i) harmonize and adapt national forest policies taking into consideration the 6 GFGs; (ii) Harmonize national set of criteria and indicators taking into account 25 years development of the global set of C&I; and (c) Conserve natural old growth forests especially in Boreal zones, protect permafrost from melting and releasing methane and other GHGs.

57. Participants also considered what/how the MGs could contribute to boosting the effectiveness of forests to combating climate change. A group proposed the following as priority actions: (a) link climate concerns to the MGs master work plan and the respective individual MG work plans; (b) prepare a policy brief about role of forests in climate change mitigation and adaptation. For this work, the MG resource needs for the period 2019 2020 would include (i) MGs voluntary work – time, and (ii) Financial resources. For the latter, the MGs could cooperate with CPF members in implementation of UNSPF.

F.2 Technical discussion and exchange of experiences on: priority actions and resource needs for the period 2019-2020 [taking into account the: HLPF's review cycle during the biennium, and IDF's theme "forests and education"]

58. Although they have developed their umbrella Workplan for the period to 2020 synchronised with the UNFF 4YPOW, the MGs have not yet prepared a resources estimate, that process being about to start now when subsidiary plans of individual MGs are also getting ready. The reason for this is that it may prove more sensible for activities selected by several subsidiary MGs to be handled jointly, thus moving them to umbrella workplan implementation to a greater degree than originally foreseen.

59. In the short remaining period till 2020, the priority actions for which resources needs could be prioritised for the period 2019/2020 could fall under the following MG workplan headings:

Heading 1: "Information in support of capacity for advocacy "- a priority for all MGs in the period 2019/2020

a. Communication, Education and Public awareness as an umbrella topic
b. Social media campaign by MG to spread the IDF theme, possibly relating the messaging with the 3 thematic priority area;
c. MG could use UNFF website to spread its actions in celebration of the IDF;

Heading 2: "Engaging in localisation of the UN Strategic Plan on Forests and translating global UNFF decisions to the people on the ground"

Heading 4: Capacity building.
a. Look at SDG on education.

F.3 Summary discussion and main ideas - emerging issues and challenges of global significance that are related to and/or have an impact on forests and SFM

60. The working groups did not undertake substantive discussion but instead generated relatively long lists of emerging issues, some of which have been here for some time and cannot be considered fully "emerging" by now. From these lists, the following can be retained for possible communication to UNFF 14 and possibly further to HLPF2018 where a relevant SDG is on the agenda;

61. Loss of political commitment to already-agreed multilateral environmental agreements, especially the Paris Agreement on climate change: implications of a key temperate zone developed country withdrawing and claims that a major emerging-economy tropical may contemplate the same;

62. Widespread adoption of the landscape approach, under which ambitious targets on forest restoration – how well this synergises with the UN Strategic Plan on Forests and the GFGs;

63. Three major failures at national level, leading to inadequate action on forests: (a) failure to excite of political will for countries to protect forests; (b) failure to secure inter-sectoral approach to combating deforestation and forest threats of powerful external origins (mining, infrastructure, agriculture etc), with concern remaining largely within forest sector institutions- a case of preaching to the converted; and (c) paralysis in the face of apparently growing frequency of extreme weather events affecting forests and other land uses.

G. DISCUSSION ON CIVIL SOCIETY'S AND MAJOR GROUPS INITIATIVES TO ACCELERATE THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF FORESTS TO ACHIEVING THE FOLLOWING SDGs UNDER REVIEW BY HLPF 2019 – 4, 8, 10, 13, 16 (Item 6 of the Agenda)

64. Just as at the earlier Nairobi and New York meetings, it was emphasized that discussions should recognise that the GFGs adopted by the UN Forum on Forests and endorsed by the ECOSOC are key guides to how forests and trees can play their roles under the SDG umbrella. Effective interventions to achieve the GFGs will automatically also enable forests to help mankind achieve SDG ambitions. Therefore, the suggestions directed by the MGs to the UNFF14 are also relevant to the forests dimensions of the HLPF.

65. The theme of the 2019 HLPF is "*Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality*". The HLPF does not include the SDG 15 which is very central to forests but in view of the inter-connectedness of all SDGs, there is room to offer forests inputs to the SDGs retained for 2019 in-depth review, of which forests are most critical for SDG 13 (*Urgently combat climate change*)[5]. The others are SDG 4 (*Education*)[6]; SDG 8 (*Economic growth, employment & decent work)*[7]*;* SDG

[5] Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

[6] Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

[7] Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

10 (*Reduce inequality*)[8]; SDG 16 (*Inclusive societies*)[9]; and SDG 17 (*Strengthen means of implementation*) and partnerships[10].

G.1 SDG 4 "ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all"

66. Participants noted that the theme of the 2019 International Day of Forests is "Forests and education" activities under which will therefore contribute to SDG4. The meeting proposes that education be (a) citizen-centred; (b) directed at different stakeholders both in a formal and informal settings; (c) designed to allow for continuous learning/ lifelong learning after university, especially for government officials when it comes to decision making in a changing word. Formal education should convey SFM principles. Technological trends suggest a need for use of webinars and informal consultations to build capacities on various topics, especially passing on knowledge to youth to be able to engage in international policy processes more effectively and contribute in a meaningful way.

G.2 SDG 8 "promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all";

67. As heavily reflected in the MG umbrella Workplan, it is perceived that forests and trees have considerable potential to offer the basis for enterprise development leading to sustainable-development compliant income and employment both through primary and value-added businesses. Some of these can be at community level and others at industrial. UNFF14 needs to continue past messages that sustainable development does not mean concern only for the environment but, in line with the Rio Summit decisions, allows pursuit of combined economic, environmental and social progress.

68. MGs can provide concrete examples and messages originating from local voices on inclusiveness and sustainable economic growth and employment. MGs can give a human face to the economic dimension of SFM. The Major Group on Farmers and Small-Forest Landowners reflects this orientation well in its draft workplan and includes messages on Sustainable Wood in its campaigns. MGs could consider having a panel during UNFF to bring the concrete cases by all the MG.

G.3 SDG10 "reduce inequality within and among countries";

69. Economic literature is awash with alarming statistics on growing inequality among countries, within countries among economic strata, extreme concentration of wealth into the hands of the already rich – either from inherited wealth or surges in the remuneration of corporate executives. Participants are not fully briefed about the drivers of growing inequality and the magnitude of the forests sector is rarely significant enough to overturn such a strong phenomenon or to reduce it significantly. Nevertheless participants observed that inequality can also be severe within the forests sector and therefore may be amenable to some corrective action within the sector. The following was indicated:

    a. Access to forests is an issue – governance systems are controlled by the privileged – people who are the closest to the resources tend to reap the least benefits. UNFF14 could propose

[8] Reduce inequality within and among countries

[9] Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

[10] Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

checks and balances and measures of redress to combat extremes and to promote more equitable sharing of benefits;
b. Corruption continues to be a huge problem;
c. Many matters related to land and tree tenure are tainted with inequity and whether from tradition or corruption often result in huge disparities in access to the resources or benefits from it;
d. Deforestation makes poor people poorer since their livelihoods directly depend on healthy forest ecosystems;
e. There is need for gender and age disaggregated data.

G.4 SDG 13 "Urgently combat climate change"

70. Participants did not separate the climate discussion under SDG 13 from the agenda topic for UNFF14; therefore all that has been presented under section G.1 "*Exchange of experiences on the 3 UNFF14 thematic priorities: "Forests and Climate Change*""

G.5 SDG 16 "promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

71. Conflicts continue in forests which lead to displacement of people, forced migration and deepening poverty. Much is driven by unequally power relationships of which the weak and marginalised are victims, especially as they are often excluded from resource administration. They also result from lack of inclusiveness in the governance of the resources and in participation at all levels. National and international instruments where they exist need to be enforced or complemented to address this problem, alongside other global cross cutting topics.

H. DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS ON INPUTS TO THE UNFF14 ON MAJOR GROUPS/CIVIL SOCIETY'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UNFF14 THEMATIC PRIORITIES AND HLPF 2019 (Item 7 of the Agenda)

72. Table 1 summarises the key messages, some of which (marked **) UNFF14 may decide to refer also to the HLPF2019.

I. UPDATE ON MAJOR GROUPS-LED INITIATIVE (MGI) (Item 8 of the Agenda)

73. The Major Group Youth and Children has included among its planned activities the holding in March 2019 of a major groups-led Initiative event in Ghana. Funding is expected from Germany and Ghana will host it. The event fits well with the Participants noted the theme of the 2019 International day of forests "forests and education". The event will contribute to MG UNFF 14 preparations, with goals and objects (in summary) being:
a. Creating a common understanding of forests and education, youth engagement, global forest policy and SFM;
b. Driving MG work planning and making them actionable on the ground;
c. Connecting with local communities and policy makers on global forest policy;
d. Galvanising Civil Society input for UNFF14;
e. Reaching people across the world via Social Media about the MGI and beyond;
f. Sustaining momentum of youth engagement and positioning the young as agents of change.

<u>Table 1</u>: Possible key MG Messages to the UNFF14 with some recommended for the UNFF14 to consider referring to the HLPF 2019

Topic	Key Messages to UNFF14	**[11]
TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS AND SHARING OF EXPERIENCES		
UNFF14 Agenda Item 6: Civil Society actions to promote and or advocate for (a) enhanced global forest policy coherence, and	In seeking to contribute to overall policy coherence, MGs must also have demonstrable coherence within and among their own Work plans. • The MGs should cooperate/network with/ civil society groups in CPF members such as CBD, UNFCCC, FAO (COFO), IUFRO, ITTO and World Bank with regard to forest issues; • Given its key roles in forestry, the CPF should prioritise coherence. Also it should engage other stakeholders including MGs, with which it should have regular meetings , as with the chair of the bureau before every UNFF session; • Although the Mgs cannot have "observer" status with the CPF (being itself informal), they should have ad hoc or (preferably) permanent invitation; • MGs must engage governments and their regional organisations to advocate CPF programmes that various CPF organisations support are also coherent;	
(b) a common understanding of SFM	• Participants believe that a comprehensive definition of SFM needs to take account also of trees outside forests. . . . and that any definition of SFM needs nuancing to reflect different contexts and country situations.	**
Civil Society action to institutionalise participation in SFM	• MG roles can help to mobilize society to take action, build capacity for smallholders, indigenous & local communities to demand and implement prior informed consent and grievance redress mechanisms, and communicate best practices and lessons learnt regards SFM; • Ideally, any structured engagement with governments must involve playing watchdog on accountability matters; • MGs are constrained from being active on many fronts and must mobilise funds for their own work plans to build up capacity and to achieve visibility for themselves among potential partners; • MGs have special attributes enabling them to domesticate international agreements at the local level in society and must structure their engagement at all levels: global, regional, national. They should also engage with other non-governmental entities whether fellow MGs or profit/non-profit actors on forests and forestry.	**

[11] **Items for possible referral by UNFF14 to HLPF2019.**

Topic	Key Messages to UNFF14	**[12]
TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS AND SHARING OF EXPERIENCES (continued)		
Civil Society actions to incorporate Global Forest Goals and associated targets into its forest-related plans, programmes or policies using the UNSPF	All suggestions under other headings apply to this.	
Civil Society actions to address gaps and challenges that prevent coherence and complementarity in forest-related programme coherence	• Participants believed that MGs should advocate that:we should reduce shortage of information or poor accessibility to what information exists; • Dialogue platforms with MGs in key international processes should be strengthened/established; • The funding crisis facing many non-profit, non-governmental actors should be addressed to enable them serve their functions.	
Technical discussion and exchange of experiences on: priority actions and resource needs for the period 2019-2020	The perspective of participants was mostly from seeing priorities for their own effective contribution to achieving SFM; they highlighted three headings: • Information in support of capacity for advocacy • Engaging in localisation of the UN Strategic Plan on Forests and translating global UNFF decisions to the people on the ground; and • Capacity building – with special focus on education, including for youth and children (this can be supported through their workplan). • The funding and other resource implications of their workplans under these and other headings have not yet been costed.	
Discussion and main ideas - emerging issues and challenges of global significance that are related to and/or have an impact on forests and SFM	Participants felt priority should <u>not</u> be granted because an issue is "emerging" but because it is or remains important, even if old. They highlighted the following: • Loss of political commitment to already-agreed multilateral environmental agreements, especially the Paris Agreement on climate change: some important forest countries, both developing and developed have expressed readiness to leave the Paris Agreement; • ambitious targets on forest restoration targets set upon widespread adoption of the landscape approach – how to achieve them and – how to best synergise them with the UN Strategic Plan on Forests and the GFGs; • How to address three major failures at national level, leading to inadequate action on forests: (i) failure to excite political will to protect forests; (ii) failure to secure inter-sectoral cooperation in combating deforestation and forest threats of powerful external origin (mining, infrastructure, agriculture etc), ; and (iii) paralysis in anticipating and combating increasingly frequent extreme weather events affecting forests.	**

[12] **Items for possible referral by UNFF14 to HLPF2019.**

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Topic	Key Messages to UNFF14	**[13]
SUGGESTIONS RELATED TO THE UNFF14 THEMATIC PRIORITIES:		
"Forests and Climate Change"	• While true, the greatest need is not to say yet again that forests are important in combating climate change (that is well known) but to stress in what key ways forest roles can be delivered even more effectively. • While being aware of the lack of perfect consensus for the UNFCCC COP 24 Katowice Ministerial Declaration on Forests for the Climate , participants saw value in UNFF14 proposing improvements to it which to recommend to the HLPF2019; • UNFF14 should consider drawing up proposals for ensuring that forests retain a high profile under the UNFCCC process, drawing upon timely reports and inputs from governments, civil society and the private sector; • UNFF14 should encourage the CPF, being a grouping of the most important international institutions supporting implementation of UNSPF, to act even more strongly on climate-related interventions in the forest sector, in collaboration with the MGs and the private sector.	**
"Forests, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and employment"	• See under SDG 8 below	
"Forests, peaceful and inclusive societies, reduced inequality, education, and inclusive institutions at all"	• See under SDG 16 below	

[13] **Items for possible referral by UNFF14 to HLPF2019.**

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Topic	Key Messages to UNFF14	**[14]
SDGs HLPF 2019		
"SDG 4 "ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all"; [*drawing also upon discussion of the International Day of the Forest (IDF 2019) theme "forests and education"*]	In view of the 2019 International Day of the Forest (IDF) theme being *"forests and education"*, participants believed that education should: • be citizen-centred; • be directed at different stakeholders both in a formal and informal settings; and • allow for continuous learning/ lifelong learning after university, especially for government officials when it comes to decision making in a changing world.	
SDG 8 "promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all"	• UNFF14 needs to continue past messages that sustainable development in forestry does not mean concern only for the environment but, in line with the Rio Summit decisions, allows pursuit of combined economic, environmental and social progress. • MGs can provide concrete examples and messages originating from local voices on inclusiveness and sustainable economic growth and employment.	**
SDG10 "reduce inequality within and among countries" [taking account of discussions under "*Forests, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and employment*"]	Participants recalled that poverty and marginalisation are often at their worst for people living in and near forests, which are often remote from development infrastructure and centres of decision-making. Accordingly, they highlighted the need: • to correct the fact that access to forests is an issue – physically but also because governance systems are controlled by the privileged – people who are the closest to the resources tend to reap the least benefits. • UNFF14 could propose checks and balances and measures of redress to combat extremes and to promote more equitable sharing of benefits (including by gender and age); • Corruption continues to be a huge problem – it worsens the tainting of land and tree tenure outcomes so resulting in huge disparities in access to the resources or benefits from it.	**
SDG 13 "Urgently combat climate change"	• As covered under UNFF14 agenda above.	
SDG 16 "promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels	• Inequity-induced conflicts continue in forests which lead to displacement of people, forced migration and deepening poverty. UNFF should pay more attention to seeking solutions to causes of inequity which leaves the weak and marginalised as main victims.	

[14] **Items for possible referral by UNFF14 to HLPF2019.**

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ANNEXES

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Annex 1: Umbrella Work-Plan for All Major Groups
Prepared collectively by the Major Groups on Forests
[with support from the Secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests]
[Final 10 May 2018]

This workplan is for all MGs together; each MG is encouraged to develop more detailed proposals for its contributions but in a manner compatible with this collective plan.

MAJOR GROUPS SUPPORT FOR THE UNSPF 2017-2030 UNDER THE FIRST QUADRENNIAL PLAN OF WORK 2017-2020 (4POW) OF THE UNFF

Nairobi/New York
2017- 2018

CONSULTATIONS

With support from the Secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF), members of the Major Groups (MGs) met at the United Nations Office in Nairobi (UNON) in Nairobi Kenya 20-21 November 2017 for a two-day *Expert Meeting on Major Groups and other Stakeholders' Contribution to the Implementation of the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests (UNSPF) 2017 – 2030 and the Forum's Quadrennial Programme of Work (4POW) 2017 – 2020.* The expert meeting aimed to develop a set of priorities and suggestions to the thirteenth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF13) on the UNSPF and 4POW as well as on what the Forum might wish to convey to the High Level Political Forum (HLPF) on the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Nairobi meeting had good participation: 25 MG experts from 13 countries were present, coming from 7 accredited MGs: women, youth & children, NGOs, indigenous people, smallholder farmers, the scientific & technological community, and trade unions.

Participants agreed on priority areas of intervention and, based on this, developed a preliminary draft Workplan. The driving ambition for preparing a Workplan was for MGs to become more effective in engaging with key players in implementing the UNFF agenda (governments and their organisations, private sector, the CPF and Secretariat, and various communities that are the constituencies represented by individual MGs). On the margins of the 13th UNFF session in New York, MG members met again in brief events on 7-9 May to improve the Workplan, a summary of which they presented the UNFF Session. The fully elaborated workplan presented below was also made available to delegates.

MG members recognise that the collective Workplan they have adopted provides a reference point for each specialised MGs to then also prepare its own workplan that builds upon and is compatible with the collective one; an example of such a plan in fact already exists for the MG for Children and Youth. They are committed to preparing these other complementary work plans in order to bring greater coherence to their efforts and to facilitate coordination of their work.

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MGs PRIORITIES AND TYPES OF INTERVENTION

The Major Groups commit themselves to collectively and individually press for all players to take integrated approaches that recognize and maximize synergies as they act to achieve Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) as reflected in the Global Forest Goals (GFG) and elaborated under the UNSPF 2017 – 2030. To this end the MGs plan to focus on their areas of collective and individual strengths as reflected in the fully elaborated Workplan below.

A major motivating factor for MG engagement is their shared desire to enable marginalized MG constituencies [women, indigenous people and other forest dependent people, local communities] to play a more mainstreamed role in the implementation of the UNSPF and the Agenda 2030.

In preparing their Workplan, the MGs have considered the following to be the main types of interventions through which they can add value to the efforts of governments, the private sector and other major players:

1. Localisation of the UN Strategic Plan on Forests and translation of global UNFF decisions to the people on the ground
2. Publicity and advocacy
3. Mobilising their own constituencies for action
4. Cooperating with governments, the private sector and other major players to achieve mutual accountability for commitments made and statements of intent in the UNSPF and the Agenda 2030.

With some paraphrasing, these headings provide a structure for the MG interventions under the Workplan.

THE NEED TO STRENGTHEN MGs CAPACITIES AND IMPROVE ACCESS TO RESOURCES

Members of the MGs wish to underline the importance of having their capacities improved and developed; also the critical need to mobilize more adequate and sustainable funding to enable them to effectively implement the planned interventions in support of the Global Forest Goals and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). All Major Groups will therefore need to undertake this capacity building and resource mobilization to facilitate activities but in a manner which respects this collaborative work plan.

MG members recognise the importance of funding but also believe that if fully mobilised, the voluntary energies, dedication and efforts of their constituencies can make the money they secure go much further in impact. For this reason, the MGs believe that among the functions of any funding they mobilise should be to trigger mass mobilisation and energisation of the broader society for action on SFM.

MG EFFORTS IN UNFF AGENDA AND PARTNERSHIP CONTEXTS

The MG Workplan targets contribution to success of the UNSPF 2017 – 2030 but in operational terms is anchored on the Forum's 4POW 2017 – 2020. The Workplan will need updating and revising when the successor 4POWs (2021-2024; 2025-2030) are adopted by the UNFF.

In launching this their first work plan, the MGs stand ready to work with member states and their governments at all levels, the UNFF Secretariat and other members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), regional organizations and the business community to accelerate progress in the implementation of the UNSPF and Agenda 2030. The MGs are also aware that the CPF is preparing its own Workplan; they hope that other important stakeholders will do the same. In the end, all can only benefit from shared knowledge of each others' plans and,

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thereafter, from determined efforts to promote complementarity and reduce duplication among plans.

MG members are convinced that they can add value to the efforts of partners and that support extended to them will yield high dividends for the UNFF process. Strengthened MGs can help raise effectiveness and boost the engagement of the broader society which has so far been inadequate or in some cases even elusive. They therefore appeal to all major players to support their efforts in building up their own capacities and in mobilizing resources for their ambitions and plans.

1. Information in support of capacity for advocacy								
Actions/Interventions (not necessarily presented in order of importance)	**Focus Level**	**Time Frame**			**Resource Needs**	**Lead MG & potential partners (All major groups can contribute)**	**Key Indicators**	**Expected Outcome**
		4POW and/or GFG link[15]	**Start**	**End**				
1.1 Develop an information and knowledge-sharing platform, including traditional knowledge, to support advocacy and effectiveness of interventions	All Levels	Table 1(2c); GFG4.5	2018	2020	Funding for web masters	Indigenous people, Children and Youth, S&T with IUFRO, FAO, IFSA, CIFOR	Revitalized Regional research networks	Regional research network; Functioning regional research networks
1.2 Advocate for research and documentation of TFRK (Integrate into WP 1.1)	All Levels		At all times			With IUFRO, FORNESSA, APAFRI, FAO	Summary report, leaflets and key documentation listing on TFRK	Increased integration of TFRK in SFM practices
1.3 Support and consolidate data collection across MGs (Focus baseline data in 2018-2019) including data on SFM from scientific community	All Levels		2018	2019	Data Entry Officers	Coordinating office & Network Members MG on S&T in coop with CPF	Data from variety of sources	Databases

[15] Gives the Table No and bullet points in the 4POW on pages 21 – 24 of the Document E/RES/2017/4 ECOSOC – Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 20 April 2017 "***United Nations Strategic Plan for forests 2017-2010 and quadrennial programme of work of the United Nations Forum on Forests for the period 2017-2020***". In cases where no corresponding activity if planned by UNFF for the first 4POW, reference is made instead to the GFG addressing the issue or area of potential intervention.

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Actions/Interventions (not necessarily presented in order of importance)	Focus Level	Time Frame			Resource Needs	Lead MG & potential partners (All major groups can contribute)	Key Indicators	Expected Outcome
		4POW and/or GFG link[16]	Start	End				
1.4 Create a foundation promoting gender mainstreaming in all MG interventions. Start with collection of gender disaggregated data: • Baseline data: between UNFF13- and UNFF14 • Database maintenance: permanent	All Levels	GFG5(g) GFG2(t)	2018 All times	2019 All times	Data Collectors & Entry Officers	Women MG with FAO & UNDP	Data from variety of sources	Database
1.5 Undertake: • MGs communication and outreach activities, and • Participate actively in communication networks	All Levels		2018 2019	2020 2020	Specialist Communicators	MGs focal points with UNFFs, CPF, Regional Networks Children and Youth, S&T, with CPF	MOU with CPF and Regional Networks Revitalized Regional Information networks	MGs Communication and Outreach Plan Functioning Networks

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[16] Gives the Table No and bullet points in the 4POW on pages 21 – 24 of the Document E/RES/2017/4 ECOSOC – Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 20 April 2017 "***United Nations Strategic Plan for forests 2017-2010 and quadrennial programme of work of the United Nations Forum on Forests for the period 2017-2020***". In cases where no corresponding activity if planned by UNFF for the first 4POW, reference is made instead to the GFG addressing the issue or area of potential intervention.

2. Engaging in localisation of the UN Strategic Plan on Forests and translating global UNFF decisions to the people on the ground

2.1Enterprise development for employment, income and livelihoods

Actions/Interventions (not necessarily presented in order of importance)	Focus Level	Time Frame			Resource Needs	Lead MG & potential partners (All major groups can contribute)	Key Indicators	Expected Outcome
		4POW and/or GFG Link	Start	End				
2.1.1 Raise awareness in MG constituencies to re-engage them in local sustainable forest management	Regional National Local	Table 1 - 4(c). GFG 3 (m)	2018	2019	Funding for NGOs & Communities meetings	MG Chair with Community leaders, regional and local authorities	Trends in awareness and attitudes in SFM	Increased in forest under sustainable practices
2.1.2 Undertake advocacy for community – led selection of enterprises for development	National Local	GFG 1.1/1.2	2018	2019	Questionnaire to guide the selection process	Small Holder farmers/ local Communities with FAO, UNDP	Community – engagement reports	Community-based enterprise database
2.1.3 Increase/enhance market access for forest/nature based industries and enterprises, including non-timber forest products	Global, regional, national and local	GFG 2.2/2.4	2018	2030	Consultant to prepare state of the art best practices paper	Chair MG with FAO, UNDP	Trends in the development of forest-based industries.	Livelihood improvements of forest depended people.
2.1.4 Work with certification schemes and other cooperative entities to market sustainably managed forest resources and create critical mass for smallholders sustainably managing their forest resources to profit from economies of scale.	Global	GFG 3.3	2018	2022		Small holder farmers, forest-based enterprises with certification schemes	Trends in certification of small holder forest farms	Increased number of certified small-holder farms
2.1.5 Engage in building capacity, particularly on entrepreneurial skills, at all levels of producer organizations and at all stages in the forest/agroforestry value chains to improve quality of products and livelihoods (including value-addition training where appropriate)	National Local	GFG3(e-h); GFG 4 (k)	2018	2020	Resource personnel and funds to organize workshops	Chair MG; farmer/producer and indigenous people's organisations; UNFFS, UNIDO, FAO, UNDP	Capacity building manual and workshops reports. Knowledge achieved at the training	Improved skills for delivery of quality products. Eventually improved livelihoods
2.1.6 Promote greater attention to forest enterprise development in deliberations and consultations between UNFF sessions.	All Levels	GFG2.2; 2.4	2019 2021	2020 2022		With UNFFS & UNDP	Forest enterprise development data	Adoption of best practices

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2.2 Land, Forest and Tree tenure security as foundation for SFM								
Actions/Interventions (not necessarily presented in order of importance)	**Focus Level**	**Time Frame**			**Resource Needs**	**Lead MG & potential partners (All major groups can contribute)**	**Key Indicators**	**Expected Outcome**
		4POW and/or GFG Link	**Start**	**End**				
2.2.1 Initiate advocacy to accelerate establishment of secure land and forest/tree tenure: • Commission baseline review on which to base key messages for advocacy - between UNFF13- and UNFF14 • Advocacy campaign	Household, Local, National, Global, Regional	GFG 5.4	2018 2019	2022 2022 and after	Consultant and consultancy fee	MG Women; MG Indigenous Peoples (with Tenure Facility, Forest Farm Facility, FAO, UNDP, NGOs)	Policy revisions in land tenure, access and control rights	Inclusive and sustainable governance of forest/tree landscapes
2.2.2 Undertake educational campaigns, provide information on tenure, access and control rights	Global, Regional, National, Local, household	GFG 5.4	Always		Logistics for educational campaign	Major Group Women, Children and Youth (with FAO, UNDP)	Knowledge acquired	Improved knowledge on tenure underpinnings of SFM
2.2.3 Encourage governing authorities to consult local communities (especially underrepresented groups like women, indigenous people, children and youth) in the process of drafting policy or legislation on forest protection and forest resources sustainable management.	Global Regional National Local	GFG 5.4	2018	2030	Funds for pilot projects	Chair of MGs (With UNFFS, CPF & member states	Trends in Multi-stakeholder platforms for policy deliberations and decision making on SFM	Increased security of forests and trees under SFM initiatives
2.2.4 In collaboration with governments, promote capacity building and awareness of importance to 2 parties: • governments themselves – improving tenure security and market access); and • communities/small holders (need to fully participate in government programmes to improve tenure security and market access)	All Levels	GFG 5.4	2018	2024	Resource persons and workshop logistics	NGOs, Small holder farmers with FAO and Member States	Progress in the degree of tenure security and market access to MGs Constituencies	Progress towards SFM

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3. Promoting mutual accountability for commitments made and statements of intent in the UNSPF and the Agenda 2030								
Actions/Interventions (not necessarily presented in order of importance)	**Focus Level**	**Time Frame**			**Resource Needs**	**Lead MG & potential partners (All major groups can contribute)**	**Key Indicators**	**Expected Outcome**
		4POW and/or GFG Link	**Start**	**End**				
3.1 Promote mutual and collective accountability for delivering on commitments and expressed intentions in forest related activities	All levels	Table 1 - 4(c).	2018	2020	Project Funds	NGOs, Local Communities/IP, Tropenbos Int.	Reduced rate of illegal forest activities	Progress towards SFM
3.2 Monitor forest and land restoration projects to measure success	Global, National, Local	GFG 1.3	2018	2024		With FAO, UNEP, UNDP, CIFOR, IUCN)	Data on restoration projects	Increased forest area cover
3.3 Push for a new approach in legislation with national governments to recognize and support the sustainable management practices of indigenous community conserved areas.	Regional National Local	GFG 5.3	All times			NGOs, Indigenous communities, Member states	Trends in the integration of traditional practices in SFM practices	Progress in SFM under indigenous groups attention
3.4 Facilitate the setting up of network(s) on cross cutting issues – poverty reduction, land and forest tenure, incentives and benefit sharing, rights of vulnerable groups e.g. women, indigenous people, occupants of fragmented small land plots	All Levels		2019	2021		All MGs		Specialised Networks on key cross-cutting issues

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4. Strengthening MGs' own Capacities and Resource Base for Effective Action								
Actions/Interventions (not necessarily presented in order of importance)	**Focus Level**	**Time Frame**			**Resource Needs**	**Lead MG & potential partners (All major groups can contribute)**	**Key Indicators**	**Expected Outcome**
		4POW and/or GFG Link	**Start**	**End**				
4.1 Re-vitalising the MG community for the forest agenda								
4.1.1 Energise the MGs and enhance coordination of their activities by revitalizing the Major Groups Partnership on Forests (MGPoF).	Global	Table 1 - 4(c); GFG 6.5	2018	2020	Funding of Coordination office	Chair MGs focal points	Established coordination office	A functioning coordinator
4.1.2 Refine and finalise MG Work plan (QPOW) developed at Nairobi.[17] 4.1.3 Individual MGs prepare detailed work plans for their contributions compatible with the collective all-MGs workplan. 4.1.4 Prepare updates of MG work plans for the successive spans of the UNFF 4POW (2021-24; 2025-30)	All	Table 1 - 4(c).	Jan - Apr 2018 2018 2020	June 2018 2020 2024		MG focal points & UNFFS	Electronic discussions prior to UNFF13	Approved work plans
4.2 Mobilising adequate and sustainable Funding for the MGs								
4.2.1 Map funding sources and create awareness/inform stakeholders of the potential financing mechanisms available for implementing SFM	All Levels	GFG 4.	2018 (soon after UNFF 13)	2018	MGs Coordinating Officer	With UNFFS, CPF, UNCBD Alliance, GEF, GCG, Governments	Trends in awareness and financing of SFM projects	Database and other on-line resources on SFM financing
4.2.2 Mobilise funding for MG priority actions to achieve GFG and targets: e.g. based on collective MG workplan and separate MG plans, prepare and market fundable programmes and	Mainly at community level but also at higher levels	Link to Table 1 (3); Table 2(3); Table 3(3) & Table 4 (3, 5).	2018	always	Operational costs of interventions Preparation of a "living"	Chair MG and Chairs of each specialised MG (key being Member State Governme	Quality and fundable programme/project documents	MG activities increasingly funded including through GFFFN support to MGs for SFM activities

[17] Progressively convert MG workplans into fundable and implementable proposals for programmes and projects.

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projects to donors, philanthropists, companies (under corporate social/environmental responsibility)	for non-action interventions				Directory of potential donors/ grants	nts; CPF; philanthropies); UNFF's GFFFN		

Continued . . . . . 4.2 Mobilising adequate and sustainable Funding for the MGs								
Actions/Interventions (not necessarily presented in order of importance)	**Focus Level**	**Time Frame**			**Resource Needs**	**Lead MG & potential partners (All major groups can contribute)**	**Key Indicators**	**Expected Outcome**
		4POW and/or GFG Link	**Start**	**End**				
4.2.3 Advocate for inclusion of project funding for Major Groups within the GFFFN mandate	Global	GFG 4	2018	2019	MGs	With UNFFS, GFFFN and Member States	Overall increase in MGs financial support	GFFFN support to MGs for SFM activities
4.2.4 Sustain appeals for operationalisation of the Financial Clearing House mechanism to assist MGs and developing countries to source funds for implementing SFM	All Levels	GFG 4	2018	2019		With UNFFS CPF, UNCBD Alliance, GEF, GCG, Member States	Overall increase in MGs and developing countries funding for implementing SFM	Guidelines for SFM Funds mobilisation.
4.3 MG Direct inputs and support to UNFF dialogue								
4.3.1 Organise MG-led Initiatives before UNFF meetings to deliberate & prepare MGs inputs for sessions (UNFF 13, 14, 15 etc.) and the HLPF. [Also apply online tools]	Global	Table 1 - 4(c).	Mar 2018 2019 2020	Mar 2018 2019 2020	Meeting Logistics, Funds, Consultants	Chair MGPoF UNFFS Donors	Proposals to sponsors to support MGI	MGs Inputs for sessions and HLPF
4.3.2 Organise MGs meeting i) to refine priorities for MGs workplan in the light of 2018-2020 experience ii) to prepare MGs position paper for the UNSPF 2024 review	Global Global		2021 2023	2024 2023	Meeting Logistics, Funds & Facilitator,	MG Focal Points UNFFS MG Focal Points UNFFS	MGs Annual Reports MGI Reports	Revised Workplan MGs Position paper on 2024 UNSPF review
4.3.3 Undertake feasibility assessment of developing a scientific platform for UNFF	All Levels		All times			MG on S&T, UNFFS and CPF (especially IUFRO, CIFOR)	On-line S&T Question and Answer platform	Report and possible funding proposal for a UNFF S&T Platform.
4.3.4 Develop a roster of policy, technical and scientific experts of MGs to be used in development of	Global		2018	2020		MG Chair with IUFRO, APAFRI, FORNESSA		Database

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papers for policy and technical sessions						,		

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Annex 2: Work-Plan for Major Group on Youth and Children

Soft copy to be inserted by UNFFS when made available; paragraphs on "presentation" below to then be removed.

Presentation: The first presentation was made by the **MG on Youth and Children**, whose workplan was the first to be fully elaborated, even before the umbrella MG workplan was agreed upon in New York. **Steffen Dehn** introduced the Plan and highlighting *six objectives* that can be paraphrased as follows: *Capacity development through workshops* – linked to a landscape approach; *Youth Activation* – for University students as well as primary school ones; *The young as innovators*; *Social Media Campaign*; *Youth Participation in policy dialogue*; and *Strengthening education worldwide*.

It can be seen that in general, the workplan objectives fall under headings 1 (Information in support of capacity for advocacy) and 4 (Strengthening MGs' own Capacities and Resource Base for Effective Action) of the umbrella MG Workplan. Depending on focus in practice, the Youth and Children Workplan could also partially contribute to the other two headings of the umbrella.

Implementation progress

a. Dehn outlined *progress in implementation* of the workplan, indicating that some funding mobilisation had started, from Germany. The Youth and Children had been most active on participation in policy dialogue and gave examples of meetings attended such as the UNFF13, HLPF18, a workshop on landscape leadership and the New York City Climate Week (in cooperation with UNICEF and 3 firms) – apart from the MG meetings at Nairobi (November 2017), New York (May 2018) and Bangkok (January 2019).

Emerging issues including obstacles to implementation

a. *Observed obstacles* had included lack of opportunities, time/capacity of members (they all work as part-time volunteers alongside their studies) and finances.

Priorities for future action

a. In future they planned to continue creating their own opportunities. Plans fulfilment would depend on funding but if this is in place, youth and children would emphasise Social Media Campaigning most and de-emphasize Young innovators (no money). There had been limited progress on strengthening education worldwide but cooperation took place with the European Forestry Institute and IUFRO on the future of work in forestry.

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Annex 3: Work-Plan for the Scientific and Technological Community
[Draft of – 23/01/19]

Details on progress in implementation, implementation issues (including observed obstacles), and priorities for future action are given soon after the tabulation:

Interventions	GFGs & SDGs	Time Frame	Resource Needs ($)	MG Partners	Key Indicators	Expected Outcome 4POW
1. Information in support of capacity for advocacy						
1.1 Develop an information and knowledge-sharing platform to support advocacy and effectiveness of interventions	GFG 4.5 & SDGs 17.6, 17.17 &17. 19	2019	In-kind	FORNESSA/ NGARA/ APAFRI/IUFRO/Networks from Latin America	Reports on key stakeholders & resources, training programme for Webmasters	Database on stakeholders, Updated Websites, Strategies on SFM by networks
i. Document key players in the S&T sector, including databases on researchers and academicians		2019	Funds for training Content Editors & web managers			
		2019	Funds for data collation			
			In-kind			
ii. Revitalize the stakeholder websites through training of Content Editors and webmasters	GFG 5.3 & SDGs 17.6, 17.7 & 17.17		Funds for data collation	FORNESSA/ NGARA/ APAFRI/IUFRO/Women /IPLC/ Networks from Latin America		Increased integration of TFRK in SFM practices
iii. Populate and add value to				All MGs	Summary report, leaflets and key documentation listing	

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websites to make them a point of reference to researchers, policy makers and the general public		2019		FORNESSA/	on TFRK	Databases
iv. Link up with more regional networks such as those from Latin America		2019	Funds for data collation Funds for development of communication strategy	NGARA/APAFRI/ Networks from Latin America	Data from variety of sources	Communication Strategy
1.2 Advocate for research and documentation of TFRK						
i. Document TFRK in close partnership with holders and users of this knowledge using ethically appropriate practices and mainstream into Scientific knowledge system on SFM						
1.3 Support and consolidate data collection across MGs (Focus baseline data in						

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2018-2019) including data on SFM from scientific community i. Collect, collate and share data on success stories of SFM across MGs 1.5 Undertake MGs communication/ outreach activities, and Participate actively in communication networks i. Develop a Communication Plan for the S&T Major Group and link it up with global MG Communication activities						

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Interventions	GFGs & SDGs	Time Frame	Resource Needs ($)	MG Partners	Key Indicators	Expected Outcome 4POW
2. Engaging in localization of the UN Strategic Plan on Forests and translating global UNFF decisions to the people on the ground						
2.1 Enterprise development for employment, income and livelihoods 2.1.2 Undertake advocacy for community - led selection of enterprises for development i. Document forest based enterprises and status of development for S&T MG and other MGs 2.1.3 Increase/enhance market access for forest/nature based enterprises, including non-timber forest products i. Analyze value chains of selected enterprises ii. Set up a market information systems for selected enterprises 2.1.5 Engage in building capacity, particularly on entrepreneurial skills, at all levels of value chains to improve quality	GFGs 2.1, 2.2 & 2.4 ; SDGs 8.3, 9.3	2019 2019/20 2019/20 2019/20	In-kind Funds for carrying out value chain analysis and information systems Funds on TNA & Curriculum development	FORNESSA/ NGARA/NGO/ Women FORNESSA/ NGARA/APAFRI/NGO/ Women FORNESSA/ NGARA/NGO/ Women/ Farmers and Small Forest Landowners FORNESSA/ NGARA/NGO/ Farmers and Small Forest Landowners FORNESSA/ NGARA/APAFRI/NGO/ Farmers and Small Forest Landowners	Number of enterprises, players and status of development Value chains analyzed and market information systems developed TNA & Curriculum reports	Database on enterprises Livelihood improvement Capacities of stakeholders developed Curriculum Functional Producer Associations

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of products and livelihoods i. Rapid appraisal on Training needs assessment (TNA) of Producer (Farmer) Associations ii. Curriculum based on TNA iii. Promote the establishment of Community Based Forest Enterprises that can share information on markets, pricing, raw material base and collaboratively lobby governments for infrastructure upgrades iv. Document success stories of indigenous community-based forest enterprises including micro-financing						
2.2. ***Land, Forest and Tree tenure security as foundation for SFM*** 2.2.1Initiate advocacy to accelerate establishment of secure land and forest/tree tenure: • Commission baseline review on which to base key messages for advocacy - between	GFG 5.4 & SDGs 1.4, 17.16					

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UNFF13- and UNFF14 i. Undertake baseline review of land tenure regimes in selected countries for various MGs to assess commonalities and share good practices 2.2.2 Undertake educational campaigns, provide information on tenure, access and control rights i. Promote good practices through educational campaigns 2.2.3 Encourage governing authorities to consult local communities (especially underrepresented groups like women, indigenous people, children and youth) in the process of drafting policy or legislation on forest protection and forest resources sustainable management. i. Promote the development of MSD involving all	GFG 5.4 & SDGs 1,4; 17.15					

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key stakeholders for policy deliberations relating to tenure security						

Interventions	**GFGs & SDGs**	**Time Frame**	**Resource Needs ($)**	**MG Partners**	**Key Indicators**	**Expected Outcome** **4POW**
3. Promoting mutual accountability for commitments made and statements of intent in the UNSPF and the Agenda 2030						
3.2 Monitor forest and land restoration projects to measure success i. Carry out resource mapping and assessment of selected resources ii. Determine restoration needs in member countries and region	GFGs 1.1-1.3 ; SDGs 15.1 & 15.2	2019/20 2019/20	Funds for resource assessment, mapping & carrying out assessment of restoration needs	FORNESSA/ NGARA/APAFRI/ Networks from Latin America	Resource maps & reports of inventory of resources as well as restoration needs Reports	Area covered for selected resources and restoration needs Database on areas for restoration by different MGs

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Interventions	GFGs & SDGs	Time Frame	Resource Needs ($)	MG Partners	Key Indicators	Expected Outcome 4POW
4. Strengthening MGs' own Capacities and Resource Base for Effective Action						
4.1.1 Energize the MGs and enhance coordination of their activities i. Revitalize FORNESSA/NGARA/APAFRI and the Latin America Networks to foster regional cooperation	GFG 6.3 and SDGs 17.16, 17.17	2019/20 2019	In-kind In-kind	FORNESSA/NGARA/APAFRI/UNFF/ IUFRO/ Networks from Latin America	Reports on strategies for revitalizing the S&T MGs	Clear SPs for implementing UNSPF and respective 4POW
4.2 Mobilize adequate and sustainable Funding for the MGs	GFG 4.1-4.2 SDG 15.b, 17.2-17.3	2019		FORNESSA/NGARA/APAFRI/UNFF/ Networks from Latin America IUFRO		
4.2.1 Map funding sources and create awareness/inform stakeholders on the potential of financing mechanisms available for implementing SFM	SDG 17.1	2019	Funds for developing proposals	FORNESSA/ APAFRI/ IUFRO/ Networks from Latin America	Number of Concepts developed and projects funded	Projects implementing MG work plan and hence UNSPF & 1st 4POW
i. Organise Proposal Writing Clinic for early and mid-career researchers to upgrade and enhance the competiveness in sourcing funds for research	GFG 4.1	2019	Funds for carrying out the trainings	FORNESSA/NGARA/APAFRI/UNFF/ IUFRO/IPLC/ Networks from Latin America All MGs	Number of trainings	Capacities of scientists in writing fundable proposals among MGs enhanced Projects implemen

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4.2.2 Mobilize funding for MG priority actions to achieve GFG and targets i. Develop Concept Notes with selected partners (FAO/AFF-SDC/UNFF/IUFRO)	GFG 4.5 & 6.5 and SDGs 17.16 & 17.17	2019 2019	In-kind In-kind		Number of CNs developed	ting MG work plan and hence UNSPF & 1st 4POW Database of experts for MGs
4.3.4 Develop a roster of policy, technical and scientific experts of MGs to be used in development of papers for policy and technical sessions					List of experts	

In text (non-tabulated) format, the Work Plan for Scientific and Technological Community is as follows:

Implementation progress

a. **Joe Cobbinah** reported that much work was already ongoing on which future action will build, based on the workplan prepared (Annex 3)

Emerging issues including obstacles to implementation

a. Funding and capacity to implement Workplan.

Priorities for future action

a. In September 2019 there will be a side-event at the IUFRO annual meeting in Curitiba, Brazil.

b. Three proposals are being finalised for funding.

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Annex 4: Work-Plan for Major Group on Women[18]

[Timeframe and required budget – TBD]

Following initial work under a working group at the Bangkok meeting, the Women Major Group now has the draft of a fully elaborated Workplan shown below, with format identical with the umbrella plan for all MGs

Details on progress in implementation, implementation issues (including observed obstacles), and priorities for future action are given soon after the tabulation:

Background

In April 2017, the Economic and Social Council adopted by recommendation of United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) the Resolution E/RES/2017/4 the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests (UNSPF) 2017–2030 and quadrennial program of work of the United Nations Forum on Forests for the period 2017–2020.

The UNSPF is a key instrument to enhance the contribution of forests to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals. Six Global Forest Goals (GFG) and 26 associated targets compose the UNSPF to be achieved by 2030 by "voluntary actions, contributions and enhanced cooperation by countries and international, regional, sub regional and non-governmental partners and stakeholders".

Aiming to enhance coherence, collaboration and synergies the Women Major Group Work Plan follows the vision and mission of the UNSPF as well as used its GFG and associated targets as a framework to indicate the priority actions to be taken in order to help its implementation on the ground as presented below.

The present Women Major Group Work Plan also is aligned with the outcomes of Work Plan developed by all the Major Groups that met in Nairobi in November 2017 and present to the UNFF 13 session in New York in May 2018.

Objective

The main objective of the Women Major Group Work Plan is mainstream gender on the GFG and related targets as well as work empower women to help on the implementation of the UNSPF at local and national level.

Scope of actions

In order to mainstream gender in the implementation of GFG and related targets the proposed actions will focus on three components: *data, advocacy, and capacity building* among key stakeholders lead by the Women Major Group. The box below shows the scope of each one of the planned actions.

[18] Women Major Group contribution to the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 and quadrennial programme of work of the United Nations Forum on Forests for the period 2017–2020

Global Forest Goals and targets	Priority Actions by Women Major Group		
	Description of actions/interventions	**Focus Level: Local Community / National/Regional /Global**	**Indicators (TBD)**
Global Forest Goal 1 - Reverse the loss of forest cover worldwide through sustainable forest management, including protection, restoration, afforestation and reforestation, and increase efforts to prevent forest degradation and contribute to the global effort of addressing climate change			
1.3 By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally	a) Collect and/or organized **gender disaggregated** data in order to have a baseline on women presence and role on sustainable forest management (SFM). The data to be collect on the first stage of the project will be the requested information on the Voluntary National Report of UNSPF implementation. Data from other sources may be used as well to establish baseline.	National: 3 selected countries.	
	b) **Advocacy** at national level to encourage governing authorities to consult civil society, including women, aiming to increase women presence in decision making bodies relate to forest policy elaboration and implementation	National: 3 selected countries	
	c) Promote **capacity building** opportunities around gender equality in the forestry sector, especially on the role of women and girls in sustainable forest management	National: 3 selected countries, with at least 3 workshops: national stakeholders of the forestry sector, one with local community involved with management of native forest and one with smallholders of the plantation sector.	

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Global Forest Goal 2 - Enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, including by improving the livelihoods of forest-dependent people			
2.1 Extreme poverty for all forest-dependent people is eradicated	a) Collect and/or organized gender disaggregated data in order to have a baseline on women presence and role on sustainable forest management (SFM). The data to be collect on the first stage of the project will be the requested information on the Voluntary National Report of UNSPF implementation. Data from other sources may be used as well to establish baseline.	National: 3 selected countries	
	b) Promote capacity building opportunities around gender equality in the forestry sector, especially on the role of women and girls in sustainable forest management	National: 3 selected countries, with at least 3 workshops: national stakeholders of the forestry sector, one with local community involved with management of native forest and one with smallholders of the plantation sector (already mention above).	
2.2 Increase the access of small-scale forest enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets	a) Promote capacity building opportunities around gender equality in the forestry sector, especially on the role of women and girls in sustainable forest management	National: 3 selected countries, with at least 3 workshops highlighting cases of women-led initiatives: national stakeholders of the forestry sector, one with local community involved with management of native forest and one with smallholders of the plantation sector.	
2.3 The contribution of forests and trees to food security is significantly increased	a) Advocacy at national level to encourage governing authorities to consult civil society, including women, aiming to increase women presence in decision making bodies relate to forest policy elaboration and implementation	National: 3 selected countries	
2.4 The contribution of forest industry, other forest-based enterprises and forest ecosystem services to social, economic and environmental development, among other things, is significantly increased	a) Collect, advocate for and/or organized gender disaggregated data in order to have a baseline on women presence and role on the forest industry. The data to be collect on the first stage of the project will be the requested information on the Voluntary National Report of UNSPF implementation. Data from other sources may be used as well to establish baseline.	National: 3 selected countries	

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Global Forest Goal 3 - **Increase significantly the area of protected forests worldwide and other areas of sustainably managed forests, as well as the proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests**			
3.2 The area of forests under long-term forest management plans is significantly increased	a) Advocacy at national level to encourage governing authorities to consult civil society, including women, aiming to increase women presence in decision making bodies relate to the elaboration of forest management plan of conservation units	National: 3 selected countries	
3.3 The proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests is significantly increased	a) Advocacy with certification systems to reinforce the importance of women role on SFM and to have indicators around gender equality on their standards. b) Advocacy on gender sensitive communication around the importance of women in SFM encouraging the consumption of goods and services from sustainably managed timber and non-timber products through public procurement.	National: 3 selected countries	
Global Forest Goal 4 - **Mobilize significantly increased, new and additional financial resources from all sources for the implementation of sustainable forest management and strengthen scientific and technical cooperation and partnerships**			
4.5 The collection, availability and accessibility of forest-related information is improved through, for example, multidisciplinary scientific assessments	a) Collect and/or organized gender disaggregated data in order to have: - a baseline on women presence and role on sustainable forest management (SFM). The data to be collect on the first stage of the project will be the requested information on the Voluntary National Report of UNSPF implementation. Data from other sources may be used as well to establish baseline; - a baseline on women presence and role on the forest industry. The data to be collect on the first stage of the project will be the requested information on the Voluntary National Report of UNSPF implementation. Data from other sources may be used as well to establish baseline.	National: 3 selected countries	

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Global Forest Goal 5 - **Promote governance frameworks to implement sustainable forest management, including through the United Nations forest instrument, and enhance the contribution of forests to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**			
5.1 The number of countries that have integrated forests into their national sustainable development plans and/or poverty reduction strategies is significantly increased	a) Collect and/or organized gender disaggregated data in order to have: - a baseline on women presence and role on sustainable forest management (SFM). The data to be collect on the first stage of the project will be the requested information on the Voluntary National Report of UNSPF implementation. Data from other sources may be used as well to establish baseline; - a baseline on women presence and role on the forest industry. The data to be collect on the first stage of the project will be the requested information on the Voluntary National Report of UNSPF implementation. Data from other sources may be used as well to establish baseline.	National: 3 selected countries	
5.3 National and subnational forest-related policies and programmes are coherent, coordinated and complementary across ministries, departments and authorities, consistent with national laws, and engage relevant stakeholders, local communities and indigenous peoples, fully recognizing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples	a) Advocacy at national level to encourage governing authorities to consult civil society, including women, aiming to increase women presence in: - decision making bodies relate to forest policy elaboration and implementation - elaboration of forest management plan of conservation units - gender sensitive communication around the importance of women in SFM b) Advocacy on gender sensitive communication around the importance of women in SFM encouraging the consumption of goods and services from sustainably managed timber and non-timber products through public procurement. c) Engage women organization on the implementation of UNSPF	National: 3 selected countries	
5.4 Forest-related issues and the forest sector are fully integrated into decision-making processes concerning land use planning and development	a) Collect and/or organized gender disaggregated data around women presence and role concerning land tenure, access and rights.	National: 3 selected countries	
	b) Advocacy at national level aiming to ensure women rights to land	National: 3 selected countries	
	c) Promote capacity building opportunities around gender equality concerning land tenure, access and rights	National: 3 selected countries, with at least 3 workshops	

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		focused on land tenure: national stakeholders of the forestry sector, one with local community involved with management of native forest and one with smallholders of the plantation sector.	
Global Forest Goal 6 - Enhance cooperation, coordination, coherence and synergies on forest-related issues at all levels, including within the United Nations system and across member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, as well as across sectors and relevant stakeholders			
6.2 Forest-related programmes across member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests are coherent and complementary and together encompass the multiple contributions of forests and the forest sector to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	a) Gather data on the presence of gender equality elements on national forest programs and policies	National: 3 selected countries	
6.3 Cross-sectoral coordination and cooperation to promote sustainable forest management and halt deforestation and forest degradation are significantly enhanced at all levels	a) Advocacy at national level to encourage governing authorities to consult civil society, including women, aiming to increase women presence in: - decision making bodies relate to forest policy elaboration and implementation - elaboration of forest management plan of conservation units - gender sensitive communication around the importance of women in SFM b) Advocacy on gender sensitive communication around the importance of women in SFM encouraging the consumption of goods and services from sustainably managed timber and non-timber products through public procurement. c) Engagement of women organizations on the implementation of UNSPF	National: 3 selected countries	
6.4 A greater common understanding of the concept of sustainable forest management is achieved and an associated set of indicators is identified	a) Gather data on the existence of gender equality related indicator in standards of certification systems to share with UNFF	National: 3 selected countries	

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Implementation progress

a. New plan; but the Women group has long been active and so has a significant foundation to build on.

Emerging issues including obstacles to implementation

a. New plan, no obstacles yet observed.

Priorities for future action

a. The plan is new so what it presents is the future priorities: *data* (especially to increase gender-disaggregated information), *advocacy, and capacity building*.

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Annex 5: Newly Drafted Work-Plans / Elements of Work-Plans from Bangkok Meeting for

(a)Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)

Prepared collectively by representatives of the NGO Major Group on Forests
[with support from representatives of other NGO Major Groups]

Details on progress in implementation, implementation issues (including observed obstacles), and priorities for future action are given soon after the tabulation:

Bangkok
[09 January 2019]

1. Information in support of capacity for advocacy								
Actions/Interventions	**Focus Level**	**Time Frame**			**Resource Needs**	**Lead MG & potential partners**	**Key Indicators**	**Expected Outcome**
		4POW and/or GFG link[19]	**Start**	**End**				
1.5. Collaborate in: • MGs communication and outreach activities, and • Participate actively in communication networks	All Levels		2019 2019	2020 2020	Specialist Communicators	MGs focal points with UNFFs, CPF, Regional Networks NGOs (with CPF)	MOU with CPF and Regional Networks Revitalized Regional Information networks	MGs Communication and Outreach Plan Functioning Networks

In non-tabulated form, the workplan presentation by **Andrey Laletin** gave the following elements:

Information in support of capacity for advocacy:
- Communications and outreach (item 1.5)

Engaging in localisation of the UN Strategic Plan on Forests and translating global UNFF decisions to the people on the ground:
- Awareness raising (2.1.1)
- Secure tenure (2.2.1)

[19] Gives the Table No and bullet points in the 4POW on pages 21 – 24 of the Document E/RES/2017/4 ECOSOC – Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 20 April 2017 "***United Nations Strategic Plan for forests 2017-2010 and quadrennial programme of work of the United Nations Forum on Forests for the period 2017-2020***". In cases where no corresponding activity if planned by UNFF for the first 4POW, reference is made instead to the GFG addressing the issue or area of potential intervention.

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- Local community consultation (2.2.3)
- Capacity building

Promoting mutual accountability for commitments made and statements of intent in the UNSPF and the Agenda 2030:

- Accountability (3.1)
- Monitor restoration projects (3.2)
- Legislation (3.3)
- Networking on cross-cutting issues (3.4)

Strengthening MGs' own Capacities and Resource Base for Effective Action:

- Coordination and synergies among MGs (4.1.1)
- Workplan finalisation (4.1.2/4.1.4)
- Mobilise funding (4.2.2)
- MGs inclusion in the Global Forest Financing Network (GFFN) (4.2.3)
- Advocate financial clearinghouse (4.2.4)
- Organise MG-led initiatives before UNFF meetings (4.3.1)
- Organise MG meeting to refine work plans and to prepare for UNSPF 2024 review (4.3.2)
- Develop roster of experts for use by MGs (4.3.4)

Implementation progress

a. None reported; new workplan but NGOs have much to build upon from years before workplan idea took root.

Emerging issues including obstacles to implementation

a. Too early to have observed. Like other MGs, however, they will have faced funding among their obstacles.

Priorities for future action

a. The plan is new so what it presents is the future priorities.

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Annex 5: Newly Drafted Work-Plan Elements from Bangkok Meeting for

(b) Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities

Details on progress in implementation, implementation issues (including observed obstacles), and priorities for future action are given soon after the tabulation:

1. Information in support of capacity for advocacy

GFG targets, & SDGs	Actions/Interventions	Focus Level	Time Frame		Resource Needs	Lead MG & Partners	Key Indicators	Expected Outcome
			Start	End				
5.3 GFG SDGs 17.6,17,17	1.1 Develop an information and knowledge-sharing platform, including traditional knowledge, to support advocacy and effectiveness of interventions	All	2019	2020		IPLC focal points & UNFFS	Electronic discussions prior to UNFF14	Approved work plan
	1.2. Participate actively in communication networks	Global	2019	2020		IPLCs, NGOs Youth, Women and major groups	Establishment of coordination office	IPLC Communication and Outreach Plan
	1.3. Advocate for research and documentation of Traditional Forest related Technology	Global	2019	2030		IPLCs focal points with UNFFs, other major groups and Regional Networks	Regional Networks	Compiled and well documented Database
	1.4. Develop a roster of IPLCs experts in policy, technical and scientific to further develop papers for policy and technical sessions	All Levels	2019	2020		IPLCs, Youth, Women, NGOs Coordinating office & Network Members	Regional Offices and networks	Databases

2.0 Engaging in localization of the UN Strategic Plan on Forests and translating global UNFF decisions to the people on the ground

GFG& SDGs	**Action/Intervention**	**Focus Level**	**Time Frame**		**Resource Needs**	**Lead MG & Partners**	**Key Indicator**	**Expected Outcome**
			Start	**End**				
2.1,2GFG SDGs 1.1,.4	2.1Enterprise development for employment, income and livelihoods	All (Global, Regional Nationa l Local)	2019	2020	Consultant to prepare state of the art best practices paper	IPLC focal Point , UNFFS, Business major groups, women youth and others UN agencies working on forests	Trends in the development of forest-based industry	Reports on Livelihood improvements of forest depended people.
5.4 GFG SDGs 15.2	2.2 Advocacy to secure land tenure, ownership, access, and control and decision making human rights based. 2.3 Undertake awareness and Educational campaigns, provide information on existing laws tenure,	All (Global, Regional Nationa l Local All (Global, Regional Nationa l Local	2019 2019	2030 2030	Consultant and funds Funding & resource mobilization	IPLC, UNFFs other agencies UNDP and FAO, women , youth and other MG IPLC, UNFFs other agencies UNDP and FAO,	Production of Revised Policies on land tenure, IPLCs rights Development and production of awareness tools	Inclusive Reports, on SFM, and governance Reports, information materials.

	ownership, access and control rights					women, youth and other MG		
	2.4 Push for a new approach in legislation with national governments to recognize and support the sustainable management practices of indigenous community conserved areas. 2.5 Consultation IPLC with governing authorities in the Planning and drafting policies on forest protection and forest resources sustainable management.	All (Global, Regional National Local All (Global, Regional National Local	2019 2019	2020 2030	Logistics for educational campaign Funds for Pilot projects	IPLCs, UNFFS, Women, Children and Youth (with FAO, UNDP) other major IPLC focal point, UNFFS, other major groups and regional networks	Knowledge acquired Trends in Multistakeholder platforms for policy deliberations and decision making on SFM	Improved knowledge on SFM Increased in Forests under SFM

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3.0 - Promoting mutual accountability for commitments made and statements of intent in the UNSPF and the Agenda 2030

DFG & SDGs	Action/Intervention	Focus Level	Time Frame		Resource Needs	Lead MG & Partners	Key Indicator	Expected Outcome
			Start	End				
GFG 5.3 SDGs 15.1,.2	3.1- Promote mutual and collective accountability for delivering on commitments and expressed intentions in forest related activities	Global, regional, national and local	2019	2030	Consultant to prepare state of the art best practices paper	IPLC, UNFFs other agencies UNDP and FAO, women, youth and other MG	Trends in the development of forest-based industries.	Livelihood improvements of forest depended people.
GFG 6.5	3.2-1Development of forest accountability networks (Forest Watchdogs Network	All (Global, Regional National Local	2019 2019	2020 2030	Questionnaire to guide the selection process	IPLC, UNFFs other agencies UNDP and FAO, MG	Community – engagement reports Reports and display of developed products	Community-based enterprise database
	3.3-Capacity building, particularly on forest- based non extractive entrepreneurial options and skills, at all levels of producer organizations and at all stages in the value chain to improve quality of products	All (Global, Regional National Local				IPLC, UNFFs other agencies UNDP and FAO, women, youth and other MG		
	3.4- Value-addition training and promotion of agroforestry value chain Include forest enterprise	All (Global, Regional National	2019	2030	Resource personnel and funds to organize workshops	IPLC, UNFFs other agencies UNDP and	Capacity building manual and workshops reports	Improved skills for delivery of quality products

	development in the deliberations and consultations between UNFF sessions	Local				FAO, women, youth and other MG		
	3.5.Work with certification bodies and other cooperative entities to market sustainably managed forest resources and create critical mass for smallholders sustainably managing their forest resources to profit from economies of scale.	All (Global, Regional National Local	2019	2030		IPLC, UNFFs UN agencies women, youth and other MG	Forest enterprise development data	Adoption of best practices

4. Strengthening Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs)own Capacities and Resource base for effective Actions_

GFG& SDGs	**Action/Intervention**	**Focus Level**	**Time Frame**		**Resource Needs**	**Lead MG & Partners**	**Key Indicator**	**Expected Outcome**
			Start	**End**				
4,1GFG SDGs 17.2,.3	4.1-Map funding sources and create awareness/inform stakeholders of the potential financing mechanisms available for implementing SFM	All Levels	2019 (soon after UNFF 14)	2020	MGs Coordinating Officer	With UNFFS, IPLCs other UN agencies UNCBD Alliance, GEF, Governments	Trends in awareness and financing of SFM projects	Database and other on-line resources on SFM financing
6.5 GFG	4.2-Capacity building to IPLCs– for improving tenure security and market access fully participate in government programs to improve tenure security and market access)	All Levels	2019	2030	Resource persons and workshop logistics	With UNFFS, IPLCs other UN agencies UNCBD GEF, Governments	Progress in the degree of tenure security and market access to MGs Constituencies	Progress towards SFM
	4.3-Incorporate Major Groups project funding within GFFFN Guidelines	Global	2019	2019	MGs	IPLCs With UNFFS, other UN and MGs		Overall increase in IPLCs financial support

	4.4-Operationalise the Financial Clearing House mechanism to assist MGs and developing countries to source funds for implementing SFM	All Levels	2019	2019		IPLCs, UNCBD, GEF, & MG	Overall increase in IPLC funding from development Countries for implementing SFM	

Implementation progress

a. None reported; new workplan but much earlier activity to build upon.

Emerging issues including obstacles to implementation

a. Too early to have observed.

Priorities for future action

a. The plan is new so what it presents is the future priorities.

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Annex 5: Newly Drafted Work-Plan Elements from Bangkok Meeting for

(c)Farmers and Small Forest Landowners

Soft copy of refined Bangkok elements of workplan or finalised workplan to be requested by UNFFS

Details on progress in implementation, implementation issues (including observed obstacles), and priorities for future action are given soon after the tabulation:

Action Plan from Farmers and Small Forest Landowners Major Group (Focal Points from IFFA and GACF with input from Uganda Forestry Association and NGARA)

A. Ongoing work

1. To raise awareness of Member States and international agencies of the integrated sustainable development approach being practiced by forest smallholders and communities world wide
2. To advocate for strengthening the enabling policies that will increase the economic, environmental and social contribution being made by smallholders and communities, with particular emphasis on:
   - Secure tenure, including security from theft
   - Fair market access
   - Good quality government support services, and in particular, forest extension
   - Strong and effective associations, with full involvement of women and youth
3. To encourage sharing of experience of significant initiatives and innovations by associations and governments.

B. **Specific actions** with focus on Sustainable wood from Sustainably managed forests, and improving access to Climate finance for smallholders and communities who are planting trees

1. Climate finance workshop in Nairobi in March, to showcase the ``Kenyan model`` started in western Kenya which combines promotion by small holder associations of small plantations, agroforestry for short term income, and marketing support. Goal of the workshop is to identify funding mechanisms and/or design pilots that recognize a mixed set of benefits(carbon storage + improved livelihoods + restoring forest cover) and support relevant capacity development of associations. High quality documentation and evaluation will be crucial.
2. UNFF14: contribute to discussions on strengthening reference to Sustainable Wood in the Katowice Declaration (and also, a stronger interpretation of GFG 3.3).
3. Carry out surveys to determine the volumes of timber being produced by smallholders in Nepal, Kenya, and Mexico as a first step in establishing reliable global figures. Also establish contribution of tree farming to increase in tree cover and carbon sequestration in the above countries.
4. Hold a meeting with representatives of indigenous, community, and smallholder associations, possibly hosted by FECOFUN in September, to identify shared interests, with particular emphasis on Sustainable Wood.
5. At COP 25, organize a high profile event to follow up on items 2 and 4, featuring concrete examples of the benefits from sustainable management of forests, presented by representatives of indigenous peoples, communities and smallholder associations.

Relevance to the GFG's: these actions have a potential impact on all GFG's, and in particular 1,2,3 & 4.

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Potential role of other MG's: collaboration with all other MG's will increase the effectiveness of these actions.

Implementation progress

a. The ongoing work sets the stage by raising awareness about what members are already doing well: advocating for better policies to enable smallholders make a more effective contribution; and to encourage sharing of good experiences and innovations/initiatives. The MG members are already working on advocacy for secure tenure; fair market access; strong and effective associations with full involvement of women and youth - recognized by governments and which have established good working relationship with them. Also encouraging the sharing of experience on significant initiatives and innovations by associations and governments.

b. Specific actions planned for near future include: Climate finance workshop in Nairobi in March, to showcase a successful ``Kenyan model`` which combines promotion by small holder associations of small plantations, agroforestry for short term income, and marketing support; UNFF14: contribute to discussions on strengthening reference to Sustainable Wood in the Katowice Declaration (and also, a stronger interpretation of GFG 3.3); undertaking surveys to determine the volumes of timber being produced by smallholders and contribution of tree farming to increase in tree cover and carbon sequestration in Nepal, Kenya, and Mexico as start on establishing reliable global figures; probably at FECOFUN in September, hold a meeting with representatives of indigenous, community, and smallholder associations to identify shared interests with particular emphasis on Sustainable Wood; and at UNFCCC's COP 25, organize a high profile event to follow up on items sustainable wood and smallholder contribution to timber output, featuring concrete-case presentations by indigenous peoples, communities and smallholder associations.

Emerging issues including obstacles to implementation

a. Lack of enabling policies for associations or individual players to make a more effective contribution.

Priorities for future action

a. Immediate future items listed as action points for near future in the presentation.

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<u>Annex 6</u>: Provisional Agenda: Expert Meeting to Review Progress in Implementation of the Major Groups Work plans and Input to the Fourteenth Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF14)
9-11 January 2019, UNESCAP, Bangkok Thailand

WEDNESDAY, 9 JANUARY

TIME	ACTIVITY
8:00-9:00am	**REGISTRATION**

9:00am-10:30am	**<u>Item 1</u>: Opening and Introduction**
	• Key note address by ASG Elliot Harris *(TBC)*
	• Opening remarks by UNFFS - Introduction:
	  o Presentation on meeting overview, objectives and expected outcomes by meeting facilitator;
	  o Election of meeting rapporteurs
	  o General discussion on meeting objectives and expected outcomes

10:30-10:45	**COFFEE/TEA BREAK**

10:45-12:30	**<u>Item 2</u>: Discussion on implementing the joint major groups workplan to accelerate achievement of the global forest goals**:
	• Presentations by major groups focal points focused on:
	  o Assess implementation progress
	  o Identify emerging issues including obstacles to implementation
	  o Priorities for future action

12:30pm-2:00pm	**LUNCH**
2:00pm -3:30 pm	**<u>Item 3</u>: Discussion on the development of other specific major group focused workplan.** • Presentation of other major group ideas/plans
3:30pm -3:45pm	**COFFEE/TEA BREAK**

3:45pm -5:00pm	**<u>Item 4</u>: Discussion on UNFF14 agenda item 6 "enhancing global forest policy coherence and a common understanding of sustainable forest management (SFM)":**
	• Presentations by UNFFS on:
	  o Item 6 Survey results
	  o SFM definitions and 7 thematic elements (UNFI)
	• Discussion on civil society actions to:
	  o promote and or advocate for enhanced global forest policy coherence
	  o institutionalizing participation in SFM
	• *Summary of main outcome*

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THURSDAY, 10 JANUARY

TIME	ACTIVITY

9:00-10:30am	*Presentations of summary of previous day's discussions*
	<u>Item 4 continued</u>: Discussion on UNFF14 agenda item 6 "enhancing global forest policy coherence and a common understanding of sustainable forest management (SFM)":
	• Civil Society actions to:
	  ○ incorporate Global Forest Goals and associated targets into its forest-related plans, programmes or policies using the UNSPF;
	  ○ addressing gaps and challenges that prevent coherence and complementarity in forest-related programme coherence
	• Main outcomes and recommendations
	• Planned activities

10:30 -10:45am	**COFFEE/TEA BREAK**

10:45am-12:30pm	**<u>Item 5</u>: Discussion on civil society's contributions to technical discussion on the three UNFF14 thematic priorities**
	• Exchange of experiences on the 3 UNFF14 thematic priorities:
	  ○ "Forests and Climate Change"
	  ○ "Forests, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and employment":
	  ○ "Forests, peaceful and inclusive societies, reduced inequality, education, and inclusive institutions at all"
	(Working groups)
	• Summary of main ideas

12:30-2:00pm	**LUNCH**

2:00 -3:30pm	**<u>Item 5</u>: continued**
	• Technical discussion and exchange of experiences on:
	  ○ the thematic and operational priorities,
	  ○ priority actions and resource needs for the period 2019 2020, taking into account the:
	  ✓ HLPF's review cycle during the biennium and
	  ✓ IDF's theme "forests and education"
	(Working groups)
	  ○ Summary of main ideas

3:30-3:45pm	**COFFEE/TEA BREAK**
3:45-5:00pm	**<u>Item 5</u>: continued:** *(Working Groups)* Summary of main ideas

FRIDAY, 11 JANUARY

TIME	ACTIVITY
9:00-10:30am	*Presentations of summary of previous day's discussions* **<u>Item 5</u>: Discussion on emerging issues and challenges of global significance that are related to and/or have an impact on forests and SFM** (*Working groups)* Summary of main ideas

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10:30-10:45am	**COFFEE/TEA BREAK**
10:45am-12:30pm	**<u>Item 6</u>: Develop recommendations on inputs to the UNFF14 on major groups/civil society's contributions to**: • UNFF 14 thematic priorities
12:30-2:00pm	**LUNCH**
2:00 -3:30pm	**<u>Item 6 continued</u>: Develop recommendations on inputs to the UNFF14 on major groups/civil society's contributions to**: • HLPF 2019 Summary of main ideas
3:30-3:45pm	**COFFEE/TEA BREAK**
3:45 -5:00pm	**<u>Item 7</u>: Update on Major Groups-lead Initiative (MGI)**
5:00pm	**CLOSING**

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Annex 7: List of Participants

No.	First Name	Last Name	Organizations/Country	E-mail
	Ms. Fernanda	Rodrigues	Women and Gender - Forest Women Network / Brazilian Forests Dialogue	
	Ms. Elizabeth Mwiyeria	Rachel	Women and Gender - Vi Agroforestry	elizabeth.mwiyeria@Viagroforestry.org
	Ms. Christine	Wulandari	Women and Gender - Community Forum for Community Forestry -	
	Ms. Gertrude Kabusimbi	Kenyangi	Women and Gender -Support for Women in Agriculture and Environment (SWAGEN)	ruralwomenug@gmail.com
	Mr. Peter Grant	Demarsh	Woodland Owners & related - Landowners, Canadian Federation of Woodlot Owners/IFFA	grandpic@nbnet.nb.ca
	Mr. Ghanshyam	Pandey	Woodland Owners & related- Federation of Community Users (FECOFUN) /Global Alliance of Community Forestry (GACF)	
	Mr. David Henry	Walugembe	Woodland Owners & related - Uganda Forestry Association	davidwalugembe@yahoo.com
	Mr. Opeyemi	Adeyemi	Children and Youth - International Forestry Students Association	
	Mr. Steffen	Dehn	Children and Youth - International Forestry Students Association	steffen.dehn.ifsa@gmail.com
	Ms. Stephane	Lee	Children and Youth - International Forestry Students Association	
	Mr. Bismark Kojo Seyram	Dzineku	Children and Youth - International Forestry Students Association	

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No.	First Name	Last Name	Organizations/Country	E-mail
	Mr. Joseph	Cobbinah	Scientific and Technological Community - Climate Change and Integrated Natural Resources Management CSIR Graduate College of Science and Technology	joe.cobbinah@ymail.com
	Mr. Ben	Chikamai	Scientific and Technological Community - Network for Natural Gums and Resins in Africa (NGARA)	bnchikamai@gmail.com
	Heck-Cho	Sim	Focal Point – Scientific and Technological Community: Asia-Pacific Association of Forestry Research Institutions (APAFRI), Malaysia	sim@apafri.org
	Ms. Lucy	Mulenkei	Indigenous Peoples - Indigenous Information Network (IIN)	mulenkei@gmail.com
	Mr. Sakda	Saenmi	Indigenous Peoples - International Alliance of the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples of Tropical Forests (IAITPTF)	
	Mr. Andrey	Laletin	NGO – Friends of Siberian Forests	laletin3@yahoo.com, laletin3@gmail.com
	Ms. Martha Cecilia Guadalupe	Nunez Canizares	NGO - Coordinadora Ecuatoriana de Organizaciones para la Defensa de la Naturaleza y el Medio Ambiente/CEDENMA	marnuz4@yahoo.com
	Ms. Anna	Kirilenko	Ecological Movements/Scientists - Ecological Movement BIOM	annakir7@gmail.com
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	Mafa	Chipeta	Workshop Facilitator (Consultant)	emchipeta@gmail.com

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