

Expert Meeting on Regional and Sub-Regional Inputs to the United Nations Forum on Forests

07- 08 January 2019

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Headquarters

1. BACKGROUND AND SCOPE OF THE MEETING

On 27 April 2017 the United Nations General Assembly approved the Resolution A/RES/71/285, entitled “United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests” (UNSPF) which states that “regional bodies (...) provide a crucial bridge between international policies and national actions and are important partners in efforts to implement the strategic plan and achieve its global forest goals and targets”. Moreover, the Forum works with regional and sub-regional bodies and processes to identify ways to contribute to the global forest goals and targets, including by encouraging them to exchange information, enhance cooperation, raise awareness, strengthen stakeholder engagement and build capacity to scale up best practices within and across regions.

The theme of the 2019 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF 2019) is “Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality”, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) under its in-depth review are: SDG 4¹; SDG 8²; SDG 10³; SDG 13⁴; SDG 16⁵; and SDG 17⁶. The theme of the 2019 International Day of Forests is “Forests and education” which will contribute to SDG4.

Technical discussions during the 14th Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF14) will focus on three thematic priorities: (i) Forests and Climate Change; (ii) Forests, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and employment; and (iii) Forests, peaceful and inclusive societies, reduced inequality, education, and inclusive institutions at all levels.

¹ Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

² Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

³ Reduce inequality within and among countries

⁴ Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

⁵ Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

⁶ Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

In addition, UNFF14 agenda item 6 will address “Enhancing global forest policy coherence and a common understanding of sustainable forest management”. As usual, the views from all UNFF stakeholders were sought and UNFF’s regional/sub-regional partners, due to their diversity in membership and mandates, provided the Forum with valuable input.

During the expert group meeting (EGM) on regional and sub-regional input to UNFF which took place in Nairobi in 2017, those partners expressed the view that any future voluntary reporting to the Forum, including through a dedicated questionnaire, should follow the format and periodicity of the voluntary national reports as agreed by UNFF. The 13th session of the Forum approved the format for voluntary national reports and invited Member States to submit their voluntary national reports by mid-November 2019.

Considering the above, an Expert Group Meeting on Regional and Sub-Regional Input to the United Nations Forum on Forests was held on 07-08 January 2019 at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Headquarters (Bangkok). The meeting comprised experts from twelve regional and sub-regional entities⁷. Each session was structured with presentations followed by interactive discussions.

The key issues addressed were the following:

- Periodicity, format and content of regional/sub-regional reports to UNFF
- Contributions to the thematic priorities for UNFF14, including a panel discussion
- Exchange of ideas on the SDGs to be addressed by HLPF 2019 as they relate to the GFGs
- Contributions to the UNFF14 agenda item 6 on enhancing global forest policy coherence and a common understanding of sustainable forest management.

⁷ African Forest Forum (AFF), African Union Commission (AU), Asia- Pacific Network for Sustainable Forest Management and Rehabilitation (APFNet), East African Community Secretariat (EAC), Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Headquarters, FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia, International Bamboo and Rattan Organisation (INBAR), Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (FOREST EUROPE), The Center for People and Forests (RECOFTC), United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE).

This summary reflects key elements of the discussions. For reference, attached are the Organization of Work (Annex 1), the List of Participants (Annex 2) and the format for United Nations Forum on Forests regional/sub-regional partners voluntary reporting on progress towards the implementation of the UNSPF 2017- 2030 and the United Nations Forest Instrument (Annex 3).

2. MEETING SUMMARY

2.1 Opening Session

The meeting was opened by Ms. Afsa Kemitale-Rothschild, Senior Programme Management Officer, UNFF Secretariat. She welcomed participants and noted the importance of the Forum’s collaboration with regional and sub-regional bodies and processes as partners in efforts to implement the strategic plan and achieve its global forest goals and targets. She also pointed out that the meeting was an opportunity for UNFF’s regional and sub-regional partners to further discuss and consolidate inputs to the Forum and to prepare for 14th Session. Finally, Ms. Kemitale- Rothschild introduced the meeting’s leading facilitator, Mr. Peter Csoka (FAO).

In his initial remarks, Mr. Csoka invited experts to briefly introduce themselves; he also explained how the meeting would be conducted and proceeded to the election of the rapporteurs, Mr. David Gritten (RECOFTC) and Ms. Doris Nyakondo Mutta (AFF).

Ms. Barbara Tavora-Jainchill, Forest Affairs Officer, UNFF Secretariat, provided an overview of UNFF13 main outcomes and an update on the preparations for UNFF 14. It was highlighted that UNFF13 agreed upon the revised format for voluntary national reporting and invited UNFF members to submit their voluntary national reports to the Forum secretariat by mid-November 2019. Moreover, the value of making effective use of the information provided by UNFF members through their voluntary national reporting was emphasized and the Forum secretariat was requested to prepare a concise “flagship” publication on progress towards achieving the global forest goals and targets for release by the end of 2021.

2.2. Discussion Sessions Summary

Topic 1: Periodicity, format and content of their written inputs to UNFF on progress made towards the achievement of the Global Forests Goals and targets of the UNSPF 2030

The matter was introduced and facilitated by Mr. Roman Michalak, Economic Affairs Officer, UNECE, who noted that a successful report involves commitment, energy, willingness and understanding of the data being reported. Presentations from Mr. Michalak, Mr. Csoka, Ms. Kemitale-Rothschild and Mr. Rastislav Raši, Policy Officer, FOREST EUROPE, provided experts with historical and practical perspectives on the issue at hand.

Experts shared their entities' experiences on regional reporting and demonstrated the potential role of regional organizations in contributing to reporting on UNSPF GFGs and targets, after which Mr. Michalak explained in detail the reporting format of national reporting adopted by UNFF13 and presented experts with a draft adaptation of that format for regional/sub-regional reporting use. An interactive discussion followed and, after incorporating experts' suggestions to the draft, the voluntary regional/sub-regional reporting format was agreed upon. Finally, experts agreed that the timeline for regional/sub-regional reporting should be the same as the national one and expressed the view that the content of future regional/sub-regional written inputs to UNFF could further enrich the mentioned "flagship" publication.

Topic 2: Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network (GFFFN)

Ms. Njeri Kariuki, Program Officer, UNFF Secretariat, provided an overview of the GFFFN and its recently adopted guidelines. GFFFN is recognized as important to enhance capacity of member states to access global financing for SFM. Experts shared the view that the GFFFN provides opportunities for regional/sub-regional synergies, as well as for capacity building activities. Regional and sub-regional entities could have a useful and cost-effective role in GFFFN as an additional link between the global process, UNFF, and Member States, given their convening power involving countries which are their members. Participants expressed an interest in deepening their entities' understanding of the Network and requested the support of the UNFF Secretariat in this regard.

It was noted that UNFF regional and sub-regional partners can potentially have a role in the context of the Network, which could allow those entities to provide GFFFN related capacity building activities directed at their Member States.

Topic 3: Contributions to the UNFF14 agenda item 6 on enhancing global forest policy coherence and a common understanding of sustainable forest management

The Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2015/33, decided to improve and strengthen the functioning of the Forum by requesting UNFF, inter alia, to assess the progress in, and make possible proposals on, enhancing policy coherence, dialogue and cooperation on forests, fostering synergies in global forest-related processes and strengthening the common international understanding of the concept of sustainable forest management as set out in the United Nations Forest Instrument. In accordance with its quadrennial programme of work for the period 2017–2020, the Forum will consider this item at its fourteenth session.

To prepare for the Forum’s discussion on this agenda item, a survey seeking views from Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) members, regional and sub-regional entities and Major Groups was circulated. A report on the survey results was delivered by Ms. Kemitale-Rotchschild, who informed that a note providing background information for discussion by the Forum was being prepared⁸.

The findings of the survey were perceived by the experts as representative of their entities’ views. Regarding sustainable forest management, it was noted that the concept is widely understood and accepted. As for the Global Core Set of Forest-related Indicators, it was recognized that it can help enhance global forest policy coherence although its primary objective is to decrease reporting burden and strengthen compatibility of international information related to forests. Broader political endorsement of the indicators is desirable. Finally, experts considered that it might be useful for regional/sub-regional entities to have a closer relationship with CPF, including through taking part in CPF Dialogue events. Considering a regional observer status in the Partnership may also help collaboration.

⁸ Note by the Secretariat on enhancing global forest policy coherence and a common international understanding of sustainable forest management (E/CN.18/2019/5)

Topic 4: Exchange of ideas on the SDGs to be addressed by HLPF 2019 as they relate to the GFGs and contributions to the thematic priorities for UNFF 14, including a panel discussion

The item was introduced by Ms. Tavora-Jainchill, who described the format of HLPF 2019 and presented the SDGs to be addressed this year. She also informed that the Forum, at its 13th session, invited Member States, the CPF and its member organizations, United Nations system partners, as well as regional/sub-regional entities and Major Groups to undertake initiatives to accelerate the contribution of forests to achieving the SDGs under review and inform UNFF14 of progress made. Moreover, UNFF13 decided that the input to HLPF 2019 will be finalized by UNFF14.

After Mr. Csoka provided information on the 24th Session of FAO's Committee on Forestry consideration of themes related to the HLPF 2019 SDGs, Ms. Tavora-Jainchill reminded experts that the technical discussions during UNFF14 will focus on the following thematic priorities:

- Forests and climate change;
- Forests, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and employment; and
- Forests, peaceful and inclusive societies, reduced inequality, education, and inclusive institutions at all levels.

During the discussion that followed, several experts expressed their entities' tentative interest in participating in an eventual dedicated panel discussion by sharing experiences and lessons learned regarding matters related to UNFF14 three thematic priorities.

2.3 Other matters, content of meeting's summary and closing remarks

FAO shared with participants preliminary information regarding the date and venue of the 2019 Regional Forest Commissions meetings; entities were also invited to consider submitting nominations to the Wangari Maathai Award once the call will be published.

Regarding the content of the meeting's summary, the rapporteurs presented key elements identified from the discussions. It was informed that the summary's first draft would be distributed to participants as soon as feasible with a request for comments.



In closing, the UNFF Secretariat thanked experts for attending the meeting, reiterated the importance of regional and sub-regional cooperation and expressed the hope that those partners continue to support the work of the Forum. Experts expressed their appreciation for the UNFF Secretariat, facilitators, rapporteurs and presenters.

ANNEX 1: Organization of Work

Time/Day	Monday, 7 January	Tuesday, 8 January
9:00 am ~ 12.30 pm	<p>Item 1: Opening and Introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome remarks by UNFFS and introduction of lead facilitator • Introduction: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Presentation on meeting overview, objectives and expected outcomes ii. Presentation on UNFF 13 and preparations for UNFF 14 iii. General discussion on meeting objectives and expected outcomes iv. Tour de table v. Identification of two rapporteurs among participants <p>Item 2: Discussion on the format and content of regional/sub-regional inputs – Reporting on progress on implementation of the Global Forests Goals and targets of the UNSPF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Historical background ii. Presentation of approved Member States’ voluntary reporting format and periodicity • Lessons learned and sharing of experience on regional and sub-regional reporting • Potential use of information collected through regional and sub-regional reports: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Review of use of data from different organizations ii. Discussions on flagship publication <p><i>(Coffee/Tea Break at appropriate time)</i></p>	<p>Item 5: HLPF 2019 and UNFF 14 thematic priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of the SDGs which will be addressed by HLPF 2019 • Presentation on COFO 2018 and its discussions related to HLPF 2019 SDGs • Exchange of experiences and ideas on the SDGs to be addressed by HLPF 2019 • Exchange of experiences and ideas on the 3 UNFF14 thematic priorities: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. “Forests and Climate Change” ii. “Forests, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and employment”: iii. “Forests, peaceful and inclusive societies, reduced inequality, education, and inclusive institutions at all” • Proposals for regional involvement & panel discussion – UNFF14 technical session <p><i>Summary of outcome by rapporteurs</i></p> <p><i>(Coffee/Tea Break at appropriate time)</i></p>
12:30 pm ~ 1:30 pm	<i>Lunch Break</i>	<i>Lunch Break</i>

1:30 pm~
5:00 pm

Item 2: Continues

- Presentation on SDGs FRA reporting system
- Presentation on the Global Core Set of Forest related indicators

Summary of outcome by rapporteurs

Item 3: Presentation on Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network (GFFFN)

- Discussion on Guidelines and regional support
- Way forward

Item 4: Discussion on UNFF14 agenda item 6 “Enhancing global forest policy coherence and a common understanding of sustainable forest management (SFM)”

- Presentations on:
 - i. Item 6 Survey results
 - ii. SFM definitions and 7 thematic elements (*UNFI*)
 - iii. Discussion on the role of regional/sub-regional organizations may play in promoting and advocating enhanced global forest policy coherence and a common understanding of SFM

Summary of outcome by rapporteurs

(Coffee/Tea Break at appropriate time)

Item 6: Any other business

Item 7: Discussion on main outcomes of the meeting

Closing

(Coffee/Tea Break at appropriate time)

ANNEX 2: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

African Forest Forum	Dr. Doris Nyakondo Mutta	Senior Programme Officer	D.Mutta@cgiar.org
African Union Commission	Mr. Almani Dampha	Senior Policy Officer	DamphaA@africa-union.org
Asia- Pacific Network for Sustainable Forest Management Rehabilitation	Dr. Hongbo Zhai	Director of Project Planning Division	zhaihongbo@apfnct.cn
	Mr. Peng Peng	Director of Communication and Outreach Division	peng_peng@apfnct.cn
	Ms. Chao Long	Project Officer	long_chao@apfnct.cn
East African Community Secretariat	Mr. Dismas Mwikila	Forest Expert charged with Climate Change Adaptation	dmwikila@eachq.org dmwikila@gmail.com
Economic Cooperation Organization	Mr. Abolfazl Azizipanah	Program Officer of Environment	Azizipanah@eco.int
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	Mr. Peter Csoka	Team Leader, Statutory Bodies, CPF and Outreach, and Secretary of the Committee on Forestry	peter.csoka@fao.org
FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific	Mr. Thomas Hofer	Senior Forestry Officer, Group Leader-Natural Resources Management, Secretary, Asia- Pacific Forestry Commission, FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific	Thomas.hofer@fao.org
FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia	Mr. Ekrem Yazici	Deputy Chief Joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section	Ekrem.yazici@fao.org or ekrem.yazici@unece.org
FOREST EUROPE Liaison Unit Bratislava	Mr. Rastislav Raši	Policy Advisor	rastislav.rasi@foresteurope.org
International Bamboo and Rattan Organisation	Mr. Lu Wenming	Deputy Director General	wmlu@inbar.int
	Ms. Hao Ying	Director of Membership Affairs	yhao@inbar.int

	Mr. Thang Long Trinh	Programme Coordinator	tlong@inbar.int
The Center for People and Forests	Dr. David Ganz	Executive Director	david.ganz@recoftc.org
	Dr. David Gritten	Senior Scientist	david.gritten@recoftc.org
	Dr. Kalpana Giri	Senior Program Officer on Gender Equity	kalpana.giri@recoftc.org
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe	Mr. Roman Michalak	Economic Affairs Officer	roman.michalak@un.org
United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat	Ms. Afsa Kemitale-Rotschild	Senior Programme Management Officer	kemitale@un.org
United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat	Ms. Barbara Tavora- Jainchill	Forest Affairs Officer	tavora-jainchill@un.org
United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat	Ms. Njeri Kariuki	Programme Officer	kariuki@un.org
United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat	Ms. Edith Niamke	Programme Management Assistant	niamke@un.org
United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat	Ms. Erika del Rocio Lopez-Rojas	Consultant	erilpr@hotmail.com

ANNEX 3: Format for United Nations Forum on Forests regional/sub-regional partners reporting on progress towards the implementation of the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017–2030 and the United Nations Forest Instrument

While considering the word limits, regional and sub-regional entities are invited to provide as much detail as possible in their answers, including regarding figures and deadlines, if applicable.

General Information

Information on Entity

Official Name:	
Membership:	
Mandate:	

Entity's focal point

Name:	
Title:	
Address:	
Entity:	
Telephone:	
Email:	

Person to contact concerning the entity's report, if someone other than the entity's focal point

Name:	
Title:	
Address:	
Entity:	
Telephone:	
Email:	

Entity/entities involved in the preparation of the report

Entity/Entities:	
Address:	
Email:	

Global forest goal 1 and associated targets⁹

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

Associated targets

- 1.1 Forest area is increased by 3 per cent worldwide¹⁰
- 1.2 The world's forest carbon stocks are maintained or enhanced
- 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
- 1.4 The resilience and adaptive capacity of all types of forests to natural disasters and the impact of climate change is significantly strengthened worldwide

Questions on goal 1

1. (a) Since 2015,¹¹ what types of action have been taken by your entity to support Member States to advance or contribute to the achievement of targets 1.1–1.4?

Please indicate to which targets the actions relate and briefly describe the results to date, if applicable, (in a maximum of 250 words). For each action, please indicate whether it is continuous, planned, in progress or completed.

- (i) Legislative and policy actions

List of actions:

Description of actions:

⁹ Goal 1 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, targets 6.6, 12.2, 13.1, 13.3, 14.2, 15.1–15.4 and 15.8 of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Targets 5, 7, 9, 11, 14 and 15, and are supported by paragraphs 6 (o) and 7 (d) and (e) of the United Nations forest instrument.

¹⁰ Based on the Global Forest Resources Assessment 2015.

¹¹ Or earlier, where relevant to capturing important action. The same applies hereafter.

(ii) Institutional actions (actions to advance implementation of SFM)

<p><i>List of actions:</i></p> <p><i>Description of actions:</i></p>
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(iii) Financial actions

<p><i>List of actions:</i></p> <p><i>Description of actions:</i></p>
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(iv) Technical and scientific actions

<p><i>List of actions:</i></p> <p><i>Description of actions:</i></p>
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(b) How do the actions listed above support Member States in the implementation of the United Nations forest instrument?

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(c) What are the main challenges in supporting Member States in achieving goal 1 in your region?

(d) Any additional comments on goal 1:

Global forest goal 2 and associated targets¹²

Enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, including by improving the livelihoods of forest-dependent people

Associated targets

2.1 Extreme poverty for all forest-dependent people is eradicated

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

2.3 The contribution of forests and trees to food security is significantly increased

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

2.5 The contribution of all types of forests to biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation is enhanced, taking into account the mandates and ongoing work of relevant conventions and instruments

Questions on goal 2

2. (a) Since 2015, what types of action have been taken by your entity to support Member States to advance or contribute to the achievement of targets 2.1–2.5?

¹² Goal 2 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, targets 1.1, 1.4, 2.4, 4.4, 5.a, 6.6, 8.3, 9.3, 12.2, 12.5, 15.6 and 15.c of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Targets 4, 14 and 18, and are supported by paragraphs 6 (d)–(f), (h), (j), (p), (q), (t)–(v) and (y) and 7 (k) of the United Nations forest instrument.

Please indicate to which targets the actions relate and briefly describe the results to date if applicable (in a maximum of 250 words). For each action, please indicate whether it is continuous, planned, in progress or completed.

(i) Legislative and policy actions

<i>List of actions:</i>
<i>Description of actions:</i>

(ii) Institutional actions (actions to advance implementation of SFM)

<i>List of actions:</i>
<i>Description of actions:</i>

(iii) Financial actions

<i>List of actions:</i>
<i>Description of actions:</i>

(iv) Technical and scientific actions

<i>List of actions:</i>
<i>Description of actions:</i>

(b) What other action is being taken by your entity in support Member States to achieve goal 2?

(c) How does the action listed above support Member States in the implementation of the United Nations forest instrument?

(d) What are the main challenges in supporting Member States in achieving goal 2 in your region?

(e) Any additional comments on goal 2:

Global forest goal 3 and associated targets¹³

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

Associated targets

3.1 The area of forests worldwide designated as protected areas or conserved through other effective area-based conservation measures is significantly increased

3.2 The area of forests under long-term forest management plans is significantly increased

3.3 The proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests is significantly increased

Questions on goal 3

3. (a) Since 2015, what types of action have been taken by your entity to support Member States to advance or contribute to the achievement of targets 3.1–3.3?

Please indicate to which targets the actions relate and briefly describe the results to date if applicable, (in a maximum of 250 words). For each action, please indicate whether it is continuous, planned, in progress or completed.

(i) Legislative and policy actions

List of actions:

Description of actions:

(ii) Institutional actions (actions to advance implementation of SFM)

List of actions:

Description of actions:

¹³ Goal 3 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, targets 7.2, 12.2, 12.6, 12.7, 14.2, 14.5, 15.2 and 15.4 of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Targets 7, 11, 12 and 16, and are supported by paragraphs 6 (p), (q) and (x) and 7 (f) and (g) of the United Nations forest instrument.

(iii) Financial actions

List of actions:

Description of actions:

(iv) Technical and scientific actions

List of actions:

Description of actions:

(b) What other action is being taken your entity in support Member States to achieve goal 3?

(c) How does the action listed above support Member States in the implementation of the United Nations forest instrument?

(d) What are the main challenges in supporting Member States in achieving goal 3 in your region?

(e) Any additional comments on goal 3:

Global forest goal 4 and associated targets¹⁴

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

Associated targets

4.1 Mobilize significant resources from all sources and at all levels to finance sustainable forest management and provide adequate incentives to developing countries to advance such management, including for conservation and reforestation

4.2 Forest-related financing from all sources at all levels, including public (national, bilateral, multilateral and triangular), private and philanthropic financing, is significantly increased

4.3 North-South, South-South, North-North and triangular cooperation and public-private partnerships on science, technology and innovation in the forest sector are significantly enhanced and increased

4.4 The number of countries that have developed and implemented forest financing strategies and have access to financing from all sources is significantly increased

4.5 The collection, availability and accessibility of forest-related information is improved through, for example, multidisciplinary scientific assessments

Questions on goal 4

4. (a) Please describe major actions taken in your region to move towards goal 4 and its associated targets. More detailed information on actions for each target may be supplied below.

Progress towards targets 4.1 and 4.2

(b) Since 2015, has your entity been able to mobilize significantly increased financial resources to support Member States in the implementation of sustainable forest management?

Yes No

¹⁴ Goal 4 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, targets 12.a, 15.7, 15.a, 15.b, 17.1–17.3, 17.6, 17.7 and 17.16–17.19 of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Target 19, and are supported by paragraphs 6 (h), (i), (m), (r) and (s) and 7 (a)–(c) and (l)–(q) of the United Nations forest instrument.

Please describe the main challenges in mobilizing funds in a maximum of 250 words:

Progress towards target 4.3

(c) Please specify the actors/stakeholders with which your entity is cooperating:

- Governments
- Intergovernmental organizations/processes
- Private sector
- Non-governmental organizations
- Other (please specify):

Types of cooperation:

- North-South
- South-South
- North-North
- Triangular
- Technical
- Financial
- Other (please specify):

Areas of cooperation:

- Forests and climate change
- Forest biodiversity
- Valuation of the ecosystem services provided by forests
- Socioeconomic issues, including livelihoods
- Forest degradation and rehabilitation
- Scientific cooperation
- Forest monitoring/data collection
- Technology transfer and capacity development
- Production of timber or non-timber products
- Other (please specify):

Progress towards target 4.4

(d) Since 2015, has your entity supported Member States in developing or implementing financing strategies to achieve sustainable forest management and to implement the United Nations forest instrument?

Yes No

Comments if needed:

Global forest goal 5 and associated targets¹⁵

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

Associated targets

5.1 Number of countries that have integrated forests into their national sustainable development plans and/or poverty reduction strategies is significantly increased

5.2 Forest law enforcement and governance are enhanced, including through significantly strengthening national and subnational forest authorities, and illegal logging and associated trade are significantly reduced worldwide

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

5.4 Forest-related issues and the forest sector are fully integrated into decision-making processes concerning land use planning and development

¹⁵ Goal 5 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement, among other things, of targets 1.4, 2.4, 5.a, 15.9, 15.c, 16.3, 16.5–16.7, 16.10 and 17.14 of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Targets 2 and 3, and are supported by paragraphs 6 (a), (c), (k), (l), (n) and (w) and 7 (c) and (h)–(j) of the United Nations forest instrument.

Questions on goal 5

5. (a) Please describe major actions taken in your region to move towards goal 5 and its associated targets. More detailed information on actions for each target may be supplied below.

Progress towards target 5.2

(b) Since 2015, has your entity supported Member States in promoting or participating in National/Regional/Sub-Regional initiatives to prevent and reduce illegal international trafficking in forest products, wildlife and other biological resources?

Yes No

Comments if needed:

Global forest goal 6 and associated targets¹⁶

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

Note: targets 6.1 and 6.2 are not included in this section of the reporting format as they address actions taken by the international community, and not those taken at the national level

Associated targets

6.3 Cross-sectoral coordination and cooperation to promote sustainable forest management and halt deforestation and forest degradation are significantly enhanced at all levels

6.4 A greater common understanding of the concept of sustainable forest management is achieved and an associated set of indicators is identified

¹⁶ Goal 6 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, target 17.14 of the Sustainable Development Goals and are supported by paragraphs 6 (b), (c), (g), (m) and (w) and 7 (r) and (s) of the United Nations forest instrument.

6.5 The input and involvement of major groups and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the strategic plan and in the work of the Forum, including intersessional work, is strengthened

Questions on goal 6

6. (a) Please describe major actions taken in your region to move towards goal 6 and its associated targets. More detailed information on actions for each target may be supplied below.

Progress towards target 6.3 (cross-sectorial coordination and cooperation)

(b) Please describe major actions taken in your region to regarding cross-sectorial coordination and cooperation to promote sustainable forest management and halt deforestation and forest degradation.

Progress towards target 6.4 (criteria and indicators)

(c) Are there criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management used by your entity?

Yes No

If yes, please specify which sets are used:

For which of the following purposes are they used? (Multiple answers possible)

- To generate information for national reports on forest conditions and management
- To monitor and assess forest conditions and management
- To review and develop national forest policies and tools for sustainable forest management
- To communicate with society and carry out dialogue with stakeholders
- To report on forests to regional and international organizations (please specify):

Progress towards target 6.4 (communication and awareness)

(d) Since 2015, have actions been taken by your entity to communicate and promote a greater understanding and awareness of sustainable forest management?

- Yes No

If yes, please specify in a maximum of 250 words:

Progress towards target 6.5

(e) Have actions been taken by your entity to involve major groups and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030?

- Yes No

If yes, please specify in a maximum of 250 words:

Other questions

7. (a) Since 2015, has your entity taken action to support Member States in promoting gender equality in the forest sector?

- Yes No

If yes, please indicate action taken regarding the following:

- Women's effective access to the control and use of forest resources
- Women's effective participation in decision-making at the household and community levels
- Women's effective participation and representation in forest management institutions
- Other

Please provide a brief description:

(b) What action has been taken by your entity in observance of the International Day of Forests?

- Cultural activities (for example, art, music, film and theatre)
- Educational activities (for example, workshops and symposiums)
- Media activities (for example, newspapers, magazines, television and radio)
- Social media activities
- Other

Please provide two to three examples and, if possible, a weblink or weblinks to relevant documentation:

Success stories

8. Does your entity have any success stories relating to the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030? If so, please provide a brief description, with references (such as weblinks, publications and articles), showing how the action contributed to achieving the goals and targets and specifying which goals and targets are relevant. Please provide a maximum of three success stories.

Success story 1

Action taken:

Goals and targets addressed:

Outcome and results achieved: