



**CONCEPT NOTE | UNFF14 Panel**

**Item 4 of the UNFF 14 provisional agenda**

***Monitoring, assessment and reporting***

**Wednesday, 8 May 2019, 11:30am-1:00 pm**

**Introduction**

UNFF13 took a number of decisions regarding voluntary national reporting to the Forum on progress in implementing the UNSPF 2030, including the UN Forest Instrument and VNCs, as well as ongoing work on a global core set on forest-related indicators.

Voluntary national reporting. Following the pilot test of a draft reporting format in 2017-2018, UNFF13 adopted the format for countries to use in their initial voluntary national reporting to UNFF<sup>1</sup> (paragraph 8 of the UNFF13 resolution). The format is aligned with the GFGs and is largely qualitative in nature. To reduce reporting burdens, relevant quantitative data will be retrieved from existing data sources.

At UNFF15 (2020), the Forum will consider the results of this first round of reporting<sup>2</sup>, as well as the timing of the next round of reporting. UNFF15 will also consider preparations for a concise “flagship” publication (for release by the end of 2021) on progress toward achieving the GFGs and targets based on the first round of reporting. The Forum recognizes that the reporting format is an evolving instrument that can be improved and refined on the basis of experience gained.

Global core set. Paragraph 12 of the UNFF 13 resolution welcomes progress in developing a global core set of forest-related indicators aligned with the seven thematic elements of SFM and acknowledges the value of such a core set in assessing progress towards achieving the GFGs and targets and other internationally agreed forest-related goals and targets. Paragraph 13 encourages CPF member organizations and other relevant bodies to apply those indicators which are ready for use and requests CPF to continue work on the remaining indicators and report progress in that regard to UNFF14.

The global core set includes 21 indicators classified as Tier 1, Tier 2 or Tier 3 based on the availability of comparable data. Tier 1 indicators are those for which data can be readily collected (e.g. through the global Forest Resources Assessment). Tier 2 indicators may require additional efforts but are manageable through various data sources. Tier 3 indicators are those for which data is generally lacking and data collection poses significant challenges. Of the four Tier 3 indicators<sup>3</sup>, three deal with socio-economic and financing issues directly related to reporting on GFG 2.1 on eradicating extreme poverty for forest dependent populations, GFG 2.3 on the contribution of forests and trees to food security, and GFG 4.1 and 4.2 on mobilizing significant resources and increasing forest-related financing from all sources.

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N18/162/00/PDF/N1816200.pdf?OpenElement>

<sup>2</sup> Countries are invited to submit their report to the Secretariat by mid-November 2019.

<sup>3</sup> Indicator 7 (Area of degraded forest), Indicator 13 (Number of forest dependent people in extreme poverty, Indicator 14 (Contribution of forests to food security), Indicator 15 (Financial resources from all sources for implementation of SFM).



### **Intersessional work**

The Secretariat, in collaboration with the FAO Forestry Department, organized a workshop from 14 – 16 November 2018 at FAO Headquarters in Rome to clarify the reporting process to the Forum and to further develop draft “explanatory notes” to assist countries in preparing their voluntary national reports for submission to UNFF15 in 2020.<sup>4</sup> The Note by the Secretariat on Agenda Item 4 (E/CN.18/2019/3)<sup>5</sup> provides additional information on intersessional work, including suggestions and proposals in Section V. Annex 1 to the Note contains the “explanatory notes” agreed by workshop participants.

### **Panel objective, modalities and output**

This panel will consider progress and challenges associated with data collection on Tier 3 socio-economic and financing indicators of the global core set (indicators 13, 14 and 15) and related challenges in national and regional reporting on GFG 2.1 and 2.3 and GFG 4.1 and 4.2. Key proposals to address these challenges emerging from the presentations and discussion will be reflected as appropriate in the Co-Chair’s summary report to UNFF15.

### **Panel composition (TBC)**

Moderator: Mr. Roman Michalak, ECE-FAO Forestry and Timber Section

Panellists:

1. Mr. Peter Csoka, FAO (TBC)
2. Mr. Ray Thomas Fernandez Kabigting, Philippines
3. Mr. Koffi Affum-Baffoe, Ghana
4. Mr. Patrick Kariuki, Kenya
5. Ms. Elvira Gómez Rivero, Peru (TBC)

### **Panel Coordinator**

For further information, please contact Ms. Njeri Kariuki ([kariuki@un.org](mailto:kariuki@un.org)) at the UNFF Secretariat.

---

<sup>4</sup> Workshop report: [https://www.un.org/esa/forests/wpcontent/uploads/2018/11/Report\\_MAR\\_egm\\_Nov2018.pdf](https://www.un.org/esa/forests/wpcontent/uploads/2018/11/Report_MAR_egm_Nov2018.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> Secretariat Note: <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N19/043/75/PDF/N1904375.pdf?OpenElement>