



CONCEPT NOTE | UNFF14 Panel

“Actions by Major Group partners in support of the UNSPF 2030”

Item 7(e) of the UNFF 14 provisional agenda

Enhanced cooperation, coordination and engagement on forest-related issues –

Major Groups and other relevant stakeholders

Thursday, 9 May 2019, 4:30 - 6:00 pm

Introduction

Paragraph 49 of the UNSPF 2030 identifies the following non-state stakeholders as vital to the implementation of SFM: Forest owners, indigenous peoples, local communities, local authorities, the private sector (including small, medium and large forest-based enterprises), non-governmental organizations (NGOs), women, children, youth, and scientific, academic and philanthropic organizations at all levels. Major Groups active in the UNFF include Children and Youth, Farmers and Small Forest Owners, Indigenous Peoples, NGOs, Scientific and Technological Community, and Women.

As noted in the UNSPF 2030 (paragraph 50), the Forum endeavors to work with Major Groups and other stakeholders to identify ways to enhance their contributions to the GFGs and targets and their interactions with the Forum and CPF to raise awareness, foster information exchange and dissemination, and facilitate coordinated inputs to Forum sessions.

The UNSPF 2030 encourages Major Groups and other stakeholders, such as private philanthropic organizations, educational and academic entities and volunteer groups, to autonomously establish and maintain effective coordination mechanisms at all levels for interaction and participation in the Forum and other forest-related UN bodies (paragraph 51).

Paragraph 26 of the UNFF13 resolution welcomes the joint Major Group Work Plan 2018-2020 developed to accelerate achievement of the GFGs, as well as the complementary work plan developed by the Children and Youth Major Group. Complementary work plans have since been developed by three other Major Groups active in UNFF: Indigenous Peoples, NGOs and Women.

Paragraph 32 of the resolution invites Major Group partners, among others, to undertake initiatives to accelerate the contribution of forests to achieving the SDGs under review in 2019¹ and inform UNFF14 of progress made in this regard.

Intersessional work

The Secretariat organized an Expert Meeting “to review progress in implementation of the Major Groups work plans and input to UNFF14” from 9 to 11 January 2019 in Bangkok.² Paragraphs 73-78 of the Note by the

¹ See page 1 of this Information Note for the list of SDGs under review in 2019.

² Draft meeting summary: <https://www.un.org/esa/forests/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/DraftSummary-EGM-MGs-Bangkok-Jan-19.pdf>



Secretariat on Agenda item 7 (E/CN.18/2019/6) provides information on the meeting, and paragraph 89 contains suggestions and proposals.

Panel objective, modalities and output

The purpose of this panel is to provide an opportunity for Major Groups to share their progress in implementing the joint Major Group Work Plan 2018-2020 and their complementary work plans, as well as other initiatives taken to advance the GFGs and targets, particularly in the context of the SDGs under review in 2019. The panel will open with a brief description of the joint Major Group Work Plan and related intersessional work by the moderator, followed by presentations by the panelists. These presentations and the subsequent interactive discussions among UNFF14 participants and the panelists will address the following questions:

1. What steps has your organization/network taken to integrate the GFGs and targets into its policies and programmes?
2. What actions have your organization/network taken to raise awareness of the contributions of forests and the GFGs to the SDGs under review in 2019?
3. How does your Major Group work plan support implementation of the UNSPF 2030?
4. What more can your Major Group do to accelerate progress in achieving the GFGs? What constraints need to be addressed to stay on track?

Key points/proposals emerging from the presentations and subsequent discussion will be reflected as appropriate in the Chair's summary report to UNFF15.

Panel composition

Moderator: Mr. Joseph Cobbinah, UNFF Science and Technology Major Group Focal Point

Panelists:

1. Mr. Steffen Dehn, UNFF Focal Point for Children and Youth Major Group
2. Ms. Lucy Mulenkei, UNFF Focal Point for Indigenous Peoples Major Group
3. Ms. Martha Cecilia Nunez Canizares, UNFF Focal Point for NGOs Major Group
4. Ms. Fernanda Rodrigues, UNFF Alternate Focal Point for Women Major Group
5. Ms. Cecile Ndjebet, UNFF Focal Point for the Women Major Group
6. Mr. Sim Hoek-Cho, UNFF Science and Technology Major Group

Panel Coordinator

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