



Entity name:	Asia-Pacific Network for Sustainable Forest Management and Rehabilitation (APFNet)
Date of submission:	4 November, 2019

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

1. The format is structured around the global forest goals and targets of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030.
2. 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.
3. The year 2015 is used as a baseline.
4. Where possible, all terms used herein are consistent with the terms and definitions used by the FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment.
5. Wherever possible, please indicate the source of information or provide a weblink.

*Please submit the completed format to: unff@un.org with cc: tavora-jainchill@un.org
by 15 November 2019.*

General Information

Information on Entity

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Mandate:	

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Global forest goal 1 and associated targets¹

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 worldwide ²
- 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, ³ 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:

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

List of actions:

1. Supported Tonga and Niue to develop national Sustainable Forest Management Plan
2. Helped Fiji to improve the implementation of their existing Forest Harvesting Code of Practice

Description of actions:

APFNet has supported Tonga in the development of the plan, which in April 2017 has been adopted by the government. The plan outlines the strategic actions and methods to tackle threats to the forests and stipulates institutional arrangements to enable successful forest management.

Fiji primarily needs support in the effective implementation of the existing Forest Harvesting Code of Practice. Consultation with stakeholders was held to identify the potential actions needed to improve the implementation of the code, those action strategies were then submitted to the government for approval.

For more information, click [here](#).

¹ 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.

² Based on the Global Forest Resources Assessment 2015.

³ Or earlier, where relevant to capturing important action. The same applies hereafter.

(iii) Financial actions

List of actions:

Description of actions:

(iv) Technical and scientific actions

List of actions: Restored 60 ha of degraded sites in Cambodia through planting high-value nitrogen-fixing tree species (2018-2021)

Description of actions:

Using nitrogen fixing trees is one of the most promising and low-cost measures for restoring degraded forests both above- and below ground. This method involves removing poorly growing or damaged tree to make space, and inter-planting the stand with nitrogen fixing species.

Gradually, in the community forests, APFNet will promote a resilient uneven-aged mixed forest, enhance productivity, stand quality, stand stability and ecological function of the forests, accelerate forest succession and provide timber resources through the thinning the non-target tree species.

For more information, please click [here](#).

(b) How do the actions listed above support Member States in the implementation of the United Nations forest instrument?

1. Provides 2 economies with a new national sustainable forest management plan based on which they can implement the forest instrument better
2. Provides 1 economy with the instrument to implement the plan they previously made in line with the UN forest instruments
3. Provides 1 economy with a demonstration site ready for nation-wide upscaling

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

1. Financial Capabilities
2. Human Capacity (skills, number)

(d) Any additional comments on goal 1:

Global forest goal 2 and associated targets⁴

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?

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: Helped women in Nepal develop small-scale forest enterprises

Description of actions:

In this project the women in different regions of Nepal learned three different ways so improve their livelihoods: wooden handicraft making, aromatic herb enterprises, and earning money through eco-tourism. For more information, click [here](#).

⁴ 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.

(iii) Financial actions

List of actions:

Description of actions:

(iv) Technical and scientific actions

List of actions: Helped local community in Myanmar to establish combine mangrove-aquaculture systems for livelihood improvement

Description of actions: For more information, click [here](#).

(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?

- 1) Gives traditionally marginalized groups, such as women an opportunity to improve their livelihoods
- 2) Provide demonstration models for upscaling

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

- 1) Land tenure rights and land allocation
 - 2) Finding the right communities for the right ideas and local champions
- (e) Any additional comments on goal 2:

Global forest goal 3 and associated targets⁵

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: see Fiji

Description of actions:

⁵ 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

<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> Helped Wangzhanshan Forest Farm in Pu er, China to develop short-term, medium-term and long-term forest management plans and develop alternative forest products, such as epiphytes for TCM</p> <p><i>Description of actions:</i> For more information, click here</p>

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

<p> </p>

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

Helps them better plan their forest management and increase overall forest product production

(d) What are the main challenges in supporting Member States in achieving goal 3 in your region? Legal constraints regarding forest management.

(e) Any additional comments on goal 3:

<p> </p>

Global forest goal 4 and associated targets⁶

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.

In order to advance forestry research by strengthening cooperation and facilitating collaborative actions that contribute to furthering sustainable forest management (SFM) in Asia and the Pacific, APFNet officially launched the Sino-ASEAN Network of Forestry Research Institutes (SANFRI) mechanism in March 2018. SANFRI will not only provide a communication platform for forestry research institutes in the region, but more importantly, is pinpointed by four on-the-ground actions that specifically pay attention to building capacities of young forestry researchers in the region.

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

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

⁶ 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.

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 targets ⁷

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

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.

⁷ 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.

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 targets⁸

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

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.

Collaborated with FAO/RAP to organise the stream 1 “Restoring our forests and landscapes” at the Asia-Pacific Forestry Week 2019. For more information, click [here](#).

⁸ 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.

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

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

APFNet organized Meetings of Ministers Responsible for Forestry (MMRF) and Regional Workshops on Strategic Forestry Cooperation in Greater Central Asia to discuss approaches to translate regional priorities into actions, and identify concrete activities for collaboration.

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:

The Asia Pacific Forestry Education Coordination Mechanism worked with as many partners as possible to build a platform for promoting strong collaboration in SFM education in order to improve overall capacity in SFM in the Asia-Pacific region
Two thematic trainings are held each year as “Forest rehabilitation and management” and “Forestry and livelihood development” to help participants improve their knowledge and skills in sustainable forest management.

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:

Supporting Community Based Sustainable Forest Management and Economic Empowerment of Women in Central Region of Nepal

In Kathmandu, Makwanpur and Sarlahi district, central Nepal, together with the Himalayan Grassroots Women’s Natural Resource Management Association (HIMAWANTI) and the Nepal Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation, APFNet has taken on the challenge to empower local women by teaching them how to sustainably manage their community forests while also developing new handicraft enterprises and promoting eco-tourism. See more click [here](#)

(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: