Annex 1.

Entity name:	FAO Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission
Date of submission:	29 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

Official Name:	FAO Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission
Membership:	34 countries
Mandate:	See cover note

Entity's focal point

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Global forest goal 1 and associated targets[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

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:
FAO have supported its member countries to develop and improve forest law and policies.

Description of actions
- Regional Strategy and Action Plan for Forest and Landscape Restoration endorsed by the APFC
- Supported Timor-Leste to develop its first ever Basic Forest Law
- Supported Fiji in developing forest plantation policy
- Supported Bangladesh to develop the Country Investment Plan on Environment, Forestry and Climate Change
- Supported ASEAN to develop the ASEAN guidelines on agroforestry development
- Supported various countries in developing community forestry policy or enabling conditions
- Supported (through the FAO-EU FLEGT Programme) the revision of the 1995 Forest Rules in Myanmar, the SFM Bill in the Philippines, the development of a Timber Legality Standard in PNG, the development of a Timber Legality Assurance System (VPA) and FLEGT Licensing Decrees in Viet Nam, the harmonization of RIL guidelines for Sarawak/Malaysia, the review of the Timber Import Regulation (VPA) in Indonesia
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(ii) Institutional actions (actions to advance implementation of SFM)

[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:
FAO has conducted various technical analysis and research at regional and country level related to SFM policies that have resulted in technical report, guidelines or manual

Description of actions:
- At regional level published SFM policy related publication to be used by member countries, e.g. Forest Sector Outlook Study, forest tenure policies, agroforestry, forest and landscape restoration
- Country analysis on issues related to SFM, tenure, community forestry, timber trade and legality, etc.
- Technical field manual on assisted natural regeneration
- Lots of technical support under FLEGT related to enhancing legality and sustainable production and trade of forest products
- REDD+ readiness support
- Projects directly providing technical support for FLR

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

Countries have improved their knowledge and capacity to implement SFM, build resilience through forests and also understanding of the need to integrate forests as part of the solution to address climate change and other challenges.

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

FAO has limited financial resource through its Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP). This is not sufficient to support all its member countries. However, it has mobilized extra budgetary resources through e.g. GEF, GCF, FLEGT and REDD+. There are a number of other challenges: institutional inertia, lack of political leadership and commitment to reform, weak capacities, reluctance to implement tenurial reforms and other progressive policies, overbearing regulation, etc., etc.

(d) Any additional comments on goal 1:

Global forest goal 2 and associated targets [4]

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

FAO-RAP has developed a number of guidelines and manuals, such as for example on agroforestry and cricket farming.

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

Through its FAO-EU FLEGT Programme and Forest and Farm Facility, FAO has provided support to smallholders, Community Forest User Groups, Micro and Small Enterprises in the areas of land tenure security, formalization and improved legal compliance, market access, value addition, etc. Additional support was provided to strengthen farmer and producer organizations, federations and cooperatives as well as private sector associations, to improve services and policy level advocacy on behalf of members.

[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: *Description of actions:*

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

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

FAO's focus on food security priority is a clear strength in supporting member countries in addressing this goal.

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

(d) Any additional comments on goal 2:

Global forest goal 3 and associated targets [5]

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.

Legislative and policy actions

(i)

In the Asia-Pacific Region, REDD+ has supported the development of long-term management plans for some areas. Also some GEF projects included aspects of forest management planning.

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

List of actions:

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

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 targets [6]

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

FAO is working towards strengthening collaboration with the private sector.

(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:

The overall ODA context in the region will remain a challenge. As more countries in this region progress toward the Middle Income Country (MIC) status, the resource mobilization (RM) environment will be significantly different. Only eight in Asia and four island states in the Pacific are still LDCs. Needs are shifting with more upstream policy and strategic guidance required from FAO. Transboundary issues and complex multi-sectoral and

[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:

X Governments

X Intergovernmental organizations/processes

X Private sector

X Non-governmental organizations

☐ Other (please specify):

Types of cooperation:

X North-South

X South-South

X North-North

X Triangular

X Technical

X Financial

☐ Other (please specify):

Areas of cooperation:

X Forests and climate change

X Forest biodiversity

X Valuation of the ecosystem services provided by forests

☐ Socioeconomic issues, including livelihoods

X Forest degradation and rehabilitation

☐ Scientific cooperation

X 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?

X 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

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

Some (limited) work in this regard under FLR projects and initiatives in the Asia-Pacific Region.

5.3

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.

- Supported (through the FAO-EU FLEGT Programme) the development, improvement and implementation of the Timber Legality Assurance Systems in the context of VPA negotiations or implementation in Indonesia, Thailand, Viet Nam, Lao PDR and in support of good forest governance, sector wide legal compliance and SFM
- Supported (through the FAO-EU FLEGT programme) the development of Association (Private

[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 targets [8]

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.

[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-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.

The main coordination mechanism is through Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission (APFC) that meet every 2 years to discuss how countries can promote SFM and increase cross-border cooperation to tackle illegal logging. At each session various aspects of SFM are discussed with different emphasis. FAO promotes awareness on SFM through various methods, e.g. executive forest policy course, engaging youth in its activities such as IDF, Kids-to-forest porgramme, collaboration with IFSA, etc.

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:

See above

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:

FAO communicates its works to member countries through APFC, Forestry Week, capacity building events, policy dialogues, project activities, kids to forests initiatives, etc. It also uses social media e.g. twitter

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

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

Strong and explicit involvement of youth in the preparation of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Sector Outlook Study III, Kids to Forests Initiatives, etc.

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:

Annual student debates at RAP on the occasion of IDF, support to national IDF activities in the region, media op eds, etc.

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: