



### Annex 3

|                     |                                  |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| Entity name:        | FAO European Forestry Commission |
| Date of submission: |                                  |

### 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](mailto:unff@un.org) with cc: [tavora-jainchill@un.org](mailto:tavora-jainchill@un.org)  
by 15 November 2019.*

**General Information**

**Information on Entity**

|                |                                  |
|----------------|----------------------------------|
| Official Name: | FAO European Forestry Commission |
| Membership:    | 40 countries                     |
| Mandate:       | See cover note                   |

**Entity's focal point**

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

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|------------------|--|
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## Global forest goal 1 and associated targets<sup>1</sup>

**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 <sup>2</sup>
- 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, <sup>3</sup> 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.*

### **Institutional actions (actions to advance implementation of SFM)**

- FAO is supporting Kosovo in restoration and reforestation, and increase efforts to prevent forest degradation and contribute to the global effort of addressing climate change
- The FAO provides technical assistance to develop together with Kosovo authorities a large-scale forestry project addressing improved forest management in Kosovo, including policy and technical support for improved forest management.
- FAO provided technical assistance to enhance data availability and to design employment programmes for the forest sector. The developed UTF “Complementary support to Implementation of the Forest Policy and Strategy in Kosovo”
- FAO is conducting a preliminary Land Cover Assessment of the land use situation in Belarus for designing a future national forest inventory (NFI) and developing the methodology for implementation of the NFI.
- FAO provides technical assistance to Moldova to develop the human and technical capacities, as well as to address institutional responsibilities for designing and implementing a state-of-the-art NFI. The provided assistance includes the provision of preliminary land cover Assessment of the land use situation for designing the first NFI.
- The FAO provided technical assistance to 1) conduct a preliminary Land Cover Assessment of the land use situation for designing a future NFI; and 2) develop the methodology for implementation of a future NFI in North Macedonia.
- FAO developed a GEF project addressing remaining barriers for applying SFM throughout Serbia which aims at (i) setting up a Forest Information System and implementing the second NFI in Serbia; (ii) strengthening coordination and dialogue between public and private stakeholders, (iii) strengthening capacities to implement SFM practices; (iv) designing incentive mechanisms for private forest owners to engage in SFM, and (v) new approaches in forest management planning and implementation in two pilot regions.
- The FAO developed and implements a GEF project which aims at 1) creating an enabling environment for integrated natural resources management (INRM) practices; 2) restoring productivity and resilience of production landscapes through INRM; and 3) learning and sharing of lessons learned. The project also comprises developing capacities for improved management of shelterbelts, coupled with field demonstrations of rehabilitation and multipurpose management (erosion control, carbon sequestration, non-wood forest products).
- FAO implements a project on “forest resources assessment and monitoring to strengthen forest knowledge framework in Azerbaijan” which focuses on introduction of sustainable forest management to provide social and economic benefits, improve the quality of existing forests and increase the forest carbon stocks through carbon sequestration.
- FAO implements the project on “Sustainable land management and climate-Friendly agriculture in Konya Closed Basin” which focuses on sustainability of farm and land management including degraded forest lands and adaptation and dissemination of low carbon technologies.
- FAO implements the project on “Sustainable management of forests in mountain and valley areas” which focuses on introduction of sustainable forest management and improved status of forest and tree resources.
- The FAO GEF implement the project on “Sustainable Management of Mountainous Forest and Land Resources under Climate Change Conditions in Kyrgyzstan” which is aiming to contribute to the sustainable management and enhanced productivity of mountainous silvo-agro-pastoral ecosystems and improved mountain livelihoods in the Kyrgyz Republic. It is also aiming to move towards a more integrated cross-sectoral approach that considers the role of land and forest resources in the carbon balance, while generating multiple global environmental and socio-economic benefits by sustaining flows of critical ecosystem services, such as climate and water regulation, soil erosion control and regulation of natural hazards.
- The FAO will provide technical assistance to the Kyrgyz Republic to develop a Green Climate Fund (GCF) project “Carbon Sequestration through Climate Investment in Forests and Rangelands. The GCF project proposal has three components, namely on enhancing enabling environment and policy and regulatory framework on integrated forests and rangeland management, on afforestation / reforestation and rangeland rehabilitation for carbon sequestration, and on support to climate-sensitive value chains financing to ensure sustainability of the carbon sequestration investments.
- FAO will support the forest restoration in the Caucuses and Central Asia through a regional project on “Restoration of degraded forests and other lands”
- FAO implements the project on “Sustainable management of forests in mountain and valley areas” which focuses on introduction of sustainable forest management and improved status of forest and tree resources in Uzbekistan.

## Technical and scientific actions

### *List of actions:*

Establishment and support the work of the Forest Invasive Species Network for Europe and Central Asia (REUFIS) to reverse the loss of forest cover worldwide through sustainable forest management, including protection, and increase efforts to prevent forest degradation and contribute to the global effort of addressing climate change

Three capacity building workshops and technical trainings on forest invasive species under REUFIS regional network has been organized. Functional regional REUFIS network effectively communicating forest invasive species related issues between participating countries within the REU region and the public through knowledge products.

Forest Invasive Species Network for Europe and Central Asia (REUFIS): technical training on “Invasive pathogens in the REUFIS region & the role of nurseries”, and “sustainable management of invasive species of Chest nut trees and invasive woody plants” in REU region

Capacity development workshop on “Development of forests and genetic resources of local ecotypes of forest trees as a means of adaptation to climate change” in REU region

“Improved management of small-scale coppice/degraded forests in private ownership” to promote sustainable wood mobilization in view of the high share of degraded forests and high demand for bioenergy in the Western Balkans in REU region.

The FAO provided technical assistance in analysing the underlying causes for the outbreaks of various bark beetle species involved in the dieback of pine forests. Available data and information on current health status of pine forests and related pest management activities in Belarus and Ukraine as well as in neighbouring countries were reviewed and primary causes of dieback of pine forests were validated through an expert meeting.

Supports to the enabling environment for forests, plant and animal health improved in Abkhazia to secure agriculture-based livelihoods by strengthening the capacity of local actors to, among other things, control of the four main invasive species (Red palm weevil, Boxwood pests, Chestnut blight and brown marmorated stink bug).

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> Based on the Global Forest Resources Assessment 2015.

<sup>3</sup> Or earlier, where relevant to capturing important action. The same applies hereafter.

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

(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 targets<sup>4</sup>

### 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:* Technical Assistance for improving the livelihoods of forest-dependent people in using wood energy

*Description of actions:*  
Comprehensive analysis and report on the current wood energy situation prepared and presented (including conclusions and recommendations for policy makers) for Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo and North Macedonia

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

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<sup>4</sup> 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:* Technical Assistance for improving the livelihoods of forest-dependent people in using wood energy (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo and North Macedonia). Technical report on current woodfuel consumption and supply prepared Geographic Information System (GIS) database created, with a wood supply, demand and integration module (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, North Macedonia)

FAO is also planning to support a project on Pamir–Alai Mountain Landscape for Food System, Land Use and Restoration (FOLUR) Impact Program in Kyrgyzstan. The overall goal of the project proposal is the implementation of an integrated landscape management plan, which cohesively brings together and builds on various lower-level resource management plans (e.g. forest/pasture management, PA management, etc.).

(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 targets<sup>5</sup>

**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.*

*List of actions:* REU is supporting SFM in Kosovo (development, of afforestation and reforestation plans and forest health programme)

*Description of actions:*

- A ten-year National Programme for Forest Health was drafted for Kosovo.
- A ten-year National Programme for Afforestation and Reforestation, including a Management Inventory of Forest Plantations and Development Plan for the Forest Nursery in Peja was prepared (Kosovo).

- (i) Legislative and policy actions



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

-FAO provides supports for the evidence-based decision-making on wildlife issues in the future, using a landscape approach and focusing on livelihoods of rural population in Georgia. The support aimed at developing an up-to-date wildlife management system and capacity of rural population to involve in wildlife management and monitoring, as well as at reviewing relevant laws (forest, hunting, biodiversity).

-The FAO provides technical assistance to support Kosovo authorities to develop a general concept for the future use of Blinaja and to draft a comprehensive Development Programme, including a 10-years Hunting Management Plan.

-The FAO is providing technical assistance to pave the way for informed and evidence-based decision-making on game management and hunting issues. The project aims at developing an adequate game, hunting and related trade management and monitoring system. The new game management system will be complemented by an improved game habitat assessment system.

-FAO is planning to support “Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity: Strengthening network of protected areas through advanced governance and management” in Azerbaijan

-FAO implements project on “conservation and sustainable management of Turkey’s steppe ecosystems” which focuses on steppe conservation through protected area management and mainstreaming steppe conservation into production landscapes.

-FAO will support the project on biodiversity conservation and sustainable forest management in Kaz Daglari” in Turkey.

-FAO is also planning to support the development of a comprehensive legal framework on biosafety in accordance with the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety in Kyrgyzstan.

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<sup>5</sup> 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) Technical and scientific actions

*List of actions:* REU is supporting SFM in Kosovo (development of forest management plans, capacity building in forest planting)

*Description of actions:*

- Two long-term integrated management plans for low and degraded forests were prepared.
- Public forestry works and training for forestry staff in the Northern Kosovo municipalities were carried out.
- The forest laboratory at Kosovo Forest Institute (KFI) was equipped and ready for applied researches.

(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<sup>6</sup>**

**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.

FAO is supporting countries through mobilising financial resources from regional donors (such as EU, Turkey, Sweden, Finland) and global funds (GEF, GCF, EU, IKI) to support the implementation of SFM in the region. Mobilized external funds in the reporting period is over 35 million USD.

FAO is also providing funds from its won resources to the forestry work in the region which exceed 3 million USD in the reporting period.

FAO is also expecting 20 million USD additional funding from the same donors in coming months.

#### 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

FAO was able to mobilize significant amount of funding to support sustainable management of natural resources, specifically for the sustainable management of forest and land resources in the region with a intersectoral approach.

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<sup>6</sup> 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
- Private sector
- X Non-governmental organizations
- Other (please specify):

**Types of cooperation:**

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

**Areas of cooperation:**

- X Forests and climate change
- X Forest biodiversity
- 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:

Partly yes. Although FAO did not specifically develop financing strategies for SFM, several national forestry program/strategies developed with the support of FAO included financial strategies item as part of overall national forestry strategy.

#### Global forest goal 5 and associated targets <sup>7</sup>

##### **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

-A new Draft Law on forests was prepared; all stakeholder groups, including women and vulnerable groups, were fully involved in Kosovo.

-Elaboration of ICT solution for the extension of the timber tracking system for the management of the certificates of origin for round- and sawn wood (Ukraine)

-Development of policy options for the regulation of game management in Georgia

-FAO supports National Forestry Program/Strategy development and relevant action plans in Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Ukraine and Armenia.

### 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.

<sup>7</sup> 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<sup>8</sup>

**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.

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<sup>8</sup> 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.

**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: