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Our Ref. No. FA 48/78/01

Your Ref. No.....



REPUBLIC OF GHANA

**MINISTRY OF LANDS AND
NATURAL RESOURCES**

P. O. Box M 212 Accra.
Website: www.mlnr.gov.gh

25TH NOVEMBER, 2019

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**HEAD OF MISSION,
PERMANENT MISSION OF GHANA TO
THE UNITED NATIONS,
19 EAST 47TH STREET,
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10017.**

Your Excellency,

**SUBMISSION OF VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REPORT TO THE UNITED NATIONS
FORUM ON FORESTS**

We are pleased to forward to you the attached Report as "Ghana's Voluntary Report on progress towards the achievements of the Goals and Targets of the United Nations Strategic Plan on Forests and the United Nations Forest Instrument". This report has been prepared through a consultative process involving all major stakeholders within the natural resources and environmental governance sectors.

We would be glad if you could submit this report to the United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat for their records in preparation towards UNFF15 Session to be held in 2020 in New York. The deadline for submission of country reports is 30th November, 2019 and we hope you will take note of this date.

Counting on your cooperation in such matters.

Yours faithfully,

**PROF. PATRICK AGBESINYALE
CHIEF DIRECTOR,
FOR: MINISTER.**

**CC:
UNITED NATIONS FORUM ON FORESTS SECRETARIAT
1 UN PLAZA, DC1-1245D
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Country:	GHANA
Date of submission:	15 TH NOVEMBER, 2019

Format for reporting on progress towards the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, the United Nations forest instrument and voluntary national contributions¹

1. The format is structured around the global forest goals and targets of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 and builds on the format previously used for reporting to the United Nations Forum on Forests at its eleventh session. It is largely narrative, reflecting the qualitative nature of many of the targets.

2. Only information that is not currently provided to the member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests or that is not in other international databases is requested. The information submitted will be supplemented with quantitative data, among other things, from the following international data providers:

(a) Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Global Forest Resources Assessment/collaborative forest resources questionnaires, Forest Europe, Economic Commission for Europe, International Tropical Timber Organization, Montreal Process and Observatory for the Forests of Central Africa;

(b) Reports on the state of the world’s forests, produced every two years by FAO;

(c) Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat;

(d) Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development;

(e) Other data sources, including the Forest Stewardship Council and the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification.

3. Members are kindly requested:

(a) To submit their completed national reports electronically (in Microsoft Word format) in English, French or Spanish to unff@un.org by mid-November 2019, bearing in mind that early submissions will greatly facilitate the secretariat’s preparation of the report on progress towards the goals and targets of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 [title and focus to be determined] to be presented to the Forum in 2021 [to be confirmed];

(b) To submit, in a separate electronic file, a scanned version of the official signed letter conveying their submission from the respective ministry, or a note verbale from their permanent mission to the United Nations in New York;

Please submit the completed format to: unff@un.org by 15 November 2019.

¹ Detailed guidelines will be prepared and discussed and will, among other things, state the purpose of reporting and how the data will be used. References to voluntary national contributions will be harmonized with the process to be put in place for announcing voluntary national contributions.

(c) In view of the cross-cutting nature of issues relating to forests and sustainable forest management, to consult experts from relevant national ministries, such as those of the environment, economic development, finance and agriculture, in completing the reporting format and to consult the national focal points for the forest resources assessments, the Rio Conventions secretariats, other member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, criteria and indicators processes, and relevant stakeholders, where applicable. Members may also wish to consult stakeholders when preparing their report.

4. The year 2015 is used as a baseline.
5. Where possible, all terms used herein are consistent with the terms and definitions used by the FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment.
6. Wherever possible, please indicate the source of information or provide a weblink.

General information

National focal point

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Person to contact concerning the national report, if someone other than the national focal point

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Institutions involved in the preparation of the national report

Institution(s):	Ministry of Lands and Natural Resource, Water Resources Commission, Ministry of Food and Agriculture; Forestry Research Institute of Ghana, IUCN-Ghana, Conservation Alliance Ghana, Ghana Statistical Services, Forestry Commission, Forest Industries Association of Ghana;
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Email:	

Global forest goal 1 and associated targets²

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 worldwide³
- 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 2015,⁴ what types of action have been taken (by the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) in your country 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 (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: Development of new National Forest Programme; (2) New legislation on Forest Resources Management and Legality Licencing

Description of actions: (1) To facilitate the implementation of the Forest and Wildlife Policy -2012, the Ghana Forestry Development Master Plan 2016 – 2036 was developed and launched in 2016, as Ghana's main national forest programme to promote sustainable forest management including increasing forest cover (Target 1.1), enhancing carbon stocks (Target 1.2), halting deforestation and forest degradation (Target 1.3) and enhancing resilience to climate change impact (Target 1.4). (2) A new legislative instrument, the Timber Resources Management and Legality Licencing Regulations 2017 (Legislative Instrument 2254), has been enacted by Parliament, to promote sustainable forest management. (3) Additionally, the Wildlife Resources Management Bill is currently before cabinet for enactment into law. This bill when passed will promote efficient wildlife protected areas and forest resources management in Ghana. (4) A major improvement over the old laws is the enhanced sanctions regime and improvement in community participation in forest and wildlife resources management. (5) Forestry Commission also trained 30 prosecutors to support effective prosecution of forest-related cases in the law courts.

² 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.

³ Based on the Global Forest Resources Assessment 2015.

⁴ Or earlier, where relevant to capturing important action. The same applies hereafter.

(ii) Institutional actions

List of actions: Strengthening Research and Monitoring (2) Establishment of Timber Validation Department (3) Increase in staff for afforestation (4) Special Mobile Protection and Monitoring Unit (5) Military Training

Description of actions: (1) A satellite office for the Resource Management Support Center (RMSC) of the Forestry Commission, was established in June, 2017 in northern part of Ghana to increase capacity for research, monitoring and evaluation to improve sustainable forest management in the northern savanna ecological zone of Ghana. (2) Under the Ghana - European Union Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA), a new Timber Validation Department, was created in 2010, which developed the Wood Tracking System in 2015 to facilitate the tracking of legally sourced timber from sustainably managed forests areas for export to the European market. (3) About 45,000 youth, were employed between 2017 and 2018 under the Ghana Youth Employment for Afforestation (YEA). (4) A Special Mobile Protection Unit of 84 well trained men, have been put in place to monitor illegal operations. (5) A total of 800 field protection staff have also been given military training and equipped with arms and ammunition to strengthen law enforcement in forestry sector. Under the REDD+ Programme, 66 Assistant District/Regional Forest Managers were trained as Trainer-of-Trainers (ToT) and focal persons in Safeguards and Grievance Redress mechanisms implementation within the forest landscapes.

(iii) Financial actions

List of actions: Mobilization of financial resources through Climate Investment Fund, Increase in Government Budgetary Allocation and access to new funding from the Global Environment Fund

Description of actions: (1) There has been increase in government budgetary allocation to support the additional staff in the newly established Satellite Station, the Timber Validation Department and the Youth Employment in Afforestation Programme. (2) Ghana also signed emission reduction payment agreement with the Carbon Fund of the World Bank, making the country eligible to receive US\$50m in results-based payments for implementation of the Ghana Cocoa Forest REDD+ Programme. (3) Additional funding of US\$50m has also been mobilized from Climate Investment Fund of the World Bank to implement the Ghana Forest Investment Programme (GFIP). (4) Under the Sustainable Land and Water Management Programme, a grant of US\$6,935,633 is secured from the Global Environment Fund/World Bank to increase tree cover through sustainable forest management in the northern savanna ecological zone of Ghana. (5) Under the Green Climate Fund for Shea Landscape in Ghana's northern savannah, US\$30m is secured to establish 200,000 ha of shea woodland forest plantations

(iv) Technical and scientific actions

List of actions: Implementation of Ghana REDD+ Strategy, Ghana Plantation Strategy, Joint Framework of Action for ending deforestation and forest degradation. Updating of Forest Management Plans

Description of actions: (1) Development and implementation of Ghana REDD+ Strategy 2016 aimed at reducing emissions by addressing drivers of deforestation and forest degradation. (2) The Ghana Forest Plantation Strategy 2016 -2040 was also developed and launched in 2016 to restore degraded forest landscapes and increase tree cover in farmlands. (3) So far, between 2015 and Sept 2019 a total of 49,312.50 ha has been planted with the private sector contributing 17,437.00 ha. The initiation of the Youth Employment in Afforestation in 2018, a fully funded government programme, resulted in reforestation of 20,169.20 ha in 2018 alone, and the achievement of the annual planting targets in 2018 for the first time. (4) Ghana signed the Joint Framework of Action at UNFCCC COP21 in Bonn, Germany with commitment to end deforestation and forest degradation due to cocoa production. This is currently being implemented under Cocoa and Forest Initiative. (5) Since 2015, Seventy (70) forest management plans have been updated and revised and being implemented. Government funded Dedicated Grant Mechanism of Euro 5.5m has been put in place to support civil society groups to undertake landscape restoration and support livelihood options for forest dependent people.

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

The development and launch of the Ghana Forest and Wildlife Policy and the Ghana Forestry Development Master Plan 2016 -2036, have enhanced political will and commitment towards sustainable forest management at all levels as stipulated in the primary purpose of the UN Forest Instrument. The Master Plan and other Strategies have analyzed the threats and outlined the actions to be implemented to promote sustainable forest management as stipulated in 6.o of the policy measures of the Forest Instrument. Measures outlined in the strategies, such as reforestation and afforestation, are aimed at reversing the loss of forest cover as stipulated in 7.d and 7.e of the Instrument. Funding for the forestry sector, both government and official development assistance has significantly increased for sustainable forest management in Ghana contributing to attainment of 6.i of the Instrument.

(c) What are the main challenges in achieving goal 1 in your country?

Current land and tree tenure systems limit expansion of forest coverage area in Ghana. Inadequate funding sources, limited awareness, insufficient livelihood options and low poverty levels compel rural forest communities to over depend on and exploit forest and wildlife resources unsustainably. The occurrence of wild fires in the savanna ecological zone is also a major challenge to sustainable forest management in Ghana. Other key challenges include illegal mining, illegal chain saw logging, unsustainable agricultural expansion encroaching into forest areas and decreasing and unfavourable rainfall patterns as a result of impact of climate change.

(d) If your Government has announced a voluntary national contribution or contributions relating to goal 1, please provide brief information, including target dates and the progress made thus far.

Ghana's Voluntary National Contribution towards the attainment of the Global Forest Goal 1, Target 1.2, By 2020 Ghana has planned and is implementing measures to reduce its **emissions from deforestation and forest degradation by 10.9 Million tCO₂e**. Ghana is yet to assess how much reduction has been accomplished. **Target 1.3:** Ghana is also implementing measures to halt deforestation and restore **25,000ha of degraded forests** annually. Thus for the **2017 – 2020** Ghana has targeted the restoration of **100,000ha of degraded forests** through reforestation.

(e) Any additional comments on goal 1:

Ghana is fully committed to reversing the loss of forest cover and implementing the necessary coordinated measures in partnership with the civil society groups and private sector players to enhance sustainable forest management

Global forest goal 2 and associated targets⁵

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 the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) in your country 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 (in a maximum of 250 words). For each action, please indicate whether it is continuous, planned, in progress or completed.

⁵ 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.

(i) Legislative and policy actions

List of actions: As stated in Goal 1 above. Also enhanced Advocacy for Legislative reforms in Land and Tree Tenure arrangements

Description of actions: Civil society organizations are leading campaigns for legislative reforms on land and tree tenure to facilitate more benefits to rural forest dependent people. Government has initiated steps to review and implement new Land and Tree Tenure and Equity in Benefit-sharing regimes to enhance access to land, benefit-sharing and contribute to poverty reduction.

(ii) Institutional actions

List of actions: Training and capacity building

Description of actions: (1) Government has facilitated the organisation and training of small-scale wood industry players into viable entities with financial support and efficient machinery to reduce wastage. (2) Since 2015, the Forestry Commission Training Center (FCTC) has trained over 800 artisans as master craft men in downstream processing in order to reduce wastage. (3) To address the illegality, the Forestry Commission is implementing the Legality Assurance System to ensure that industries players acquire their timber from legal sources, process and export only legally harvested timber. (4) To reduce deforestation through illegal mining, Government has put together an Inter-Ministerial Committee on Illegal Mining, to organize small-scale miners into viable groups and provide them with training and equipment to do sustainable mining. (5) Civil society groups have also trained 250 forest dependent people in alternative livelihood options such as honey-making through beekeeping and dry season vegetable production. (6) Under the Sustainable Land and Water Management Programme, 870 individuals in 88 communities have been trained and equipped in alternative livelihood programmes such honey-making through bee-keeping and dry season gardening, to reduce poverty and enhance support for sustainable forest management in savannah zone.

(iii) Financial actions

List of actions: Establishment of Forest Plantation Fund and Operation of Micro-financing schemes for forest dependent people

Description of actions: (1) Government has established the Timber Industry Plantation Development Fund with allocation of 0.5% of 1.5% export levy paid by exporters of timber products for forest plantation development. (2) The Forestry Commission has facilitated the operations of micro-finance enterprises who grant affordable credit to forest dependent individuals and groups to acquire farm inputs and establish trading businesses that cater to the needs of the rural forest dependent communities (Microsfere Micro-Finance operates in the Kakum National Park and Ankasa Conservation Area), while through the GEF/World Bank Funded Sustainable Land and Water Management Programme, 88 beneficiary communities are provided with affordable credit facilities to support business enterprises. (3) Government of Ghana secured funding under the World Bank/Ghana Forest Investment Fund Orldhas also established US\$5.5m Dedicated Grant Mechanism to support civil society organizations to train 9000 forest dependent people to undertake projects to support sustainable forest management, provide alternative livelihood options and reduce poverty levels in Ghana. (4) The FAO is also supporting 12 producer organizations in Ghana under the Forest-Farm-Facility with up to US\$1.2m between 2018 and 2022.

(iv) Technical and scientific actions

List of actions: Landscape Restoration and Poverty Reduction

Description of actions: (1) Poverty reduction programmes targeting forest dependent people have been implemented by allocating to them portions of degraded forest reserves to enable them produce food crops while establishing and maintaining forest plantations till the canopy is closed through the Modified Taungya System (MTS). Under the MTS alone 3,323.6ha and 5727.5 ha of forest plantations were established in 2017 and 2018 respectively, while 5,977.41 metric tones (2017) and 22,254.85 metric tones (2018) of food was produced in in the same period. This has significantly contributed to increased food security of many forest dependent people in Ghana. (2) Since 2011, scientific research by IUCN Ghana office carried out an assessment of the level of dependence of forest communities on forest products. It was established that they are among the poorest earning as low as US\$250/year, with 41% of the income of men derived from forest resources, while 33% of that of women, was derived from forest resources (IUCN (2011) Understanding Forest Dependency for REDD+ Adapting the Forests-Poverty Toolkit to new purposes for REDD+ Ghana: IUCN 2011). (3) So far from the Timber Industry Plantation Development Fund, 640 ha and 519 ha have been established in 2017 and 2018 respectively. Under the Sustainable Land and Water Management Programme about 870 (500 females and 370 males) individuals have benefited from livelihood support programmes such as shea processing and bee-keeping. Planted 310ha of woodlots, and 70ha green belts.

(b) What other action is being taken (by the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) in your country in support of the achievement of goal 2?

The Government has created the policy and legislative enabling environment to facilitate local communities enter into Social Responsibility Agreement (SRA) with logging companies and other forest enterprises to support community development projects. Civil society groups have also implemented alternative livelihood programmes to support forest dependent rural communities in Ghana.

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

The enhancement of food security, livelihood improvement and implementation of the social responsibility programmes have contributed to improved access to forest resources, as per forest instrument policy measure 6.y; poverty reduction as per forest instrument policy measure 6.d; benefit sharing as per forest instrument policy measure 6.f; valuing their benefits as per forest instrument policy measure 6.j; and identified need for reformed legislation to improve sustainable forest management as per forest instrument policy measure 6.q and 6.t, respectively.

(d) What are the main challenges in achieving goal 2 in your country?

Many Communities are dissatisfied with the implementation of the of the Social Responsibility Agreement as the amount is declining as a result of the dwindling the timber resources. Poor infrastructure network in the rural forest areas such as roads, clinics and schools reduce the livelihood options and limit efforts to improve the living standards. They do not have ready access to markets to sell their wares at prevailing market rates, hence sell at very cheap prices.

(e) If your Government has announced a voluntary national contribution or contributions relating to goal 2, please provide brief information, including target dates and the progress made thus far.

Ghana's contribution to Target 2.3: Contribution of Forests to food security: By 2020 Ghana would have produced **300,000 metric tons of food crops** under the Modified Taungya System (MTS), which is being implemented under the Ghana Forest Plantation Strategy 2016 - 2040. **In 2017, 5,977.41 metric tonnes of food crops was produced, while in 2018 22,254.85 metric tonnes was produced.** Thus through the production of food crops from the regenerating forest reserves, our forest are significantly contributing to food security, particularly among the poor rural forest-dependent communities in Ghana;

(f) Any additional comments on goal 2:

There is the need to build capacity for the economic valuation of ecosystem services provided by the forests in Ghana. This will enhance the visibility of the contribution of forest to socio-economic development, livelihood support and environmental sustainability. Ghana is exploring measures with the view to putting in place, capacity building for ecosystem services valuation.

Global forest goal 3 and associated targets⁶

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 the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) in your country 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 (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: The new legislation in Goal 1 above apply. Enactment of bye-laws at the district level.

*Description of actions: (1) District Assemblies in Ghana are empowered to enact bye-laws to provide legal backing to all Community Resource Management Areas (CREMAs) created in their respective jurisdictional areas. The CREMAs approach is an innovative natural resource management concept developed and being implemented by the Wildlife Division of the Forestry Commission, by which the government empowers and devolves to the rural communities the right to manage the natural resources within a defined area. So far Eight (8) CREMAs covering about 374,340.28 ha have been devolved to 156 communities in Ghana. These CREMAs qualify as **Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures** as defined by IUCN. (2) Traditional Authorities also use traditional conservation norms to maintain Sacred Groves, which are of importance as seed stock and biodiversity conservation refuges. The coverage areas are however unknown.*

⁶ 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.

(ii) Institutional actions

List of actions: Stakeholder Engagement and Outreach Unit established within the Forestry Commission

Description of actions: (1) The Stakeholder Engagement and Outreach Unit of the Forestry Commission was established by the Commission to engage with stakeholder off-reserve and provide them with technical assistance to support them in the stakeholder participation in natural resources management through the Community Resource Management Areas (CREMAs). So far all the Executive Committees of the eight (8) established CREMAs have been trained in sustainable forest management and livelihood support initiatives. Other thirty-three CREMAs are at different stages of completing the devolution process. Each CREMAs has a constitution and an Executive Committee to oversee the operation of the CREMA. In the northern savannah zone under the Sustainable Land and Water Management Project, six (6) CREMAs covering 6,071ha involving 88 Communities have been established. Ten (10) more CREMAs are planned to cover the rest of the area of 16,854km². (2) The Forestry Commission has also established the Timber Validation Department and since 2015, rolled out the Wood Tracking System, Legality Assurance System and Verification Protocols, with participation of Independent Monitoring Entities, to ensure that timber products are legally sourced from sustainably managed forest areas. This is intended to increase the forest products from sustainably managed forest areas.

(iii) Financial actions

List of actions: Funds secured to support CREMA activities under the Sustainable Land and Water Management Project

Description of actions: (1) Under the Sustainable Land and Water Management Programme alone, the amount of US\$ 6,935,633 has been secured for funding the initiatives including sustainable forest management, biodiversity conservation and livelihood support under the CREMAs. (2) The Government of Ghana has also received financial assistance from the EU through the Voluntary Partnership Agreement to implement the Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) in Ghana. (3) Several civil society groups such as Tropenbos International, Conservation Alliance, IUCN-Ghana, Solidaridad and Rain Forest Alliance are also actively mobilizing financial resources from foreign official development assistance to support forest dependent communities under the CREMAs concept.

(iv) Technical and scientific actions

List of actions: Protection and Maintenance of Forest and Wildlife Protected Area

Description of actions: The boundaries of all the 266 legally established forest reserves and 16 wildlife protected areas are well maintained annually. Seventy-six (76) of the total number of forest management plans have been updated between 2017 and 2019. The Wood Tracking System, Legality Assurance System and the Verification Protocols have been developed and being piloted tested with the involvement of the Independent Monitoring Entities to conduct audits to assess compliance by industry players, under the Timber Validation Department. With the successful initiation of all these processes, the need for a nation-wide scaling up phases is yet to be carried out to cover the entire country.

(b) What other action is being taken (by the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) in your country in support of the achievement of goal 3?

A multi-stakeholder dialogue platform has been established by the Forestry Commission to ensure consultation and participation of key stakeholders in the implementation of the EU Voluntary Partnership Agreement. A number of civil society groups such as The Foundation for Nature Conservation and Development are also facilitating certification programmes in the forest products value chain and providing Independent Monitoring services for the Wood Tracking and Legality Assurance and Licensing System.

(c) How does the action listed above support the implementation of the United Nations forest instrument? The Forestry Commission has maintained a network of protected areas in 6.p of the Instrument. The promotion of voluntary certification programmes agrees with 6.x of the Instrument. By the creation of the Timber Validation Department to implement the VPA the Forestry Commission has been strengthened to improve sustainable forest management as stipulated in 7.p of the Forest

The Forestry Commission has maintained a network of protected areas in 6.p of the Instrument. The promotion of voluntary certification programmes agrees with 6.x of the Instrument. By the creation of the Timber Validation Department to implement the VPA the Forestry Commission has been strengthened to improve sustainable forest management as stipulated in 7.p of the Forest Instrument. It has also strengthened cooperation and partnership between Ghana and the EU for sustainable forest management as in 7.q

Instrument. It has also strengthened cooperation and partnership between Ghana and the EU for sustainable forest management as in 7.q.

- (d) What are the main challenges in achieving goal 3 in your country?

The Forestry Commission has very limited financial and human resources (low staff numbers) to combat the increasing illegal logging and mining in the forest areas. Inadequate sources of funding to maintain existing livelihood programmes in the CREMAs and governance structures. Inability to mainstream programmes into sustainable existing strategies.

- (e) If your Government has announced a voluntary national contribution or contributions relating to goal 3, please provide brief information, including target dates and the progress made thus far.

Global Forest Goal 3: Target 3.2: Management plans are being developed to cover **100 of 288 forest reserves** and to ensure that they are put under appropriate long-term sustainable management regimes by 2020. So far 76 management plans have been completed since 2015.

- (f) Any additional comments on goal 3:

Ghana is collaborating with the local communities to promote community based initiatives such as Community Resource Management Areas (CREMA). The CREMAs approach has become a major framework adopted by development partners for the implementation of forest resource conservation measures outside protected areas. It has the potential to significantly increase forest areas or conserve forest through Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (OEACM).

Global forest goal 4 and associated targets⁷

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

⁷ 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.

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 country to move towards goal 4 and its associated targets. More detailed information on actions for each target may be supplied below.

The Forestry Commission operates a Donor Relations and Projects Unit to coordinate all projects, policies and financing of the Forestry Commission for sustainable forest management. Innovative Financial Strategies have also been developed as instrument for financial mobilization from: (1) Government sources; (2) Foreign donor grants; (3) Internally generated sources, and (4). Official development assistance to support sustainable forest management

The Ghana REDD+ Strategy, Ghana National Forest Plantation Strategy were all developed to assist in mobilizing financial support for sustainable forest management.

(b) If your Government has announced a voluntary national contribution or contributions relating to goal 4, please provide brief information, including target dates and the progress made thus far.

Target 4:1: By 2020, Ghana would have mobilized **US\$323,758,700.00 to support sustainable forest management**. This is being done through financial strategies designed to access funding under the Forest Carbon Facility Programme (FCFP) and the Forest Investment Programme (FIP) both of the World Bank. Under the REDD+ Programme alone, Ghana is attracting about **US\$273,758,700** to implement strategies and actions to address deforestation and forest degradation. So far US\$50m has been secured under the Forest Investment Programme, while Under the REDD+ Programme Ghana is due to receive US\$50m in results-based payment.

Progress towards targets 4.1 and 4.2

(c) Since 2015, has your country (the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) been able to mobilize significantly increased financial resources for the implementation of sustainable forest management?

Yes No

If yes, please specify the sources:

Public domestic funding

Private domestic funding

Public international funding, including official development assistance

Private international funding

Blended financing

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

Government allocation of funding is grossly inadequate to support sustainable forest management. Also inability to replace or engage staff who resign or go on retirement is a major limitation of requisite staff expertise to contribute to financial mobilization to support sustainable forest management.

Progress towards target 4.3

(d) Is your country (the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) engaged in international cooperation to promote sustainable forest management?

- Yes** No

If yes, please specify the entity or entities with which your country is cooperating:

- Governments**
 Intergovernmental organizations/processes
 Private sector
 Non-governmental organizations
 Other

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

(e) Since 2015, has your Government developed or implemented financing strategies to achieve sustainable forest management and to implement the United Nations forest instrument?

- Yes** No

If yes, what is the time frame for these strategies (multiple answers possible, if there is more than one strategy)?

2–5 years

5–10 years

10–20 years

More than 20 years

Global forest goal 5 and associated targets⁸

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 country to move towards goal 5 and its associated targets. More detailed information on actions for each target may be supplied below.

Ghana has incorporated sustainable forest management into the Ghana Shared Growth and Development Agenda, the main national socio-economic development programme of the nation (Target 5.1). Regional and District Forestry Dispute Resolution Forums established to facilitate coordination and conflict resolution pertaining to sustainable forest management and benefit sharing. Forest sector integrated into national development plans and poverty reduction strategy by the National Development Planning Commission, particularly under SDG 15.2. There is effective dialogue with all key stakeholders through the Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue Platform . With the assistance of FAO and IUCN-Ghana, the Forest Law Enforcement and Governance and Trade (FLEGT) is being implemented in Ghana to enable Ghana move towards the production legal timber from sustainably managed forest areas (Target 5.2). Independent Monitoring and Verification firms have been engaged to support the Wood Tracking System in Ghana (Target 5.3).

⁸ 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.

(b) If your Government has announced a voluntary national contribution or contributions relating to goal 5, please provide brief information, including target dates and the progress made thus far.

NONE

Progress towards target 5.1

(c) In your country, have forests been integrated into national sustainable development plans and/or poverty reduction strategies?

Yes No

If yes, please specify if integrated into:

National sustainable development plans and/or

Poverty reduction strategies

Progress towards target 5.2

(d) Since 2015, has your Government taken steps to prevent and reduce illegal international trafficking in forest products, wildlife and other biological resources?

Yes No

If yes, please specify the type of action:

New legislation

Improved enforcement of existing legislation

Export controls

Import controls

Bilateral agreements between exporting/importing countries

Other action, for example, public procurement policies and public-private partnerships. Please list below:

1. Development of Public Procurement Policy and establishment of Public Procurement Agency; (2) Implementation of public-private-partnership programmes including the forest sector. (Public procurement policy was developed and launched. (3) Ghana is signatory to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) and has incorporated into local legislation the CITES Regulations to provide the necessary legal environment for addressing illegal traffic in forest and wildlife resources. (4) The Wood Tracking System and Legality Assurances System are all measures to reduce illegal trafficking of forest products. All good collaboration with Customs, Police and Interpol agencies to ensure enforcement of national laws and international conventions Target 5.3)

Progress towards target 5.3

(e) Are mechanisms in place to ensure cross-sectoral coordination among government agencies?

Yes No

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

To ensure cross-sectoral coordination, government has established the Environment and Natural Resources Advisory Council (ENRAC) at the Vice-Presidents Offices and forest, environment and land issues are resolved and chaired by the Vice President.

(f) What types of mechanism are in place to involve stakeholders in forest/ sustainable forest management policy formulation, planning and implementation?

Please specify in a maximum of 250 words:

Establishment of Multi-stakeholder Dialogue Platform and National Forest Forums at the National, Regional and District Levels to facilitate effective dialogue and stakeholder participation in sustainable forest management in Ghana

Progress towards target 5.4

(g) Are mechanisms in place to involve the forest sector in cross-sectoral coordination among government agencies in charge of land use planning and development?

Yes No

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

Establishment of the Ghana National Land Use and Spatial Planning Authority, a statutory government organization, has been put in place to ensure coordinated land use planning and development throughout the country. The Lands Commission and the Forestry Commission are all under the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources to ensure effective policy coordination

Global forest goal 6 and associated targets⁹

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

⁹ 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.

Questions on goal 6

6. (a) Please describe major actions taken in your country to move towards goal 6 and its associated targets. More detailed information on actions for each target may be supplied below.

In collaboration with the National Development Planning Commission and the Environmental Protection Agency, effective cross-sectoral coordination is being promoted through stakeholder dialogue and joint performance assessments and production of review reports in the implementation of the Ghana Shared Growth and Development Agenda (GSGDA, 2015-2030) the main national development framework that also include issues related to sustainable forest management

(b) If your Government has announced a voluntary national contribution or contributions relating to goal 6, please provide brief information, including target dates and the progress made thus far.

NONE

Progress towards target 6.4 (criteria and indicators)

(c) Are criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management used in your country?

Yes No

If yes, please specify which sets are used:

- National or subnational**
- Regional or international**¹⁰
- Other (please specify): ITTO, FOREST STEWARDS CERTIFICATION

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):**

¹⁰ For instance, those used by the International Tropical Timber Organization, Forest Europe, the Montreal Process and the Tarapoto Proposal on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainability of Amazonian Forests.

Progress towards target 6.4 (communication and awareness)

(d) Since 2015, have actions been taken (by the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) in your country 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:

Celebration of International Day of Forests, Forestry Week and Greening Ghana Day with Meet the Press Series, News Conference, Stakeholder Dialogue Platforms, Durbars, radio and television discussions as well as other media programmes in schools and colleges have been organized to create awareness of sustainable forest management. Since 2015, every year Ghana celebrates the International Year of the Forests with community durbars, street floats, education and awareness creation in the radio, television and print media

Progress towards target 6.5

(e) Have actions been taken by your Government 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:

Through the Multi-stakeholder Forest Dialogue Platform Ghana has involved all the major key stakeholders in the implementation of the United Nations Strategic Plan on Forests. These include Ghana Timber Organization, Ghana Wood Workers Association, Traditional Authorities, Youth Groups etc.

Other questions

7. (a) Since 2015, has your country taken action to promote gender equality in the forest sector?

Yes No

If yes, please indicate action taken with regard to 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:

Yes, a women’s desk has been established at the Forestry Commission offices and a Gender Working Group in forest sector constituted to enhance women’s issues in the forestry sector. There is also in place Forestry Commission Ladies Association (FCLA) to champion women’s affairs in the forestry sector in Ghana

(b) What action has been taken (by the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) in your country 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:

(1) The Forestry Commission website www.fcghana.org provides information on all the programmes of the Forestry Commission, particularly events organized to mark the International Day of the Forest, Forestry Week and Greening Ghana 2019 since 2015.

(2) Every year since 2015, Ghana initiates a five-month long celebration of the International Day of the Forests with activities outlined from 21st March to June. The theme for 2019 was “Forest and Education: Our Responsibility”. We organized a ministerial news conference at the national level on 21st March 2019, to create awareness on the importance of forests. This was followed up with community durbars, television and radio discussions in selected locations within the country. The period was climaxed with a national tree planting exercise in June taking into consideration the International Biodiversity Day and the World Environment Day respectively. (3) Forestry Commission celebrates 5th Forestry Week: The Punch, Monday 30th May, 2016; (4) Press Release: Forestry Commission organizes 6th Forestry Week and Greening Ghana Day to celebrate 2017, June 8, 2017, visit www.graphic.com.gh (5) [8TH Forestry Week and Greening Ghana Day Celebrated : The Inquisitor Friday 21st June 2019 – Saturday 23rd June 2019.](#)

Success stories

8. Do you have any success stories relating to the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 in your country? 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 : Signing of Emission Reductions Payment Agreement

Action taken: Ghana has successfully developed 3 out of the 4 requirements for a country to achieve results-based REDD+ payments. These are (1) National REDD+ Strategy (2) Forest Reference level is developed while a (3) Safeguards Information System is in place.

As a result, Ghana qualified to sign the Emissions Reductions Payments Agreement with the World Bank making her eligible for results-based payments of up to US\$50m. This signifies the successful transition of Ghana’s REDD+ Programme from the Readiness Phase to Results Based Phase, thus signifying the achievement of a major milestone in the implementation of the REDD+ Programme in Ghana. By this achievement many other countries are contacting us to learn lessons from our progress.

Goals and targets addressed: This is progress towards the attainment of Targets 1.2 and 1.3 of Global Forest Goal 1.

Annex II

Draft global core set of forest-related indicators

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Thematic element</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Tiera</i>	<i>Data supplier</i>	<i>Linkages to globally agreed goals and targets</i>
1. Forest area as a proportion of total land area	1. Extent of forest resources	Percentage	1	FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment	Measures progress towards target 15.1 of the Sustainable Development Goals and global forest goal 1. Sustainable Development Goal indicator 15.1.1
2. Forest area annual net change rate	1. Extent of forest resources	Percentage	1	FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment	Measures progress towards target 15.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals and target 1.1 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030. Subindicator of Sustainable Development Goal indicator 15.2.1
3. Net greenhouse gas emissions (source)/ removals (sink) of forests, and carbon balance of harvested wood products	1. Extent of forest resources 4. Productive functions of forest resources	Kilotons of carbon dioxide emissions per year	2	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change secretariat	Measures progress towards targets 1.2 and 2.5 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030. Linkages with Sustainable Development Goal 13 and measuring, reporting and verifying requirements under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
4. Proportion of forest area located within legally established protected areas	2. Forest biological diversity	Percentage	1	FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment	Measures progress towards target 15.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals, targets 2.5 and 3.1 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 and Aichi Biodiversity Target 11. Subindicator of Sustainable Development Goal indicator 15.2.1
5. Change in area of primary forests	2. Forest biological diversity	Hectares	1	FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment	Measures progress towards target 1.3 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 and Aichi Biodiversity Target 5. Linkages with Sustainable Development Goal 15
6. Proportion of forest area disturbed	3. Forest health and vitality	Percentage of forest area	2	FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment	Measures progress towards target 1.4 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Thematic element</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Tiera</i>	<i>Data supplier</i>	<i>Linkages to globally agreed goals and targets</i>
7. Area of degraded forest	3. Forest health and vitality	Hectares	3	FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment	Measures progress towards target 1.3 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030. Linkages with target 15.3 of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Target 15. Linkages to strategic objective 1 of the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa (2008–2018), and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
8. Above-ground biomass stock in forest	4. Productive function of forest resources	Tons per hectare	1	FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment	Measures progress towards target 15.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets 1.2 and 2.5 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Target 7. Subindicator of Sustainable Development Goal indicator 15.2.1
9. Volume of wood removals	4. Productive function of forest resources	Cubic metres	1	ECE/FAO/International Tropical Timber Organization/Eurostat joint forest sector questionnaire	Measures progress towards target 2.4 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030
10. Wood-based energy share of total final energy consumption	4. Productive function of forest resources	Percentage	2	ECE and FAO	Linked to target 7.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Thematic element</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Tiera</i>	<i>Data supplier</i>	<i>Linkages to globally agreed goals and targets</i>
11. Forest area with a designated management objective to maintain and enhance its protective functions	5. Protective function of forest resources	Hectares	1	FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment	Linked to target 1.4 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030
12. Employment related to the forest sector	6. Socioeconomic functions of forest resources	Number of full-time equivalents	2	FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment	Measures progress towards target 2.4 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030
13. Number of forest-dependent people in extreme poverty	6. Socioeconomic functions of forest resources	Number	3	FAO and United Nations Forum on Forests	Measures progress towards global forest goal 2 and target 2.1 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030
14. Contribution of forests to food security	6. Socioeconomic functions of forest resources	To be decided	3	FAO and United Nations Forum on Forests	Measures progress towards global forest goal 2 and target 2.3 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030
15. Financial resources from all sources for the implementation of sustainable forest management	6. Socioeconomic functions of forest resources	United States dollars	3	OECD, World Bank	Measures progress towards global forest goal 4 and targets 4.1 and 4.2 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030. Linkages with targets 15.a and 15.b of the Sustainable Development Goals
16. Existence of national or subnational policies, strategies, legislation, regulations and institutions that explicitly encourage sustainable forest management	7. Legal, policy and institutional framework	References	1	FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment	Measures progress towards global forest goal 5 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Thematic element</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Tiera</i>	<i>Data supplier</i>	<i>Linkages to globally agreed goals and targets</i>
17. Existence of national or subnational forest assessment process	7. Legal, policy and institutional framework	References	1	FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment	Measures progress towards target 4.5 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030
18. Existence of national or subnational stakeholder platform for participation in forest policy development	7. Legal, policy and institutional framework	References	1	FAO Global Forest Resources Assessments	Measures progress towards target 4.5 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030
19. Proportion of forest area under a long-term forest management plan	7. Legal, policy and institutional framework	Percentage	1	FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment	Measures progress towards target 15.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals, targets 1.3 and 3.2 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 and Aichi Biodiversity Target 7. Subindicator of Sustainable Development Goal indicator 15.2.1
20. Forest area under an independently verified forest management certification scheme	7. Legal, policy and institutional framework	Hectares	1	FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment	Measures progress towards target 15.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets 1.3 and 3.3 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030. Subindicator of Sustainable Development Goal indicator 15.2.1
21. Existence of traceability system(s) for wood products	7. Legal, policy and institutional framework	References	2	FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment	Measures progress towards targets 3.3 and 5.2 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030

Abbreviations: ECE, Economic Commission for Europe; FAO, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; OECD, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

^a Tier 1: methodology and data in place. Tier 2: methodology in place, data challenges. Tier 3: methodology and data both present challenges.