

Proposed guidelines and 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 contributions

1. The format is structured around the newly adopted 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 most of the targets.

2. Members are asked to submit only information that is not currently provided to the member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests or that is unavailable in other international databases. To the extent possible, 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), forest resources assessments/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) Joint forest sector questionnaire (FAO, International Tropical Timber Organization, Economic Commission for Europe, Eurostat);

(c) Report on the state of the world's forests produced by FAO;

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

(e) Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

(f) Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development;

(g) 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 [*date to be determined*], bearing in mind that early submissions will greatly facilitate the secretariat's preparation of the analytical consolidated report of the Secretary-General to the Forum at its [*to be determined*] session;

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

(c) To submit any graphical elements included in the national report as separate electronic files;

(d) To provide brief descriptions (of up to 250 words) as part of their answers, so as to provide context and background;

(e) 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, other member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and criteria and indicators processes and relevant stakeholders, where applicable.

4. The year 2015 is used as a baseline.
5. Where possible, all terms used herein are consistent with the FAO and forest resources assessment terms and definitions.
6. Please indicate the source of all information provided and, wherever possible, indicate a webpage or provide a weblink.

General information

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Global forest goal 1 and associated targets^a

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

Targets

- 1.1 Forest area is increased by 3 per cent worldwide^b
- 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

1. Since 2015,^c 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 to 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.

Answer:

- A. **Legislative and policy action**

^a Goal 1 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, Sustainable Development Goal targets 6.6, 12.2, 13.1, 13.3, 14.2, 15.1-15.4 and 15.8, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Targets 5, 7, 9, 11, 14 and 15, and are supported by United Nations forest instrument actions 6.o, 7.d and 7.e.

^b Based on the Global Forest Resources Assessment 2015.

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

-Formulation of **Forest Management Committees** and by-laws by Community Councils (Local Government Authorities) with the Department of Forestry to facilitate transfer of user rights of forest reserves to local communities. (The process is on-going)
 -Development of the Lesotho Energy Policy (2015-2025) for sustainable use of bioenergy. (Completed)
 -Development of the Lesotho National Climate Change Policy 2017-2027 by the Ministry of Energy and Meteorology
 National Strategic Development Plan 2018/19-2022/23
 Local Government (Transfer of Functions) Regulations 2015 (Complete)
 -Range Management Draft Bill (In progress)
 -Department of Soil Conservation draft policy (In progress)

B. Institutional action

Partnership of the Department of Forestry with the following institutions:
 -National University of Lesotho in the implementation of Forestry Initiative for Livelihood and Landscape Improvement (FILLI) project in collaboration with New Partnership for Africa's Development NEPAD (Completed)
 - FAO implementation of the Beekeeping Project **2015 to 2017**
 -Lesotho Government/FAO collaborative development of the Lesotho Land cover Atlas 2017
 - Reducing vulnerability of the local communities from the effects of climate change (GEF/UNDP supported project) 2016 to 2020.
 -Small-holder Agricultural Development Project (SADP) in support of communities in livelihoods development activities (On-going)
 -Wool and Mohair Promotion Project supported by IFAD (On-going)
 - Strengthening capacity for climate change adaptation through support to integrated watershed programme in Lesotho (2015 to 2019)
 - Decision support mainstreaming and scaling up of Sustainable Land Management supported by FAO (2015 to 2019)
 -Lesotho Soil Information System project supported by FAO (On-going)
 -Lesotho Council of Non-Governmental Organisations has various associations whose mandate is on afforestation, reforestation and conservation activities (planned and in progress),
 -World Vision is engaged in afforestation, reforestation and conservation programmes. It has signed MoU with the Department of Forestry (planned and in progress),

C. Financial action

-Intergraded watershed management (Government of Lesotho), (planned and in progress),
 -Development partners (EU, GIZ, WFP, FAO, UNDP)

D. Technical and scientific action

-The Department of Forestry is engaged on reviving and revamping the forestry research Centre (planned and on-going)
-The National University of Lesotho collaborates with the Department of Forestry on Bamboo research trials (planned and in progress)
-Establishment of beekeeping research center

2. 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 1?

-The government of Lesotho fully supports and observes the international day of forests which is the 21st of March and has even declared that day as National Tree Planting Day. The King also participates. (planned and on-going)
-The Ministry observes the international desertification day which is the 17th of June through land rehabilitation activities such as tree planting. (planned and on-going)
-Engagement of forest rangers to protect forest reserves (planned and in progress),
-Establishment of integrated catchment management programme to the tune of 15 Million US Dollars/annum (Government sponsored)

3. How does the action listed above support the implementation of the United Nations forest instrument?

-Reflection of political commitment
-Stakeholder involvement and participation
-Strives to achieve the SDGs
-Engagement of country specific programme/projects
-Gender sensitiveness

4. What are the main challenges in achieving goal 1 in your country?

-Lack of law enforcement
-Low survival rate due to prolonged drought
-Poor land use planning
-Land tenure system bottlenecks
- Rangeland mismanagement

5. Do you have any success stories relating to goal 1? If so, please provide a brief description.

-Establishment of Tséhlanyane National Park. The Park is established at the altitude ranging between 1500 and 1800m above sea level. Since this Park is surrounded by the villages, the local people are trained on livelihood activities such income generating projects while other are employed within the Park. The Department of Forestry is establishing small woodlots around the Park and community members able to get fuelwood, therefore are not destroying the indigenous forest which well managed and protected forests in Lesotho.
- Ramokoatsi forest reserve is effectively doing well under joint forest management system. This collaboration is between the department of Forestry and local communities around the forest.

6. 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.

Government has aligned itself with declared international day of forests which is on 21st of March of every year with the target of 100,000 trees.
In the year 2015, 89 000 trees were planted while 2016, 92 000 trees were planted respectively.

7. Any additional comments on goal 1:

Global forest goal 2 and associated targets^d

Enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, including by improving the livelihoods of forest-dependent people

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

^d Goal 2 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, Sustainable Development Goal 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, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Targets 4, 14 and 18, and are supported by United Nations forest instrument actions 6.d-6.f, 6.h, 6.j, 6.p, 6.q, 6.t-6.v, 6.y and 7.k.

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

1. 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 to 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.

A. Legislative and policy action

Community council by-laws (communal orchards, beekeeping, communal forests)

B. Institutional action

-Creation of Ministry of Small Businesses enhances productivity of small to medium enterprises
Creation of Ministry of Energy
-Department of Forestry is engaged in establishment of individually, privately and communal owned orchards and promotion of beekeeping production and their products through the assistance of UNDP, WFP, World Vision etc.
-Department of Forestry also increases availability and sustainable production and harvesting of wood for fuel wood

C. Financial action

NGOs and CBOs (World Vision, Send a Cow, TED, SERUMULA, CRS) in provision/financing of beehives, fruit and forest trees for the communities.
UN agencies (FAO, WFP, UNDP, GEF) assist in technical capacity building, sustainable honey and other hive products.

D. Technical and scientific action

The Department of Forestry is engaged on reviving and revamping the forestry research Centre (planned and on-going)
-The National University of Lesotho collaborates with the Department of Forestry on Bamboo research trials (planned and in progress)

2. 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?

Onestop shop conduction, advocacy, service delivery and outreach are enhanced.
Exhibitions and shows (honey exhibition, forest products)

3. How does the action listed above support the implementation of the United Nations forest instrument?

Assists in information dissemination at all levels of the hierarchy.
Able to sell different sectoral packages hence community by-in.

4. What are the main challenges in achieving goal 2 in your country?

Political clashing interests
Inadequate financial support
Scarcity of resources

5. Do you have any success stories relating to goal 2? If so, please provide a brief description.

Willingness of communities to participating in apiary production has exponentially increased since February 2015 due to acquisition of FAO/Technical Capacity Project (TCP), thus leading to formation of beekeeping platform.
Fruit trees production in the country by local farmers is high as compared to previous years, hence money erosion outside the country has stopped.
Establishment of private tree nurseries assisted a lot in providing adequate tree seedlings.

6. 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.

-Provision of both fruit and forest tree seedlings to Basotho farmers each year
-At least, about 48,000 people are employed as labors to implement activities of the Ministry of Forestry throughout the country each year.
-Gullies be rendered to individuals to reclaim them through tree planting.

7. Any additional comments on goal 2:

Global forest goal 3 and associated targets^e

^e Goal 3 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things,

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

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

1. 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 to 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.

A. Legislative and policy action

The Lesotho National Climate Change Policy (2017-2027)
Department of Soil Conservation policy (draft)

B. Institutional action

-Creation of Ministry of Energy and Meteorology
-Synergy of sectoral Ministries in addressing challenges of watershed degradation
-Wool and Mohair Project implementation in collaboration with sectoral Ministries. Ministry of – Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation focusing exclusively on land management issues,

C. Financial action

Support from EU
UNDP- reducing vulnerability to climate change
Government of Lesotho – rehabilitation of existing forest reserve
FAO-strengthening capacity to climate change

D. Technical and scientific action

Sustainable Development Goal targets 7.2, 12.2, 12.6, 12.7, 14.2, 14.5, 15.2 and 15.4, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Targets 7, 11, 12 and 16, and are supported by United Nations forest instrument actions 6.p, 6.q, 6.x, 7.f and 7.g.

-Collaboration with National University of Lesotho

2. 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?

Active involvement of Local Government Authorities.
Coordination of other stakeholders and line Ministries through Intergrated Catchment Management approach

3. How does the action listed above support the implementation of the United Nations forest instrument?

Government ensures that all relevant players are involved through Local Government Authorities in both afforestation, reforestation and forest protection.

4. What are the main challenges in achieving goal 3 in your country?

Financial muscle in realizing a fully functional decentralized Government.
Weak law enforcement and governance
The growing threat of invasive alien species
Uncontrolled forest fires
Vandalism and domestic livestock encroachment

5. Do you have any success stories relating to goal 3? If so, please provide a brief description.

Removal of alien and invasive forbs and shrubs species through involvement of all role players

6. 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.

Revision of National Strategic Development plan in line with the Sustainable Development Goals
International Day of Forest 21st March
World Environment Day is celebrated on the 5th June
World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought 17 June

7. Any additional comments on goal 3:



Global forest goal 4 and associated targets^f

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

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

1. 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 4.1 to 4.5?

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.

A. Legislative and policy action

Financial support project proposals are coordinated by the Ministry of Development Planning following the United Nation Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) mechanism.

^f Goal 4 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, Sustainable Development Goal targets 12.a, 15.7, 15.a, 15.b, 17.1-17.3, 17.6, 17.7 and 17.16-17.19, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Target 19, and are supported by United Nations forest instrument actions 6.h, 6.i, 6.m, 6.r, 6.s, 7.a-7.c, 7.l and 7.m-7.q.

B. Institutional action

The projects proposals are developed with the Ministry of Environment and are subsequently assessed, appraised and approved by the Ministry of Development Planning through Projects Coordinating Unit.

C. Financial action

The expenditure is monitored and evaluated by Ministry of Development Planning

D. Technical and scientific action

In cases where there is a scientific and knowledge gap, external support is sourced (Particularly with relevant to projects proposals development). However, efforts are being made to equip local professionals with the necessary skills along these lines.

2. 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 4?

Countries are being arranged in to clusters, therefore Lesotho associates itself with member states with similar environmental and financial challenges for implementing sustainable land management practices and shares both financial and technical issues e.g. Cross Boarder Fires issues; Lesotho, South Africa, Swaziland, Mozambique and Botswana

3. How does the action listed above support the implementation of the United Nations forest instrument?

It assists on international cooperation and agreed development goals.

4. What are the main challenges in achieving goal 4 in your country?

Inadequate skills in sourcing funding bodies and relevant ample personnel in place.

5. Do you have any success stories relating to goal 4? If so, please provide a brief description.

There is a Poverty Alleviation Strategy within the Ministry of Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation which is fully funded by the Government of Lesotho. The main purpose is to rehabilitate the degraded land, water harvesting techniques and afforestation.

6. 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.

7. Any additional comments on goal 4:

Supplementary questions

1. **Since 2015, has your Government 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:

Always a strong justification required
Partners pre-requisites sometimes to stringent

2. **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/philanthropy
- Non-governmental organizations
- Other

Types of cooperation:

- North-South
- North-South
- South-South
- Technical
- Financial
- Other

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):

Please provide up to three examples of international cooperation, and, if possible, a weblink or weblinks to relevant documentation:

1. Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
2. International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
3. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

3. 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?

- 2-5 years
- 5-10 years
- 10-20 years
- Other (please specify):

Global forest goal 5 and associated targets^g

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

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

^g Goal 5 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement, among other things, of Sustainable Development Goal targets 1.4, 2.4, 5.a, 15.c, 15.9, 16.3, 16.5-16.7, 16.10 and 17.14, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Targets 2 and 3, and are supported by United Nations forest instrument actions 6.a, 6.c, 6.k, 6.l, 6.n, 6.w, 7.c and 7.h-7.j.

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

1. 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 5.1 to 5.4?

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.

A. Legislative and policy action

Community council by-laws (communal orchards, beekeeping, communal forests)

B. Institutional action

The government of Lesotho through the Ministry of Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation fully supports and observes the international cooperation in sustainable forest management with all the SADC counties and there is a political commitment for poverty reduction strategy.

C. Financial action

Support from EU
UNDP- reducing vulnerability to climate change
Government of Lesotho – rehabilitation of existing forest reserve
FAO-strengthening capacity to climate change

D. Technical and scientific action

Capacity building of forestry staff members on sustainable forest management through JICA project in SADC region.

2. 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 5?

Government ensures that all relevant players are involved through Local Government Authorities in both afforestation, reforestation and forest protection.

3. How does the action listed above support the implementation of the United Nations forest instrument?

To ensure proper rehabilitation and protection of forest

4. What are the main challenges in achieving goal 5 in your country?

Shortage of technical and qualified foresters

5. Do you have any success stories relating to goal 5? If so, please provide a brief description.

Reinforcement of local government arrangements
Decentralization of most activities

6. 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.

By 2030 30% of women will be taking part in important sfm decision making.
By 2030 30% of women will have access to wood for cooking and space heating

7. Any additional comments on goal 5:

Supplementary questions

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

Yes No

If yes, please specify:

- National sustainable development plans
 Poverty reduction strategies

2. Since 2015, what steps has your Government taken to prevent and reduce illegal international trafficking in forest products, wildlife and other biological resources?

- New legislation
- Improved enforcement of existing legislation
- Export controls
- Import controls
- Bilateral agreements between exporting/importing countries
- None
- Other, e.g. public procurement policies and public-private partnerships.
Please list below:

3. What types of mechanism are in place to ensure cross-sectoral coordination among government agencies?

Forming pectoral working groups for development assistance with a task to ensure inter-ministerial and non- governmental organization for coordination within the country.

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

National strategic development plan

5. What types of mechanism are in place to involve the forest sector in cross-sectoral coordination among government agencies in charge of land use planning and development?

Department of forestry, Non-governmental origination related to forestry activities.

Global forest goal 6 and associated targets^h

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

^h Goal 6 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, Sustainable Development Goal target 17.14 and are supported by United Nations forest instrument actions 6.b, 6.c, 6.g, 6.m, 6.w, 7.r and 7.s.

Targets

- 6.1 Forest-related programmes within the United Nations system are coherent and complementary and integrate the global forest goals and targets, where appropriate
- 6.2 Forest-related programmes across member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests are coherent and complementary and together encompass the multiple contributions of forests and the forest sector to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- 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

1. 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 6.3 to 6.5?

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.

A. Legislative and policy action

Forestry policy (2008),
Forest Act (1998)

B. Institutional action

Forestry in Lesotho collaborates with international organizations such as JICA, GIZ, NEPAD, FAO, GEF, IFAD and many more.

C. Financial action

UNDP- reducing vulnerability to climate change
FAO-strengthening capacity to climate change
GIZ- assists in compilation of National Forestry Programme
WFP- Restructuring with the Ministry of Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation Public works
IFAD-Small Agricultural Development Programme- Natural Resources Component

D. Technical and scientific action

Capacity building through REDD+
SADC/JICA -Capacity building on forest information management, forest fire management, and community-participatory forestry.
FAO- Capacity building on issues of Forest Resource Assessment
Training of forestry staff members on sustainable forest management, GIZ and forest fires.

2. 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 6?

Training of ministerial staff on short courses

3. How does the action listed above support the implementation of the United Nations forest instrument?

Implementation enforcement in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals.

4. What are the main challenges in achieving goal 6 in your country?

Inadequate staff
Lack of long term trainings.

5. Do you have any success stories related to goal 6? If so, please provide a brief description.

Joint Bilateral Cooperation on forest fire management with the Republic of SouthAfrica
Memorandum of Understanding with non-governmental organisations such as, World Vision, World food Programme.

6. 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.

Vision 2020.
Lesotho has committed itself to becoming a stable democracy where principles of good governance will be anchored on the respect for human rights and its environment well managed.
National Strategic Development Plan 11

7. Any additional comments on goal 6:

In the pipeline, there is a Forestry Strategy Document being developed by African Member States (Lesotho involved) under the stewardship of The African Union (AU).

Supplementary questions

1. **What sets of criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management are used in your country?**

- National
- Regional/international (e.g. International Tropical Timber Organization, Forest Europe, Montreal Process, Tarapoto Proposal on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainability of Amazonian Forests)
- Other

Please describe and, if possible, provide a weblink or weblinks to relevant documentation:

It was developed in the early 1990 but was never finalized (therefore, cannot be quoted).

For which of the following purposes are they used?

- 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):

2. **Since 2015, what action has 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?**

Engagement of all type of media platforms to great awareness in sfm
Political will through active involvement of the country's leadership from politicians through to the King in planting of trees to celebrate special occasions such as the Kings Birthday, Independence Day celebrations and the national tree planting day (21st of March) which coincidentally is also the International tree planting day.

3. **What action has been taken by your Government to involve major groups and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the strategic plan?**

Introduction of Social Forestry programme (whose motto is trees of the people by the people, for the people).
Introduction of Integrated Catchment Management Programme (ICM)

Other questions

1. **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 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:

Culturally and traditionally the women folk was not allowed to either own or control resources such as forests.
The Introduction of Social Forestry in the country was used as a tool to challenge the taboo of the women folk involvement in forestry

2. 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 (e.g. art, music, film and theatre)
- Educational activities (e.g. workshops and symposiums)
- ✓ Media activities (e.g. 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:

Engagement of the country's leadership from politicians to the King.
Engagement of schools and the community at large