

**මහවැලි සංවර්ධන හා පරිසර අමාත්‍යාංශය**

மகாவலி அபிவிருத்தி மற்றும் சுற்றாடல் அமைச்சு

Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment

“සොබාදම් පියස”, අංක 416/ඊ/1, රොබට් ගුණවර්ධන මාවත, බත්තරමුල්ල, ශ්‍රී ලංකාව.

“சொபாதம் பியச”, இல. 416/ஈ/1, ரொபர்ட் குணவர்தன மாவத்தை, பத்தரமுல்லை, இலங்கை.

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எனது இல  
My No

MMDE/07/INT/04/Forest

ඔබේ අංකය  
உமது இல  
Your No

දිනය  
திகதி  
Date

15.11. 2019

**Secretary**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**Attn: Director General**

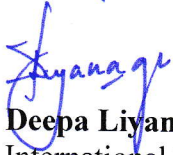
Ocean Affairs, Environment and Climate Change

**United Nations Forum on Forests ( UNFF )**

This has reference to your letter no. MFA/OA/UNEP/21 dated on 16.08.2019 on the above.

Please find the attached completed format for Voluntary National Reporting for onward transmission to the UNFF Secretariat.

Your kind cooperation in this regard is highly appreciated.



**Deepa Liyanage**

International Relations

For Secretary

Copy to: Acting Director (Forest Resources), Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment

"මේ මහලොව සහ තනොළ මිනිසාට මෙන්ම අනෙක් සියාසරන සියොතුවන්ට ද මිනිමන සරන සිවුසාවුන්ට ද සියලු සතුන්ට ද එකසේ අයිතිය"  
"இப் பூம்பூமீ, மரஞ் செடி கொடிகளும் மனிதனுக்குப் போன்றே வானில் பறந்து திரியும் பறவைகளுக்கும், பூமியில் வாழும் உயிரினங்களுக்கும், அனைத்து விலங்குகளுக்கும் ஒருமித்துச் சொந்தமானது"

"This great earth and the flora on it equally belong to the man and the birds flying in the sky, the quadrupeds and all creatures living on earth"



<b>Country:</b>	Sri Lanka
<b>Date of submission:</b>	15.11.2019

**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 contributions<sup>1</sup>**

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](mailto: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](mailto:unff@un.org) by 15 November 2019.*

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<sup>1</sup> 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

Name:	Mr. Anura Dissanayake
Title:	Secretary
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Organization:	Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment
Telephone:	+94112034121
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### Person to contact concerning the national report, if someone other than the National Focal Point

Name:	Mr A.W. M. Rifa Wadood
Title:	Acting Director (Forest Resources and Watershed Management)
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Organization:	Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment
Telephone:	+94718127263
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### Institutions involved in the preparation of the National Report

Name:	Mr. W.A.C. Weragoda
Title:	Conservator General of Forests
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Organization:	Forest Department Sri Lanka
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## Global forest goal 1 and associated targets<sup>2</sup>

**Reverse the loss of forest cover worldwide through sustainable forest management, including protection, restoration, afforestation and reforestation, and increase efforts to prevent forest degradation and contribute to the global effort of addressing climate change**

### *Associated targets*

- 1.1 Forest area is increased by 3 per cent worldwide<sup>3</sup>
- 1.2 The world's forest carbon stocks are maintained or enhanced
- 1.3 By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally
- 1.4 The resilience and adaptive capacity of all types of forests to natural disasters and the impact of climate change is significantly strengthened worldwide

### **Questions on goal 1**

1. (a) Since 2015,<sup>4</sup> 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*

*National Forestry Policy of Sri Lanka remains unchanged facilitating achievement of Goal 1. In 2015 following actions were taken at the policy level.*

- 1. Set a target to increase the Forest Cover of the Country up to 32% of the total land area. (Completed)*
- 2. Change the policy to control shifting cultivation. (Completed)*
- 3. Policy on Establishment of Permanent Forestry Estate was strengthened. (Completed)*
- 4. Policy to private sector participation on restoration of degraded forests is implemented. (Continuous)*
- 5. Provide legal provision to prepare and implement forest management plan for protected areas. (Completed)*
- 6. Continue the policy of management of natural forests for conservation. (Continuous)*

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<sup>2</sup> Goal 1 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, targets 6.6, 12.2, 13.1, 13.3, 14.2, 15.1–15.4 and 15.8 of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Targets 5, 7, 9, 11, 14 and 15, and are supported by paragraphs 6 (o) and 7 (d) and (e) of the United Nations forest instrument.

<sup>3</sup> Based on the Global Forest Resources Assessment 2015.

<sup>4</sup> Or earlier, where relevant to capturing important action. The same applies hereafter.

(ii) Institutional actions

*List of actions:*

*Target 1.1 and 1.2,*

*Implementation of forest restoration programme throughout the country. (Continuous)*

*Mapping of potential areas for forest enhancement. (Continuous)*

*Involve private sector organization for restoration of degraded government forest lands. (Continuous)*

*Promote private sector to develop private forest resources. (Continuous)*

*Target 1.3 and 1.4*

*Prepare Forest Management Plans. (Continuous)*

*Sri Lanka has identified around 90,000 ha of Government lands for forest restoration. Out of these lands 9,000 ha of degraded forest lands are brought under restoration so far. Planting and Assisted Natural Regeneration are the two main approaches. Private sector organizations are participating in forest restoration programmes. Tea plantation companies are involving in establishment of forests on the degraded and unproductive tea lands.*

(iii) Financial actions

*List of actions*

*Obtain funds from government budget. (Continuous)*

*Submit proposals to request funds from international donor agencies. (Continuous)*

*Working with Private Sector Organizations for Restoration Financing. (Continuous)*

*Description of actions:*

*Government has provided around Rs.900 Million to implement the forest restoration programme from 2015. Private sector has initiated funding for restoration.*

(iv) Technical and scientific actions

*List of actions:*

*Training of stakeholders on Forest Restoration. (Continuous)*

*Preparation of Guidelines for Forest Restoration. (Continuous)*

*Identify suitable methods and species for forest restoration.*

*Description of actions:*

*Generic guidelines were prepared for Forest Restoration. The stakeholders were trained on Forest Restoration.*

*Research symposium was conducted on Dry Zone Forest Restoration.*

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

These actions are well fit with the United Nations Forest Instruments especially for sustainable management of forest resources.

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

Major challenge for enhancement of forests is the population growth and development. Increased demand for natural resources to provide needs of the increasing population creates pressure on forests.

(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.

Government of Sri Lanka has set a target to increase the forest cover up to 32% by year 2030 under Paris Agreement of UNFCCC. According to submitted NDCs, Sri Lanka intends to reduce 10% of its GHG emissions from the sectors of transport, waste, industry and forestry. This will be 3% unconditional and 7% conditional against Business as Usual (BAU) scenarios. However, BAU emission scenarios have to be estimated in details and detailed emission reduction plans for these sectors are yet to be developed. In addition, improve quality of growing stock of natural forests and forest plantations, restoring degraded forests and hilltops, increase river basin management for major rivers and promote investment of private and public sector companies in environmental conservation have been identified as NDC targets.

(e) Any additional comments on goal 1:

So far, Sri Lanka has brought 9,000 ha into restoration.

## **Global forest goal 2 and associated targets<sup>5</sup>**

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

#### *Associated targets*

- 2.1 Extreme poverty for all forest-dependent people is eradicated
- 2.2 Increase the access of small-scale forest enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets
- 2.3 The contribution of forests and trees to food security is significantly increased
- 2.4 The contribution of forest industry, other forest-based enterprises and forest ecosystem services to social, economic and environmental development, among other things, is significantly increased
- 2.5 The contribution of all types of forests to biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation is enhanced, taking into account the mandates and ongoing work of relevant conventions and instruments

#### **Questions on goal 2**

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<sup>5</sup> Goal 2 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, targets 1.1, 1.4, 2.4, 4.4, 5.a, 6.6, 8.3, 9.3, 12.2, 12.5, 15.6 and 15.c of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Targets 4, 14 and 18, and are supported by paragraphs 6 (d)–(f), (h), (j), (p), (q), (t)–(v) and (y) and 7 (k) of the United Nations forest instrument.

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.*

(i) Legislative and policy actions

*List of actions*

*Objectives and strategies of National forestry policy remain unchanged. (Continuous)*

*Strengthen the legal provisions to obtain benefits from forests to local communities. (Continuous)*

*Develop policy strategies to involve local communities in Ecotourism. (Continuous)*

*Develop policy strategies to produce edible products in forest restoration. (Planning)*

*Description of actions*

*There are forest dependant people around the forests. They collect Non Timber Forest Product (NTFP), obtain drinking water and encroach forest lands. The legal provisions were strengthened for sustainable use of the resources and to control harmful forest dependence action. Rural youths and communities are given the opportunity to take part in Ecotourism as an alternative income generation activity.*

(ii) Institutional actions

*List of actions:*

*People were issued permits to collect NTFPs from the forests. (Continuous)*

*Provide opportunities to local people to involve in ecotourism activities in forest areas as guides, service providers. (Continuous)*

*Regulate drinking water tapping in natural forests in order to share the water resource equitably. (Continuous)*

*Establish agroforestry woodlots with local communities. (Continuous)*

*Establish trees which produce edible fruits or other products with other forest tree species in reforestation programmes. (Continuous)*



(iii) Financial actions

*List of actions:*

*Facilitate of channelling funds from other sectors to communities to develop ecotourism facilities and drinking water facilities.*

*Description of actions:*

(iv) Technical and scientific actions

*List of actions:*

*Implement the National Forest Inventory.*

*Update Forest Cover Map.*

*Description of actions:*

*National Forest Inventory is done island wide to assess bio diversity, growing stock and other hydrological parameter of forests.*

(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?

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

It goes in line with the instrument.

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

The potential contribution of forests to livelihood development is not significant due to unavailability of edible and useful income generating species within the forests. The sustainable non timber forest product harvesting levels have not been assessed.

(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.

Not relevant.

(f) Any additional comments on goal 2:

## Global forest goal 3 and associated targets<sup>6</sup>

**Increase significantly the area of protected forests worldwide and other areas of sustainably managed forests, as well as the proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests**

### *Associated targets*

- 3.1 The area of forests worldwide designated as protected areas or conserved through other effective area-based conservation measures is significantly increased
- 3.2 The area of forests under long-term forest management plans is significantly increased
- 3.3 The proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests is significantly increased

### **Questions on goal 3**

3. (a) Since 2015, what types of action have been taken (by 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:*

*Strengthened the policy on establishment of permanent forestry estate.*

*Promote the declaration of new protected areas.*

*Continue the zonation of forests of the country for production and protection.*

*Description of actions.*

*Declaration and boundary demarcation of existing forests make permanent forestry estate in the country. Forest plantations located in un sensitive areas are dedicated to timber and fuel wood production and natural forests are reserved for conservation and limited use of non timber forest products.*

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<sup>6</sup> Goal 3 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, targets 7.2, 12.2, 12.6, 12.7, 14.2, 14.5, 15.2 and 15.4 of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Targets 7, 11, 12 and 16, and are supported by paragraphs 6 (p), (q) and (x) and 7 (f) and (g) of the United Nations forest instrument.

(ii) Institutional actions

*List of actions:*

*Declaration of forests as protected areas.*

*Forest survey and demarcation.*

*Preparation of Forest Management Plans for protected areas.*

*Manage the production plantations to increase the productivity.*

*Description of actions*

*The protected area of the country was increased by three percent from 2015 to 2019. These forests were surveyed and demarcated to provide physical protection.*

(iii) Financial actions

*List of actions:*

*Obtained government funds for above actions.*

(iv) Technical and scientific actions

*List of actions:*

*Use GPS coordinates for declaration of forests.*

*Use Geographic Information System for forest zonation.*

(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?

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

The actions above are important in implementing UN Forest instrument.

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

It is challenging to declare new protected areas mainly due to social and political pressure.

(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.

Not applicable

(f) Any additional comments on goal 3:

Increase connectivity through corridors, landscape/matrix improvement and management, improve management, and consider increasing the extent of protected areas, buffer zones and create new areas in vulnerable zones have been identified as NDCs.

## Global forest goal 4 and associated targets<sup>7</sup>

**Mobilize significantly increased, new and additional financial resources from all sources for the implementation of sustainable forest management and strengthen scientific and technical cooperation and partnerships**

### *Associated targets*

4.1 Mobilize significant resources from all sources and at all levels to finance sustainable forest management and provide adequate incentives to developing countries to advance such management, including for conservation and reforestation

4.2 Forest-related financing from all sources at all levels, including public (national, bilateral, multilateral and triangular), private and philanthropic financing, is significantly increased

4.3 North-South, South-South, North-North and triangular cooperation and public-private partnerships on science, technology and innovation in the forest sector are significantly enhanced and increased

4.4 The number of countries that have developed and implemented forest financing strategies and have access to financing from all sources is significantly increased

4.5 The collection, availability and accessibility of forest-related information is improved through, for example, multidisciplinary scientific assessments

### **Questions on goal 4**

4. (a) Please describe major actions taken in your country to move towards goal 4 and its associated targets. More detailed information on actions for each target may be supplied below.

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

Government has communicated with international donor agencies and financial institutions to get additional financing resources. Concept notes and project proposals were submitted. Few of them were approved. Some funds were inadequate to meet objectives, so such resources were rejected.

(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.

Not relevant

#### **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 funds are limited due to lack of financial resources. Lack of tangible benefits and long gestation period in forestry sector reduce fund allocation to this sector by the government. Government has to allocate funds for more burning issues such as poverty eradication, employment generation and infrastructure development. International grant funding sometimes focuses on specific objectives which may not address real issues of the forestry sector. Some conditions and procedures of the external funds are difficult to apply in the implementation.

### 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 targets<sup>8</sup>**

**Promote governance frameworks to implement sustainable forest management, including through the United Nations forest instrument, and enhance the contribution of forests to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

#### *Associated targets*

- 5.1 Number of countries that have integrated forests into their national sustainable development plans and/or poverty reduction strategies is significantly increased
- 5.2 Forest law enforcement and governance are enhanced, including through significantly strengthening national and subnational forest authorities, and illegal logging and associated trade are significantly reduced worldwide
- 5.3 National and subnational forest-related policies and programmes are coherent, coordinated and complementary across ministries, departments and authorities, consistent with national laws, and engage relevant stakeholders, local communities and indigenous peoples, fully recognizing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- 5.4 Forest-related issues and the forest sector are fully integrated into decision-making processes concerning land use planning and development

#### **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.

Linking of sustainable forest management with poverty reduction targets on going. “National Sustainable Development Vision of Sri Lanka 2030” is a contribution to the United Nations 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals which includes forestry. “Strategy for Public Service Delivery” is drafted which identifies forestry in a major thrust area In-situ Conservation.

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<sup>8</sup> Goal 5 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement, among other things, of targets 1.4, 2.4, 5.a, 15.9, 15.c, 16.3, 16.5–16.7, 16.10 and 17.14 of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Targets 2 and 3, and are supported by paragraphs 6 (a), (c), (k), (l), (n) and (w) and 7 (c) and (h)–(j) of the United Nations forest instrument.

(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.

Not relevant

**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:

**Progress towards target 5.3**

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

The mechanisms for cross sectoral coordination are in place from top level to the field level. Cross sectional coordination start at the level of Cabinet of Ministers. All major projects including the forest sector needs to be approved by the Cabinet of Ministers. Cross sectional dialogs also take place at the Environmental Impact Assessment process. Institutions up to ground level are involved in implementation as well.

Yes  No

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

(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:

Policy formulation is done at the ministry level with the involvement of all relevant government, non-government organizations and relevant community participation. The policies are approved by the Cabinet of Ministers. But the planning and implementation needs to be strengthened at the lower level.

#### **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:

Land use plans are taken into consideration at the District level under District Land Use Committee.

#### **Global forest goal 6 and associated targets<sup>9</sup>**

**Enhance cooperation, coordination, coherence and synergies on forest-related issues at all levels, including within the United Nations system and across member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, as well as across sectors and relevant stakeholders**

*Note: targets 6.1 and 6.2 are not included in this section of the reporting format as they address actions taken by the international community, and not those taken at the national level*

##### *Associated targets*

6.3 Cross-sectoral coordination and cooperation to promote sustainable forest management and halt deforestation and forest degradation are significantly enhanced at all levels

6.4 A greater common understanding of the concept of sustainable forest management is achieved and an associated set of indicators is identified

6.5 The input and involvement of major groups and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the strategic plan and in the work of the Forum, including intersessional work, is strengthened

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<sup>9</sup> Goal 6 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, target 17.14 of the Sustainable Development Goals and are supported by paragraphs 6 (b), (c), (g), (m) and (w) and 7 (r) and (s) of the United Nations forest instrument.

### 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.

Establishment of National Steering Committees and provincial steering committees.

(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.

Not relevant

### 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<sup>10</sup>
- Other (please specify):

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):

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<sup>10</sup> 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:

Sustainable forest management is included in curriculums of Universities and forestry sector In-service trainings.

**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

United Nations Strategic Plan for Forest is within the scope of National Forestry Policy and Strategies. The government involve all stakeholders in implementing the forest policy when required. Communities, CBO, NGOs are involved at ground level in community forestry programmes. Forest Restoration programme involves private sector organizations and academia mainly. The participation of communities in forest enhancement programmes and forest plantation establishment is limited. Ecotourism development programmes involve NGOs, and CBOs at the middle of the process.

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

**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:

Rural women participate in most of the meetings conducted at the field level. They involve in decision making and implementing the decisions.

(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:

### 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: Private Sector Participation in Forest Restoration**

Action taken: Restore degraded forest areas through promoting natural regeneration and planting limited number of local species. Forest Fire Control.

Goals and targets addressed: Increase the forest cover up to 32% by 2030

Outcome and results achieved: Around 300 ha of degraded forests brought in to restoration.

How did this action contribute to the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030?: To increase the world forest cover by 3%.

References:



## 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. <b>Forest area as a proportion of total land area</b>	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. <b>Forest area annual net change rate</b>	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. <b>Net greenhouse gas emissions (source)/ removals (sink) of forests, and carbon balance of harvested wood products</b>	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. <b>Proportion of forest area located within legally established protected areas</b>	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. <b>Change in area of primary forests</b>	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. <b>Proportion of forest area disturbed</b>	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. <b>Area of degraded forest</b>	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. <b>Above-ground biomass stock in forest</b>	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. <b>Volume of wood removals</b>	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. <b>Wood-based energy share of total final energy consumption</b>	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. <b>Forest area with a designated management objective to maintain and enhance its protective functions</b>	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. <b>Employment related to the forest sector</b>	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. <b>Number of forest-dependent people in extreme poverty</b>	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. <b>Contribution of forests to food security</b>	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. <b>Financial resources from all sources for the implementation of sustainable forest management</b>	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. <b>Existence of national or subnational policies, strategies, legislation, regulations and institutions that explicitly encourage sustainable forest management</b>	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. <b>Existence of national or subnational forest assessment process</b>	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. <b>Existence of national or subnational stakeholder platform for participation in forest policy development</b>	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. <b>Proportion of forest area under a long-term forest management plan</b>	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. <b>Forest area under an independently verified forest management certification scheme</b>	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. <b>Existence of traceability system(s) for wood products</b>	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.

<sup>a</sup> Tier 1: methodology and data in place. Tier 2: methodology in place, data challenges. Tier 3: methodology and data both present challenges.