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Dear Mr. Alexander Trepelkov,

**Subject : Submission of the Voluntary National Report (Republic of Korea)**

We are delighted to submit the UNFF Secretariat the Voluntary National Report of the Republic of Korea on the progress to United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017-2030.

This report was written by the Korea Forest Service (KFS), a focal organization of UNFF. KFS made an effort in including as much substance concerning implementation of SDGs, UNFI and UNSPF in this report as it could.

Please find attached the aforementioned report, And we would willingly respond to any inquiries arising from the report.

Once again, We would express our cordial gratitude to the secretariat for all its preparation over the report.

Sincerely yours,

**Kiyeon Ko**  
Director General  
International Affairs Bureau  
Korea Forest Service  
Republic of Korea





<b>Country:</b>	Republic of Korea
<b>Date of submission:</b>	31 January 2020

**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.*

<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

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## Global forest goal 1 and associated targets<sup>2</sup>

**GFG 1. Reverse the loss of forest cover worldwide through sustainable forest management, including protection, restoration, afforestation and reforestation, and increase efforts to prevent forest degradation and contribute to the global effort of addressing climate change**

### *Associated targets*

- 1.1 Forest area is increased by 3 per cent worldwide<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?

#### **(i) Legislative and policy actions**

*List of actions:*

##### In relation to associated targets 1.1-1.2:

1. Amendment of the Act on the Management and Improvement of Carbon Sink (hereinafter Carbon Sink Act): Completed.
  2. Amendment of the Act on the Sustainable Use of Timbers (hereinafter Timber Use Act): Completed.
  3. Formulation and implementation of the first Comprehensive Plan for Improvement of Carbon Sinks (2015-2019): Completed.
  4. Formulation and implementation of the second Comprehensive Plan for Improvement of Carbon Sinks (2018-2022): Completed.
- ※ the 2017 revision is planned to unify the planning time of the 6<sup>th</sup> Basic Forest Plan (2018~2037).
5. Formulation of the first Comprehensive Plan for Sustainable Use of Timbers (hereinafter Comprehensive Timber Use Plan): Completed.
  6. Formulation of the Mid-to-Long Term Implementation Plan for REDD+ (2020-2024): Planning stage.

##### In relation to associated target 1.3:

7. Amendment of the Forest Resources Creation and Management Act (hereinafter Forest Resources Act): Completed.
8. Formulation of the second Basic Plan for Forest Rehabilitation (2020-2024): Planning stage.

<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.

In relation to associated target 1.4:

9. Formulation of the second Comprehensive Plan for Forest Education (2018-2022): Completed
10. Formulation of the second National Climate Change Adaptation Plan (2018~2022): Completed
11. Formulation of the Climate Change Adaptation Plan for Forestry (2011~): Completed

*Description of actions:*

1. The Carbon Sink Act was enacted in 2013 with the goal of becoming a low carbon society and responding to climate change by maintaining and improving the carbon absorption function of forests. The act is continuously amended for the duties of the Forest Carbon Center and to improve timber use.
  2. The Timber Use Act was enacted in 2012 with the goal of responding to climate change by improving the carbon storage function of timbers and by sustainable use of timbers. The act is continuously amended for statistical/status surveys and establishing a professional personnel.
  - 3-4. The first and second Comprehensive Plans for Improvement of Carbon Sinks are plans for improving and managing forest carbon in response to the new climate regime, which include implementation of forest carbon offset scheme policies and execution of nationally determined contributions (NDCs) through participation in the 2030 National Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reduction Basic Roadmap (December 2016) and the revised roadmap (July 2018).
  5. The second Comprehensive Timber Use Plan is being formulated (201x) and implemented for sustainable use of timbers. The key goal is to increase the self-sufficiency of timber from 2% to 7% (2015-2020). As of 2018, the self-sufficiency of timber has increased to 5%.
  6. The key goal of the Mid-to-Long Term Implementation Plan for REDD+ is to contribute to NDC by establishing a Korean version of a REDD+ project model based on the experience gained through pilot projects (four countries: Indonesia, Myanmar, Laos, and Cambodia).
  7. The Forest Resources Act was enacted in 2006 for the goal of promoting sustainable conservation and usage of forests and utilization of various forest function through the creation and management of forest resources. The act is continuously amended for establishment and implementation of policies related to South Korea's own sustainable forest management certification system (2017) and forest rehabilitation system (2019).
  8. The plan is to improve the forest management work from a system focusing on ecosystem conservation to a system focusing on ecological rehabilitation by formulating the first Basic Plan for Forest Rehabilitation based on the amended Forest Resources Act.
  9. The Comprehensive Plan for Forest Education is established every five years based on the Forest Education Promotion Act (2011) for systematic operation and promotion of forest education for the purpose of cultivating the national spirit and enhancing awareness about forests.
- \* Forest education participation update: 2.55 million individuals in 2016 → 3.03 million in 2017 → 4.44 million in 2018.
10. Since damages caused by climate change are predicted to increase even further, strengthening of the climate change adaption ability of forest ecosystems will be promoted through the implementation of the expansion of the broadleaf afforestation area, dam basin landscaping, and advancement of forestry techniques.

## **(ii) Institutional actions**

*List of actions:*

In relation to associated targets 1.1-1.2:

1. Implementation of forest carbon offset scheme: In progress.
2. Designation and operation of graduate school specializing in carbon sinks: In progress.

In relation to associated target 1.3:

3. Implementation of the Korean Forest Certification Council (KFCC): In progress.

*Description of actions:*

1. The forest carbon offset scheme is designed to increase the forest carbon credits through various carbon sink projects, including creation and management of forests and vegetation recovery. The number of projects was 71 in 2015 and 212 in 2018. Through these projects, the estimated annual forest carbon credit (cumulative) increased significantly from 8,737 tCO<sub>2</sub> in 2015 to 199,271 tCO<sub>2</sub> in 2018.
2. A single school (Seoul National University) has been designated and is being operated as the graduate school specializing in carbon sinks with the goal of research-based expansion and systematic growth and training of professional personnel needed for maintaining and improving carbon sinks.
3. The KFCC, adopted in 2015 and implemented since to facilitate sustainable forest management can be divided largely into certification of forest management and production/distribution of forest products. As of 2018, a total of 10 cases have been certified, whereby a total of 274,148 ha of forest land has been certified for forest management under the KFCC.

## **(iii) Financial actions**

*List of actions:*

1. Implementation of the forest carbon offset scheme: In progress.

*Description of actions:*

1. Budget allocation for the implementation of the forest carbon offset scheme.

\* Budget (in million won): 1,362 (2015) → 1,294 (2016) → 1,179 (2017) → 1,179 (2018).

## **(iv) Technical and scientific actions**

*List of actions:*

1. Reinforcement of research in the forest sector to cope with the new climate regime: In progress.
2. Reinforcement of climate change vulnerability assessment and forest ecosystem services-based research: In progress.

*Description of actions:*

1. To achieve the NDC submitted, South Korea established the 2030 National GHG Reduction Roadmap (hereinafter Roadmap) in December 2016 and the Roadmap was recently revised in July 2019. The revised Roadmap includes quantitative reduction targets. Accordingly, a study is being conducted

(2009-2023) to provide the carbon sink maintenance and improvement policies and technologies needed for meeting the reduction targets assigned up to 2030.

- Various studies were conducted to support the Carbon Sink Act, which produced the following achievements among others: 1) development and testing of country-specific factors (22 tree species and 136 emission factors) for improving the completeness and accuracy of national GHG inventory for the forest sector; establishment of sample and image-based land use change matrices (proposed); comparison of methods for setting the cut-off line for forest management and development of carbon accounting system for the forest sector; development of forest soil carbon model; and development of an analytical model for GHG abatement potential in the forest sector.
- In addition, REDD+ study was conducted in collaboration with the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) and Official Development Assistance for Developing Countries for overseas carbon reduction, which produced various achievements including selection of a tree species (*Calophyllum inophyllum* (Nyamplung)) for Indonesian peatland restoration and development of bioenergy-based community development model.
- To support the Timber Use Act, studies were conducted on the establishment of production/distribution statistics by products needed for assessment of carbon stock in harvested timber products; assessment of entire process for each product using this; and development of country-specific factors (half-life, etc.).

2. To strengthen the climate change adaptability of forest ecosystems, the following studies are being conducted (2012-2023) for the purpose of providing the policies and technologies for monitoring changes in forest ecosystems by region and function, which also include climate change impact/vulnerability assessments.

- Studies for strengthening the climate change adaptability include establishment of a mountain meteorological network and provision of meteorological information; prediction and monitoring of changes in forest ecosystems linked to long-term ecological surveys and satellite data; and investigation and analysis of growth of tree species vulnerable to climate change. The findings from these studies are being linked together to examine the changes in the complex forest ecosystem functions.

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

South Korea enacted Act on the Management and Improvement of Carbon Sink and introduced forest carbon offset scheme for implementing GFG 1. It contributed to increasing the area of forests and promoting sustainable forest management (UNFI 7(d)) through afforestation and restoration of degraded lands for not only Korea but also developing countries. In addition, Korea is actively taking lead in promoting social, environmental and economic value of forest and timbers (UNFI 7(e)) by assessing carbon sinks in timber products for expanding sustainable use of timbers and developing construction technology of large-sized wooden buildings. It can be evaluated that those efforts contribute to boosting health and vitality of forests (UNFI 6(o)) and mitigating and adapting to climate change.

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

In South Korea, forest acreage is decreasing every year due to continued supply of housing and expansion of infrastructure. Continued decrease in forest acreage is forecasted for the future due to high demand for non-forest land use. Accordingly, it would be difficult to make a direct contribution in the short-term for achieving the goal of increasing forest area by 3% worldwide.

1.(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.

None reported.

1.(e) Any additional comments on goal 1:

None



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

### GFG 2. 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?

#### **(i) Legislative and policy actions**

##### *List of actions:*

##### In relation to associated target 2.4:

1. Enactment and amendment of the Forest Welfare Promotion Act (hereinafter Forest Welfare Act): Completed.
2. Mountain village development project (2018-2021): In progress.
3. Discovery and development of forestry-based economic companies through the Forest Job Creation Headquarters (2018-2023): In progress.
4. Establishment of forest welfare promotion plan (2018-2022): Completed.
5. Establishment of forest welfare statistics/information management system (2019-2023): In progress.
6. Creation of forest tourism ecosystem (2018-2022): In progress.

##### In relation to associated target 2.5:

7. Establishment and implementation of the second Forest Biodiversity Master Plan (2013-2017): Completed.
8. Establishment and implementation of the third Forest Biodiversity Master Plan (2018-2022): Completed.
9. Creation, management, and utilization of urban forests within living areas: In progress.
10. Expansion and development of forest ecosystem management centers: In progress.

<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.

*Description of actions:*

1. The Forest Welfare Act was enacted for the purpose of pursuing happiness and enhancing public health and quality of life by providing systematic forest welfare services. Since then, it has been amended continuously amended for priority hiring of local residents and creation/operation of welfare complexes.
2. The mountain village development project is being carried out as a pilot project for the purpose of focused development of forestry businesses through comprehensive support for using forest resources based on business development and discovery of region-specific resources. The project began with five cities/districts (2018) and will expand to include 30 cities/districts (2021).
3. The Forest Job Creation Headquarters provides direct support in the field of forestry to promote revitalization of regional forestry businesses from local residents using the forests and forest resources to autonomously establish and operate forestry-based economic companies. Currently, 133 “Geuroo” economic companies have been discovered (2018-2019), which are contributing to the revitalization regional forestry business.
4. As a mid-to-long term strategy for presenting the vision and goals of forest welfare, it is a legislative plan for integrating master plans from various sectors of forest welfare. Based on customized forest welfare services by life cycles, it presents detailed implementation plans for realization of national happiness and commercialization of forest welfare.
5. To provide customized welfare services that account for diverse public demand, the plan is to establish statistics/information management system for creation, utilization, and management for different types of services, including forest recreation, culture, education, and healing.
6. As a part of the first Basic Tourism Promotion Plan (2018-2022), it promotes rejuvenation of sustainable forest tourism by transitioning to a privately-operated system from a government-led system, and to support this, a one-stop comprehensive reservation system for forest tourism facilities and spaces will be established.
- 7-8. For active participation in the efforts of the international community, such as the CBD and ABS, the Forest Biodiversity Master Plan not only provides the measures for conservation of endangered species (54 species) listed in the IUCN Red List, but also includes the “Conservation and Restoration Measures for Endangered High-Altitude Conifers (2016)” for conservation of seven species of high-altitude conifers that have suffered major damages in South Korea, including *Abies koreana* and *Picea jezoensis*.
9. The goal is to expand the forest welfare services offered and environmental improvement (mitigation of fine dust and heatwaves) through creation of urban forest in various types of living areas (green ssamji forests, living environment forests, and forest parks).
10. To develop forest ecosystem management centers as the key organizations for forest biodiversity management, 13 forest ecosystem management centers will be established throughout South Korea by 2030: 8 centers (2017) → 9 centers (2022) → 13 centers (2030).

**(ii) Institutional actions**

*List of actions:*

In relation to associated target 2.4:

1. Registration system for forest welfare professionals: In progress.
2. Forest welfare service voucher system: In progress.

Description of actions:

1. The registration system for forest welfare professionals enables registered corporations and organizations that meet the registration criteria (personnel, capital, offices, etc.) to provide forest welfare services. As of 2016, the system transitioned to a privately contracted operation from government-led operation. In doing so, enhancement of professionalism in forest education services, revitalization of private market, and job creation were promoted.
2. The forest voucher system was implemented to enhance the accessibility to forest welfare services by providing vouchers with set monetary values to people alienated from forest welfare (basic living security recipients, disability allowance recipients, recipients of allowance for disabled children, etc.). The service has become a part of the general social services. In recognition of strengthening public interest by being linked to social safety net, it was included in the first Social Security Master Plan (2014-2018).

**(iii) Financial actions**

*List of actions:*

4. Conducting forest welfare service utilization status survey to account for various public needs.
5. Carrying out establishment of a one-stop comprehensive reservation system for forest tourism facilities and spaces.
- 7-8. Conservation and restoration of endangered high-altitude conifers.

*Description of actions:*

4. Budget allocate and execution for forest welfare service utilization status survey to account for various public needs.  
\* Relevant budget (in million won): 200 (2019) → 200 (2020).
5. Budget allocate and execution for establishment of forest recreation (national/shared natural recreation forests) integration platform.  
\* Relevant budget (in million won): 2,915 (2018) → 2,485 (2019) → 900 (2020).
- 7-8. Completion of survey of endangered high-altitude conifers (2017~2018); creation of monitoring and conservation center (2019-).  
\* Relevant budget (in million won): 900 (2017) → 900 (2018) → 900 (2019).

**(iv) Technical and scientific actions**

*List of actions:*

1. Strengthen research for expanding forest-based public welfare space and functions: In progress.
2. Strengthen research of forest ecosystem conservation/restoration and ecosystem service-based research: In progress.

*Description of actions:*

1. Recently, there is greater emphasis on the social, economic, and environmental benefits of forests and forestry from non-traditional forest/forestry aspects including response to social/environmental issues, such as fine dust reduction, and social functions, such as education, welfare, and healing, rather than the traditional resource supply aspect. To enhance the social, economic, and

environmental benefits of these sectors, studies are being conducted on scaling and maximum utilization of forest welfare spaces (2015-2023).

2. With respect to studies on forest biodiversity conservation and climate change adaptation, it is difficult to show tangible outcomes within a short period since the entire country represents spatial subject of such studies and all biological and non-biological environment within forests represent potential study subjects. Various studies are being conducted on DB construction, genetic diversity assessment, and forest genetic resource conservation for securing biological sovereignty according to the adoption of the Nagoya Protocol; survey of specific forest ecosystems, such as islands; and development of a restoration system for Baekdudaegan, which is the ecological corridor of the Korean Peninsula (2010-2023).
3. One or more fixed survey sites will be established for at least 90% of the 318 stations in government-owned forest genetic resource protection areas to conduct vegetation surveys in 5-year cycles. ※ Fixed survey sites: 100 sites (2017) → 300 sites (2022).

2.(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?

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

South Korea has been contributing to the various implementation actions for social/economic/environmental advancement centered on local resident and societal aspects of the United Nations forest instrument. South Korea has done this by emphasizing the public interest of forests that strives for health promotion, improvement in quality of life, and pursuit of happiness in all citizens (6(t)) based on the Forest Welfare Act. In relation to this, South Korea is providing products and services, such as natural recreational forests, forest welfare complexes, and trails/forest roads, to combat the relative poverty (6(d)) of mountain villages and local residents (relative to cities), while promoting the rejuvenation of private sector-led sustainable mountain village tourism (6(h)).

For a more direct approach, the government is leading the local residents to develop social/economic/environmental advancement models using local characteristics through mountain village development, forest job creation headquarters, and education/training of the local residents. Furthermore, as an effort to create new values by applying innovative technology (7(k)), forest healing has been included in the forestry service sector to make significant contributions in promoting social/economic/environmental benefits to the local communities.

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

Since the number of mountain village residents and forestry workers and the proportion that forestry accounts for within the total GDP are insignificant relative to the overall national economic status, it is very difficult to not only eradicate absolute poverty, but also to quantify the forest-based social, economic, and environmental benefits from a forestry perspective.

2.(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.

None reported

2.(f) Any additional comments on goal 2:

None

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

### **GFG 3. 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?

#### **(i) Legislative and policy actions**

##### *List of actions:*

##### In relation to associated target 3.1:

1. Formulation of the second National Protection Plan on Baekdudaegan (2016-2025): Completed.
2. Ecological rehabilitation project for damaged/disconnected forests (Stage 1: 2016-2022, Stage 2: 2023-2030): In progress.
3. Peace Forest Initiative (2019~): In progress.
4. Formulation and implementation of the second Master Plan for Management of Forest Genetic Resource Protection Areas (2018-2022): In progress.
5. Restoration Project Sites Linking the Ridgeline of Baekdudaegan: In progress.

##### In relation to associated targets 3.2-3.3:

6. Amendment of the Forest Resources Act (2017): Completed.

##### *Description of actions:*

- 1-2. The goal is to rehabilitate damaged areas around Baekdudaegan and the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) for ecological rehabilitation of damaged/disconnected forests to enhance the ecological health of the key ecological corridor of the Korean Peninsula. The Baekdudaegan ecological corridor being rehabilitated will be maintained stably through strengthened Baekdudaegan protection and management system from execution of the master plan from Baekdudaegan.

\* Baekdudaegan/DMZ rehabilitation plan: 315ha (2017) → 411ha (2022); \* Forest ecological corridor connection/rehabilitation plan: 5 stations (2017) → 11 stations (2022)

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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.

3. Through the 14th Conference of the parties to the UNCCD (September 2019), KFS is starting to introduce the Peace Forest Initiative (PFI), a policy program promoting peace through common forest cooperation projects between neighboring countries who have had disputes and/or countries that are vulnerable to natural disasters. Additionally, KFS will implement a stepwise project for establishing a peace-promoting ODA global brand through forestry.
4. The second Master Plan for Management of Forest Genetic Resource Protection Areas is characteristic of development and operation of forest protection area management program for win-win collaboration with local residents. By forming a collaborative system with local residents, relevant organizations, and private entities, forest ecological management centers are actively used as regional bases. Till date, 444,680 ha (forest genetic resources protection area: 152,436ha) have been designated as forest protection area, while eight forest ecological management centers are in operation.
5. Continued expansion of the protected forest areas (445,000 ha), which are the repository of bioresources, is planned.
  - \* Expansion of genetic resources protection area around jeongmaek/island regions: 152,000 ha (2017) → 2,000,000 ha (2022)
6. By amending the Forest Resources Act, KFCC was adopted for sustainable forest management, as well as strengthening the competitiveness of forestry products from Korea in foreign markets and fulfilling environmental/social responsibilities.

#### **(ii) Institutional actions**

*List of actions:*

In relation to associated targets 3.2-3.3:

1. Adoption of KFCC (2015): Completed.

*Description of actions:*

1. KFCC must be mutually recognized with international forest certification systems to facilitate trade of forestry products, and thus, the project range was divided largely into forest management and forestry product production/distribution (chain of custody) in keeping with international trends. As of 2018, the total acreage managed under KFCC was 274,148ha (4.3% of all forests), while 13 businesses had been certified for forestry product production/distribution.

#### **(iii) Financial actions**

*List of actions:*

In relation to associated targets 3.2-3.3:

1. Adoption of KFCC (2015): Completed.

*Description of actions:*

1. Budget (in million won): 281 (2015) → 279 (2016) → 279 (2017) → 279 (2018).

**(iv) Technical and scientific actions**

*List of actions:*

1. Study on Baekdudaegan conservation/rehabilitation and systematization of spatial management.
2. Study on sustainable forest management for solving global environmental issues.

*Description of actions:*

1. Baekdudaegan and DMZ, which represent the key ecological corridor of the Korean Peninsula, have distinct spatial classification characteristics and very high ecological value, and thus, they could be viewed as representative conservation/rehabilitation areas to which effective region-based conservation methods could be applied. Accordingly, studies are being conducted for assessment of spatial and ecological functions and establishment of mid-to-long term management system.
2. Sustainable forest management (e.g., KFCC) requires efforts to individually or comprehensively apply most forest science research findings, including those related to conservation of biodiversity; productivity, health, and vitality of forest ecosystems; conservation and maintenance of soil and water resources; contribution to carbon cycle; and reinforcement of social and economic benefits.

3.(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?

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

South Korea is pursuing restoration of the damaged areas around Baekdudaegan and DMZ, which form the main ecological corridor of the Korean Peninsula, and are making a significant contribution to the implementation of the expanding protected areas (6(p)) by the UNFI. A prime example of this is the PFI for creating forests in neighbouring areas with disputes and/or areas that are vulnerable to natural disasters, which was introduced at the 14<sup>th</sup> Conference of the parties to the UNCCD.

Moreover, the UNFI also urges the establishment of a transparent forestry product trading system that can be trusted for sustainable forest use (6(x)), based on which to increase the production of forestry products and expand the trading of such products (7(f-g)). To strengthen the competitiveness of forestry products in domestic and foreign markets and to meet its environmental/social responsibilities, South Korea has adopted the legal timber trade promotion system and KFCC to contribute to the enhancement of reliability of global forestry product trade.

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

It was not difficult to conduct quantitative assessment prior to implementation since indicators (forest area) that are more specific than other GFG were given. However, it was difficult to differentiate and present implementation and progression of associated goals with similar concepts, such as sustainable forest management, long-term forest management plan, and forests managed by sustainable methods.

3.(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.

None reported.

3.(f) Any additional comments on goal 3:

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

### **GFG 4. 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.

1. The role as a contributing member is being strengthened through multi-party collaboration.
  - 1.1 Through the Green Asia Initiative between the Korea Forest Service and AFoCO, forest restoration projects in a total of six countries are supported.
  - 1.2 Implementation of the Forest Ecosystem Restoration Initiative (FERI), which is a collaborative project with CBD, is being supported with approximately 3.1 billion won (2015-2020), while continued support subsequent to the completion of the first phase is under review.
  - 1.3 Implementation of the Forest and Landscape Restoration Mechanism (FLRM), which is a collaborative project with FAO, is being supported with approximately 4.2 billion won (2014-2020), playing the leading role in the project by contributing to the project through general operation of FLRM and securement of additional funding.
  - 1.4 Funding support of 4.1 billion won was provided (2019) for strengthening forest cooperation with the countries under the New Southern Policy through the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO).
2. Bilateral ODA project aims to make a global contribution to the prevention of desertification and land degradation, focusing on desertification prevention projects.
  - 2.1 A budget of 500 million won was secured to support the forest conservation efforts in Central Africa through the Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI). A total of 2.5 billion won will be contributed to the CAFI over 5 years (2020-2024).
  - 2.2 The Indonesian peatland conservation/restoration project is being carried out and a total of three

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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.



million dollars of funding support will be provided (2019-2022).

3. The Korea Forest Service continues to make financial contributions for bilateral and multi-party ODA projects, while developing partnerships between private organizations and businesses for the development of sustainable forest cooperation business models, attempting various forms of sustainable businesses, including forest rehabilitation, eco-tourism, and agroforestry.

\* Relevant budget (in million won): 1,120 (2015) → 1,300 (2016) → 1,390 (2017) → 1,300 (2018) → 1,290 (2019).

4.(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.

None reported

### **Progress towards targets 4.1 and 4.2**

4.(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:

South Korea has selected key cooperation partner nations and projects based on the International Development Cooperation Act for investing over 70% of the total international development cooperation budget. However, it is difficult to obtain stable financial resources for international forest cooperation because it has low investment priority due to the need for long-term investment, as compared to cooperation projects in other sectors, by having low cost-effectiveness .

### **Progress towards targets 4.3**

4.(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 targets 4.4**

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>

### **GFG 2. 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.

1. Amendment of the Act on the Sustainable Use of Timbers (2017.3.22.) and implementation of the system for restrictions on illegal logging and related trade (2018.10.1.)
2. Based on the legal premise of the “Framework Act on Low Carbon, Green Growth” (2009), the third National Sustainable Development Plan (2016-2035) is being carried out. Continued efforts are made for institutional support and consistency with national laws through systematic operation of the system for restrictions on illegal logging and related trade through the amendment of the enforcement decree of the Timber Use Act and review of revision of sub-criteria notification, as well as continued development of standard guides for each country. In addition, after formulating the National Sustainable Development Plan, implementation status of the plan is constantly checked. In the case of the third plan, efforts are made to assure that the UN-SDGs reflect the conditions in South Korea and to achieve integrative and consistent policy making between environmental-social-economic sectors
3. Korea Database on Protected Areas (KDPA; <http://www.kdpa.kr>) that could be used to combine and manage protected areas that are designated and managed by each department has been established to strengthen the service for the general public.

- 5.(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 reported

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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.

**Progress towards targets 5.1**

5.(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 targets 5.2**

5.(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:

- |   |
|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Efforts are being made to reduce damage by cracking down on illegal conversion of forest to other uses; illegal harvesting, logging, and distribution of forestry products; and illegal activities in islands, northern section of the DMZ, and forest protection area, such as Baekdudaegan.</li><li>2. Special inspections are carried out to crack down on poaching and illegal trade through the establishment of the poaching/illegal trade prevention measures (2000).</li></ol> |
|---|

**Progress towards targets 5.3**

5.(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:

- |   |
|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Policy conditions for effective implementation of the Act on the Sustainable Use of Timbers (2017.3.22.) and implementation of the system for restrictions on illegal logging and related trade (2018.10.1) were prepared.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Efforts are being made to expand the in-house forest certification program for mutual recognition between KFCC and Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) and proof of lawfulness of timber.</li><li>- Efforts are being made to achieve policy consistency, including efforts to establish the evidence for preferential use of certified products by amending Article 19 of the Timber Use Act (preferential procurement).</li></ul></li></ol> |
|---|

5.(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:

**Progress towards targets 5.4**

5.(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:

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

**GFG 6. 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**

### *Associated targets*

※ *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*

- 6.3 Cross-sectoral coordination and cooperation to promote sustainable forest management and halt deforestation and forest degradation are significantly enhanced at all levels
- 6.4 A greater common understanding of the concept of sustainable forest management is achieved and an associated set of indicators is identified
- 6.5 The input and involvement of major groups and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the strategic plan and in the work of the Forum, including intersessional work, is strengthened

### *Questions on goal 6*

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

- 1. Support for private sector participation and stronger cooperation is being provided through consulting by overseas forest resources development and afforestation relation corporations (international forest cooperation using private resources).
- 2. Efforts are being made to broaden the understanding of and empathy towards why formal forestry assistance is needed in developing countries by accepting opinions from the public about their views on bilateral forest cooperation through the operation of public think box (policy discussion).
- 3. Efforts are being made to expand the achievements of projects in the forest sector through cross-sectoral collaboration. Local resident income creation and mangrove forest restoration are being planned as collaboration projects involving the Korea Forest Service and Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries, while business plan and strategies are periodically discussed and updated so that the projects could become exemplary cases of cross-sectoral collaboration.
- 4. Contributing to sustainable forest management (SFM) through cooperation between countries and importance of temperate and boreal forests by contribution to continuous response to the Montreal Process drafting and publication of pan-national report (expected in 2021 at the 15th World Forestry Congress).
- 5. Efforts are being made to collaborate with stakeholders at various levels by moving away from government-led projects by operating a private advisory board and accepting opinions of various private organizations by sponsoring desertification prevention NGO conferences.
- 6. Various cooperation projects (various initiatives) and partnerships with international agencies, including the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), and United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), are being newly identified and continuously implemented. In particular, South Korea is contributing to the implementation of the three major global environmental conventions and achievement of GFGs through cooperation projects, including the Changwon Initiative with UNCCD, FLRM with FAO, and FERI

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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.

with CBD.

6.(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 reported

**Progress towards targets 6.4 (criteria and indicators)**

6.(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  
 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):

※ South Korea has been submitting various national reports, which include national report on three major environmental conventions, FRA, national report for sustainable management of the Montreal Process, VNR on SDGs, and national report on sustainable development.

1. Plan for formulation of SDGs suitable for Korea (Korean-SDGs, hereinafter K-SDGs) was prepared and K-SDGs confirmed. Major indicators and goals were set as shown below.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Percentage (%) of areas designated as protected areas for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity	- 11.6 (2017) >> Continues to expand Status on registration in the Korea Database on Protected Areas (KDPA) * (Korea Forest Service) The third Forest Biodiversity Master Plan (2018-2022)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Percentage (%) of forest area within total land area	- 63.05 (2017) >> Continues to expand 2017 Statistical Yearbook of Forestry (Korea Forest Service) “Percentage of forest”
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expansion of national forest management indicators (number of cases)	- 36 (2017) >> 54 National Report on Sustainable Forest Management (2014)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Track record of crack downs on poaching and illegal trade	- 168 (2017) >> Continues to expand Basis for prevention measures for poaching and

	illegal trade of wild animals during winter
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Annual forest damage acreage due to mutant/non-native species (ha)</li> </ul>	<p>- 26,230('17) &gt;&gt; 25,000</p> <p>According to Korea Forest Service internal statistical data (statistics on damage caused by <i>Metcalfa pruinosa</i>, <i>Ricania shantungensis</i>, and <i>Agelastica coerulea</i> Baly in 2017</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ (New) Forest restoration acreage, including Baekdudaegan (ha)</li> </ul>	<p>- 315('17) &gt;&gt; 700</p> <p>The Korea Forest Service's third Forest Biodiversity Master Plan (2018-2022) for, Baekdudaegan-DMZ Area Restoration Plan (315ha in 2017 → 411ha in 2022)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ (New) Restoration of urban centers and living areas (ha)</li> </ul>	<p>- 150 (2017) &gt;&gt; 500</p> <p>The Korea Forest Service's third Forest Biodiversity Master Plan (2018-2022), restoration plan for other areas, such as urban centers and living areas (150ha in 2017 → 369ha in 2022)</p>
<p>2. With respect to sustainable forest management (SFM), South Korea has voluntarily participated in the Montreal Process and has submitted data on implementation outcomes and achievements for 36 out of 54 indicators in a total of seven standards by the first report (2009) and second report (2014). Expansion of the number of reportable SFM indicators is an important point of consideration in national policy, to the point of being included in K-SDGs 15.2. SFM report from a pan-national level will be introduced at the 15th World Forestry Congress (2021).</p>	

**Progress towards targets 6.4 (communication and awareness)**

6.(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:

**Progress towards targets 6.5**

6.(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:

**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:

7.(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:

<http://blog.daum.net/kfs4079/17213732>  
<http://blog.naver.com/kfri9612/221493598892>

## Global forest goal and associated targets success stories

### 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**

Actions taken: Implementation and operation of a legal timber trade promotion system

Goals and targets addressed:

- Establish distribution order for imported timber products and strengthen the domestic timber industry by promoting the trade of legally logged timber

Implementation background:

- According to the 2012 INTERPOL report, an estimate of 15-30% of timber products worldwide is from illegal sources. (estimated timber value: 100 trillion won)
- South Korea, which relies on imports to meet 85% of its timber demand, mostly exports timber products reprocessed from imported raw materials. However, South Korea faced difficulties in exporting reprocessed timber products to other countries with regulations on illegal logging and trade, because of the absence of a regulation on the illegal timber trading.

Main contents:

- Importers must report to the Minister of KFS when importing timber
- Before customs clearance, the legality of logging must be inspected by an inspection agency appointed by the Minister of KFS

※ Documents needed to verify the legality of timber products (per Article 19-3 of the Act on the Sustainable Use of Timbers)

1. A permit for logging issued pursuant to the statutes of the country of origin
2. A document designated and announce by the Minister of KFS, which is used internationally and accepted in order to certify legally logged timber or timber product
3. A document designated and announced by the Minister of KFS, which is mutually recognized in accordance with bilateral agreement between South Korea and the country of origin
4. Any other documents designated and announced by the Minister of KFS, which verify that the relevant timber or timber product has been legally logged

○ Implementation system

- (Legislation) Revision of the “Act on the Sustainable Use of Timbers” (2017 and 2019); revision of subordinate statutes (2018)
- (Announcement) Enactment of detailed standards for determining the legality of imported timber/timber products (2018)
- (Organization) Recruited two additional staff members dedicated to legislative work (2018), and hired three new employees for the import inspection agency (2019)
- (System) Linked imported timber legality management system to UNI-PASS system of the Korea Customs Service

Outcome and results achieved:

- Participation rate of forestry businesses: 20% (2018) → 98% (2019)
- Adoption of legal timber trade promotion system contributed to significant decrease in GFG 5.2 global illegal logging and related illegal trade

Budget: 300 million won (2018) → 1 billion won (2020)

Participating agencies and organizations

- Domestic: Korea Forestry Promotion Institute, National Institute of Forest Science, Korea Customs Service, etc.
- Foreign: APEC EGILAT, EFI, FOREST TRENDS, NEPCon, WRI, etc.

## Success story 2

Actions taken: Establishment and operation of the Baekdudaegan Global Seed Vault

Goals and targets addressed:

- Implementation goals: Construction and operation of “permanent wild plant seed vault” facility for conservation of global biodiversity
- Detailed goals: Store 10,000 species and 120,000 pieces (domestic and foreign) by 2030

Implementation background:

- Foreign
  - Implement international cooperation duties such as CBD and ABS in regard to biodiversity including forest ecosystem.
  - Need for ex situ preservation of at least 75% of native plants in accordance with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) 2020
- Domestic
  - Act on the Acquisition, Management and Utilization of Bio-Resources for Research: Assure the sovereignty of bio-resources for research and proactively respond to global trends, including the Nagoya Protocol
  - Creation and Management of Forest Resources Act: Establishment and implementation of Forest Biodiversity Master Plan for sustainable use and preservation of forest biodiversity
  - The 4<sup>th</sup> Basic Plan for Arboretum Promotion (2019~2023): Need for “plant shelter” for useful forest plant resources

Main contents:

Title	Baekdudaegan Global Seed Vault
Establishment period	2012~2015
Characteristics	46m below ground, entry tunnel and storage tunnel with length of 130 m, earthquake-resistant design (seismic intensity of 6.9)
Storage scale	Over 2 million pieces
Storage conditions	Maintain below -20°C and RH 40%; year-round constant temperature/humidity air conditioning system

- Homepage: <https://www.bdna.or.kr/contents.do?idx=34#empt>

Outcome and results achieved:

- Seed storage status: 3,478 species and 55,039 pieces (as of December 2019)
- Seed vault depositing agencies: 50 (42 domestic agencies and 8 foreign agencies from 4 countries)

Total		Collected		Deposited	
Species	Pieces	Species	Pieces	Species	Pieces
3,478	55,039	1,368	26,866	3,190	28,173

- By operating a seed vault for ex situ preservation of global wild plant seeds, the following contributions could be made to the implementation of GFG:
  - GFG1.4 & 2.5: Provide a safety net for biodiversity by duplicate preservation of domestic/foreign seeds
  - GFG2.3: Ex situ preservation of wild plant seeds, which are the sources of food seeds
  - GFG6.3: Establishment and operation of a seed preservation network with relevant domestic/foreign agencies

Budget: 480 million won (2017) → 560 million (2018) → 520 million won (2019) → 600 million won (2020)

Participating agencies and organizations: Svalbard Global Seed Vault, Agrobiodiversity Center at the Rural Development Administration, etc.

**Success story 3**

Actions taken: Forest Job Creation Headquarters program

Goals and targets addressed:

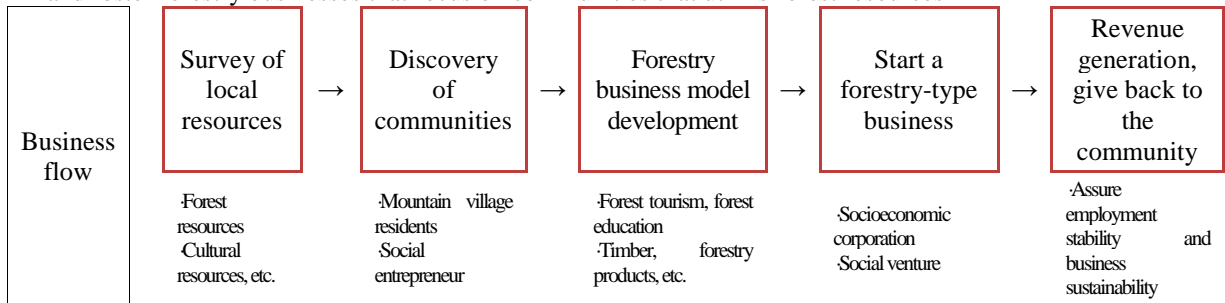
- Contribute to job creation, increased income in mountain villages, and community activation through the development of customized forestry business models for local communities

Implementation background:

- Need for local community-based job creation to increase sustainability and maintain the functions of mountain villages that are on the verge of extinction

Main contents:

- Newly establish a support organization (Forest Job Creation Headquarters) specialized for forestry to support and foster forestry businesses that focus on communities that utilize forest resources



Outcome and results achieved:

- Select and assign Geuroo managers (job planner/activist): 5 managers (2018) → 35 managers (2019)
- Discover and develop Geuroo economic companies (local communities): 28 businesses (2018) → 133 businesses (2019)
- Participation by local residents: 338 residents (2018) → 1,149 residents (2019)
- Through the advancement of social/economic/environmental aspects led by local residents using forests, the following contributions could be made to the implementation of GFG:
  - GFG2.4: Contribute to socioeconomic advancement of forest/forestry-related small-to-medium businesses
  - GFG5.3: Assure consistency in central and local forest-related policies, guarantee participation by local residents

Budget: 800 million won (2018) → 2.4 billion won (2019) → 4 billion won (2020)

Participating agencies and organizations: Korea Forestry Promotion Institute and Korea Social Enterprise Promotion Agency

## 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
7. <b>Area of</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

<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>
<b>degraded forest</b>	vitality			Resources Assessment	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
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</b>	6. Socioeconomic functions of forest	Number of full-time	2	FAO Global Forest	Measures progress towards target 2.4 of the United Nations strategic

<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>
<b>forest sector</b>	resources	equivalents		Resources Assessment	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
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

<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>
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.