

**REPORT**

**NATIONAL CONSULTATION WORKSHOPS FOR THE MONITORING,  
ASSESSMENT, AND REPORTING (MAR) ON PROGRESS TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE  
FOREST MANAGEMENT (SFM)**

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**UNFF Consultant**

## 1. Introduction

The UN Forum on Forests (UNFF) provided funding support for the Philippines to conduct a project on “*Monitoring and Assessment of Sustainable Forest Management in the Philippines?*”. The project’s primary purpose is to support and assist the country in developing a comprehensive and efficient system for monitoring progress towards SFM. This will be achieved through a step- by-step approach, which will include conducting inventories of existing forest-related data, mapping data gaps, and addressing these gaps.

To implement the project, a national consultant, Dr. Guillermo A. Mendoza, was engaged with the following tasks/responsibilities to:

- Prepare an analytical study on:1) the national and international reporting requirements on forests and forest related goals and targets, 2) inventory/availability of forest data
- Facilitate, with the assistance of the national UNFF focal point, a national meeting/workshop on monitoring and reporting on forests.

The consultant conducted the analytical study, prepared and submitted a report entitled, “***Monitoring Progress Towards Sustainable Forest Management in the Philippines: An Analytical Study on Forest Data and Implementation Progress***”.

The purpose of this second report is to provide a narrative description of the two national consultations conducted as part of the project’s objectives.

## 2. National consultation: Part 1

The original design of the project was to conduct only one national workshop/consultation. However, after a careful stock-taking and review process, the Forest Management Bureau (FMB) decided that it is best to have two national consultations. The first is intended to be an internal consultation participated primarily by DENR staff, and the second was aimed as a national multi-stakeholder consultation. Hence, the first consultation was intended to enable DENR-FMB to take a first hard look at its data and monitoring efforts, review its information database, examine its national reporting commitments, including voluntary reports, and at the same time study the corresponding data requirements of these national and international reporting systems, especially the UNFF National Reporting System. Subsequently, the second national consultation will constitute the primary platform for a multi-stakeholder review and consultation of the results and concerns emanating from the first consultation. This section provides a brief cursory review of the first national consultation.

The workshop was attended by about 30 participants constituted primarily from representatives of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, specifically from the Forest Management Bureau (FMB), Central Office of DENR, Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau (ERDB), National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (NAMRIA), and other allied agencies.

Annex 1 shows the Program or Agenda covered during the first national consultation. The program starts with a series of presentations and discussions on background materials about UNFF, the UN Forest Instruments, the UN Strategic Program on Forests, and the different national reporting commitments. Workshops through focus groups were constituted around the Global Forest Goals followed consistent, or in keeping, with the requirements or spirit of the proposed UNFF National Reporting System.

Annex 2 contains a Memorandum Report submitted by the Assistant Director of FMB to The Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs providing a brief report on the outcome of the first national consultation.

Detailed Reports of the four workshop groups, including Plenary Session outputs were prepared and are available but are not included in this report.

### **3. National Consultation: Part 2**

The second consultation was conducted as a follow up to the first consultation. It was attended by representatives from different government agencies such as: DENR/FMB; National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA); Philippine Statistical Association; National Commission for Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), Non-governmental and Civil Service Organizations (e.g. Philippine Tropical Forest Conservation Foundation); Research and Development agencies (e.g. the Forest Products Research and Development Institute) Local Government Units (e.g. Baguio City), and Regional Agencies (e.g. DENR Cordillera Region).

Prior to the second national consultation, the Philippines was selected as a pilot country where the Draft UNFF Monitoring and Assessment Report (MAR) will be tested. This decision was arrived at because, or in part as a consequence, of the first national consultation/workshop.

Annex 3 shows the Agenda/Program for the second national consultation.

After the decision for the country to pilot test MAR, FMB took a closer look at the Draft UNFF Reporting Format for MAR. FMB held an internal workshop on the third week of August 2017 to examine the Draft MAR Format and initiate filling up the UNFF Form by accomplishing or providing the data and information required by MAR. Prior to the internal workshop, Dr. Mendoza made an initial effort to fill out the UNFF Form. The draft of the partially filled-up MAR prepared by Dr. Mendoza was sent to FMB which was subsequently revised during FMB's internal workshop.

Annex 4 shows the filled up UNFF Form accomplished by FMB.

During their internal workshop, FMB decided to carefully look at the UNFF Form and how it may also concomitantly complement FMB's own data needs and concerns beyond the requirements of the UNFF Reporting System. Such a perspective enabled FMB to link the UNFF Reporting System to its other national reporting commitments through the explicit identification of what they referred to as 'Data Elements'. They identified data elements that can be associated with the Targets under each of the Global Forest Goals (GFG). The data elements provide a simple way to link the data needs of each GFG Target with the data needs of other national reporting commitments. The data elements for each target identified by FMB at their internal workshop are shown in Annex 5 (non-highlighted entries).

The objectives of the second national workshop/consultation were:

- To examine and discuss the format of the UNFF Reporting System
- To present and review the Draft National UNFF Report (Piloting the Draft UNFF Reporting System)
- To review and provide input to the Draft National Reporting System (Monitoring and Assessment Report (MAR) of Sustainable Forest Management)
- To discuss the link, synergy, and complementarity of MAR with other national reporting commitments

### **4. Results and observations during the Workshop**

The workshop was conducted in a highly participatory manner with the sessions facilitated in a plenary set up by selected leaders from FMB. The sessions were organized and conducted following the six GFGs; i.e. one session each for GFG 1, 2, 3 and 4; and another session for combined GFG 5 and 6.

Each session was divided into two parts: Part 1 – Presentation and revision of the Data elements identified by FMB previously associated to each Target under each GFG; Part 2 – Presentation of the Filled up UNFF Form as completed by FMB.

Part 1 constituted and consumed a majority of the time for each session. Much of the participation and input from the participants were gained during this session. In general, new Data Elements were added for most of the Targets based on the suggestions of the participants. In some cases, Data Elements identified by FMB were revised, edited for clarity, and rephrased to make them more concrete, concise and clear.

In addition to the Data Elements, the filled up UNFF Form was also presented to the participants. In many cases, minimal changes were made. It was noted that the questions and responses were qualitatively stated in narratives; hence, no significant changes were needed. However, the participants also gave comments and suggestions regarding the UNFF Form in general, as well as specific comments in each of the targets. The comments vary in terms of scope, clarity, and lack of concreteness or ambiguity.

Annex 6 shows a summary of the general and specific comments about the UNFF Form in general, and specific concerns about the Targets and Data elements in particular.

## **5. The Filled-out UNFF Form**

As pointed out earlier, FMB revised and made modifications to the draft UNFF Form partially filled out by Dr. G. Mendoza. The Form is still undergoing some changes and being finalized as of this writing. FMB will submit a final draft after a final meeting scheduled on September 27, 2017.

In filling out the Form, FMB also took note of the comments and suggestions with respect to the proposed (Draft) UNFF MAR Form. FMB is finalizing the comments, observations, and suggestions generated while filling out the Form, and also the comments/reactions drawn from the second national consultation workshop. FMB will also submit the finalized comments/reactions.

## Annex 1

### Workshop on Monitoring, Assessment, and Reporting (MAR) on Progress towards Sustainable Forest Management (SFM)

1-2 June 2017, Hive Hotel, Quezon City

June 1, 2017	Responsible Person
<p><b>9:00 AM Opening Session</b></p> <p>a. Welcome and Opening Remarks</p> <p>b. Introduction of Participants</p>	<p><b>For. Nonito M. Tamaya, CESO IV</b> Director of Forest Management Bureau</p> <p>FMB Staff</p>
<p><b>9:30 Setting the Scene</b></p> <p>a. Meeting's Objectives</p> <p>b. Introduction to UNFF and other UN-forestry initiative</p> <p>c. Outcome of the 12<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations Forum on Forest</p> <p><b>10:30 Break</b></p> <p>d. Relevant Mandates/Voluntary Reporting to the Forum</p>	<p><b>Dr. Gil Mendoza</b> Facilitator/UNFF Consultant</p> <p>Fe Oliveros Chief, Forest Policy Section</p> <p><b>For. Ray Thomas F. Kabigting</b> Alternate Philippine Representative</p> <p><b>Mr. Tomasz Juszcak</b> Forest Affairs Officer United Nations Forum on Forests Department of Economic and Social Affairs</p>

<b>11:00</b> Stocktaking of Forest-Related Data for the 6 Global Forest Goals	<b>Dr. Gil Mendoza</b> Facilitator/UNFF Consultant
<b>12:00 LUNCH</b>	
<b>1:00 – 5:</b> Continue Stocktaking of Forest Related Data  3:00 – 3:15 Linking of UNFF Reporting System with other National/International Reporting Commitments  3:16-5:00 Workshop Groups based on GFG1, GFG2, GFG3, GFG 4-6	G.A. Mendoza/FMB Facilitator
<b>June 2, 2017</b>	
<b>9:00 AM</b> Presentation of Results of Stocktaking	G. Mendoza/FMB Facilitator
10:00 General Agreements on the Reporting Protocol	<b>Dr. Gil Mendoza</b> Facilitator/UNFF Consultant
Closing Remarks	<b>For. Mayumi Quintos – Natividad</b> Assistant Director of Forest Management Bureau

**Annex 2:**

**MEMORANDUM**

FOR : The Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs

FROM : The Assistant Director  
In-Charge, Office of the Director

SUBJECT : **OUTPUT OF THE WORKSHOP ON THE MONITORING, ASSESSMENT, AND REPORTING (MAR) ON PROGRESS TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT IN THE PHILIPPINES**

DATE :

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This refers to the recently concluded Workshop on Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting (MAR) on Progress towards Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) conducted by the Forest Management Bureau (FMB) as per DENR Special Order No. 2017-439.

**Background:**

The UNFF is an intergovernmental policy forum which is mandated to address forest-related issues in an integrated and holistic manner and oversees implementation of the UN Strategic Plan for Forests and the UN Forest Instrument, as well as the operation of the UNFF Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network (GFFFN). The Forum has encouraged members to submit voluntary national reports on progress made towards the implementation of sustainable forest management.

The UN Strategic Plan for Forests, a landmark plan of action for forests, and the UN Forest Instrument, formerly *Non-Legally Binding Instrument (NLBI) on All Types of Forests*, provide countries with a global framework for promoting SFM. The Instrument is voluntary and non-legally binding and each State is responsible for the sustainable management of its forests and for the enforcement of its forest related laws.

The Plan includes 6 Global Forest Goals and 26 associated targets to be achieved by 2030 as well as Voluntary National Contributions towards their attainment. These Goals and targets are voluntary and universal. The vision, principles, and commitments set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development provide the context for the Global Forest Goals and targets, which are interconnected and integrate the economic, social and environmental dimensions of SFM and sustainable development. These Goals and targets are intended to stimulate and provide a framework for voluntary actions, contributions and enhanced cooperation by countries and other stakeholders. They also provide a reference for enhanced coherence and collaboration on forests

within the UN system and across CPF member organizations, as well as across other forest-related organizations and processes. The global Goals and targets encompass a wide variety of thematic areas where voluntary actions, contributions, and cooperation are needed to advance their achievement.

### **Highlights of the Consultation Workshop:**

1. Representatives from the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD), National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (NAMRIA), Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau (ERDB), Environmental Management Bureau (EMB), DENR-Policy Studies Division, DENR-Planning and Programming Division, DENR-Foreign Assisted and Special Projects Service, River Basin Control Office, and units across Forest Management Bureau were present during the consultation workshop.
2. For. Fe C. Oliveros of the FMB presented an introduction to the UNFF and other UN-Forestry related initiatives, while For. Ray Thomas F. Kabigting presented the outcome of the 12<sup>th</sup> Session of the UNFF.
3. Mr. Tomasz Juszczak, representative of the UNFF Secretariat, presented relevant mandates on the voluntary reporting to the Forum and its draft format. The present report includes a proposal for the new cycle and format for voluntary national reporting on the implementation of the UN Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030, including the UNFI and voluntary national contributions, and an update on continuing work on developing a set of global forest indicators and possible measures to further streamline and harmonize reporting, reduce reporting burdens and synchronize data collection with relevant member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, criteria and indicators processes and other existing forest data collection mechanisms
4. Stocktaking of Forest-Related Data for the Six GFGs was done. Participants were tasked to fill-up a matrix for the necessary data for the realization of the Global Forest Goals and its targets.
5. National Government Agencies such as Department of Agriculture (DA), National Food Authority (NFA), Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board (HLURB), Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), National Economic Development Authority (NEDA), National Power Corporation (NPC), etc. were identified to take part on the Second Consultation Workshop.

The UNFF Secretariat also invited the Philippines to participate on the pilot testing on the draft format of reporting to the United Nations forum on forests. In this regard, may we request for your concurrence to take part in the pilot testing. Should the Undersecretary concur, attached is a draft letter addressed to the Director of United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat expressing our interest to participate in the pilot testing.

For the Undersecretary's information and consideration.

**MAYUMI QUINTOS - NATIVIDAD**



## Annex 3:

**NATIONAL CONSULTATION WORKSHOP FOR THE MONITORING, ASSESSMENT, AND REPORTING (MAR) ON PROGRESS TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT (SFM)**

17-20 September 2017, Microtel Hotel, Baguio City  
(8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.)

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Responsible Person</b>
<b>September 17, 2017</b> (Travel Time to Baguio City)		
<b>September 18, 2017</b>		
8:00-8:15	<b>Opening Session</b> c. Welcome and Opening Remarks  d. Introduction of Participants	<b>For. Nonito M. Tamayo</b> Director of Forest Management Bureau  Facilitator
8:16-8:25	<b>Setting the Scene</b> Meeting's Objectives	<b>Dr. Gil Mendoza</b> UNFF Consultant
8:26-9:25	Introduction to UNFF and other UN-Forestry related initiatives and outcome of the 12 <sup>th</sup> session of UNFF	<b>For. Fe C. Oliveros</b>
9:25-10:00	Linking UNFF Reporting System with other national and international reporting commitments	<b>Dr. Gil Mendoza</b>
10:00-10:15	<i>Tea Break</i>	
10:16-11:00	<b>Plenary</b> Presentation of the draft UNFF Reporting Format	<b>Mr. Tomasz Juszcak</b> UNFF Secretariat
11:00-12:00	Introduction	<b>For. Ray Thomas Kabigting</b>
12:00-1:00	<i>Lunch Break</i>	
1:00-3:00	Presentation of the result of preliminary filling out of report template (by GFGs) -GFG1	<b>FMB</b>
3:00-3:15	<i>Tea Break</i>	
3:15-5:00	Presentation of the result of preliminary filling out of report template (by GFGs) -GFG2	<b>FMB</b>
<b>September 19, 2017</b>		
8:00-10:00	Presentation of the result of preliminary filling out of report template (by GFGs) -GFG3	<b>FMB</b>
10:00-10:15	<i>Tea Break</i>	

10:15 – 12:00	Presentation of the result of preliminary filling out of report template (by GFGs) -GFG4	<b>FMB</b>
12:00-1:00	<b><i>Lunch Break</i></b>	
1:00-3:00	Presentation of the result of preliminary filling out of report template (by GFGs) -GFG 5 and 6	<b>FMB</b>
3:00-3:15	<b><i>Tea Break</i></b>	
3:15-4:00	Highlights of inputs from other sectors	<b>Dr. Gil Mendoza</b>
4:01-5:00	General Agreements on Information Sharing / Reporting Protocol (Plenary) - Possible data contributions: content, format, methodology - Frequency of reporting /synchronization of data collection	<b>Dr. Gil Mendoza</b>
<b>September 20, 2017</b>		
9:00-9:30	Agreements and Way-forward	<b>For. Edna D. Nuestro</b>
9:31-10:00	Closing Remarks	<b>For. Mayumi Quintos – Natividad</b> Assistant Director of FMB