

Voluntary National Report to UNFF

Voluntary National Report on progress towards the implementation of the UN Strategic Plan for Forests 2017–2030, the UN Forest Instrument and Voluntary National Contributions

Thank you for taking the time to complete the voluntary national report to the UN Forum on Forests (UNFF). Before you start, please take note of the following important information:

1. The Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2022/17, requested the UNFF secretariat to amend the format for voluntary national reporting to the Forum, taking into account the suggestions and proposals received from members of the Forum, and conduct a pilot phase for the use of the refined format. In the same resolution, the Council invited the Forum to consider establishing an advisory group on reporting. It further requested that the secretariat explore options for establishing an online reporting platform for the Forum, recognizing the need for streamlined reporting and minimizing the reporting burden, including the challenges faced by developing countries.
2. In fulfilling this mandate, the UNFF Secretariat has amended the format, taking into account the suggestions and proposals received from Members of the Forum and in consultation with the advisory group on reporting. The secretariat has also established an online reporting platform for the submission of voluntary national reports to the Forum.
3. The amended format is structured around the Global Forest Goals and targets of the UN Strategic Plan for Forests 2017–2030 (UNSPF) and builds on the previous format that was used for reporting to the UNFF15.
4. The amended format consists of twelve sections, each with several questions:
 1. General information
 2. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 1 and associated targets
 3. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 2 and associated targets
 4. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 3 and associated targets
 5. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 4 and associated targets
 6. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 5 and associated targets
 7. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 6 and associated targets
 8. Self-assessment of progress toward the Global Forest Goals and targets
 9. Voluntary National Contributions
 10. Other questions: Gender equality
 11. Other questions: International Day of Forests
 12. Success stories

To download a PDF file of the amended voluntary report format, click here [English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [French](#)

5. In view of the cross-cutting nature of issues relating to forests and sustainable forest management, you are kindly invited to consult experts from relevant national ministries, the national focal points for the FAO Global Forest Resources Assessments (FRA), Rio Conventions, other member organizations of the CPF, criteria and indicators processes, and relevant stakeholders, where applicable. Only information that is not currently provided to the member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), or that is not available in other international databases, is requested.
6. In completing the national report, you may include actions by the Government, as well as the private sector, communities, civil society, or other stakeholders. The year 2020 is used as a baseline, so please include all actions taken since this date. Where applicable, please indicate the source of information, or provide a weblink as reference.
7. All terms used in this amended format are consistent with terms and definitions used by the FAO Forest Resources Assessment.
8. Please refer to the Explanatory Notes ([English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [French](#)) for more in-depth guidance when completing the national report. Other helpful resources include:
[Global Forest Goals and targets \(E/RES/2017/4\)](#)
[Sustainable Development Goals and targets \(A/RES/70/1\)](#)
9. The deadline for submission of the national reports to the UNFF secretariat is 30 June 2025.

Instructions for using the online reporting platform

1. A dedicated link has been provided to the main UNFF national focal point from each country to complete their national report. You may share the link with other national officials, experts from your own country and other relevant departments to collaborate on a single national report. To avoid accidentally deleting or overwriting completed sections of the report, please ensure no two people are working on the same section of the format at the same time. Please do not share the dedicated link with anyone not involved in completing the UNFF national report for your country.
2. The reporting format is available in English, Spanish and French. Please select the language using the menu located in the top right corner of the page.
3. You are given the flexibility to pause and resume completion of the national report. Your responses will be automatically saved, and you may return to the report at any time before the deadline for submission. To return to the report, please click on the link in the original email. If you are working with a weak internet signal, you may want to connect using an Ethernet cable instead of Wi-Fi to ensure a more stable connection.
4. You are invited to use the Section Navigator to move between sections of the survey. Click on the 'Answer' button next to each Section to navigate to the questions in that Section. Once inside the section, use the 'Save and continue' button to proceed within the section and the 'Back' button to return to previous questions.
5. By clicking 'Review and Download' in the Section Navigator, you will be able to download a PDF copy of your responses. After download, you can return to the questions to amend your answers, if necessary.
6. Prior to submission, you will be prompted to upload a cover letter conveying this as the official national report for your country. This step is mandatory. The cover letter shall include an official letterhead with the full name of country, ministry, and/or institution, mail and email address, phone number and the signature of an authorized senior national official. The cover letter size should not exceed 2MB.
7. After submission, you will receive a confirmation email and a PDF copy of the national report.
8. In case of any questions or technical issues, please reach out to Ms. Nadine Souto (nadine.souto@un.org) and Mr. Tomasz Juszcak (juszcakt@un.org) from the UNFF secretariat.

1. General information

1. Country:

This question is required

Namibia

2. UNFF National Focal Point:

(The national focal point will receive a PDF copy of the UNFF national report upon submission)

This question is required

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Title: : Director

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**3. Contact person for the present national report, if different from the UNFF National Focal Point:
(The contact person will receive a PDF copy of the UNFF national report upon submission)**

Name: : Esmeralda Strauss
Title: : Deputy Director
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**4. Institutions involved in the preparation of the national report:
(up to five)**

Institution Name:

Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism

Email address:

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Address:

P/Bag 13306, Windhoek, Namibia

Institution Name:

Email address:

Address:

2. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 1 and associated targets

Global Forest Goal 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

Target 1.1: Forest area is increased by 3 per cent worldwide

Target 1.2: The world's forest carbon stocks are maintained or enhanced

Target 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

Target 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

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 and are supported by paragraphs 6 (o) and 7 (d) and (e) of the United Nations forest instrument.

Target 1.1: Forest area is increased by 3 per cent worldwide

5. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 1.1? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 1.1, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Forest Protection and Conservation

Brief description of the action:

Namibia actively protects and conserves its forests through a combination of state-led initiatives and community-based approaches. These include establishing protected areas, promoting sustainable forestry practices within community forests, and empowering local communities to manage and benefit from forest resources.

Main results achieved for the action:**1. Forest and veld fire management:**

On average total of 1000 km of firebreaks have been constructed and maintained annually.

Establishment of forest and veld firefighting units and training in basic fire suppression techniques have been carried out every year in various regions, especially in communal and communities' forest areas. The initiatives have influenced the reduction in forest and veld fire every year.

2. Law enforcement:

Law enforcement activities such as patrol, roadblock, site inspection for harvesting forest resources and issuing of fines have been carried out annually and reduced the illegal harvesting with 20 percent. The permit issuing for utilising forest resources has been the tool for controlling and monitoring the resources off-take, this to ensure sustainable use and reduce deforestation.

3. Development and Implementation on Forest Policies and Legislations:

Created awareness to the public on the Forest legislation, emphasizing conservation, forest fire management, forestry permits, illegal logging, and poaching of succulents. The awareness campaigns were conducted through local radio stations, community meetings, trade fairs, and agricultural and industrial shows. Through this initiative, compliance with Forest Policies and Legislations have improved.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.2
1.3
2.1
2.5
3.1
3.2
3.3
5.1
5.2
5.3

This action contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

Target 1.2: The world's forest carbon stocks are maintained or enhanced

6. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 1.2? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 1.2, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Community based Natural Resources Management

Brief description of the action:

Community based natural resource management (CBNRM) creates an environment where people in communal areas can actively manage their ecosystems. Where rights are given to the local communities to manage their natural resources. As a results, legally recognized community conservation organisations such as conservancies and community forests were formalized under the Nature Conservation Amendment Act of 1996 and Forest Act of 2001.

Main results achieved for the action:**1. Community Forest Establishment:**

To date, a total of 47 community forest covering 9.7 million hectares has been established. The intervention focuses on activities carried out in collaboration with rural communities and organisations on communal lands focusing on devolution of, and sustainable management and utilisation of forest resources in those classified forests.

2. Establishment of State Forest

State forests are owned and managed by the government, they are established to protect forest resources of national importance, preserve ecosystems, and conserve biodiversity. There are 3 state forest gazetted in Namibia.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.3
1.4
4.1
4.2
6.1

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2

Weblink:

Target 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

7. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 1.3? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 1.3, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Tree planting and Orchard development

Brief description of the action:

The intervention covers seedling production and supports tree planting and other on-farm forestry activities on private farms; on land allocated to individual households; in community forests; and in woodlots and orchards on communal lands to increase forest cover and income-generating activities.

Main results achieved for the action:

Over 100 000 seedlings are produced annually in government nurseries country wide and being sold at the subsidized price to encourage community to buy and plant them.

The government also donate over 10 000 seedlings every year for planting at Schools, Towns and settlements and more then 5000 seedlings are planted during Aborday cerebration each year.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:**This action also contributes to these SDG targets:**

15.2

Weblink:

Target 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

8. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 1.4? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 1.4, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Research on tree species

Brief description of the action:

The research focuses on sustainable management of forest resources and on existing gap to reduce the impacts of climate change, while increasing the resilience of the natural forest.

Main results achieved for the action:

Studies on drought and frost Torrance tree species, forest fire trial for the introduction different fire burning regime to reduce the high impact fire to forest resources. It's also included the assessment of fire impact on various trees species in terms of tree growth, yield and mortalities. Other keys area include mopane woodland management, marula provenance trials, and the genetic improvement of indigenous fruit trees.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:**This action also contributes to these SDG targets:****Weblink:**

Global Forest Goal 1 Challenges

9. What are the main challenges in achieving Goal 1 in your country?

Please limit your answer to 250 words.

1. Illegal Logging and Unsustainable Harvesting:

Expanding populations and commercial exploitation of valuable timber species like Zambezi Teak and Kiaat are leading to deforestation and degradation.

2. Land Clearing for Agriculture:

Increasing demand for agricultural land, driven by population growth, results in the clearing of forest areas.

3. Uncontrolled Fires:

Frequent, uncontrolled fires, particularly in the late dry season, can be extremely damaging, affecting large trees and impacting forest ecosystems.

4. Climate Change:

Namibia's forests, like those globally, are vulnerable to the effects of climate change, including shifting temperatures, increased drought frequency, and more intense and frequent wildfires.

5. Lack of Awareness:

Lack of awareness about the existence and importance of forests in Namibia, even among some residents, politicians, ecologists, and general public. This can hinder conservation efforts.

6. Unsustainable Harvesting of Non-Timber Forest Products:

This is not always visible as logging, but the unsustainable harvesting of resources like devil's claw, used in traditional medicine, can also pose a threat.

7. Weaknesses in Policy Implementation and updated:

Challenges also exist in implementing effective forest management policies and laws, including issues related to centralized planning and a lack of resources and capacity at the local level.

8. Poverty and Livelihood Needs:

Poverty and lack of alternative livelihood options can drive communities to exploit forest resources unsustainably, making it crucial to balance conservation with socio-economic needs.

9. Inadequate Forest Management Practices:

Unsustainable harvesting regimes and effective fire management strategies further contribute to forest degradation

3. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 2 and associated targets

Global Forest Goal 2: Enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, including by improving the livelihoods of forest-dependent people

Target 2.1: Extreme poverty for all forest-dependent people is eradicated

Target 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

Target 2.3: The contribution of forests and trees to food security is significantly increased

Target 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

Target 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

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, 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.

Target 2.1: Extreme poverty for all forest-dependent people is eradicated

10. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 2.1? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 2.1, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a

maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Promote and support value addition to forest resources

Brief description of the action:

Value addition to forest resources primarily involves processing raw timber and non-timber forest products into higher-value items, creating economic opportunities for communities and reducing reliance on exporting raw materials.

Main results achieved for the action:

1. Woodworking:

Transforming raw timber into furniture, construction materials, and other finished wood products.

2. Charcoal Production:

Converting wood into charcoal, a valuable fuel source, and potentially using byproducts like biochar for soil improvement.

3. Crafts and Cosmetics:

Utilizing plant-based materials (oils, fibers, etc.) to create handicrafts, cosmetics, and other marketable goods.

4. Food and Beverages:

Processing wild fruits and other edible forest products into jams, juices, and other food items.

Benefits of Value Addition:

1. Increased Income:

Value addition creates more jobs and revenue streams for local communities.

2. Reduced Reliance on Raw Exports:

Processing products locally minimizes dependence on exporting raw materials at lower prices.

3. Sustainable Resource Management:

Diversifying income sources can reduce pressure on specific forest resources and encourage sustainable harvesting practices.

4. Economic Diversification:

Creating new industries and businesses based on forest resources can strengthen local economies.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

Weblink:

Target 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

11. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 2.2? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 2.2, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Support community forest to access grants

Brief description of the action:

Community forests in Namibia can access grants through various channels. These grants support community-based natural resource management (CBNRM) initiatives, such as the alternative income-generating projects, human-wildlife conflict mitigation, and critical support services for community forests.

Main results achieved for the action:

Grant Opportunities and Support:

1. Community Conservation Fund of Namibia (CCFN):

CCFN provides grants for investment in alternative income-generating activities in conservancies and community forests, particularly those affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

2. Environmental Investment Fund of Namibia (EIF):

EIF offers grants through its Small Grants Facility, with funding windows for Restoration and Climate Proofing, and Eco-Enterprise Adaptation.

3. Namibian Association of CBNRM Support Organisations (NACSO):

NACSO provides technical expertise and support through its working groups (Natural Resources, Institutional Development, and Business, Enterprises & Livelihoods).

4. Directorate of Forestry:

The Directorate of Forestry within the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) provides support to community forests management and administration.

5. Other Partners:

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are recognized as key partners in supporting CBNRM processes, including linking communities to funding sources.

Key Areas for Grant Funding received:

1. Alternative income-generating activities:

Developing businesses based on sustainable natural resource use, such as eco-tourism, craft production, or harvesting of non-timber forest products and horticulture.

2. Human-wildlife conflict mitigation:

Implementing measures to reduce conflict between humans and wildlife, such as fencing, livestock guarding, and early warning systems.

3. Critical Support Services:

Funding for core CBNRM activities, including natural resource management, governance, financial management, and capacity building.

5. Restoration and Climate Proofing:

Projects focused on restoring degraded ecosystems through tree planting at local level and building resilience to climate change impacts.

6. Wood carpentry workshop:

This includes the whole value chain processing of timber to the finished product e.g chair and tables.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

Weblink:

Target 2.3: The contribution of forests and trees to food security is significantly increased

12. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 2.3? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 2.3, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Forests and trees play a vital role in food security

Brief description of the action:

Forestry resources significantly contribute to food security through various interventions by the Directorate of Forestry through the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism and support partners.

Main results achieved for the action:**1. Tree planting and Orchard development**

Fruits tree seedlings are being produced in government nurseries country wide and sold at subsidized price to increase off-take by the public for planting. The directorate supported and established community orchards in various regions as demonstration plots to promote food production through orchard development.

2. Bee keeping

Beekeeping in Namibia offers great potential, especially given the country's unique climate, diverse flora, and increasing interest in sustainable agriculture and income diversification. Farmers and community forest were trained on trained on bee keeping management and techniques, and this have increased the farmer and honey production

3 Forest conservation and protection activities implemented have increased the direct and indirect food production forest resources such as:

Direct food provision**Edible Products:**

Forests and trees provide a range of edible products, including fruits (like marula), nuts, seeds, leaves, roots, and bushmeat.

Insects:

Some forest insects, like mopane worms, are a significant source of protein and income.

Livestock Fodder:

Trees and shrubs provide fodder for livestock, supporting meat and milk production.

Indirect food provision**Soil Fertility:**

Trees like *Acacia erioloba*, *G. coleosperma*, and *F. albida* improve soil fertility through nitrogen fixation and nutrient cycling.

Water Conservation:

Forests help regulate water cycles, improving water availability for both humans and agriculture. They also reduce soil erosion, preventing land degradation and maintaining fertile topsoil.

Microclimate Regulation:

Trees can create a more favorable microclimate for crop growth by providing shade and reducing extreme temperatures.

Income Generation:

Forest products, both wild and cultivated, can be sold for income, which can be used to purchase food.

Agroforestry:

Integrating trees into agricultural systems (agroforestry) can enhance crop yields, improve soil health, and increase biodiversity.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:**This action also contributes to these SDG targets:****Weblink:**

Target 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

13. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 2.4? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 2.4, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Implementation Sustainable Forest Management

Brief description of the action:

Sustainable forest management is crucial for maximizing the benefits of forest resources, while mitigating negative impacts.

Forestry and forest-based activities implemented in Namibia significantly contribute to social, economic, and environmental development

Main results achieved for the action:

Social Contributions:

1. Support livelihoods

Forests provide direct and indirect employment opportunities, particularly in rural areas where alternative income sources are limited.

2. Food Security:

Forest resources, including non-wood forest products (NWFPs) like fruits, nuts, and Mopane worms, contribute to food security.

3.Traditional Uses:

Forests are vital for traditional practices, providing materials for shelter, fuel, and medicinal purposes.

Economic Contributions:

1.Gross National Product

Forest utilization contributes to the Gross National Product (GNP), with a significant portion derived from both non-Wood and wood Forest Products.

2. Charcoal Industry:

The charcoal industry, driven by bush encroachment in central Namibia, provides employment and income.

3.Tourism:

Forested areas attract tourists, boosting the tourism sector and generating revenue.

4. Value-Added Products:

Developing value-added products like art and crafts, and wood-based industries, can further enhance economic contributions.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

Weblink:

Target 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

14. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 2.5? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 2.5, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation

Brief description of the action:

Namibia is a signatory to the Rio Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and recognizes the interconnectedness of biodiversity conservation and climate change, integrating both into its national policies and strategies. The country's approach emphasizes adaptation, mitigation, and the crucial role of reduction of carbon emission and increases carbon storage.

Main results achieved for the action:

1. National Implementation:

Namibia has demonstrated a commitment to the CBD by establishing a national biodiversity policy in 1994 and a National Biodiversity Programme. The policy focuses on the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components, and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from genetic resources. It also highlights the crucial role of local communities in biodiversity conservation and sustainable resource management.

The biodiversity conservation is guided by its National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), which integrates biodiversity considerations into national development.

2. Coordination of Rio Conventions:

Namibia also coordinates the implementation of the three Rio Conventions: The Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

Weblink:

Global Forest Goal 2 Challenges

15. What are the main challenges in achieving Goal 2 in your country?

Please limit your answer to 250 words.

1. Unsustainable Harvesting:

Unsustainable harvesting of forest resources can lead to deforestation and land degradation.

2. Balancing Economic Needs and Conservation:

Balancing the economic needs of local communities with the need for forest conservation is a key challenge.

3. Climate Change Impacts:

Namibia's vulnerability to climate change necessitates sustainable forest management to enhance resilience.

5. Promoting Awareness:

Raising awareness about the importance of sustainable forest management and creating a market for sustainably harvested products is crucial.

4. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 3 and associated targets

Global Forest Goal 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

Target 3.1: The area of forests worldwide designated as protected areas or conserved through other effective area-based conservation measures is significantly increased

Target 3.2: The area of forests under long-term forest management plans is significantly increased

Target 3.3: The proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests is significantly increased

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, and are supported by paragraphs 6 (p), (q) and (x) and 7 (f) and (g) of the United Nations forest instrument.

Target 3.1: The area of forests worldwide designated as protected areas or conserved through other effective area-based conservation measures is significantly increased

16. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 3.1? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 3.1, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Establishment of protected areas and state forest

Brief description of the action:

Namibia has established a robust system of protected areas and state forests, with a strong emphasis on community involvement. The country's protected area network, including national parks and reserves, covers a significant portion of the land, where some forest dominated land can be found.

Main results achieved for the action:

In Namibia, approximately 1 million hectares forest cover is under protected areas, while 120 000 hectares are within nature reserves. In addition, the state forest cover 174,827 hectares of forest land.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

Weblink:

Target 3.2: The area of forests under long-term forest management plans is significantly increased

17. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 3.2? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 3.2, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

The area of forests under long-term forest management plans

Brief description of the action:

Namibia's initiative on Community Based Natural Resources Management (CBNRM) is built on the basis that espouses sound environmental management and promotes the sustainable use of natural resources, in a manner that empowers local communities who should share the responsibilities and benefits of such management. Through this several communal conservancies and community forest has been gazetted.

Main results achieved for the action:

A total area of 10.3 million hectares of forest is under long-term forest management plans, specifically within the framework of community forests and communal conservancies in the northern part of the country.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

Weblink:

Target 3.3: The proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests is significantly increased

18. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 3.3? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 3.3, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests

Brief description of the action:

It's difficult to pinpoint a precise proportion of forest products derived from sustainably managed forests in Namibia, efforts are underway to increase this percentage. Namibia has a relatively small forest area, and deforestation is a concern, primarily due to land clearing for agriculture and wildfires. However, the country is actively promoting sustainable forest management practices, including the establishment of community forest reserves and the implementation of environmental forestry programs.

Main results achieved for the action:

Approximately 60% of the forest products being produced in Namibia are coming from sustainably managed forests and woodland. This has influenced by law enforcement, awareness campaign activities and Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification at farm level.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:**This action also contributes to these SDG targets:****Weblink:**

Global Forest Goal 3 Challenges

19. What are the main challenges in achieving Goal 3 in your country?

Please limit your answer to 250 words.

1. Limited Capacity and Resources:**a) Insufficient Staff and Training**

There is a shortage of trained forestry professionals to carry out essential tasks like forest inventories, monitoring, and enforcement of regulations.

b) Inadequate Data Management

Limited resources and facilities for storing and managing forestry data further complicate planning and decision-making.

2. Policy and Governance:**a) Policy Gaps and Implementation**

Developing and enforcing effective legislation for sustainable forest management is an ongoing process, and some policies are not adequately implemented.

b) Illegal Exploitation

Illegal logging and other forms of forest exploitation undermine sustainable management practices.

c) Resource Ownership

Unclear or undefined resource ownership can lead to conflicts and unsustainable use of forests.

3. Environmental Factors:**a) Forest Fires**

Uncontrolled and accidental fires pose a significant threat to forests, particularly in the dry woodlands.

b) Deforestation and Degradation

Conversion of forest land for agriculture, settlements, and other uses, combined with unsustainable harvesting practices, leads to deforestation and forest degradation.

c) Overgrazing

Overgrazing by livestock can damage forest undergrowth and reduce forest regeneration.

4. Socio-Economic Factors:**a) Poverty and Livelihoods**

Poverty and lack of alternative livelihoods can drive unsustainable forest use as people rely on forests for fuelwood, timber, and other resources.

b) Limited Stakeholder Participation:

Effective forest management requires the active participation of local communities and other stakeholders, but this is sometimes lacking.

c) Insufficient Funding:

Limited funding for forestry programs and conservation efforts can hinder progress in sustainable forest management.

5. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 4 and associated targets

Global Forest Goal 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

Target 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

Target 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

Target 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

Target 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

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

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, 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.

Target 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

20. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 4.1? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 4.1, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

The implementation of Environmental Levy in Namibia

Brief description of the action:

The purpose of the Environment Levy is to raise funds to conserve and/or improve biodiversity in Namibia. It provides an important funding source for a range of strategic environmental management initiatives across the country.

Main results achieved for the action:

In 2019 Namibia started implementing environmental duties/levies on plastic bags, certain lubricants/ oils, batteries and motor vehicle carbon emission to raise funds for environmental management

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.2
4.2
6.1

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

Target 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

21. Since 2020, has your country been able to mobilize significantly increased financial resources for the implementation of sustainable forest management?

No

22. If yes, please specify the sources:
(Select all that apply)

23. If no, please describe the main challenges encountered:

Lack of awareness at political level about the value of forest resources have impacted the fund allocation for sustainable forest management activities.

Target 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

24. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 4.2? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 4.2, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Multilateral and Bilateral support for forestry sector

Brief description of the action:

Namibia's forestry sector receives multilateral support through various international organizations and bilateral agreements. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Bank, and the Global Environment Facility (GEF) are key players in providing financial and technical assistance to Namibia's forestry and environmental initiatives.

Main results achieved for the action:

Key Multilateral and Bilateral Partners:

FAO:

Supports the National Programme to Combat Desertification and provides technical guidance on forestry policy and legislation.

UNDP:

Involved in projects related to biodiversity management, climate change, and community resilience, often in collaboration with the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA).

World Bank:

Supports projects like the Namibian Coast Conservation Management (NACOMA) project, demonstrating its commitment to conservation and sustainable resource management.

GEF:

Funds projects related to biodiversity conservation, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and sustainable land management.

Germany, Finland, and Denmark:

Bilateral partners that provide financial and technical assistance to Namibia's forestry sector, including support for tree planting initiatives and sustainable forest management practices.

EU:

The European Union, through its various programs, also provides funding and support to Namibia's forestry sector, including the SADC/EU Forest sector co-operation strategies.

Specific Examples:

The Namibia-Finland Forestry Programme provided significant technical and financial support to the Directorate of Forestry for over 14 years.

The DEA/GIZ Biodiversity Management and Climate Change (BMCC) Project focuses on biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation.

The Namibian Coast and Conservation Management (NACOMA) Project, supported by the World Bank, aims to improve coastal resource management and conservation.

The Climate Investment Funds (CIF) supports the preparation of an Investment Plan to address climate change impacts and promote nature-based solutions.

The SADC/EU Forest sector co-operation strategies provide a framework for regional cooperation on sustainable forest management.

By leveraging the expertise and resources of various multilateral and bilateral partners, Namibia is working to strengthen its forestry sector and ensure the sustainable management of its forest resources for the benefit of present and future generations.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 1.1
- 1.2
- 1.3
- 1.4
- 2.2
- 2.3
- 2.4
- 4.1
- 4.3
- 6.1

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

- 15.1
- 15.2
- 15.b

Weblink:

Target 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

25. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 4.3? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 4.3, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Exploring of various cooperation models

Brief description of the action:

Namibia through the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism opt to explore cooperation opportunities at international level on science, technology and innovation in the forest sector.

Main results achieved for the action:

No results yet

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.2
2.3
2.4
4.1
4.2

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2

Weblink:

Target 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

26. Is your country engaged in international cooperation and/or public-private partnerships to promote sustainable forest management?

Yes

27. If yes, please specify the entity or entities with which your country is cooperating:
(Select all that apply)

Governments

28. Please specify the types of cooperation and/or public-private partnerships in which your country is engaged:
(Select all that apply)

South-South

**29. Please specify the areas of cooperation and/or public-private partnerships in which your country is engaged:
(Select all that apply)**

Science
Innovation

Target 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

30. Since 2020, has your Government developed or implemented financing strategies to achieve sustainable forest management and to implement the United Nations forest instrument?

No

31. Since 2020, has your country had access to financing to achieve sustainable forest management and to implement the United Nations forest instrument?

No

**32. If yes, please specify the sources:
(Select all that apply)**

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

33. Has the collection, availability and accessibility of forest-related information in your country, for example, through multidisciplinary scientific assessments, improved since 2020?

No

34. If yes, please describe any improvements (maximum 250 words).

35. Does your country carry out a National Forest Inventory?

No

36. If yes, what year was the most recent inventory completed?

Global Forest Goal 4 Challenges

**37. What are the main challenges in achieving Goal 4 in your country?
Please limit your answer to 250 words.**

Namibia faces significant challenges in mobilizing resources for sustainable forest management, stemming from limited domestic funding, reliance on international aid, and the need for improved governance and capacity building.

6. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 5 and associated targets

Global Forest Goal 5: 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

Target 5.1: Number of countries that have integrated forests into their national sustainable development plans and/or poverty reduction strategies is significantly increased

Target 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

Target 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

Target 5.4: Forest-related issues and the forest sector are fully integrated into decision-making processes concerning land use planning and development

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, 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.

Target 5.1: Number of countries that have integrated forests into their national sustainable development plans and/or poverty reduction strategies is significantly increased

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

Yes

39. If yes, please specify which:
(Select both, if applicable)

National sustainable development plans
Poverty reduction strategies

Target 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

40. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 5.2? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 5.2, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Development and Implementation on Forest Policies and Legislations

Brief description of the action:

The intervention focuses on the review of Forestry Policy and Legislation and communicating key issues to the public, spearheading co-ordination in forestry development, and law enforcement

Main results achieved for the action:

Reviewed of Forest Act and its regulations to accommodate new forest sector development.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.2
1.3
2.1
2.2
2.3
2.4
4.1

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2

Weblink:

Target 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

41. Since 2020, has your government taken steps to prevent and reduce illegal international trafficking in forest products, wildlife and other biological resources?

Yes

42. If yes, please specify the type of action:

New legislation
Improved enforcement of existing legislation
Export controls

Target 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

43. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 5.3? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 5.3, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Community-based natural resource management (CBNRM) established

Brief description of the action:

Community-based natural resource management (CBNRM) in Namibia is a policy and practice where rural communities actively manage and benefit from the sustainable use of their natural resources, particularly wildlife and tourism. This approach is rooted in the belief that local communities are best positioned to manage the resources they rely on, and it aims to empower them through legal rights and institutional support.

Main results achieved for the action:

Core Principles for CBNRM:

1. Community Empowerment

CBNRM empowers communities to manage their natural resources, giving them rights and responsibilities for conservation and sustainable use.

2. Sustainable Use:

The focus is on utilizing resources in a way that ensures their long-term availability for both current and future generations.

3. Economic Benefits:

CBNRM aims to create economic opportunities for communities through tourism, hunting, harvesting, and other resource-based activities.

4. Institutional Development:

The program supports the development and strengthening of local institutions, such as conservancies, to manage resources effectively.

Key Features:

1. Conservancies

Legally recognized community conservation organizations that manage wildlife and other natural resources within defined areas.

2. Community Forests

Similar to conservancies but focused on forest resources.

3. Joint Ventures:

Partnerships between conservancies and tourism operators or other businesses to generate income and create jobs.

4. Benefit Sharing

Mechanisms for distributing the economic benefits derived from natural resources among community members.

Impact:

1. Wildlife Conservation

CBNRM has contributed to the recovery of wildlife populations, including elephants, in many areas.

2. Economic Development

Conservancies have become important sources of income for rural communities, supporting local development initiatives.

3. Community Empowerment

CBNRM has empowered communities to participate in decision-making processes related to their natural resources.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.2
1.3
1.4
2.5
3.3
4.1
5.1
5.2

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

Target 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

44. Please describe what types of mechanisms are in place to involve stakeholders in the formulation, planning and/or implementation of forest-related policies and programmes (maximum 250 words).

Namibia employs several mechanisms to involve stakeholders in forest-related policy and program development. These include establishing forums like the National Forestry Development Committee, conducting consultations with various stakeholders, implementing community-based natural resource management (CBNRM) programs, and ensuring stakeholder representation in decision-making bodies. Additionally, a participatory approach is emphasized in developing strategic plans and policies, with input from government ministries, NGOs, community-based organizations, and the private sector.

Target 5.4: Forest-related issues and the forest sector are fully integrated into decision-making processes concerning land use planning and development

45. In your country, have forests been integrated into decision-making processes concerning land use planning and development?

Yes

Global Forest Goal 5 Challenges

46. What are the main challenges in achieving Goal 5 in your country?

Please limit your answer to 250 words.

1. Illegal Logging and Timber Smuggling

Unauthorized tree harvesting for commercial purposes, often driven by poverty and a lack of alternative livelihoods, leads to forest degradation and economic losses for the government due to uncollected taxes and duties.

2. Lack of Comprehensive Forest Management Plans:

The absence of detailed forest management plans for various forest ownership types (private, communal, etc.) hinders sustainable forest management practices.

3. Limited Enforcement Capacity:

The Directorate of Forestry (DoF) faces challenges in enforcing regulations due to limited resources, personnel, and effective monitoring systems.

4. Poverty and Socioeconomic Factors:

Poverty in rural areas can drive communities to clear forests for agriculture or charcoal production, undermining conservation efforts.

5. Weak Institutional Coordination:

Lack of coordination between different government ministries and agencies, as well as with local communities and NGOs, hinders effective implementation and enforcement.

6. Limited Awareness and Capacity Building

A lack of public awareness about the importance of forests and the benefits of sustainable forest management, coupled with insufficient capacity building for local communities, hinders effective participation in forest conservation.

7. Deforestation for Agriculture and Infrastructure:

Conversion of forests for agricultural expansion and infrastructure development (e.g., roads) contributes to deforestation and habitat loss.

8. Unsustainable Harvesting Practices:

Even when harvesting is permitted, unsustainable practices like over-harvesting can lead to forest degradation, particularly in areas with high timber value.

7. Progress toward Global Forest Goal 6 and associated targets

Global Forest Goal 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

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

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

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

Target 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

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.

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

47. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 6.3? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 6.3, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Cross-sectoral coordination and cooperation to promote sustainable forest management

Brief description of the action:

Cross-sectoral coordination and cooperation are vital for promoting sustainable forest management in Namibia. This involves integrating efforts across various government ministries, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and local communities to address the complex challenges of land degradation and deforestation. By working together, these stakeholders can enhance ecosystem resilience, improve livelihoods, and achieve national development goals.

Main results achieved for the action:

1. Community-Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM): This approach empowered local communities to manage and benefit from forest resources sustainably.
2. Green Value Chains (GVCs): Promoted business-oriented green value chains that support sustainable land and forest management practices can create economic incentives for conservation.
3. Integrated Landscape Management: This approach focused on managing landscapes holistically, considering the interconnectedness of different land uses and ecosystems.
4. Capacity Building: Strengthened capacity of individuals, institutions, and communities to implement sustainable land and forest management practices is essential.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 1.1
- 1.2
- 1.3
- 1.4
- 2.2
- 3.3
- 4.1
- 4.2
- 5.1
- 5.2

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

- 15.1
- 15.2
- 15.b

Weblink:

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

48. Are mechanisms in place for cross-sectoral coordination and cooperation to promote sustainable forest management and halt deforestation and forest degradation?

Yes

49. If yes, please specify the sectors involved:

Climate change
Biodiversity
Energy
Rural development
Land use

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

50. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 6.4? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 6.4, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Awareness creation sustainable forest management and Environmental Education

Brief description of the action:

In Namibia, awareness creation for sustainable forest management (SFM) and environmental education (EE) is crucial for balancing environmental conservation with human needs.

Main results achieved for the action:

Several initiatives, including the Namibia Sustainable Forest Management (NSFM) Project and the THINK Namibia campaign, are working to educate the public and stakeholders about the importance of SFM and its role in sustainable development. The National Environmental Education and Education for Sustainable Development Policy further guides efforts to promote environmental sustainability across all levels of society.

Initiatives implemented:

1. NSFM Project: This project, run by the HSF and DRFN, focuses on raising awareness, supporting information exchange, and building capacity for SFM among various stakeholders.
2. THINK Namibia: This national information campaign provides educational content on SFM and other environmental topics.
3. National Environmental Education & Education for Sustainable Development Policy: This policy, coordinated by the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism and the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture, provides a framework for integrating EE and ESD across all sectors.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

- 1.1
- 1.2
- 1.3
- 1.4
- 2.2
- 3.2
- 4.1
- 5.1
- 6.2
- 6.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

15.1
15.2
15.b

Weblink:

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

51. Are criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management used in your country?

Yes

52. If yes, please specify which sets of criteria and indicators are used:
(Select all that apply)

National or subnational

53. If yes, please specify for which of the following purposes the criteria and indicators are used:
(Select all that apply)

To generate information for national reports on forest conditions and management

To review and develop national forest policies and tools for sustainable forest management

To report on forests to regional and international organizations (please specify):: SADC, UNFCCC, UNCCD and UNCBD

Target 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

54. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of target 6.5? Please provide titles and briefly describe up to three actions per target, and the results to date. You may also indicate additional GFG and SDG targets supported by each action. Where possible, please provide a weblink to refer readers to more information about the action.

To report more than one action for target 6.5, click on "Add another action" below. Please limit your answers to a maximum of 150 words per action.

Action (short title):

Key Stakeholders and Their Roles

Brief description of the action:

Relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the strategic plan

Main results achieved for the action:**1. Government Ministries**

Ministries such as Environment, Forestry and Tourism, Agriculture, Water and Land Reform, Mines and Energy, and Fisheries and Marine Resources need to collaborate and coordinate their efforts.

2. NGOs and Civil Society

These organizations play a crucial role in supporting community-based natural resource management, promoting sustainable livelihoods, and facilitating stakeholder engagement.

3. Local Communities

Empowering communities through access to information, training, and resources is vital for ensuring the long-term success of sustainable forest management.

This action also contributes to these GFG targets:

1.1
1.2
1.4
2.2
2.5
4.1
4.5
5.1
6.3

This action also contributes to these SDG targets:

6.6
15.1
15.2

Weblink:

Target 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

55. Since 2020, have major groups and other relevant stakeholders been involved in the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030?

Yes

56. If yes, please describe their involvement in a maximum of 250 words:

Relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the UN Strategic Plan in Namibia include various government entities, civil society organizations, the private sector, academic and research institutions, and international development partners. The UN Country Team (UNCT) in Namibia, alongside the Government of Namibia (GRN), plays a crucial role in orchestrating and coordinating these efforts.

Major groups and other relevant stakeholders:

1. Government

National, Regional, and Local Governments:

These levels of government are essential for implementing the plan at all levels, ensuring alignment with national development priorities.

2. National Planning Commission (NPC)

The NPC plays a key role in coordinating the UN's activities and ensuring alignment with national development plans like Vision 2030 and the Harambee Prosperity Plan.

3. Line Ministries:

Specific government ministries, such as the Ministry of International Relations and Cooperation, the Ministry of Health and Social Services, and the Ministry of Agriculture, Water, and Forestry, are directly involved in implementing the plan's various components.

4. Parliament:

The Parliament is involved in legislative reforms and oversight related to the plan's implementation, including parliamentary and public service reforms.

Global Forest Goal 6 Challenges

57. What are the main challenges in achieving Goal 6 in your country?

Please limit your answer to 250 words.

8. Self-assessment of progress toward the Global Forest Goals and targets

58. In your opinion, what is the progress of your country towards the targets of the UN Strategic Plan for Forests, since its adoption in 2017?

	Achieved	On track	Some progress	No change	Negative change	Not applicable
1.1 Forest area		X				
1.2 Carbon stock		X				
1.3 Implementation of SFM		X				
1.4 Resilience and adaptation			X			
2.1 Extreme poverty of forest dependent people						
2.2 Access to finance of small forest enterprises		X				
2.3 Food security		X				
2.4 Contribution to social economic and environmental development		X				
2.5 Contribution to biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation		X				
3.1 Protected areas	X					
3.2 Long-term forest management plans		X				
3.3 Products from sustainably managed forests			X			
4.1 Mobilization of resources for SFM			X			
4.2 Increased forest related financing				X		
4.3 Enhanced cooperation and partnerships			X			
4.4 Forest financing strategies and access to financing			X			
4.5 Forest-related information		X				
5.1 Integration of forests in national plans and strategies		X				
5.2 Enhancement of forest law enforcement and governance		X				
5.3 Coherence and coordination of policies and programmes		X				
5.4 Integration of forest related issues into land-use planning			X			
6.3 Cross-sectoral coordination and cooperation		X				
6.4 Common understanding of concept of SFM indicator sets		X				
6.5 Strengthened involvement of stakeholders		X				

9. Voluntary National Contributions

59. Has your government announced any Voluntary National Contributions (VNCs) related to the Global Forest Goals?

No

60. If yes, please provide a brief description, including information on timeframes and the progress made thus far. If your government has announced more than one Voluntary National Contribution, please click "Add another contribution" (can add up to ten).

Brief description:

Progress to date:

This action contributes to these GFG targets:

This action contributes to these SDG targets:

10. Other questions: Gender equality

61. Since 2020, has your country taken action to promote gender equality in the forest sector?

Yes

62. If yes, please indicate the purpose of the action taken to promote gender equality in the forest sector: (Select all that apply)

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

63. Please provide a brief description of the actions taken to promote gender equality in the forest sector:

Gender equality in Namibia's forestry sector, it's crucial to address existing inequalities by ensuring women's equal participation, access to resources, and decision-making power. This have been achieved through gender-sensitive policies, targeted training programs, and raising awareness about gender roles and biases.

11. Other questions: International Day of Forests

64. Since 2020, what actions have been taken in your country in observance of the International Day of Forests? (Select all that apply)

Cultural activities (for example, art, music, film and theatre)

Educational activities (for example, workshops and symposiums)

Social media activities

65. Please provide up to three examples of actions taken in observance of International Day of Forests since 2020. If possible, include a weblink to relevant documentation.

International Forest Day Action:

Commemoration of International Day of Forests (21 March) has been done at various schools and local authorities to promote sustainable management of forest resources and increase climate change resilience efforts.

Weblink:

12. Success stories

66. Since 2020, does your country have any success stories relating to the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030?

No

67. If yes, provide a brief description, with references (such as weblinks, publications and/or articles), showing how the action contributed to achieving the goals and targets. Please specify the relevant GFG targets.

You may provide up to three success stories by clicking on "Add another success story".

Title:

Brief description:

Main results achieved:

GFG targets addressed:

Weblink:

Please review your responses. Click on the blue button below to download a PDF copy of your report.

If you wish to make changes, scroll to the bottom of the page and click on the "Back" button to return to the section navigator. To continue with your submission, click on "Upload and Submit" at the bottom of the page.

Please upload the signed cover letter conveying this as the official UNFF report submission for your country.

The cover letter shall include an official letterhead with the full name of country, ministry, and/or institution, mail and email address, phone number and the signature of an authorized senior national official. The file size should not exceed 2MB.

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11/07/2025

By clicking SUBMIT at the bottom of this page, you certify that your report is complete. This action is final and cannot be undone.

Thank You!

Thank you for completing the voluntary national report to UNFF. You should receive an email with a PDF copy of your report.

In case of any issues, please reach out to Ms. Nadine Souto (nadine.souto@un.org) and Mr. Tomasz Juszcak (juszcakt@un.org) at the UNFF secretariat.