



Performance of UNFF,  
its Strengths, Weakness and  
Areas for Improvement

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## This report

- is based on the relevant resolutions on forests and UNFF, including [ECOSOC Resolution/2000/35](#) and [ECOSOC resolution 2006/49](#)
- takes into account Views and Proposals by Member States and other relevant Stakeholders on the IAF

# UNFF's performance

- Since the establishment of UNFF in 2000, ten sessions of UNFF have been held focusing on key issues associated with global SFM. In UNFF11, the effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests will be reviewed , and a full range of options of IAF will be considered.
- The inter-sessional activities, especially CLI, OLI and Ad hoc Expert Group Meetings, provide important and focused technical inputs for negotiations.

# UNFF's Achievements

1. Provides a forum for continued policy development, dialogue among governments, international organizations and interested parties

- Set the four global objectives on forests in UNFF6
- Adopted the *Non-Legally Binding Instrument on all Types of Forests* in UNFF7

# UNFF's Achievements

2. Provides opportunities to raise awareness of the importance of all types of forests, and trees outside of forests.

- Launched 2011 as the International Year of Forests
- Declared March 21<sup>st</sup> to be the International Day of Forests

# UNFF's Achievements

3. Strengthened political commitment to the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests through ministerial engagement
4. Forest is integrated into the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development – “The Future We Want”
5. Highlighting the importance of forests in the development of SDG



# UNFF's Achievements

6. Improved knowledge on forest financing, specifically on the inadequacies, gaps, and challenges of the forest financing.

7. Established the Facilitative Process, and explored the challenges on forest financing in LFCC, SIDS, Africa, and LDC

# UNFF's Strengths

1. Broad representativeness: the Forum has universal membership, and is composed of all Member States of the United Nations, international organizations, and major groups
2. Within UN's framework, the UNFF has advantages to coordinate with other UN bodies and member states, and integrate forests into the UN development agenda



# UNFF's Strengths

3. The UNFF is the only independent platform to discuss holistically forest-related issues in the UN



# UNFF's Weakness

1. The current UNFF arrangement cannot facilitate and guarantee the implementation of its resolutions on the ground
2. The current financing mechanism does not directly support UNFF member countries to implement its decisions (e.g. the *Forest Instrument*), especially with the existence of thematic and geographic gaps

## UNFF's Weakness

3. Some countries, especially developing countries, lack capability in implementing the UNFF resolutions
4. The cross- sectoral coordination is still weak. CPF lacks of effective working mechanism and coordination on SFM and support for UNFF

# Areas for Improvement

1. The IAF should be strengthened, including considering the option of a legally binding instrument, to achieve four global objectives on forests
2. Forest financing should be strengthened, through, e.g. better coordination among existing instruments and mechanisms, or establishing a new global forest fund

## Areas for Improvement

3. The gaps in the implementation of the *Forest Instrument* need to be bridged to achieve its objectives. FAO and other CPF members could also support countries in implementing the *Forest Instrument*, including through pilot projects or sites
4. Cross-sectoral cooperation could be improved through strengthening the role of CPF to realize its full potential

# Areas for Improvement

5. UNFF should enhance the interaction with the regional and sub-regional forest related mechanisms, institutions and process.
6. The UNFF Secretariat's human and financial resources should be ensured in a compact way to meet its principal functions with support from CPF and member states



**THANK YOU !**