

DRAFT¹

Country:

Date of submission:

National Report to the 11th Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests

Background

The eleventh session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF11) will be held from 4 to 15 May 2015 in New York. In accordance with the Forum's Multi-Year Program of Work for 2007-2015, the overall theme of UNFF11 is *Forests: progress, challenges and the way forward on the international arrangement on forests (IAF)*. Specifically, UNFF11 will:

1. Review the effectiveness of the IAF and consider all future options,
2. Review progress towards the achievement of the Global Objectives on Forests (GOFs) and implementation of the Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests (hereinafter referred to as the "Forest Instrument"), and
3. Review the contribution of forests and the IAF, including the Forest Instrument, to the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The submission of voluntary national reports by UNFF Member States on items (2) and (3) above will provide crucial input to the Forum's deliberations. Based on national reports, as well as globally available information, the UNFF Secretariat (UNFFS) will prepare an analytical report on the progress and trends in the above areas which will be submitted to UNFF11.

At its tenth session the Forum requested the UNFF secretariat (UNFFS) to: "*Further streamline the guidelines and format for voluntary national reporting to the eleventh session of the Forum including a technical discussion on reporting methodology with relevant experts of Collaborative Partnership on Forest member organizations, taking into account types of information provided to Collaborative Partnership on Forest member organizations and through criteria and indicators and other regional processes and balanced regional workshops depending on available resources.*" (WG1 Resolution)²

¹ This draft is a work in progress. After consultations with countries this document will be revised and finalized by the UNFFS.

² http://www.un.org/esa/forests/pdf/session_documents/unff10/ResolutionWG1UNFF10.pdf

Accordingly, the UNFFS in collaboration with the CPF member organizations and consultations with countries revised and streamlined the reporting format. The revised format builds on and further simplifies the UNFF10 reporting format, including by asking Member States to submit only information currently not provided to CPF member organizations or unavailable in international data bases.

The attached draft reporting format is presented as a set of questions in two parts. Part I includes questions related to the progress on the implementation of the Forest Instrument, including achievement of the GOFs. Part II includes questions on the contribution of forests and SFM to the achievement of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The information submitted by countries to the UNFFS will be supplemented with quantitative data from the following international data providers:

- FAO, Forest Resources Assessment (FRA)/Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire (CRFQ) - FAO, Forest Europe, UNECE, ITTO, Montreal Process and OFAC
- Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire (JFSQ) – FAO, ITTO, UNECE, EUROSTAT
- FAO, State of the World's Forests (SOFO) 2014
- Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
- Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC).

Reporting Guidelines and Format

Member States are kindly requested to:

1. Submit their completed national reporting format electronically (in word processing software) in English, French or Spanish to unff@un.org, at the latest, by 30 September 2014. Early submissions will greatly facilitate the Secretariat's preparation of the analytical Secretary-General's report to UNFF11.
2. Submit in a separate electronic file of a scanned version of the signed letter from their UNFF Focal Point [or respective Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York] conveying their submission.

3. Submit any graphic elements included in their completed reporting questionnaire in a separate electronic file.

In view of the cross-cutting nature of issues related to forests and sustainable forest management (SFM), respondents may need to consult with experts from a variety of national ministries to complete the reporting questionnaire, including, for example, the ministries of environment, economic development, finance and agriculture. The respondents are also strongly encouraged to consult with the national focal points for the FAO Forest Resources Assessment (FRA), the Rio Conventions, other CPF member organizations and C&I processes, where applicable.

For questions that have multiple choice components, please check all boxes that apply. We encourage countries to fill in the descriptive parts as these parts provide context and background information in addition to the “Yes” or “No” answers. At the same time, please note that space provided for the descriptive parts is limited to 250 words, to keep the analytical efforts within reasonable bounds.

Year 2007 – the year of the adoption of the Forest Instrument (2007) is used as a baseline throughout the document.

All terms used in this document follow the FAO/FRA Working Paper 180 “Terms and definition FRA 2015”: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/017/ap862e/ap862e00.pdf>

General information

UNFF national focal point

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PART I: Progress on the implementation of the Forest Instrument, including achievement of the Global Objectives on Forests (GOFs)

1. Since the adoption of the Forest Instrument in 2007, has your country taken actions to strengthen forest-related policies, legislation, law enforcement and support of sustainable forest management (SFM)?

Yes No

If Yes, please specify:

	New	Amendment of existing
Forest policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Forest legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
National forest programme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Forest land tenures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Forest association	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

To what extent are these actions effective in supporting the aims of the Forest Instrument?

	Effective	Partially effective	Not effective	Not in place
Forest policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Forest legislation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
NFP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Forest land tenures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other actions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please describe these actions and if possible provide 2-3 examples and a web-link to relevant document(s):

Forest Policy is supporting the people and institutions throughout Afghanistan to establish and maintain forest and range land covers and regimes of utilisation which achieve a balance between, maximisation of production and productivity in all agricultural land uses

Forest legislation is supporting the mandate of the article fifteen of Afghanistan constitution, for the purpose of regulating forest affairs.

National forest program is supporting the rehabilitations strategy of forestry

Forest associations are supporting community participatory management concepts in country

2. Does your country's national forest policy/strategy or national forest programme, contain time-bound and quantified targets related to forest area?

Yes No

If yes, please list the targets and dates by which they are to be achieved, if possible, provide a web-link to relevant document(s):

The targets are indicated in three main working areas such as forest rehabilitation and extension including Nursery establishment and management, Rangeland management, protected areas management.

3. Has your country undertaken activities since 2007 to reverse the loss of forest cover and/or to enhance the area and quality of forests?

Yes No

If Yes, please specify:

- Afforestation **500 ha per year** for 5 years
- Reforestation **500 ha per year for 5 years**
- Restoration **1.7 million ha permanent**

Introduction or enforcement of:

- Existing legislation aimed at reduction of deforestation and/or support afforestation
- New legislation aimed at reduction of deforestation and/or support of afforestation
- Subsidies for forest owners to prepare and implement management plans
- Subsidies for forest protection
- Reduced/deferred taxes for forest land
- Low-interest loans for forest activities/management
- Other

Please describe; if possible, provide 2-3 examples and a web-link to relevant documents):

A specific developmet financial resources are set aside for Pistachia vera and pinus gerardiana projects design and implementation NRM Department

SFM in national developments plans, poverty reduction strategies or other equivalent plans?

Yes No

If Yes, has this resulted in:

- More Official Development Assistance (ODA) being programmed to SFM-related activities
- More domestic public resources devoted to SFM-related activities
- Increased awareness of the importance of forests/SFM to sustainable development
- Increased awareness of the importance of forests/SFM to poverty eradication
- Other

Please describe; if possible, provide a web-link to relevant document(s):

Watershed management intensive training course have been conducted in Kabul. The field technical staffs of all the provinces have undergone a technical training in watershed and other related subjects. It does not have any web- link

4. To what extent are mechanisms for coordination across ministries and agencies whose policies have impact on or may affect forests and SFM effective?

	Effective	Partially effective	Not effective	Not in place
Agriculture/Rural Development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climate Change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tourism	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Water	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please provide 2-3 examples of cross-sectoral cooperation and if possible, a web-link to relevant document(s)

The ministry of Rural development is running NSP where the CDCs are the operational units of working with communities whereas MAIL's operations units in communities are Associations. These communities working mechanisms are applied for coordination across ministries. Web- link has not provided

5. To what extent are mechanisms for involving stakeholders in forest/SFM policy formulation, planning and implementation effective?

	Effective	Partially effective	Not effective	Not in place
Private sector	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Forest workers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Local communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indigenous communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
NGOs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
General Public	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please provide 2-3 examples, if possible, provide a web-link to relevant document(s):

6. Do local and indigenous communities have tenure or user rights over publically-owned forests?

Yes No

If Yes, are the tenure or user rights recognized by law?

Yes No

Please provide 2-3 examples, if possible, provide a web-link to relevant document(s):

7. Are local and indigenous communities benefiting from the goods and services produced by forests?

Yes No Partly

If Yes or Partly, please specify how:

- Income generation
- Food provision
- Energy supply
- Shelter
- Health

Please provide 2-3 examples, if possible, provide a web-link to relevant document(s):

8. What steps has your government taken since 2007 to prevent and reduce international trafficking in illegally-harvested forest products such as timber, wildlife and other biological resources?

Improved enforcement of existing legislation

Export controls

Import controls

Bilateral agreements between exporting/importing countries

Please provide 2-3 examples, if possible, provide a web-link to relevant document(s): Decrees of President. Dose not have any web- link

9. Has your country developed a national set of criteria and indicators for SFM or use a nationally applicable regional/international set of C&I?

Yes

No

If Yes, are these C&I used to:

Generate information on forest conditions and management

Assess and monitor forest conditions and management

Report on forests to regional and international organizations If so, which ones:

Please describe; if possible, provide a web-link to relevant document(s):

10. Since 2007, has your government developed or updated financing strategies to achieve SFM and to implement the Forest Instrument?

Yes No

If Yes, what is the timeframe of these strategies?

2-5 years

5-10 years

10-20 years

Other (please specify: _____)

These strategies take into account:

- Domestic public-funding sources
- Domestic private investment
- ODA (including REDD+)
- Foreign investment

Please provide 2-3 examples, if possible, provide a web-link to relevant document(s):

11. Has your country established one or more systems/mechanisms for payment for ecosystem services provided by forests?

- Yes No

If Yes, please specify, and if possible, provide the estimated total value of these payments since 2007:

- Watershed protection/water supply USD

- Carbon storage (including REDD+) USD

- Nature conservation USD

- Other

Please provide 2-3 examples, if possible, provide a web-link to relevant document(s):

12. Since 2007, what steps has your country taken to encourage private sector investment in SFM and forests?

- Policy and legal reforms that encourage greater private investment
- Financial incentives, such as credit guarantees, tax breaks, employment subsidies etc.
- Establishment of markets for ecosystem services provided by forests
- Outreach to the private sector (leaflets, conferences, fairs promoting investment in forests)
- Development and improvement of infrastructure and other public services related to SFM
- Other;

Please provide 2-3 examples, if possible, provide a web-link to relevant document(s): none

13. Is your country engaged in international cooperation to promote sustainable forest management?

Yes No

If Yes, please specify with whom:

- Government
- Intergovernmental Organization
- Private sector/philanthropy
- NGOs
- Others such as SAARC

Type of cooperation:

- South West
- South-South
- Triangular

- Technical
- Financial
- Others

And specify the areas of cooperation:

- Forests and climate change
- Forest biodiversity
- Valuation of ecosystem services provided by forests
- Socio-economic issues, including livelihoods
- Forest degradation and rehabilitation
- Scientific cooperation
- Forest monitoring/data collection
- Technology transfer
- Other

Please provide 2-3 examples of international cooperation and if possible, a web-link to relevant document(s): No web link so far

14. Does your country have one or more institutes or centers of excellence engaged in the development and application of scientific, technical and technological innovations for SFM?

Yes No

If Yes, what areas do these technical/scientific activities focus on:

- Forest inventory systems

- Low-impact logging or other harvesting techniques
- Fuel-wood production
- Wood processing technology
- Waste reduction and recycling

Are these programs directed at:

- Forest owners
- Timber companies/forest products industry
- State agencies
- Local communities
- Indigenous communities
- NGOs
- General public

Please describe, if possible, provide a web-link to relevant document(s): None

15. What actions has your country undertaken to increase public awareness of the important benefits provided by forests?

- Published broadcasts on TV and/or Radio
- Published materials, e.g. brochures, pamphlets, leaflets, or/and posters, etc.
- Meetings with the general public
- Art events/Exhibitions
- Activities in support of the International Day of Forests
- Other;

Please provide 2-3 examples, if possible, provide a web-link to relevant document(s):

16. Please give examples of your country's success stories and lessons learned related to the implementation of the Forest Instrument, including achievement of the four Global Objectives on Forests:

PART II: Contribution of forests and SFM to achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

The aim of Part II of this reporting questionnaire is to learn how forests and SFM have contributed to achieving the MDGs in your country, particularly with respect to poverty and hunger eradication (MDG1), environmental sustainability (MDG7) and developing a global partnership for development (MDG8).

17. Have forests/SFM contributed to eradicating extreme poverty and hunger (MDG1) in your country?

Yes No Not Applicable

If Yes, please specify how:

- By improving livelihoods
- By supporting subsistence needs, including fuel wood, fodder and shelter
- By providing food and contributing to food security, including through agroforestry systems
- By providing employment, including employment in informal economy
- Other

Please describe, if possible, provide a web-link to relevant document(s):

18. Have forests/SFM contributed to ensuring environmental sustainability (MDG7) in your country?

Yes No Not Applicable

If Yes, please specify how:

- By providing habitat
- By supporting ecosystem, species and genetic diversity
- By stabilizing soils and slopes through the adaptation of watershed management projects in country
- By safeguarding water resources
- By sequestering carbon
- By providing timber, energy and other products
- Other

Please describe, if possible, provide a web-link to relevant document(s): Web link is not existing

19. Have forests/SFM contributed to developing a global partnership for development (MDG8) in your country?

- Yes No **Not Applicable**

If Yes, please specify how:

- By engaging in regional and international collaboration on issues related to improved governance
- Through trade agreements involving forest products (e.g. bilateral/sub-regional/regional/inter-regional free trade agreements, EU voluntary partnership agreements, etc.)
- By fostering partnerships with the private sector
- By attracting foreign investment in the forest sector
- By fostering bilateral and international financial cooperation
- By fostering north-south, south-south and triangular technical, technological and scientific partnerships
- Other

Please describe, if possible, provide a web-link to relevant document(s):

20. Have forests/SFM contributed to making progress in achieving any of the remaining MDGs in your country?

- Yes No

If Yes, please describe, if possible, provide a web-link to relevant document(s):

MDG2: Achieving universal primary education

MDG3: Promote gender equality and empower women

MDG4: Reducing child mortality

MDG5: Improving maternal health

MDG6: Combating HIV/AIDSs, malaria and other diseases
