

The eleventh session of the UNFF (UNFF11) will be held from 4 to 15 May 2015 in New York. In accordance with the Forum's MYPOW, the overall theme of UNFF11 is *Forests: progress, challenges and the way forward on the international arrangement on forests (IAF)*, with the following sub themes:

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

In completing this questionnaire, you may choose to extract the relevant information and include it in your submission, if information is already available in existing reports and/or documents. Otherwise, you may provide the reference or document itself to the UNFF Secretariat, indicating the relevant section. Please note that the Year 2007 – the year of the adoption of the Forest Instrument (2007), should be used as a baseline throughout the document.

Moreover, in view of the limitation of sizing of the pertinent Secretary-General's report, the Forum Secretariat suggests no more than 250 words of written input per answer. We would be most grateful if you could send your inputs to **unff@un.org**, fax: +1 917-367-3186, by **30 September 2014**. In light of time constraints and financial limitations, you are kindly asked to provide your input in English.

mechanisms, institutions and instruments, organizations and processes, with participation of major groups, as identified in Agenda 21, and relevant stakeholders to facilitate enhanced cooperation and effective implementation of sustainable forest management, as well as to contribute to the work of the Forum.”
(paragraph 2)

Section I: Progress towards the implementation of the forest instrument and the achievement of the GOFs as well as the contribution of forests and the IAF to the internationally-agreed development goals, including the MDGs

A. Progress towards implementation of the Forest Instrument

1. Briefly describe actions (e.g. regulatory, financial/economic and informational/educational) taken by your respective regional, sub-regional organization/process to foster political commitment for sustainable forest management (SFM).

As an organization proposed at the 15th values regional high-level cooperation mechanism and has also been active in related activities.

Based on the successful organization of the First APEC Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Forestry in 2011, APFNet worked closely with the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation of Peru to help ensure the success of the Second APEC Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Forestry, which was held in Cusco, Peru in August 2013. Recognizing the crucial role that forests play in APEC economies, not only as a source of services, but also as a means to provide livelihoods, meet different development needs and objectives, ministers and senior officials from 19 APEC economies adopted the Cusco Statement to address the challenges related to green growth and sustainable development.

APFNet held the Advanced Workshop on Sustainable Forest Management in the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) in Kunming, China in September 2013. Served as an effective forum for decision-makers and other experts to share experiences, practices, knowledge and lessons in the GMS, the workshop provided an overview of forest management in the GMS, identified key issues, including the need to improve collaboration among member economies and proposed ways to address areas of concern.

Following the proposal made by the former Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao on carrying out the ASEM forestry demonstration project at the Ninth ASEM Summit held in November 2012, APFNet launched the project Sustainable Forest Management Project in Northern Part of Laos with Ministry of Agricultural and Forestry (MAF) of Lao PDR in March 2014. Funded and managed by APFNet, the project aims to promote sustainable forest management in three provinces (Luang Namtha, Oudomxay and Borkeo) in north part of Lao PDR.

committed to an APEC-wide aspirational goal of increasing forest cover in the region by at least 20 million hectares of all types of forests by 2020. To contribute to the achievement of the APEC 2020 Forest Cover Objective, APFNet has proposed a project ca

refresh APEC to increase forest cover, work together to identify the underlying causes that affect the forest cover change and find the ways to improve the condition. The draft framework was tabled and

To address such problem, it is important to develop capacity of responsible officials and raise political willingness on combating illegal trading. Meanwhile, some economies may lack necessary or effective equipment and tools to inspect the forest even if they really want to. An international/regional organization can help by providing fund, tools and knowledge to update the facilities used for forest inspection and enhance effectiveness of such work.

Pacific region. During the twelve days, the workshop:

- a) assessed the current state of rehabilitation of degraded forests in the Asia-Pacific region, particularly focusing on East Asia and South East Asia;
- b) analyzed the economic, social and environmental issues involved in forest degradation and their implications on rehabilitation/ restoration efforts;
- c) examined the future scenarios for forest rehabilitation taking into the major drivers that cause ecosystem degradation, giving due attention to emerging policies relating to climate change mitigation and adaptation;
- d) provided an opportunity to share knowledge on rehabilitation experience in the participating economies and to identify future options, particularly drawing upon successes and failures and the emerging approaches for adopting ecosystem approaches for restoration.

Restoration at the Landscape Level in Asia: A Unique

local officials and other partners to rehabilitate forests as a means to restore degraded land, increase forest cover, improve forest quality and enhance livelihoods. APFNet granted USD481,239 for this three-year project.

GOF2, “Enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, including by improving the livelihoods of forest dependent people”

APFNet launched a three-year

Multi-Function Forest Restoration and

and founded on sustainable forestry practices.

GOF3, “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”

-2015, two out of the four thematic priorities are related to increasing forest area, i.e. improving forest management to reduce forest loss and degradation; monitoring progress towards the APEC 2020 forest cover objective. Activities designed will contribute to increasing the area of sustainably managed forests, mainly through the suitable silvicultural techniques and also synthesizing forest area change information available with other international organizations.

APFNet launched a three- Rehabilitation and Management for the Conservation of Trans-boundary Ecological Security in Montane Mainland Southeast Asia-Pilot Demonstration Project of Lao PDR, Myanmar and in 2013, plans to build replicable and adaptable model for community-based rehabilitation of degraded forests practices and related toolkits are developed and demonstrated at pilot sites.

And the three-year project Multi-Function Forest Restoration and Management of Degraded Forest Areas in Cambodia also expects to increase the area of sustainably managed forests. Community nursery and models of forest restoration plots were established in each pilot site; knowledge and experience on multi-functional forest restoration will be published and disseminated to relevant stakeholders and general public. In doing so, APFNet hopes to develop capacity of the stakeholders, raise public awareness, and then increase the area of sustainably managed forest.

GOF4, “Reverse the decline in ODA for SFM and mobilize significantly increased, new and additional financial resources from all sources for the implementation of SFM”

The launch of APFNet is a prime example of channelling financial resources for the implementation of SFM. APFNet has secured a commitment of \$15 million financial contribution from Chinese government over five years for the operation of APFNet to promote sustainable forest management in the Asia-Pacific region. Meanwhile, additional financial contributions have also been received from US and Australia, the co-sponsors of APFNet, as well as other international organizations through those four years since 2008. In 2011, APFNet involved actively in the First APEC Meeting of

commitment that China will continue to provide the developing members of APEC with assistance within its capacity through APFNet. This is another commitment that APFNet could use to mobilize new and additional resources for fulfilling its mission, i.e. promoting SFM.

In July 2013, APFNet Fund was registered at the Ministry of Civil Affairs of China. It is authorized to receive fund from governments, private sectors and organizations to , which, in consistent with its mission and

goal.

One of the APFNet objectives is to help to reduce forest loss and degradation and their associated emissions of greenhouse gases by strengthening sustainable forest management and enhancing biodiversity conservation. In line with its objectives, Strengthening Urban Forestry Demonstration Site of Bang Kachao (Thailand) for Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Learning Center in cooperation with

1. From the perspective of your respective regional, sub-regional organization/process, please provide a general evaluation of the strengths, weaknesses and areas for improvement of the current IAF.

The current IAF - NLBI acts as a proposal to raise awareness of and enhance cooperation among participating members and the CPF on SFM. Given the current IAF is a non-legally binding instrument, it is inevitable that the implementation may not be as smooth as expected with some stakeholders. However, it does urge the stakeholders to review its progress on SFM and provide a platform for exchange and collaboration.

2. Has the input of your respective regional, sub-

To increase access to forestry education for various forestry stakeholders, APFNet Education in the Asia-Pacific region is developing an innovative pedagogical method to convey the knowledge of SFM and related issues through the combination of web-based learning, onsite training, and sharing of results and experience.

c) APFNet provides reference (f)11(e)23(nfO005933004Bn)23(c)-323(nfO0059336

International Forum on Payments for Environmental Services of Tropical
Forests in San José, Costa Rica in April, 2014 (ITTO)

And cooperating with ITTO, APFNet funded the project -based

6. How would your respective regional, sub-regional organization/process envisage a strengthened collaboration with CPF member organizations and/or major stakeholders in a revised IAF?

APFNet would be glad to expand its partnerships with CPF member organizations and major stakeholders which share similar objectives and strengthen collaboration with its current partners in a revised IAF. APFNet will seek cooperation in consistent with key areas specified in APFNet Strategy 10 (ii)22(v)33()-254(k)33(e2