

**Strengthening national reporting in support of the
implementation of the forest instrument**

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Abbreviations

ACTO	Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization
AHEG	Ad Hoc Expert Group
AQ	Additional questions (reporting format for UNFF 10 and 11)
ATO	Africa Timber Organization
APFNet	Asia-Pacific Network for Sustainable Forest Management
C & I	Criteria and Indicators
CBD	Convention on Biological Dime
Adir	Adir

For sessions 8 through 11, the Forum decided through its MYPOW to address at each session a different overall theme that was further divided into specific themes, recognizing that actions undertaken within the context of these themes contribute to achieving the purpose of the forest instrument and its four global objectives on forests. The overall theme of the 10th session will be “forests and economic development”, with the following four themes:

- Theme 1: Forest products and services;
- Theme 2: National forest programmes and other sectoral policies and strategies;
- Theme 3: Reducing risks and impacts of disasters; and
- Theme 4: Benefits of forests and trees to urban communities.

“Forests: progress, challenges and the way forward for the international arrangement on forests” will be the overall theme of the eleventh session, with the following three specific themes:

- Theme 1: Review the effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests and consideration of all future options, as stated by ECOSOC in its resolution 2006/49, paragraph 32;
- Theme 2: Review progress towards the achievement of the global objectives on forests and the implementation of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests; and
- Theme 3: Review the contribution of forests and the international arrangement, including the forest instrument, to the internationally agreed development goals.

At the closing of its ninth session on 4 February 2011, in its Resolution on Forests for People, Livelihoods and Poverty Eradication, which was the overall theme of the session, the Forum decided that a simple voluntary national reporting for UNFF 10 would focus on the implementation of the forest instrument and a balanced reporting on its four global objectives on forests and requested the secretariat of the Forum to this end to develop a streamlined reporting format, in consultation with other members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF). Furthermore, the resolution also invited FAO to consider how it can further incorporate into its reporting on the state of the world’s forests and through the global forest resources assessment programme, the elements of the forest instrument and its global objectives on forests.

UNDA project on strengthening national reporting in support of the implementation of the forest instrument

In support of this resolution, the United Nations Development Account (UNDA) is providing \$527,000 for a four year project executed by the Forum Secretariat entitled Strengthening National Reporting in Support of the Implementation of the Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests. The overarching objective of the project is to strengthen and support the capacity of UNFF national focal points in developing countries and countries with economies in transition in reporting to UNFF 10 in 2013 on progress made in the implementation of the forest instrument within the context of the session’s overall theme of “forests and economic development”, including strengthened capacity in monitoring, assessment and reporting linked to the preparation of national reports. The project will also assist countries in the preparation of national reports to UNFF 11 in 2015, which, in addition to reporting progress on the implementation of the forest instrument, will contribute significantly to the review of (a) the effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests and the consideration of future options and (b) the contribution of forests and the international arrangement on

Likewise, only 21 countries provided national reports to UNFF 9. In part this may have been due to the limited amount of time—seven weeks—that countries had to prepare and submit their national reports. Only 16 were received by the deadline and taken into account in the respective report of the Secretary-General (E.CN.18/2011/2). The uneven response on the part of countries was more likely due to the lack of knowledge and implementation of the forest instrument, limited resources and technical capacity, as well as to the burden on countries of increased reporting demands.

Nevertheless, the reports received for the consideration of the eighth and ninth sessions of the Forum provided valuable insights into action taken and progress made by countries in implementing the forest instrument. Country responses suggested that the forest instrument has considerable potential to achieve its set objectives. National reports indicated that many of the countries had introduced or strengthened policy, institutional and normative measures and other actions supporting the implementation of the forest instrument and the global objectives on forests, while others were in the process of doing so, although these actions in most cases were not undertaken as a direct result of the forest instrument. These efforts were seen as building on existing initiatives aimed at implementing the IPF/IFF proposals for action, as well as previous Forum resolutions and decisions. A number of countries found national forest programmes to be the main vehicle for implementing the forest instrument. It was also noted that several of the provisions of the forest instrument are being implemented as a result of initiatives taken before the adoption of the instrument.

However, countries, principally developing countries, identified a number of challenges that need to be addressed more efficiently in order to realize the forest instrument's potential. These included

- overcoming inadequate means of implementation, particularly financing;
- strengthening institutional capacities in the forestry sector, including training forestry personnel;
- strengthening forest monitoring capabilities;

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countries that did not have adequate monitoring and

1. Increased awareness of relevant government institutions and non-governmental stakeholders of the forest instrument, its purpose, the global objectives on forests and the national policies and measures to be undertaken by Member States to implement the forest instrument, and of the need to take these into consideration in forest-related national policies;
2. Assessment of national forest policies and measures vis-à-vis those outlined in the forest instrument, identification of major gaps affecting

With the project ending in August 2011, Ghana will be informing UNFF 10 of progress in the implementation of the forest instrument and lessons

- Increased awareness and understanding by developing countries of the purpose and objectives of the Forest Instrument, its usefulness, and approaches to implementation, monitoring and reporting to the UNFF.
- Increased number of developing countries that have taken steps to monitor the implementation of the Forest Instrument and submit national reports on progress to the UNFF.

To maximize synergies, both the UNFF project funded by UNDA and this project are being coordinated between the UNFF Secretariat and FAO. The UNFF Secretariat is focusing on the analysis of reporting trends and the development of a streamlined reporting format, with FAO addressing capacity building and strengthening among countries for improved reporting on progress

- d. Indicators may vary according to forest characteristics, such as forest types, and to the scales to which they are applied, while criteria are basically common across geographic regions and scales.
- e. Countries, particularly developing countries including low forest cover countries, often face difficulties in implementing C & I at the field level due to insufficient capacity, commitment and funding.

Two recommendations are especially relevant to future reporting on progress in implementing the forest instrument:

(i) to strive to improve consistency in reporting through collaboration with C & I processes and among relevant international organizations, including the UNFF Secretariat, FAO and ITTO, and with other relevant reporting mechanisms, as appropriate, with the aim of reducing the reporting burden of countries and to contribute to integrated reporting and

(ii) for relevant international institutions, including the governing bodies.300048(e)-1.91977()10.7274(f)-0992

4. Ensure that by 2015 children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling (Target 2.A).
5. Reduce by two-thirds between 1990 and 2015 the under-five mortality rate (Target 4.A).
6. Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources (Target 7.A).
7. Reduce biodiversity loss, achieving by 2010, a significant reduction in the rate of loss (Target 7.B).
8. Develop further an open-ended, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system (Target 8.A).
9. Address the special needs of least developed countries (Target 8.B).
10. Address the special needs of land-locked developing countries and small island developing states (Target 8.C).

The MDGs are very closely linked to the global objectives on forests, which should be taken into account in the reporting format. Global objective 1 links to Target 7.A; global objective 2, to Targets 1.A, 1.B, 1.C, 2.A and 4.A; global objective 3, to Target 7.B; and global objective 4, to Target 8.A.

C. Thematic issues and scope of the forest instrument

Paragraphs 6 and 7 of the forest instrument identify 25 national policies and measures and 19 action

forests contained in the forest instrument. The remaining 22 contribute **indirectly** to their achievement.

D. Guidelines and elements for a future draft reporting format

1. Key indicators for reporting on the forest instrument

Since the adoption of the forest instrument, the Secretariat of the Forum, FAO and some of the criteria and indicators processes, specifically ITTO, the Montreal Process and Forest Europe, have recognized that measuring progress in the implementation of the forest instrument and the achievement of the four global objectives on forests would require a set of indicators that are objective, reliable and feasible to report on. To this end, the Forum recognized that priority should be given to using indicators from existing reporting processes, as these are most likely to meet the above criteria. The UNFF Secretariat analyzed the major reporting processes and found that while a wealth of information is available from them, there are considerable gaps remaining.¹

The UNFF at its fourth session in 2004 through Resolution 4/3 identified the seven thematic elements of sustainable forest management, which are drawn from the criteria and indicators processes:

1. extent of forest resources,
2. forest biological diversity,
3. forest health and vitality,
4. productive functions of forest resources,
5. protective56uy, u
- 3.

consideration should be given to expanding the information requested in order to provide more detailed reporting on the overall and special themes of each session.

The achievement of the global objectives on forests will in turn contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, specifically the objectives on poverty reduction and environmental sustainability. Compatibility on reporting on both sets of objectives should be sought, which may mean that the core set of indicators selected for one will also be very similar for the second.

For reporting on each of these components, it will be necessary for countries to provide quantifiable and qualitative information. The quantifiable information should be drawn, as far as possible, from the existing C & I processes. The qualitative information will be necessary for topics that go beyond the scope of the C & I processes.

To facilitate the preparation of national reports, a streamlined format, consisting of a focused questionnaire with a core set of indicators, should be prepared. This will lead to more accurate reporting and an increased number of submissions by countries, while also serving as a more effective tool for synthesizing national reports into a more precise assessment of overall progress achieved on the forest instrument and its global objectives on forests.

As an initial step, a draft questionnaire for preparing national reports was prepared in consultation with UNFF Secretariat staff, and was subsequently consulted with the members of the CPF Task Force on Forest-Related Reporting (FAO, ITTO and UNEP, as well as the Secretariats of CBD, UNCCD and UNFCCC). This draft questionnaire is contained in Appendix 4. Part I of the questionnaire is for the core reporting to be provided to both UNFF 10 and 11. Part II, which addresses the overall and special themes of the sessions, has two versions, with one for UNFF 10 and a second for UNFF 11.

ITTO has suggested that consideration should be given to sending out the questionnaire pre-filled for the FRA and ITTO indicators for 2005/2006 and 2010/2011 respectively, in which case the reporting country would only have to report any changes resulting from more updated information.

V. Instructions for the mini-regional workshops

A major task that will be assigned to the workshops will be to assess the applicability and appropriateness of indicators from existing C & I processes for assessing progress towards the implementation of the forest instrument and the achievement of the global objectives on forests, including their contributions to the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals.

The mini-regional workshops are also expected to provide advice to the UNFF Secretariat on a streamlined and sharply focused format for assisting countries in preparing their voluntary reports on progress in the implementation of the forest instrument and the achievement of the global objectives on forests. It is hoped that the selected indicators and reporting format will lead to the development of a baseline and database for facilitating more accurate reporting to future sessions of the Forum.

The draft questionnaire contained in Appendix 4 will assist the mini-workshops in these two tasks. Once finalized, the questionnaire could be put into the form of a template, which would greatly facilitate the collection of responses and information provided. The template would also serve as an analytical tool for aggregating and synthesizing information provided in the national reports.

Finally, given the cross-sectoral scope of the fore

Appendix 1

Countries presenting national reports to the sessions of the UNFF

43. Kenya		X					
44.							

Appendix 2

**Relation of Global Objectives on Forests to Specific Policies and Measures
Contained in the Forest Instrument for Implementation by Member States**

**Global objectives on
forests**

**Specific policies and measures in the forest instrument linked
to the global objectives on forests**

Global objective 2

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

Global objective 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;

6 (p) Create, develop or expand, and maintain networks of protected forest areas, taking into account the importance of conserving representative forests, through a range of conservation mechanisms, applied within and outside protected forest areas;

6 (q) Assess the conditions and management effectiveness of existing protected forest areas with a view to identifying improvements needed;

	<p>increased new and additional financial resources from all sources for the implementation of sustainable forest management;</p> <p>7 (c) Take action to raise the priority of sustainable forest management in national development plans and other plans including poverty reduction strategies in order to facilitate increased allocation of official development assistance and financial resources from other sources for sustainable forest management;</p> <p>7 (d) Develop and establish positive incentives, in particular for developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition, to reduce the loss of forests, to promote reforestation, afforestation, and rehabilitation of degraded forests, to implement sustainable forest management and to increase the area of protected forests;</p> <p>7 (e) Support the efforts of countries, in particularly in developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition, to develop and implement economically, socially and environmentally sound measures that act as incentives for the sustainable management of forests;</p>
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Appendix 3

Possible Indicators for Measuring Progress towards the Achievement of the Global Objectives on Forests

Global objective 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;

Appendix 4

Questionnaire/Template for Preparing National Reports for UNFF 10 and 11

Guidance for overall preparation: Reporting to UNFF 10 and 11 will be critical in setting the path forward for the international arrangement on forests, including the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests, hereinafter referred to as the forest instrument. These national reports are also critically important to reporting countries for the following reasons:

- Addressing the issue of financial resources for implementing the forest instrument and attaining the global objectives on forests;
- Assisting countries in assessing the effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests, including the forest instrument;
- Identifying more clearly the needs of countries, particularly developing countries, including low forest cover countries and small island developing states, and countries with economies in transition, for implementing more effectively the forest instrument and achieving its four global objectives on forests, which bilateral and multi-lateral donors could take into account in the implementation of their international forest policies.

wooded land and other land in FRA. (FAO, FRA Working Paper No. 33, 2010).

Part 1. Core Reporting for UNFF 10 and 11

Country:

	It is possible that information on the MDG indicators for 2015 related to social and economic benefits and finance will not be available in 2015, in which case the respondents should indicate if the information to be inputted into the final column is for 2014 or 2013.		
Does your country maintain census or other statistical figures for any of the following groups of people	Yes	No	
Forest dependent people			
Indigenous communities			
Forest dependent indigenous communities			
Forest dwelling indigenous communities			
Forest dependent local communities			
Forest dwelling local communities			
Forest sector employees			
If yes, please select the most appropriate and provide information below for that group for indicators under Target 1.A, 1.C, 2.A and 4.A. If information is not available, please respond with NA.			
Select most appropriate:			
	2005	2010	2012/2015
Target 1.A: Halve between 1990 and 2015 the proportion of people whose income is less than \$1.00 a day.			

1.1. What is the proportion (%) of the

selected population below US 3938.67 4 4 re f 2177 3938.67 656 4 re f 2833 3938.67 4 4 re f 2837 3938.67 760 4 re f 3597 3938.6

| 1000)?

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<p>objectives on forests</p>	<p>indicators 7.1, 7.6 and 7.7 are directly related to measuring progress in the achievement of global objective 1; indicators 1.1, 1.6, 1.8, 1.9, 2.3, 4.1 and 4.2, to global objective 2; 7.6, to global objective 3; and 8.1, to global objective 4.</p> <p>The additional indicators listed below are taken from the SFM C & I processes, specifically the FAO global FRA and the ITTO C & I. Please provide the exact information that your country submitted for the 2005, 2010 and 2015 FRAs (for UNFF 11 only). For global objective 4, ITTO indicators were found to be the most relevant.</p> <p>Funding for sustainable forest management will be at the center of the deliberations of UNFF 10. The indicators and additional questions under Global Objective 4, which take a cross-sectoral approach, will contribute significantly to discussions on this issue.</p>
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2005

2010

2012/2015

designated and managed for protection (1000 ha)?			
15. FRA T.3.3: What is the extent of forest designated and managed for conservation (1000 ha)?			
16. FRA T.3.4: What is the extent of forest designated and managed for social services (1000 ha)?			
Global objective 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;			
Repeat here information inputted above for indicator MDG 7.6. in 2.			
Repeat here information inputted above for indicator FRA T.3.2.			
Repeat here information inputted above for indicator FRA T.3.3.			
17. FRA T.3.10: What is the extent of forest designated and managed for sustainable forest management (1000 ha)?			
18. FRA T.3.11 and ITTO 1.11: What is the extent of forest with management plans (1000 ha)?			
CBD Target 7: indicators in the process of being developed and approved by CBD.			
CBD Target 11: indicators in the process of being developed and approved by CBD.			
Additional questions		Yes	No

If yes, in 500 words or less, give the name of each

sector?			
UNFFS AQ 12. How much funding related to forests, other wooded land and trees outside of forests was provided by the education sector?			
UNFFS AQ 13. How much funding related to forests, other wooded land and trees outside of forests was provided by municipal funding?			
		Yes	No
UNFFS AQ 14. Has the overall budget for			

Repeat here information inputted above for
indicator MDG 8.1 and UNFFS AQ1.

forest instrument in 2007, have steps been taken to improve forest-related legislation, strengthen law enforcement and promote good governance at all levels in support of SFM?

		2005	2010	2012/2015
2C: Protection of forests				
Repeat here information inputted above for indicator MDG 7.6.				
Repeat here information inputted above for indicator FRA T.3.2.				
Repeat here information inputted above for indicator FRA T.3.3.				
Repeat here information inputted above for FRA T.3.10.				
Repeat here information inputted above for FRA T.3.11.				
2D: Science and research				
Additional questions			Yes	No

UNFFS AQ 28. Does your country have an

	relevant research? If not, please respond NA.			
Business and education				
		2005	2010	2012/2015
	What number of students in your country graduated with a baccalaureate degree or equivalent?			
	What number of students in your country graduated with a master's degree or equivalent?			
	What number of students in your country graduated with a diploma or certificate?			
	What percentage of students with a baccalaureate degree or equivalent were women?			
	What percentage of students with a master's degree or equivalent were women?			
	What percentage of students with a diploma or certificate were women?			
	Does your country organize activities in support of the National Forests?		Yes	No
	Describe them in 250 words or less.			
	What is the most important instrument and of the greatest benefits provided by forest management?			
	Describe the following approaches			
	Published materials such as brochures, pamphlets, leaflets, posters, etc. Meetings with public officials from the most relevant sectors to inform them of the purpose and scope of the forest			

both public and private, to enga.3345(e)-2.05734(,)8.88865()-3.16695(t)0.72109-3.16695(te3537()-3.166

	Local communities		
<p>If yes, in 500 words or less, describe these mechanisms and their functions. What specific role is played by indigenous and/or local communities in promoting and supporting the forest instrument and sustainable forest management? If you wish to provide additional information, please provide this in an appendix to this report, but please provide a summary in this space.</p>			

UNFFS AQ 33. Are education, training and extension programmes being implemented that are directed at local and indigenous communities, in order to develop resource

**Part 2. Overall Theme for UNFF 10: forests and economic development,
with the following four themes:**

- Theme 1: Forest products and services;
 Theme 2: National forest programmes and other sectoral policies and strategies;
 Theme 3: Reducing risks and impacts of disasters; and
 Theme 4: Benefits of forests and trees to urban communities.

Theme 1: Forest products and services	Guidance: Most directly related measures of the forest instrument are 6 (d), (e), (j), (r), (x); 7 (f), (g), (h), (i) and (k).		
	2005	2010	2012
33. FRA T.11.1 and ITTO 4.2: What is the total volume of industrial roundwood removal (1000 m ³)?			
34. FRA T.11.4 and ITTO 4.2: What is the total value of industrial roundwood removal (US\$1000)?			

35. **FRA T.11.5 and ITTO 4.2:** What is the total volume of fuelwood removal (1000 m³)?

	Tornados			
	Volcanic eruptions			
	Tsunamis			
	Other (please describe in 50 words or less)			
UNFFS AQ 36. Have efforts been strengthened to protect and re-establish mangrove forests as buffers against extreme events such as hurricanes/ typhoons and tsunamis originating in oceans? If you are a land-locked country, please respond not applicable.		Not Applicable	Yes	No
Please describe in 500 words or less the actions taken to respond to disasters resulting in loss of forests and forest degradation?				
Theme 4: Benefits of forests and trees to urban communities.		Guidance: Most directly related measures of the forest instrument are 6 (j), (t).		
		2005	2010	2012
Repeat here the information inputted for global objective 2 under 16. FRA T.3.4: What is the extent of forest designated and managed for social services (1000 ha)?				
Additional questions				
UNFFS AQ 37. What is the number of visitors to national parks in your country? If information not available, please respond NA.				
UNFFS AQ 38. What is the area of urban parks in your country (1000 ha)? If information not available, please respond NA.				

Yes

No

Part 2. Overall Theme for UNFF 11: Forests: progress, challenges and the way forward for the international arrangement on forests, with the following three specific themes:

- Theme 1: Review the effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests and consideration of all future options, as stated by ECOSOC in its resolution 2006/49, paragraph 32;
- Theme 2: Review progress towards the achievement of the global objectives on forests and the implementation of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests; and
- Theme 3: Review the contribution of forests and the international arrangement, including the forest instrument, to the internationally agreed development goals.

Theme 1: Review the effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests and consideration of all future options, as stated by ECOSOC in its resolution 2006/49, paragraph 32

Repeat information provided for MDG targets under UNFFS AQ 1.				
			Yes	No
	National forest programs have been updated to take into account and support the implementation of the forest instrument and the achievement of its four global objectives on forests.			
	National development policies, plans and strategies incorporate sustainable forest management.			
	National poverty eradication plans and strategies have been revised to incorporate sustainable forest management.			
	National forest programs have been updated to take into account and support the implementation of the forest instrument and the achievement of its four global objectives on forests.			
Repeat here information inputted above for global objective 4 under indicator ITTO 1.3.				
	Government sources			
	International development partners			
	Private sources			
Additional questions		Not applicable	Yes	No
Repeat here information inputted above for forest instrument cluster 1A under UNFFS AQ 16: For countries whose official language is not one of the 6 official UN languages, has the forest instrument been translated into your country's official language? If your country's official language is one of the UN				



Theme 3: Review the contribution of forests and the international arrangement, including the forest instrument, to the internationally agreed development goals.

Responses were already provided through the core reporting under Part 1, section I on the MDGs.			