

**AA. Strengthening national reporting in support of the implementation of the Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests**

**DESA(\$527,600)**

**Background**

135. Forests cover one third of the world’s land area, constituting the largest terrestrial ecosystems. They provide a wide range of economic, social, cultural and environmental services. More than 1.6 billion people depend to varying degrees on forests for their livelihood, and use forest resources for fuel, timber, food, medicine and income. Finding ways to ensure that forests benefit present and future generations is the very essence of sustainable forest management.
136. In 2007, the adoption of the Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests by the General Assembly<sup>1</sup> reinforced the global commitment to sustainable forest management as the overarching principle for forest policy at both the national and international levels, and outlined future priorities in the form of the four Global Objectives on Forests. This Instrument is the culmination of 15 years of negotiation initiated at the Rio Conference in 1992 and is the first global agreement on sustainable forest management.
137. Monitoring and assessing progress towards implementation of the Instrument and achieving the four Global Objectives is a critical component of the work of the United Nations Forum on Forests. Countries have been requested to submit voluntary national progress reports as part of their regular reporting to the Forum. The multi-year programme of work of the United Nations Forum on Forests for 2007 to 2015 specifically states that each session will have as a main task the discussion on the achievement of the Global Objectives on Forests and the implementation of the Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests. The successful implementation of the Instrument requires improved national reporting by countries to help to identify progress, achievements and needs, and to promote a more effective sharing of experiences and best practices.
138. An analysis of national reports provided to the Forum from 2002 to 2005 found these reports to be of limited utility in assessing progress in sustainable forest management. In general, a proportionately greater number of reports were submitted by developed countries as compared to those provided by developing countries and countries with economies in transition. Moreover, at various sessions of the Forum, developing countries have repeatedly expressed the need for financial and technical support to assist them in the preparation of country reports.

**Objective of the Organization:** To strengthen and support the capacity of countries, particularly developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in the preparation of national reports for the ninth and tenth sessions of the United Nations Forum on Forests in 2011 and 2013.

**Summary budget**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

General temporary assistance	72.0
Consultants	36.0

**Comment [IL1]:**

<sup>1</sup> General Assembly resolution 62/98.

<b>Relationship to the strategic framework for the period 2010-2011 and the Millennium Development Goals:</b> The DESA subprogramme 9 (Sustainable forest management); Millennium Development Goal 7.	Travel	108.0
	Contractual services	43.6
	Operating expenses	10.0
	Workshops	<u>258.0</u>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>527.6</b>

<b>Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat</b>	<b>Indicators of achievement</b>
(a) Increased awareness and understanding of the requirements related to the architecture and format for national reports for the United Nations Forum on Forests	(a) (i) Adoption of a standardized format and specific guidelines for national reports for the United Nations Forum on Forests  (ii) Increased number of national stakeholders in developing countries and countries with economies in transition who are trained in monitoring and reporting on their national programmes and activities towards sustainable forest management
(b) Improved regional coordination in preparation of national reports and better sharing of experiences in best practices towards the achievement of sustainable forest management and the Global Objectives on Forests	(b) Increased regional dialogue and increased integration of lessons learned into national reports

#### **Main activities**

139. The main activities of the project will include:
- (a) Analysing cross-cutting thematic elements for reporting on the Global Objectives on Forests, the Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests and the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests proposals for action and the United Nations Forum on Forests resolutions and selection of key indicators for reporting on implementation, conducted by international and regional consultants supported by the Secretariat. The analysis will take into account the work of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests joint initiative on streamlining forest-related reporting and experiences of existing criteria and indicators processes;
  - (b) Organizing four regional mini-workshops for country participants to discuss the proposed monitoring architecture and finalize format and guidelines for national reports;
  - (c) Preparing national reports by 40 developing countries and countries with economies in transition and preparation of national reports by 10 developed countries;
  - (d) Providing technical assistance on request to participating countries, in compiling national reports;
  - (e) Analysing national reports and preparing a synthesis report in which the United Nations Forum on Forests secretariat will evaluate the activities and outputs of the project with a view to improving reporting by countries for future sessions of the United Nations Forum on Forests;

(f) Organization of an event at the ninth United Nations Forum on Forests and the tenth United Nations Forum on Forests to share experiences, best practices, and challenges related to the implementation of the Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests.

<b>AA. Strengthening national reporting in support of the implementation of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests</b>		
<b>Implementing entities:</b> DESA		<b>Duration:</b> 2010 – 2013
<b>Objective:</b> To strengthen and support the capacity of countries, particularly developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in the preparation of national reports for the ninth and tenth sessions of the United Nations Forum on Forests in 2011 and 2013.		
<b>Summary budget</b> <i>thousands of US dollars</i>	<b>Detailed budget (US dollars)</b>	
	<b>General Temporary Assistance</b> Temporary assistance to oversee project, prepare substantive materials, organize workshops and meetings, and coordinate the synthesis report (in support of activities (a) – (f)) (8 work months x \$9,000 per month)	72 000
General temporary assistance 72.0		
Consultants 36.0		
Travel 108.0	<b>Consultants</b>	
Contractual services 43.6	<u>External evaluation</u>	36 000
Operating expenses 10.0	One international consultant to conduct an external evaluation of the project, including fee and travel costs (\$12,000)	
Workshops 258.0	<u>National / Regional consultants</u>	
<b>Total 527.6</b>	National consultants for preparing background papers for workshops, providing advisory services on identifying gaps in current reporting, assisting in development of criteria and indicators for reporting (in support of activities (a) and (b)) (6 work months x \$4,000 per month) (\$24,000)	
	<b>Travel of staff (\$108,000)</b>	
	<u>DESA Staff:</u> Coordinating the regional workshops, and building partnerships with national institutions (in support of activities (b), (c), and (d)), to be done in conjunction with other activities (\$9,000 per person x 2 people x 4 trips) and (\$9,000 per person x (1 person) x (4 trips)= \$108,000	108 000
	<b>Contractual services (\$25,000)</b>	25 000
	<u>Translation</u>	
	Translation of workshop documents into French and / or English in support of activities (a), (b) and (d) = \$25,000	
	Contractual Services in support of all activities (\$18,600)	18 600
	<b>Operating expenses</b>	10 000
	<u>Communications</u> (in support of activities (a)-(f))	
	<b>Seminars and Workshops</b>	258 000
	<u>Workshops:</u> Four regional mini-workshops for country participants to discuss the proposed architecture and format for national reports (in support of activity (b)) (\$2,500 per participant x 25 participants x 4 workshops) (\$250,000)	
	<u>Local arrangements,</u> including conference facilities and services, for regional workshops (in support of activity (b)) (\$2,000 per workshop x 4 workshops) (\$8,000)	