

UNFF13
**Panel Discussion on Partners and stakeholders’
Contribution to the Implementation of the United Nations
Strategic Plan for Forests**

**Report of EGM on MGoS’ Contribution to the Implementation of the
United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests (UNSPF) 2017-2030 and the
Forum’s Quadrennial Programme of Work (4POW) 2017-2020**

New York, UNHQ, 10 May 2018

By: **Cécile Ndjebet**

On behalf of MGoS/WMG Focal Point/REFACOF

Content

- **Introduction**
 - Background
 - Objectives
 - Attendance and participation
 - Meeting approach

- **UN Strategic Plan for Forests (UNSPF) and the UNFF Quadriennial Programme of work (4POW)**
 - Priorities of the UNSPF and 4POW
 - Draft Indicative Work plan for Major Groups engagement in support of the Forum’s UNSPF and 4POW

Introduction

- The MGoP EGM was Organized by the Secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF), from 20-21 November 2017 in the United Nations Office in Nairobi (UNON), Nairobi Kenya
- **Objectives of the meeting:**
 - Build consensus and identify priority actions for major groups implementation of the UNSPF; and
 - Develop a work plan (4POW) on what the major groups intend to do.
- **Participants:**
 - 25 experts from 13 countries and 7UN accredited Major Groups took part to the meeting : Women, Youth & children, Indigenous People, Small Holder farmers, NGOs, Scientific & Technological Community and Trade Unions.
- **Meeting approach:**
 - Briefing from UNFFS
 - Group analysis
 - Plenary interactive discussions

Presentation on UNSPF and 4POW

- The ECOSOC Resolution 2017/4 guided the selection of priority areas and strategies that MGs propose to focus notably:
 - The global forest goals and thematic areas outlined in Pages 5 - 8
 - and the role of the MGs and other Stakeholders in pages 11 - 12
- 4 working groups were organized to discuss and prioritize contributions to the UNSPF goals and targets and resulted into the identification of:
 - Key priorities for the MGs and other Stakeholders' intervention;
 - Actions required at various levels of implementation (local, community, regional or global); and
 - Potential/key partners for collaboration

Priorities of the UNSPF and 4POW

- Participants agreed to maintain **GFG1: reversing and reducing deforestation and forest degradation** as the focal principle that dictates all actions; they recognized that GFG 1, 2 and 3 are all part of a single challenge that requires an integrated approach/strategy
- The following **seven priority areas** were identified, linked directly to the Global Forest Goals or indirectly through the indicative thematic areas.

Priority Areas	GFGs
1. Role of women and girls in sustainable forest management	2, 3, 5
2. Contribution of forests to poverty eradication and livelihoods, with a focus on environmentally sound and innovative technology to improve efficiency	2, 3, 4
3. Capacity building to mobilize and access funds	4
4. Major Groups coordination and partnerships	1, 5, 6
5. Indigenous peoples, small holder farmers, and community forest management in value-added forest production and processing	4, 5, 6
6. Land tenure, land ownership and civil society involvement in forest decision making	2, 5, 6
7. Research and forest-related education, training and extension	2, 4, 5

Summary of the MGs Work plan

- MG's believe that progress towards the GFG's/SDG's will be accelerated as engagement of civil society with Member States becomes more effective.
- For many MG's, the major motivating factor for our engagement is our desire to enable our marginalized MG constituencies (women, indigenous people, farmers, local communities and other forest dependent people) to play a more mainstreamed role in the implementation of the UNSPF and the Agenda 2030.
- The MGs consider the following to be the main types of interventions through which we can add value to the efforts of governments, private sector and other major players:
 - Localisation of the UN Strategic Plan on Forests and translation of global UNFF decisions to the people on the ground
 - Publicity and advocacy
 - Mobilising our constituencies for action
 - Cooperating with governments, the private sector and other major players to achieve mutual accountability for commitments made and statements of intent in the UNSPF and the Agenda 2030.
- The **MGs consolidated Quadrennial Plan of Work (QPOW)** presented in the following table. This work plan is for all MGs together; each MG is encouraged to develop more detailed proposals for its contributions but in a manner compatible with this collective plan

Actions/Interventions	Focus Level	Time Frame		Resource Needs	Lead MG & Partners	Key Indicators	Expected Outcome
		Start	End				
1. Develop an information and knowledge-sharing platform, including traditional knowledge, to support advocacy and effectiveness of interventions	Global	2018	2020	Funding of Coordination office	Chair MGs focal points	Established coordination office	A functioning coordinator
2. Promote gender mainstreaming in all MG interventions. In order to have foundation for this, gender disaggregated data is to be collected. Baseline data: between UNFF13 and UNFF14 Database maintenance: permanent	Global, National Local	2018	2019	Data Collectors & Entry Officers	Women MG with FAO & UNDP	Data from variety of sources	Database
3. Raise awareness in MG constituencies to re-engage them in local sustainable forest management	Regional National Local	2018	2019	Funding for NGOs & Communities meetings	MG Chair with Community leaders, regional and local authorities	Trends in awareness and attitudes in forest resource management	Increased in forest under sustainable practices
4. Capacity building, particularly on entrepreneurial skills, at all levels of producer organizations and at all stages in the value chain to improve quality of products and livelihoods	All Levels	2018	2019	Resource personnel and funds to organize workshops	Chair MG; farmer/producer and indigenous people's organisations; UNFFS, FAO, UNDP	Capacity building manual and workshops reports	Improved skills for delivery of quality products

Actions/Interventions	Focus Level	Time Frame		Resource Needs	Lead MG & Partners	Key Indicators	Expected Outcome
		Start	End				
5. Initiate advocacy to accelerate establishment of secure land and forest/tree tenure.	All Levels	2018	2030	Funds to organize field-based initiatives, scoping studies, advocacy with key stakeholders and workshops	Women, Small Holder farmers, Indigenous People and NGO CPF, UNDP, GFFFN, UNFFS	Advocacy documents, Reports of the scoping studies, Reports on communities initiatives, workshop reports	Improved tenure rights for the women and IP's Progress in national law reform processes
6. Promote mutual and collective accountability for delivering on commitments and expressed intentions in forest related activities	All Levels	2018	2020	Project Funds	NGOs, Local Communities/IP, Tropenbos Int.	Reduced rate of illegal forest activities	Progress towards SFM
7. Energise the MGs and enhance coordination of their activities by revitalizing the MGPoF.	Global	2018	2019	Funding of Coordination office	Chair MGs focal points	Established coordination office	A functioning coordinator
8. Refine and finalise collective MG work plan developed at Nairobi 2017 with each MG to also have compatible plans for their own activities		2018	2020 and beyond				

Actions/Interventions	Focus Level	Time Frame		Resource Needs	Lead MG & Partners	Key Indicators	Expected Outcome
		Start	End				
9. Mobilise funding for MG priority actions to achieve GFGs and targets	All Levels	2018	2030	Directory of Donors/ Grants	Chair MGs GFFFN, UNFFS	Funding proposals and trends in fund mobilization	Sponsorship/ Donor Funds
10. Organize MGI before UNFF meetings to deliberate & prepare MGs inputs for sessions (UNFF 13, 14, 15 etc.) and the HLPF	Global	Mar 2018 2019 2020	Mar 2018 2019 2020	Meeting Logistics, Funds, Consultants	Chair MGPoF UNFFS Donors	Proposals to sponsors to support MGI	MGs Inputs for sessions and HLPF

In conclusion

- To enhance MGs efforts in the implementation of the priority interventions above:
 - It is essential that the capacities of MGs and their constituencies are improved
 - That MGs are facilitated to access adequate and sustainable resources
- **Finally with this work plan, MGs stand ready to work with Members States, the UNFF Secretariat, the CPF and all stakeholders to accelerate progress in the implementation of GFGs and SDGs!**

Thank you for your attention!