

Country: GHANA

Date of submission: 12 OCTOBER, 2012

National Report to the Tenth Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

This streamlined reporting format is prepared in response to the request made in the Resolution on Forests for People, adopted at the ninth session of the Forum in February 2011¹. Accordingly, the Forum requested the UNFF Secretariat (UNFFS) to develop a streamlined reporting format, in consultation with other members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), to ensure simple voluntary national reporting for UNFF 10 focused on the implementation of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests, (hereinafter referred to as the forest instrument)² and a balanced reporting of all its four Global Objectives on Forests (GOFs).

The streamlined reporting format is the result of consultations with the members of the CPF Task Force on Streamlining Forest-Related Reporting. In addition, UNFFS and FAO consulted extensively with government representatives and international experts on this reporting format and its content. These consultations were conducted through five regional capacity-building workshops³ with the participation of UNFF and FRA national focal points. A total of 136 national and international experts from 78 countries and up to five international organizations participated in the workshops. The workshops also benefitted from the four on-going FAO pilot projects in Ghana, Liberia, Nicaragua and the Philippines on the implementation of the forest instrument.

The reporting format is intended to complement ongoing reporting by other processes and focuses on identifying critical gaps in international and national reporting, and on issues that are not sufficiently covered by other reporting processes such as forest financing and forest contributions to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). This will help to better measure the progress achieved across the full scope of the forest instrument and its GOFs.

The streamlined reporting format is prepared in a way that reduces the burden of multiple reporting exercises by countries. In this regard, the reporting format takes into account quantitative and qualitative information already submitted by countries to the FAO *Forest Resource Assessment* (FRA) 2005 and 2010⁴.

¹ United Nations Forum on Forests, Report on the ninth session (1 May 2009 and 24 January to 4 February 2011_E/2011/42_E/CN.18/2011/20, Page 8)

<http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N11/261/57/PDF/N1126157.pdf?OpenElement>

² United Nations Forum on Forests, Report on the seventh session (24 February 2006 and 16-27 April 2007)_E/2007/42, E/CN.18/2007/8

<http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N07/349/31/PDF/N0734931.pdf?OpenElement>

³ The workshops held in Bangkok, Thailand (10-12 October 2011), Nairobi, Kenya (13-15 December 2011), Accra, Ghana (6-8 February 2012), Beirut, Lebanon (11-13 April 2012) and Santiago, Chile (18-20 April 2012) were jointly organized by UNFFS and FAO.

⁴ <http://www.fao.org/forestry/fra/67090/en/>

GUIDANCE FOR THE PREPARATION OF NATIONAL REPORTS

This streamlined reporting format is made up of three parts:

- I. The forest instrument
- II. The four Global Objectives on Forests
- III. The contribution of forests to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals

The forest instrument covers a broad spectrum of issues beyond forests. Its implementation requires close cooperation between different authorities. Consequently, the preparation of national reports may require a cooperative exercise among institutions and ministries such as ministries of environment, economic development, finance, agriculture, health and statistics, and in particular with national focal points for FRA, the NFP Facility, the ITTO C&I process and the Rio Processes, where applicable.

For reporting, please note the following:

- The fields with FRA indicators are highlighted in grey. This data will be derived by UNFFS from the FRA database;
- If information for a specific question does not exist, please enter NA (not available) or NR (not relevant) but do not leave the fields blank - all the responses to the questions contained in this reporting format are important for the Forum to analyze the progress, to identify the gaps and needs in implementing the forest instrument, including data gaps, and in finding ways and means to address them;
- Some of the questions include descriptive parts. We encourage countries to fill in these parts and provide context and background information in addition to the requested figures and the “yes” and “no” answers. At the same time, the responses should be limited [maximum 250] to keep the analytical efforts within reasonable bounds;
- The national report should be submitted in English, French or Spanish. To facilitate exchange of experience, countries are also encouraged to submit, where relevant, a translation of their summary report in English.
- The national reports should be submitted to UNFFS by **30 September 2012**. Submission of the reports ahead of this deadline is encouraged, as this will facilitate the preparation of analyses and syntheses to be made available to the UNFF10;
- Member States are kindly requested to submit the original signed copy of the national report with an official letter from their respective institution/ministry, via mail or email to the address below. Electronic copies should be available in word processing software, and the scanned copy of the official letter, as well as any graphic elements, should be provided in separate files.

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Abbreviations in the questionnaire/template:

B.Sc.: Bachelor of Science degree
 C & I: Criteria and indicators processes
 FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
 FLEGT: Forest law enforcement, governance and trade
 FRA: FAO's global Forest Resources Assessment
 GOF: Global Objectives on Forests
 ITTO: International Tropical Timber Organization
 MDGs: Millennium Development Goals
 M.Sc.: Masters of Science degree
 NA: Not available
 NFP: National forest programme
 ODA: Official development assistance
 SIDS: Small Island Developing States
 SFM: Sustainable forest management
 UN: United Nations
 UNFF: United Nations Forum on Forests
 UNFFS: United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat

PART I: The Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests (forest instrument)⁵

Thematic Clusters of the Forest Instrument	<p>The forest instrument has been grouped into five cross-cutting and eight thematic clusters for easy reference⁶:</p> <p>1A: Strengthening political commitment for sustainable forest management 1B: Financing sustainable forest management 1C: Capacity building and technology transfer 1D: Stakeholder participation 1E: Enhanced international cooperation</p> <p>2A: Forest law enforcement and governance 2B: International Trade in forest products 2C: Protection of forests 2D: Science and research 2E: Public awareness and education 2F: Private sector and industry 2G: Indigenous and local communities 2H: Monitoring, assessment and reporting</p> <p>Data provided on thematic clusters of the forest instrument will also be used for assessing progress toward its Global Objectives on Forests (Qs 33-49).</p>
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1A: Strengthening political commitment to sustainable forest management

1. Existence of Forest policy statement with national scope; data will be derived by UNFFS from FRA database ⁷ (T14 – Policy and legal framework)		
2. Existence of national forest programme (nfp); data will be derived by UNFFS from FRA database (T14 – Policy and legal framework)		
3. Do you have inter-institutional mechanisms/processes for cross-sectoral cooperation to achieve sustainable forest management?	Yes	No
If yes, which sectors are actively involved:		
Agriculture	YES	
Climate Change	YES	
Energy	YES	
Tourism	YES	
Water	YES	
Other: Environment and Science, Research and Academia, Finance, Health, Traditional Authorities, Civil Society, Local Government (Governance), and Parliamentarians.		
Please describe the inter-institutional mechanisms/processes for cross-sectoral cooperation (maximum 250 words). The Environment and Natural Resource Advisory Council (ENRAC) has been put in place with the Vice President of the Republic of Ghana as the Chairman to ensure effective coordination of the key sectors that affect the environment and		

⁵ <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N07/469/65/PDF/N0746965.pdf?OpenElement>

⁶ E.CN.18/2009/2, pp 4-5 (<http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N09/240/37/PDF/N0924037.pdf?OpenElement>)

⁷ http://countrystat.org/for/cont/inctables/pageid/8_mega/en

<p><i>natural resources. All the above sectors are included in the ENRAC. The ENRAC has been established to take decisions on cross-cutting issues related to natural resources management. In addition an Environmental and Natural Resource Summit is organized annually to provide a platform for all the major stakeholders to discuss pertinent issues within the environment and natural resource sectors. Further, there exist the National, Regional and District Forestry Forums which are also platforms for discussing environment and natural resource issues at the grass-root level. Parliamentary Select Committee on Lands and Forestry is also actively engaged in policy discussions on environment and natural resources.</i></p>		
4. Are your national forest programmes and relevant policies and strategies contributing to poverty eradication?	<u>Yes</u>	No
If yes, please specify :		
National forest programs have been revised to include specific measures and resources for eradicating poverty.	YES	
National poverty eradication plans and strategies or equivalent have been revised to incorporate sustainable forest management.	YES	
<p><i>Please describe specific actions or measures taken to eradicate poverty and their effects (maximum 250 words). A National Forest Plantation Programme has been launched with planting targeted 10,000 ha per year with a corresponding employed generation of 10,000 people especially within the rural areas. The programme also aims at increasing food production in these areas and thus improving the livelihood of the rural people. Other employment avenues include coppice management, maintenance and patrol of forest reserve boundaries in all the ten regions of the country. The raising of seedlings through community contracts also provides a lot of revenue to rural people especially women and the youth. Alternative livelihood scheme has been developed for the communities fringing the forest reserves especially the Globally Significant Biodiversity Areas (GSBAs).</i></p>		
5. Has the forest instrument been translated into your country's official/local language(s)?	Yes	No
	YES	
Please list the language(s) into which the forest instrument has been translated. ENGLISH		
<p>1B: Financing sustainable forest management: Assessment of this thematic cluster will be conducted on the basis of data provided under Global Objective on Forests 4 (Q. 43-49).</p>		
<p>1C: Capacity building and technology transfer</p>		
6. Total number of persons employed in forestry (1,000 persons-years); data will be derived by UNFFS from the FRA database (T13 – Employment).		
7. Total number of staff working in public forest institutions; data will be derived by UNFFS from FRA database (T15 – Institutional framework).		
Does your country have adequate capacity and technology to implement sustainable forest management?	Yes	No
		NO
<p>If no, please describe the main challenges, including institutional and technology priority needs and know-how areas of particular concern (maximum 250 words). <i>Inadequate capacity for protection, production of forest data, inventory, ecological assessment and the use and application of appropriate technology in these areas. There is also the need for capacity building in forest resource accounting, valuation and payment for ecosystem services, and GIS application. Logistic support is required for forest resource protection e.g. vehicles, protective clothing for forest guards and field quarters. Technology transfer required for value added wood processing and research into lesser used species.</i></p>		
8. Is your country engaged in SFM-related technology transfer?	Yes	No
	YES	
If yes, is your country a donor or recipient of SFM technology?		

Donor country		
Recipient country	Recipient country	
Describe the nature, source and target of technology transfer (maximum 250 words). Forest mapping through the use of GIS and aerial survey technology under the Forest Preservation Project funded by Japan to assist the Forestry Commission develop capacity for mapping, monitoring and forest inventory systems development. Under the REDD+ programme, technologies in carbon stock enhancement are being transferred under the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility of the World Bank.		
9. Are there any incentives for promoting improved technologies for SFM?	Yes	No
If yes, please check where applicable:		
Low-interest loans	YES	
Tax breaks	YES	
Subsidies	YES	
Participation in SFM best practice certification programmes that improve access to markets	YES	
Others; please specify (maximum 250):		
1D: Stakeholder participation		
10. Does your country have programmes for involving stakeholders in SFM policy formulation, planning and implementation? If yes, please indicate the levels:	Yes	No
	YES	
National	YES	
Sub-national	YES	
Local	YES	
<i>Describe the processes of public participation in SFM, indicating existing mechanisms and stakeholders involved (maximum 250 words). National, Regional and District Forestry Forums have been established with representation from all the relevant sectors. They have been supported with capacity building and funding to do advocacy, monitoring and reporting on forest related issues. They also participate in the workshop on review of forestry sector policies and programmes.</i>		
1E: Enhanced international cooperation		
11. Is your country engaged in international cooperation in sustainable forest management? If yes, please specify the type of the cooperation:	Yes	No
	YES	
North-South	North-South e.g. EU Voluntary Partnership Agreement	
South-South	Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), African-Caribbean-Pacific (ACP) countries	
Triangular		
Others:		
Please give examples, describing the main objectives and elements of the cooperation (maximum 250 words). Ghana is involved in the ECOWAS Forest Policy implementation and the development of the ECOWAS Forest Convergence Plan for SFM. Ghana has also signed an agreement with the EU under the Voluntary Partnership Agreement to ensure that only legal timber is exported into the European market. Ghana is also to enhance the implementation of the Forest Law Enhancement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT).		
12. In which areas would your country like to see more international cooperation:		
Forests and climate change	<u>YES</u>	
Forest biodiversity	<u>YES</u>	
Valuation of ecosystem services provided by forests	<u>YES</u>	

Socio-economic issues, including livelihoods	<u>YES</u>			
Forest degradation and rehabilitation	<u>YES</u>			
Others; please list: Research and Trade, Restoration of Forest Landscapes, Sustainable Forest Financing, Ecotourism Development and Capacity Building and Technology Transfer				
2A: Forest law enforcement and governance				
13. Existence of law (Act or Code) on forests with national scope; data will be derived by UNFFS from FRA database (T14 - Policy and legal framework).				
14. Since the adoption of the forest instrument in 2007, have steps been taken to strengthen forest-related legislation, law enforcement and governance in support of sustainable forest management?	Yes		No	
	<u>YES</u>			
15. Is your country participating in international agreements/partnerships to address illicit international trafficking in forest products, including timber, wildlife and other forest biological resources?	Yes		No	
	<u>YES</u>			
If yes, is your country a donor or recipient of capacity building to address forest-related illegal practices?				
Donor country				
Recipient country		RECIPIENT		
Describe the recent significant steps taken to enhance forest law enforcement and governance in your country (maximum 250 words).				
<i>The implementation of forest law enforcement and governance in Ghana has been boosted by establishing systems for up-scaling of Legality Assurance System (LAS). This include among others the following:</i>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The passage of the Timber Resources (Legality Licensing) Regulations of 2012- L.I.2184 to guide the implementation of LAS and FLEGT Licences issuance</i> • <i>Deployment of a mandatory national wood tracking system which is at the stage of contract negotiation with the bid-winning service provider</i> • <i>Draft verification manuals for LAS implementation prepared for stakeholder inputs and subsequent adoption of final draft</i> • <i>Procurement of the services of a third-party Independent Monitor (IM) for the LAS at bid re-evaluation stage</i> • <i>Putting in place strategies for national educational campaign on alternative livelihood programmes to illegal chainsawing activities</i> • <i>Providing technical support for the development and adoption of timber procurement practices for the domestic market in line with Ghana- EU Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA).</i> • <i>Providing technical support for VPA impact monitoring</i> • <i>Sharing lessons and experiences within the West Africa sub-region and overseas on Ghana's VPA implementation successes and challenges.</i> 				
2B: International trade in forest products				
16. Is your country involved in international forest products trade? If yes, please provide estimated market value (US\$ 1000):	Yes		No	
	<u>YES</u>			
	Import		Export	
	2007	2011	2007	2011
Timber products	NA	NA	252,318.4	163,296.60
Fuel wood				

17. Does your country trade in non-wood forest products? If yes, please list the most important and provide estimated market value:	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>	No	<u>Yes</u>
	Import		Export	
	2007	2011	2007	2011
	NA	NA	NA	NA
Describe the recent significant steps taken to enhance international trade in forest products in your country (maximum 250 words). The country is currently implementing the Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) signed with the European Union to promote legal timber trade and consumption. Promotion of wood products quality and standards has also been stepped up. Collaboration with international timber trade organizations (e.g. ITTO, ATO) as well as participation in international trade promotion activities such as specialized fairs/exhibitions, conventions and trade missions are undertaken as part of efforts to enhance the country's international timber trade in forest products.				
2C: Protection of forests				
18. Forest area (1000 hectares) conservation of biodiversity; data will be derived by UNFFS from FRA database (T 3 – Forest designation and management).				
19. Forest area (1000 hectares) within protective areas; data will be derived by UNFFS from FRA database (T 3 – Forest designation and management).				
Describe any significant actions related to protection of forests since 2007 (maximum 250 words).				
2D: Science and research				
20. How much funding (US\$ 1000) was designated for forest-related research?	2007		2011	
	NA		NA	
21. Please specify the sources of financing:	2007		2011	
Public sector	NA		NA	
Private industry	NA		NA	
Bilateral cooperation	NA		NA	
Multilateral cooperation	NA		NA	
Others; please describe (maximum 250 words).				
22. Does your country have an institute(s) promoting the development and application of scientific and technological innovations for SFM?	Yes	No		
	YES			
If yes, do they have extension programs for promoting the use of these scientific and technological innovations directed at forest owners, local and indigenous communities and other stakeholders?	Yes	No		
	YES			
How many persons from the following groups were reached by these extension programs?	2007		2011	
Forest owners	NA		NA	
Local communities	NA		NA	
Private sector	NA		NA	
Indigenous communities	NA		AN	
2E: Public awareness and education				
23. Graduation of students in forest-related education: data will be derived by UNFFS from FRA database (T 16 - Education and research).				
Number of students in forest-related education graduated with M.Sc. degree or equivalent				
Number of students in forest-related education graduated with B.Sc. degree or equivalent				
Number of students in forest-related education graduated with a technician certificate/diploma				
Percentage of students in forest-related education that graduated with M.Sc. degree or equivalent who are women				
Percentage of students in forest-related education that graduated with B.Sc. degree or equivalent who are women				
Percentage of students in forest-related education that graduated with a technician certificate/diploma who are women				
24. Did your country organize specific events and activities in support of the International Year of Forests?	Yes	No		
	YES			

<p>If yes, please describe them (maximum 250 words).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National launch the International Year of Forest in May 2011 • National Launch of World Environment Day, June 5, 2011; • National launch of Greening Ghana Day, Sept 2011 • National Launch of Anti-Bushfire Campaign, October, 2011 		
25. Has your country implemented actions to increase public awareness of the importance of and the benefits provided by forests and sustainable forest management?	<u>YES</u>	
If yes, which of the following approaches have been utilized?		
Published materials, such as brochures, pamphlets, leaflets, posters, etc.		<u>YES</u>
Meetings with the general public to inform them of the benefits provided by forests to society		<u>YES</u>
Meetings with private and public sector stakeholders to inform them of the benefits of sustainable forest management		<u>YES</u>
Other; please describe (maximum 100 words). Meeting with National House of Chiefs on Benefit-Sharing arrangements organized in November, 2011. Regional and National Stakeholder consultation meetings were organized in 2011 to discuss the existing benefit-sharing schemes in the forest sector and how to improve upon them to enhance the implementation of the REDD+ initiative in Ghana.		
2F: Private sector and industry		
26. Do stakeholder participation mechanisms in support of sustainable forest management exist that engage the private sector and industry?	Yes	No
	<u>YES</u>	
27. Have you established or strengthened public-private partnerships to advance sustainable forest management?	Yes	No
	<u>YES</u>	
If yes, please describe (maximum 250 words). Ghana is implementing forest rehabilitation programmes through public private partnerships in degraded forest reserves. To date nearly 20,000 ha of such plantations have been established since 2005. Plans have also been approved to further enhance this collaboration following success in earlier ventures. Participation mechanisms include: i. Regular engagement of timber industry and trade associations, ii. Formation of industry clusters for the small and medium scale enterprises (SMEs) iii. Collaboration with civil society organizations and forest sector NGOs on sustainable forest management issues iv. Educational and awareness creation workshops and media programs on the ills of illegal timber operations.		
Describe these mechanisms and their functions. What specific role do the private sector and industry play in promoting and supporting the forest instrument and sustainable forest management? (maximum 250 words). Government provides technical services support while the private sector provides capital with communities supplying land as equity in plantation ventures. There exist timber industry and trade associations through which capacity building, skills development and extension services are channeled. Clusters of industry small and medium scale enterprises (SMEs) have been formed for effective engagement in areas of skills development through the provision of short term technical experts to address the needs of cluster SMEs. Provision of common pool of processing facilities for use by SMEs to enhance their production and marketing capabilities exist in selected locations. There are regular interactions and collaboration with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and forest sector NGOs (such as Tropenbos International) to address problems of illegal timber operations and to promote sustainable forest management practices. Awareness creation on the ills of illegal timber operations has been intensified.		
2G: Indigenous and local communities		
28. Are tenure and user rights of local communities and indigenous peoples over publicly-owned forests recognized by law?	Yes	No
	<u>YES</u>	
Describe how they are recognized and practiced (maximum 250 words). They are allowed access to areas of cultural or traditional importance to perform rituals according to their traditional norms and practices.		

29. Are local communities and indigenous peoples benefiting from the goods and services produced by forests? ⁸	Yes YES	No
Describe how this is functioning (maximum 250 words). Where the need is expressed, permits are issued to them to collect the approved resources for their subsistence.		
30. Are traditional forest-related knowledge and practices used in forest management, planning and implementation?	Yes YES	No
Explain how they are used and by whom (maximum 250). Traditional forest related knowledge such as taboos, totems and norms and practices related to sacred groves are used in the management, planning and implementation of forestry sector activities		
31. Do stakeholder participation mechanisms in support of sustainable forest management exist for the engagement of the following?	Yes YES	No
Indigenous peoples (where applicable)	Not applicable	
Local communities	YES	
Describe these mechanisms and their functions. What specific role do indigenous peoples and/or local communities play in achieving sustainable forest management? (maximum 250 words). Local communities play an important role in cleaning and maintaining forest boundaries. Local communities partner the government (Forestry Commission) in the protection and rehabilitation of forest reserves, outside forest reserves local communities are fully managing forest resources in Community Resource Management Areas (CREMAs) and Dedicated Forest Reserves with only technical support from government. Local communities have been organized into community resource management committees (CRMCs) as viable entities to represent the interest of communities in negotiations, decision making, etc. They are supported by forest forums which exist at forest district, regional and national levels to dialogue on forest policy issues.		
32. Are training and extension programmes being implemented that are directed at local communities and indigenous peoples in order to develop resource management approaches that will reduce the pressure on forests?	Yes YES	No
If yes, how many persons from the following communities were the beneficiaries?	2007	2011
Indigenous	Not applicable	
Local	500	2000
Part II: The Global Objectives on Forests		
Global Objective 1: Reverse the loss of forest cover worldwide through sustainable forest management, including protection, restoration, afforestation and reforestation, and increase efforts to prevent forest degradation;		
33. Extent of the country's forests and other wooded lands (1000 ha.); data will be derived by UNFFS from FRA database (T.1 - Extent of forest and other wooded land)	2005	2010
34. Extent of the country's forests under public/private ownership (1000 ha); data will be derived by UNFFS from FRA database (T.2 - Forest ownership and management rights).	2005	2010
Extent of the country's forests under private ownership (1000 ha)		
Extent of privately-owned forests according to the following categories (1000 ha)		
Individual		
Business entities and institutions		

⁸ Benefit-sharing policies for management of forest resources vary among countries. In national policy regimes that require permits from a national forest authority, benefits can include payments for protecting, regenerating and planting forests; payments for ecosystem services; harvesting of non-timber forest products, dry timber and dead trees; and selective harvesting of timber, among others.

Local, indigenous and tribal communities		
Describe any significant actions related to Global Objective on Forests 1 (maximum 250 words).		
Global Objective 2: Enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, including by improving the livelihoods of forest dependent people		
35. Extent of forest designated and managed for production (1000 ha); data will be derived by UNFFS from FRA database (T.3 - Forest designation and management).	2005	2010
Extent of forest designated and managed for protection (1000 ha)		
Extent of forest designated and managed for conservation (1000 ha)		
Extent of forest designated and managed for social services (1000 ha)		
36. Total volume of industrial roundwood removal (1000 m ³); data will be derived by UNFFS from FRA database (T.11 - Forest Wood removals and value of removals).	2005	2010
Total value of industrial roundwood removal (US\$1000)		
Total volume of fuelwood removal (1000 m ³)		
Total value of fuelwood removal (US\$1000)		
Total value of non-wood forest products (NWFP) (US\$1000)		
37. Has your country established a mechanism(s) for payment of ecosystem services?	Yes	No
		NO
If yes, what is the estimated value of the payment of ecosystem services (US\$ 1,000)?	2005	2011
	NA	NA
Please describe how the mechanism(s) function (maximum 250 words).		
38. What is the number of visitors to national parks and other protected areas in your country?	2005	2011
	356,731	184,758
39. What is the area of urban parks in your country (1000 ha)?		
40. What is the estimated number of visitors to urban parks in your country?	283,270	90,000
Describe any significant actions related to Global Objective on Forests 2 (maximum 250 words). <i>Ecotourism concessions have been developed to promote private sector involvement in investment in the development of tourism infrastructure in the protected areas of Ghana and also enhance income generation and benefits improve livelihoods.</i>		
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;		
41. Extent of forest designated and managed for sustainable forest management (1000 ha); data will be derived by UNFFS from FRA database (T.3 - Forest designation and management).	2005	2010
Extent of forest with management plans (1000 ha)		
42. Does your country have forests under internationally recognized certification schemes?	Yes	No
	YES	
If yes, please specify: A total of 421,000 ha has been initiated for Forest Stewardship Certification (FSC) scheme. This involved Five (5) timber companies who have already gone through Chain of Custody (COC) assessment under the certification scheme	Certification Scheme	Area
	Forest Stewardship Certification (FSC)	421,000 ha
Describe any significant actions related to Global Objective on Forests 3 (maximum 250 words). <i>About 30 forest reserves constituting about 19,000 ha were declared Globally Significant Biodiversity Areas (GSBA), a category of protected forests set aside for biodiversity conservation. These areas harbor high concentration of plant species of global conservation concern. A collaborative management has been put in place to involve the surrounding forest fringe communities in their management. A community Investment Fund (CIF) has been established since 2005 to provide</i>		

<i>alternative livelihoods and strengthen their capacity for the implementation of the collaborative management scheme.</i>			
Global Objective 4: Reverse the decline in official development assistance for sustainable forest management and mobilize significantly increased, new and additional financial resources from all sources for the implementation of sustainable forest management;			
43. Does your country have a government budget specific for forests?	Yes		No
	YES		
44. What is the total amount of funding in forest management, administration, research and human resource development (US\$ 1,000)?	2007		2011
			US\$ 39.33m
45. If the funding for forests is spread among other sectors, please specify the main contributors:			
Agriculture	√		
Energy	√		
Water	√		
Climate change	√		
Nature conservation	√		
Others; please specify: Education, Science and Technology sectors undertake research in issues related to SFM. They are supported with budgetary allocation from central government.			
46. Has the country been able to mobilize significantly increased financial resources for the implementation of SFM since 2007? If yes, please specify sources:	Yes		No
	YES		
Domestic public funding	2007 (US\$)		2011 (US\$)
	NA		US\$2.00m
Domestic private sector funding	2007 (US\$)		2011 (US\$)
	NA		US\$ 3.00m
External private sector funding	2007 (US\$)		2011 (US\$)
	NA		US\$ 1.00m
If there has been no increase, please describe the main challenges in mobilizing funds (maximum 250 words).			
47. Does your country have a National Forests Fund?	Yes		No
	YES		
48. Is your country a donor or recipient of ODA for forestry?	Donor		Recipient
			YES
49. If yes, what has been the net ODA received/donated for forestry (US 1000)?	Donor		Recipient
	2007	2010	2007
			NA
			US\$ 22.7m
Please use this space to describe any significant actions related to Global Objective on Forests 4 (maximum 250 words). In recent years Ghana has mobilize significant foreign direct development assistance to support SFM. This has witnessed substantial increase over the years. Under the current REDD+ initiative, there has been tremendous success in the mobilization of additional funding to support SFM, particularly to address forest degradation and deforestation.			

PART III: Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals

Forests can make significant contributions to poverty reduction, improved health, education and gender equity. Sustainable forest management aims to enhance the contribution of forests to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). However, the evidence of this contribution and greater recognition of the value of sustainably managed forests are difficult to gather.

Currently the only forest-related official MDG indicator that provides information on the proportion of land area covered by forest is Indicator 7.1 under Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability. This indicator, however, neither reflects the full range of benefits and services including socio-economic benefits of forests to society, nor the contributions of forests to the achievement of other MDGs. Establishing the direct and indirect links between forests and MDGs is pivotal to ensure that concrete efforts are being taken to reverse the loss of forest cover and to prevent forest degradation while maximizing the benefits of forests for achieving sustainable development.

The aim of this part of the reporting format is to explore the existing data, evidence basis and cases demonstrating the contribution of forests and sustainable forest management to MDGs, at the same time identifying gaps in the monitoring systems and lack of adequate indicators.

Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Please indicate the most forest relevant MDGs in your country

Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger:

Does SFM contribute to achieving this goal in your country?	<u>Yes</u>	No
If so, do you have specific indicators and data which could be/are being used to assess this contribution?	<u>YES</u>	

Please list the indicators. ***Number of Hectares and/or bags of maize produced under through the modified taungya system being implemented under the National Plantations Development Scheme.***

Please provide a short description how forests contribute to achieving this goal (maximum 200 words). ***The modified taungya system is being used as an aspect of agroforestry system to produce food crops under the Plantation Programme. This is contributing tremendously to the enhancement of food security in the forest fringe communities. The forest fringe participants are also paid a monthly allowance to maintain the tree crops on their farms thus providing them with income and job opportunities. More than 10,000 youth are engaged annually in this venture.***

Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education:

Does SFM contribute to achieving this goal in your country?	<u>Yes</u>	No
If so, do you have specific indicators and data which could be/are being used to assess this contribution?	NA	

Please list the indicators. ***NA***

Please provide a short description how forests contribute to achieving this goal (maximum 200 words). ***Parents that are participating in the modified taungya system under the National Plantation Development Programme are able to earn some money to pay their children's school fees at various levels of education in the country.***

Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women:

Does SFM contribute to achieving this goal in your country?	<u>Yes</u>	No
If so, do you have specific indicators and data which could be/are being used to		

assess this contribution?	NA	
Please list the indicators. NA		
Please provide a short description how forests contribute to achieving this goal (maximum 200 words). Women collect shea-nuts in the northern part of the country. The forests thus provide women with income generating opportunities thus economically empowering them. Women were also trained in alternative and additional livelihood options and supported with micro-financing under the Community Investment Fund which was implemented in 2015 to support forest fringe communities to improve their livelihoods.		
Goal 4: Reduce child mortality:		
Does SFM contribute to achieving this goal in your country?	<u>Yes</u>	No
If so, do you have specific indicators and data which could be/are being used to assess this contribution?	NA	
Please list the indicators. NA		
Please describe how forests contribute to achieving this goal (maximum 250 words). Many forest fringe and forest dependent communities harvest traditional herbal medicines the use of which contributes to reducing child mortality. Furthermore the harvesting and use of non-forest products such as wild fruits tubers, bush meat as source of protein and seasoning materials, contributes to the nutritional requirement of the child thus keeping them healthy and reducing mortality rates.		
Goal 5: Improve maternal health		
Does SFM contribute to achieving this goal in your country?	<u>Yes</u>	No
If so, do you have specific indicators and data which could be/are being used to assess this contribution?	NA	
Please list the indicators. NA		
Please describe how forests contribute to achieving this goal (maximum 250 words). E.g. Use of medicinal plants		
Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases		
Does SFM contribute to achieving this goal in your country?	<u>Yes</u>	No
If so, do you have specific indicators and data which could be/are being used to assess this contribution?	NA	
Please list the indicators. NA		
Please describe how forests contribute to achieving this goal (maximum 250 words). E.G Use of Medicinal plants		
Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability		
Does SFM contribute to achieving this goal in your country?	<u>Yes</u>	No
If so, do you have specific indicators and data which could be/are being used to assess this contribution?	YES	
Please list the indicators. Forest and protected areas cover (ha),		
Please describe how forests contribute to achieving this goal (maximum 250 words). Forests maintain favourable rainfall, enhance stream flows, improve underground water recharge and enhance the resilience against climate change impact. Also maintains favourable climatic conditions necessary for human existence such as water cycle, carbon cycle etc.		

Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development		
Does SFM contribute to achieving this goal in your country? If so, do you have specific indicators and data which could be/are being used to assess this contribution?	<u>Yes</u>	No
	YES	
Please list the indicators. Number of global partnerships or agreements signed by Ghana. E.G. the Voluntary Partnership Agreement with the EU.		
Please describe how forests contribute to achieving this goal (maximum 250 words). <i>The maintenance of appreciable forest cover and the design and implementation of credible sustainable forest management policies and programmes have enabled Ghana to earn global partnerships with GEF, DFID, WB, FAO and the EU, ITTO, among others. A good example is the implementation of the NLBI in partnership with the FAO and the support for the implementation of Ghana's REDD Readiness Plan under the REDD+ initiative being supported by the World Bank under the Forest Carbon Partnership programme .</i>		
Please provide a short description of case studies and success stories on data collection on the contribution of forests to achieve MDGs that could serve as examples of good practice for other countries (maximum 250 words). <i>The Forestry Commission collected data on the contribution of the forestry sector to Ghana's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The value of the standing stock of trees in forest plantations and the amount of food crops produced through the implementation of the modified taungya system were computed. The data collected enabled the Ghana Statistical Service to appreciate the contribution of the forestry sector to the GDP. This contributed to the rebasing of the GDP computation on 2006 and the eventual classification of Ghana as a middle income country in 2011. The data collected also indicated the extent to which the forestry sector is contributing to food security and hence to MDG 1 in particular.</i>		