

In Attendance

FAO:	Hiroto Mitsugi (Chair)	IUFRO:	Alexander Buck
	Eva Muller		Andre Purret
	Peter Csoka	UNDP:	Tim Clairs*
	Thais Linhares-Juvenal	UNEP:	Tim Christophersen
CBD:	Blaise Bodin*	UNFCCC:	Jenny Wong*
CIFOR:	Vincent Gitz	UNFF:	Hossein Moeini Meybodi
GEF:	Pascal Martinez		Ryo Nakamura
ITTO:	Gerhard Dieterle	WB:	Werner Kornexl
	Youngtae Choi		
IUCN:	Adriana Vidal	Regrets:	CITES, ICRAF, UNCCD

* via audio-conference

Members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) met at FAO HQ, Rome on 18 July 2018.

1. Welcome by the Chair and adoption of the Agenda

Hiroto Mitsugi, Chair of the Partnership, welcomed members to the meeting held in conjunction with the twenty-fourth session of the FAO Committee on Forestry and the sixth World Forest Week (COFO24/WFW6, 16-20 July), and invited members to introduce themselves.

The proposed agenda for the meeting was adopted.

2. Implementation of the UNFF13 decisions

The UNFF Secretariat provided an update on the implementation of the UNFF13 decisions, including: i) intersessional activities; ii) CPF's contribution to the implementation of the UNFF13 decisions and preparation for UNFF14; and iii) follow up to the 2018 HLPF and preparation for the 2019 HLPF.

The UNFF Secretariat informed the status of the implementation of the UNFF13 decisions and preparation for UNFF14, outlining a series of intersessional activities, including: preparation of a set of three analytical studies on UNFF14 thematic priorities (forests and climate change; Forests and economic growth and employment; Forests and peaceful and inclusive societies, reduced inequalities, and education); and organization of expert group meetings (one on planning for flagship publication, global forest indicators and manual for reporting; the other on GFFN clearing house mechanism, as well as EGM on regional collaboration and major groups involvement). It was added that the provisional agenda of UNFF14 contains several agenda items directly related to CPF, including: i) technical discussion and exchange of experience; ii) progress on development of global forest indicators; iii) enhancing global forest policy coherence and a common international understanding on SFM; iv) implementation of the Paris Agreement under the UNFCCC; and v) Aichi Biodiversity Targets of the

CBD. In this respect, the UNFFS requested inclusion of an agenda item on “enhancing global forest policy coherence and a common understanding on SFM” in the agenda of the next meeting of the CPF.

The UNFF Secretariat also informed the outcome of the pre-HLPF event on forests held on 8 July with the participation of some CPF members, adding a possibility to hold a similar one-day event in conjunction with the future HLPF sessions. It was added that UN DESA is considering organizing its pavilion at UNFCCC COP24 to feature its work, including forests. Upon confirmation, further information would be provided to the CPF.

In light of the technical nature of the discussions of UNFF14, the UNFFS invited members of the CPF to effectively engage in participating at UNFF14 and to report the Partnership’s activities to UNFF14, including through reporting the status of its activities vis-à-vis the implementation of the CPF workplan. Members were also invited to provide inputs to and actively participate in the intersessional activities.

Key actions to be taken:

- UNFF will share further information on its intersessional activities, including: i) EGMs on monitoring, assessment and reporting, the GFFN clearing house mechanism, regional collaboration and major groups involvement; ii) UNFF14 background analytical studies; and iii) the UN-DESA pavilion at the UNFCCC COP24.

3. Update on COFO24/WFW6

FAO provided an update on the status of the work of the twenty-fourth session of the FAO Committee on Forestry and the sixth World Forest Week (COFO24/WFW6), outlining the scope of the remaining sessions, including: Decisions and recommendations of FAO bodies of interest to the Committee; Report on Progress and the Implementation of the MYPOW; Dialogue with Statutory Bodies; Enhancing work on boreal and temperate forests; Biennial theme: Climate change and its impact on the work and activities of FAO; FAO’s work in forestry under the reviewed strategic framework; and Supporting the implementation of the UN Strategic Plan for Forests (UNSPF). It was added that a number of CPF-related special events will be held, including: Sustainable Wood for a Sustainable World (SW4SW); and Forest and water on a changing planet: Redefining the narrative.

Members highlighted the importance to capitalize on the high level of expectation expressed by countries towards the work of the CPF in support of the SDGs and the UNSPF implementation, noting the need to proactively advance its work and seeks funding opportunities for its activities.

4. Implementation of CPF Workplan

Update on recent Joint Initiatives

Members provided an update on the current status of their respective Joint Initiatives.

IUCN shared the current status on the JI on forest landscape restoration “Fostering Partnerships to Build Coherence and Support for Forest Landscape Restoration”, outlining its project approval by GEF in June 2018, the planned first meeting of its steering committee scheduled in August 2018, and the inception workshop slated in late 2018. Some members underscored the importance to coordinate its activities with those of the Global Partnership on Forest and Landscape Restoration to avoid duplication and ensure synergies.

IUFRO provided an update on the status of the Global Forest Expert Panel (GFEP) scientific assessment on forests and water, for which the final report and its policy brief were launched at the IUFRO-Austria event held in conjunction with the 2018 HLPF, highlighting the climate-forest-water-people nexus.

FAO shared the scope of its planned activities and workplan for the new JI “Sustainable Wood for a Sustainable World (SW4SW)” in collaboration with a wide range of CPF, public and private sector partners, including the Advisory Committee on Sustainable Forest-based Industries (ACSFI), CIFOR, ITTO, WB and WWF, underscoring the importance to shift the negative public perception on sustainability of wood products.

Update on Joint Initiatives in the pipeline

Based on the Joint Initiative proposal that had been circulated prior to the meeting, GEF presented its JI proposal on Green Finance, outlining the objectives and approach, partners, as well as a possibility of co-financing from donor countries. Members noted the importance to prioritize main objectives of the JI to either promote enabling conditions or involvement of the private sector investors, building on the existing activities of members in these areas.

WB provided an update on the JI proposal “Pathway for Designing a Mechanism to Incentivize Deforestation-Free Landscapes and Value Chains for Green Growth”, outlining its approach to bring together a team of governance and fiscal specialists to work on tax incentives and forest revenue systems, building on the compendium of studies and reports in these areas. ITTO added the importance to address policy coherence issues through the JI, including those challenges related to profitability of concessions and regulatory frameworks that are facing small-holders and SME producers.

Based on the concept note that had been circulated prior to the meeting, ITTO presented the JI proposal “Voluntary Guidelines for the Design and Implementation of successful Forest Landscape Restoration Initiatives in the Tropics”, suggesting a collaborative approach to the forest landscape restoration (FLR), building on the 2002 ITTO FLR guidelines. The JI would take stock of FLR concepts contained in members’ existing activities and initiatives, particularly the Bonn Challenge, and develop a set of guidelines to stimulate the improvements of the production capacities of degraded tropical forests. Members noted the importance to ensure synergies with the existing FLR work by members and consider identifying specific target regions.

Key actions to be taken:

- Members are invited to provide comments to the JI proposal on Green Finance; GEF will develop the full JI proposal based on members’ comments;
- WB and ITTO will develop concept note for the JI proposal “Pathway for Designing a Mechanism to Incentivize Deforestation Free Landscapes and Value Chains for Green Growth” for members’ consideration.
- Members are invited to provide comments to the concept note for the JI proposal on “Voluntary Guidelines for the Design and Implementation of successful Forest Landscape Restoration Initiatives in the Tropics”.

Follow up to the CPF donor meeting

Following the introduction of the subject matter by FAO, members considered next steps to follow up on the CPF donor meeting held in conjunction with UNFF13. It was suggested to take a proactive approach to identify donors’ interests and funding opportunities, including through: establishing regular exchanges with donors to present new JI proposals; pooling/bundling JIs into main areas of work such as financing and science; reaching out to relevant development/funding agencies; and inviting donors to the meeting of the Partnership. Members also stressed that responding to donor’s interest and exploring funding opportunities should be on the issues and areas that are already in the CPF workplan and in support of the UNSPF.

5. Capacity mapping and stakeholder participation

Following FAO’s introduction on the subject matter and updates on its status, members took note of the progress and considered possible next steps to be taken to complete the remaining tasks on clustering activities, including the development of a focal agency system, and stakeholder involvement, suggesting that these could be important items for the agenda of a possible retreat.

Key actions to be taken:

- In response to the call at the last meeting, members who have not done yet so, to express their interest in taking a lead/co-lead role in the various areas
- The Chair in consultation with the Secretariat will propose the next steps for the development of a new focal agency system and stakeholder involvement.

6. Any other business

Consideration of a CPF retreat

FAO proposed to hold a retreat of the Partnership in late 2018 to explore ideas for joint activities and advance the implementation of the CPF workplan. Members considered possible options to hold the retreat in conjunction with major meetings to be organized by members, including UNFF Expert Group Meetings scheduled in late October/early November 2018.

Key actions to be taken:

- The Chair in consultation with the Secretariat will propose the date, time and venue, as well as draft programme of the retreat.

Update and forthcoming meetings of members

ITTO provided an update on the outcome of the International Workshop of Global Green Supply Chain of Forest Products and the Dialogue with Chinese Leading Timber Enterprises (21-22 June, Beijing, China), highlighting the commitments made by twelve major Chinese timber enterprises at the event to apply green supply chain criteria to their production and use of timbers.

UNEP informed that the Global Landscapes Forum Nairobi 2018 (Nairobi, Kenya, 29-30 August 2018) will be held under the theme "Landscape Restoration in Africa - Prospects and Opportunities: Strengthening technical, economic, financial, institutional and human capacities for landscape restoration implementation". It was added that a number of forest-related events will be hosted at the Rio Conventions Pavilion at the CBD COP14 (17-29 November 2018 - Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt) and during African Biodiversity Summit (13 November).

WB shared a possibility that forest-related issues could be discussed at the 2018 Annual Meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank Group (12–14 October 2018, Nusa Dua, Indonesia).

Next meeting of the Partnership

Members considered possible timings of the next regular meeting of the Partnership and decided to consider meeting in conjunction with major meetings to be organized members, including the 2018 Global Landscapes Forum Bonn (1-2 December, Bonn, Germany).

Key actions to be taken:

- The Chair in consultation with the Secretariat will propose the date, time and venue, as well as draft programme of the next regular meeting.
